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FALL 2022

NEWS

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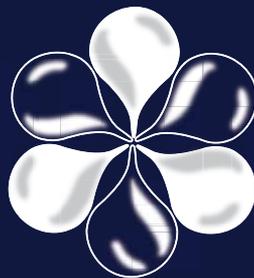
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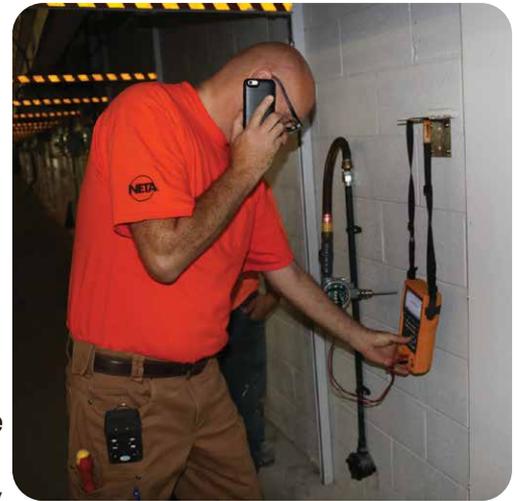
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The Michigan Water Works News is a quarterly publication of the Michigan Section, American Water Works Association.

**The deadline for submitting articles for Winter 2023 issue is November 11, 2022.**

Material may be submitted through the website at [www.mi-water.org/page/wnn](http://www.mi-water.org/page/wnn).

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**Michigan Water Works News is published for the MI-AWWA by**

Craig Kelman & Associates Ltd.  
3rd Floor - 2020 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB • R3J 0K4  
Tel: 866-985-9780 Fax: 866-985-9799

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FALL 2022



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# MANY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Kelly Gleason, Editor

**H**ello Michigan! I hope everyone had an amazing summer. The season has changed, and we are into the cooler days of fall – changing leaves, bonfires and football!

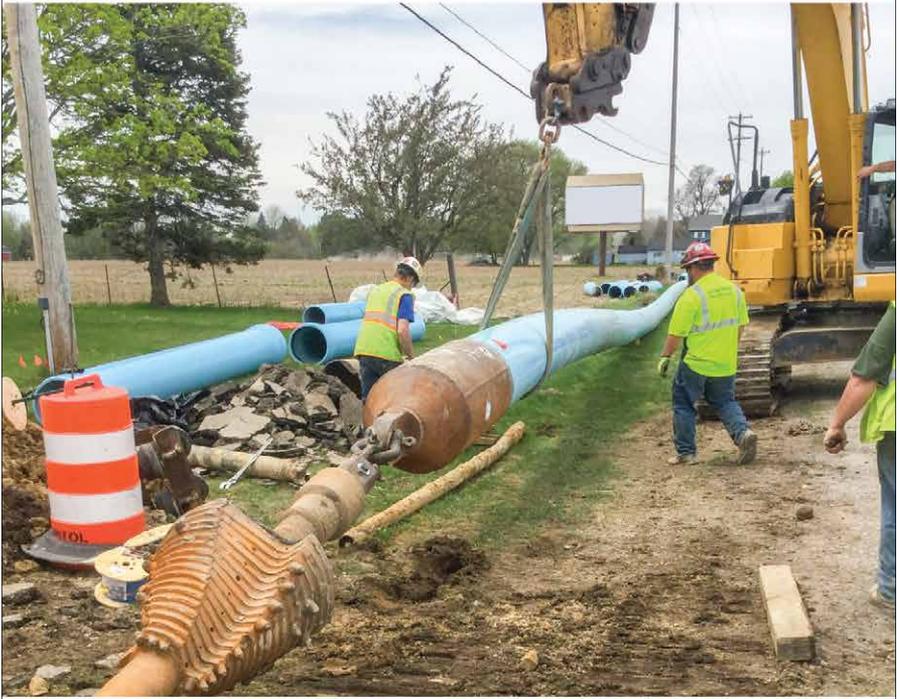
There are many training opportunities available; see page 52 for the calendar of events.

The Section's annual conference, MI-ACE22, was held in Traverse City this year. Two extra events were offered, the annual golf outing fundraiser and a wine tasting tour. My love for golf continues to grow, and I played in the outing fundraiser held on Spruce Run Golf Course with some great people. The outing helps raise money for operator scholarships and the Safe Water in Ecuador Program. The conference was, as always, amazing! Two and a half days of water information, networking, familiar faces, and plenty of new faces too. Anyone who didn't attend should make plans for next year; it's always a wonderful event. There is a recap starting on page 18.

To our readers: Is there content you'd like to see covered in *Water Works News*? Please send me pictures, stories, and updates to [kelly.gleason@lbwl.com](mailto:kelly.gleason@lbwl.com) with the subject line *Water Works News* or through the MI-AWWA website at <https://www.mi-water.org/page/wwn>. I would love to hear from you! 💧

### **Publishing Schedule:**

- **Winter 2023:** Copy due to Editor November 11, 2022 – published January 2023.
- **Spring 2023:** Copy due to Editor February 10, 2023 – published April 2023.



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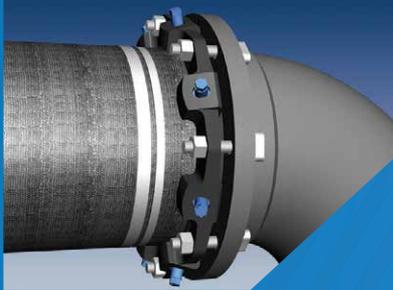
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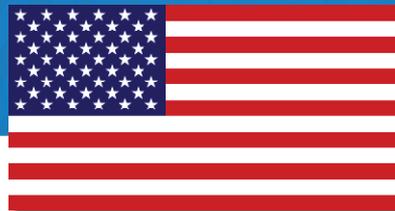
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# THE POWER OF TEAM

Wayne Jernberg, Chair

**M**any thoughts go through your mind as you sit down to write your first article as Section Chair. While I could easily write about all of the happenings in the water industry, I decided to go a different route and write about the concept of a team and how it relates to the Michigan Section of the AWWA.

I have always loved the concept of a team and the ability to be a part of one. According to one online dictionary, a team is defined as “a number of persons associated together in work or activity.” This readily applies to the various roles that we all have in our permanent employment and how we serve the public. It also applies to our section and how we all push to work together to further our section and the water industry as a whole. Recognizing the talent and expertise of other water professionals and then leaning on that expertise to resolve or investigate various issues is what makes our section so great. These collaborative sessions, in the various forms of section events or meetings, is what helps set the Michigan Section of the AWWA ahead of others. To me, this is the purest form of teamwork one can find, and I am proud to be a part of it.

Many years ago, I had a high school wrestling team tee shirt that, on the back, simply said, ‘Together. Everyone. Always. Matters.’ The first letter of each word collectively compiles the word TEAM, and this shirt still resonates with me decades later. While the phrase was meant to galvanize a wrestling team to push each other to great success, it can also be applied to our section and the communities we all serve daily. I think the best way to sum up TEAM in our industry

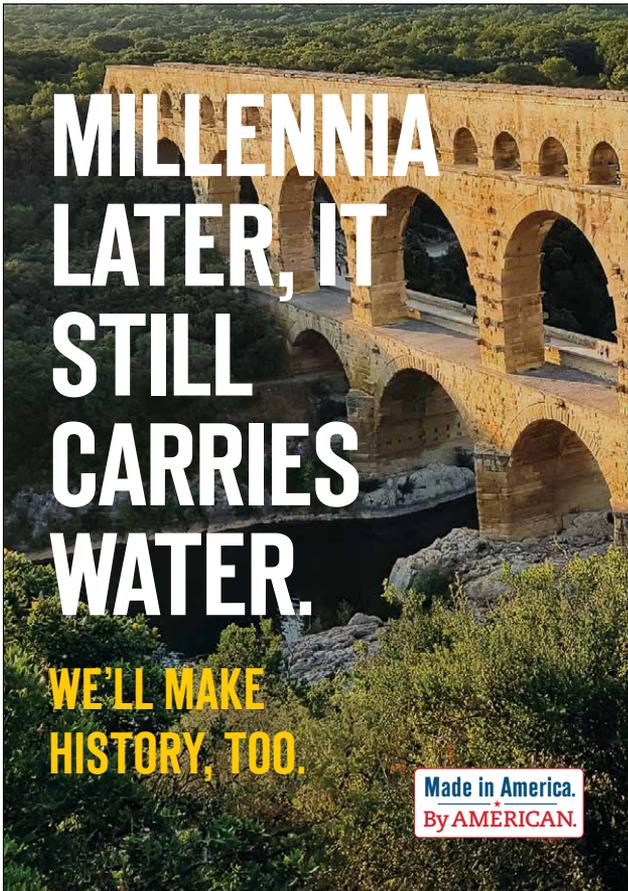


is working **together** in a collaborative manner so that **everyone** can **always** have a voice that **matters**.

We have a lot of things happening in the water industry these days, from lead to affordability to PFAS to labor shortages. As we keep getting curves thrown at us, we have the ability as a section to galvanize together as a TEAM to tackle the issues. Embracing a TEAM approach for many of these issues means surrounding ourselves with those who have a vested interest and are passionate about the issue. Like most of you, I have opinions and ideas about these issues. While I am certainly not a social butterfly, getting involved in the section was my way of collaborating to understand the

issues better and participate in potential resolutions. The relationships I have built within the section have led to a certain level of satisfaction that comes with being part of a TEAM.

As you read this article, please think about your involvement with the section and the relationships you have built within it. Are you engaged with the section? Do you feel you are part of a TEAM? For myself, it may have taken some time for me to open myself up to the section and get engaged, but I am really glad that I did. And now that I have, I am really excited to take on this next challenge as the Section Chair to serve all of you and the water industry here in Michigan with a TEAM mindset. 💧



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# MICHIGAN NOW THE 7TH LARGEST AWWA SECTION

Christine Spitzley, Director

**“BAD TIMES HAVE A SCIENTIFIC VALUE. THESE ARE OCCASIONS A GOOD LEARNER WOULD NOT MISS.” – RALPH WALDO EMERSON**

**S**olid relationships and projects with long-term impacts make up the foundation for sustainable and economic communities.

As such, I am humbled to write this column as the new Director of the MI-AWWA. I recognize that I am part of a continuum of leadership and impact and that providing Michigan residents with cleaner and safer water began with the dedication of the leaders who have stood before me and those who will stand here in years to come.

I want to thank outgoing MI-AWWA Director Pat Staskiewicz, Ottawa County Road Commission, and Director at Large Cheryl Porter, Great Lakes Water Authority. Anyone who assumes a role of service and leadership expects

challenges, but the past three years served unprecedented obstacles. Pat and Cheryl, your steadfast commitment and focus on action through these difficult times are truly appreciated.

Our mission at MI-AWWA to effectively manage and deliver clean, safe water – our most vital resource – remains unwavering, no matter the challenges that come our way. To accomplish this, we stay focused on areas where we can take action and spark impact. And as a result, we're seeing how even the most difficult times can still give way to exceptional progress on some of our most important initiatives.

Water 2050, which seeks to establish a long-term vision of the future of water, is a collaborative exploration that will chart a course for a successful and sustainable water sector. It is designed to be a thoughtful, intentional, and

inclusive discourse that delivers bold, achievable outcomes. More information on Water 2050 and ways to engage can be found at [www.awwa.org/resources-tools/water-2050](http://www.awwa.org/resources-tools/water-2050).

The Transformative Water Leadership Academy (TWLA) is where the next generation of high-level water utility leaders focus on the foundations of sustainable community leadership: how to integrate social, environmental, and financial concerns into essential decisions about water utilities. This 10-month program addresses leadership for drinking water, wastewater, stormwater management, and water reuse. Participants will learn to balance short and long-term priorities while creating value for all water stakeholders. Interested candidates can find more information at <https://buff.ly/3wdpgsl>.



Outgoing Director Pat Staskiewicz introducing Christine Spitzley as Michigan's new Director. When you see him, please ask him about his horns!



AWWA's Water 2050 initiative seeks to establish a long-term vision of the future of water.



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“OUR PROGRESS GIVES ME HOPE FOR THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF THE WATER INDUSTRY. OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS OF MY TENURE, I WANT TO CONTINUE TO NURTURE RESILIENCY, RELATIONSHIPS, SKILLS, AND PERSPECTIVES.”



Immediate Past-President Chi Ho Sham and President Joe Jacangelo pose with the Eddy in San Antonio.

The June 2022 AWWA Annual Conference and Exhibits (ACE) held in San Antonio was a great success. Not only was it wonderful to see people back in a thriving conference setting – and with higher than predicted attendance – it was clear that Michigan continues to lead and serve as a resource on emerging issues for other states and utilities. We are leading national discussions on affordability and generously sharing hard-earned expertise in complying with lead and copper rules.

Our progress gives me hope for the future success of the water industry. Over the next three years of my tenure, I want to continue to nurture resiliency,

relationships, skills, and perspectives.

Through these core tenets of our water practice, I believe we can take decisive actions that will further fuel our commitment to improving lives through the effective management of water for Michigan communities. 💧



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# WHY DIVERSITY MATTERS

Bonnifer Ballard, Executive Director

I had my eighth anniversary with the section this summer. It had me reflecting on how the section has grown, how I have grown, and where we are in achieving our strategic goals. One goal in which we are falling short is diversity. A couple of timely conversations with members helped me understand why and inspired me to work toward clarifying our goal as an organization and working with members to achieve that goal.

Let's start with a definition. According to author and leadership consultant

Aiko Bethea, diversity is "having representation from groups that have historically been marginalized (think protected classes) *and* creating an environment that eliminates disparities." Seems straightforward enough. However, we all know that it's not.

According to the HRDirector website, "there is substantial research to show that diversity brings many advantages to an organization: stronger governance, better problem-solving abilities, increased creativity, and profitability. Employees with diverse backgrounds will inevitably

bring a wider range of perspectives, ideas, and experiences." This is true whether you work in a consulting firm, a manufacturer, a water department, or a professional association.

I know the topic of diversity can feel to some people like they're being scolded or guilt-tripped. Neither of those things are productive or true in the case of this article. In order to address any problem, you must first know the problem exists and then understand the problem. I would hope that we, as water professionals, would be willing to work to address diversity simply because it is the right thing to do. It is part of fostering a more just world. But there is a good business reason too.

The water sector is facing the silver tsunami, a wave of retirements with a slim pipeline to fill open positions. There are many things we can and should be doing to address this. Creating an environment where diversity is lived and embraced is a key strategy for having and maintaining a robust workforce.

In December, the section will host a workshop on diversity, 'Diversity in the Water Sector,' in Ann Arbor. There are still open seats, and I encourage you to attend. The workshop will offer constructive dialogue to help attendees understand the issue more thoroughly and give tangible, actionable steps you can take immediately to foster a more diverse workplace. I'll be there. Won't you join me? 💧

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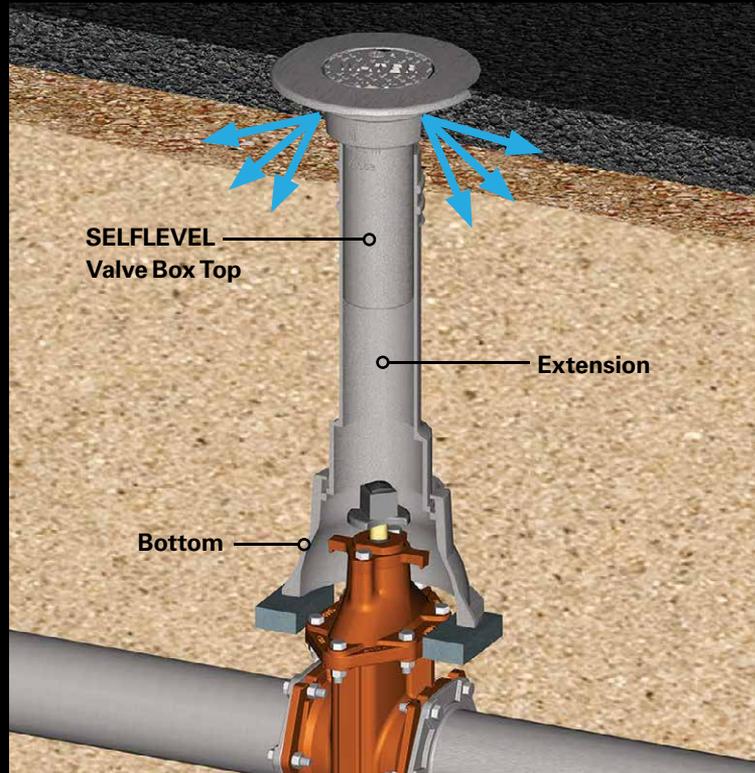




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# WHAT EVERY OPERATOR MUST KNOW

Joel Martinez

**E**mergency preparedness is a topic that every operator hears about but rarely takes the time to think about it truly. Most days as an operator are roughly the same. The plant normally runs with all of its chemical feed systems operating as they should and all of the pumps and valves in the plant working just as they were intended to. It is very easy to get complacent with the normalcy of day-to-day water plant operations.

What happens when a real emergency presents itself? There have been a few recent cases of Michigan water plants with extremely large main breaks that affect huge parts of the distribution system. A recent water main break in the primary discharge line at East Lansing-Meridian caused discharge pressure at the plant to go from 78 to 14 psi immediately. This sudden drop in pressure caused towers to drop to

nearly empty levels and caused many of the chemical feed systems in the plant to shut down, some with drastic failures that needed immediate maintenance. In an instant, almost 40,000 people lost water to their homes and businesses.

the main break isolated with pressure restored to the city in less than an hour.

Teaching everyone in a water system about their roles and responsibilities in emergency scenarios before an emergency occurs is an extremely



## **DUST OFF THOSE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS AND START WORKING ON SOME TRAINING SITUATIONS.**

As luck would have it, plant maintenance personnel had just recently gone over the exact arrangement of valves that would need to be shut in order to isolate this primary water main in case of an emergency. The quick reaction of maintenance and operations had the chemical feed systems repaired and

important part of system readiness. Dust off those emergency response plans and start working on some training situations. You can also hold tabletop exercises with local and county emergency coordinators. Knowing what to do at the onset of an emergency can keep a bad situation from getting much worse! 💧

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MI-ACE 2022 brought together more than 400 water professionals to hear technical sessions, network, visit exhibitors, and plan for the future of their organizations. Keynotes included Ben Whiting, who talked about a 'limitless culture' and took attendees through an energizing, funny, and thought-provoking opening general session. Attendees also heard from AWWA Vice-President Heather Collins on water issues being faced across the country. In addition, there were more than 50 sessions on a host of water-related topics.

Attendees also had the opportunity to test drive the new system for self-check-in and check-out of sessions to earn continuing education credits. And the exhibit hall was wall-to-wall with a variety of vendors for attendees to learn about.

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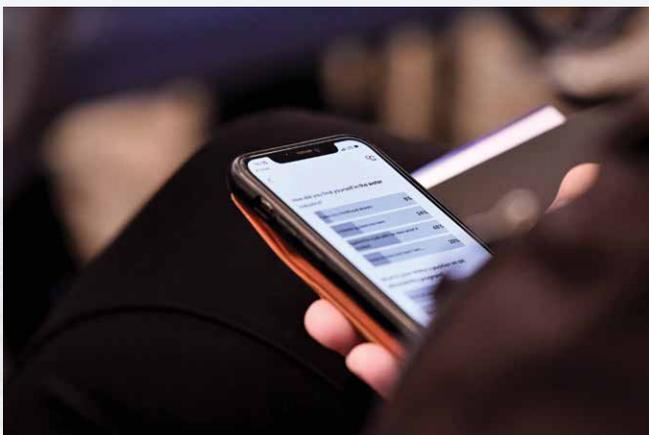
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# Session Highlights



# Session Highlights



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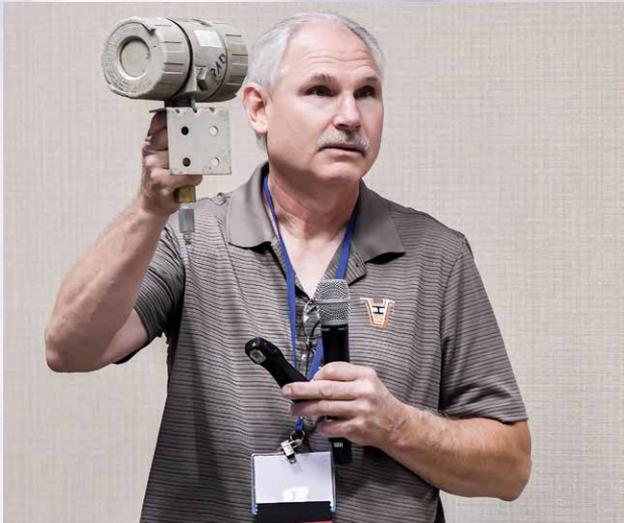
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## Session Highlights





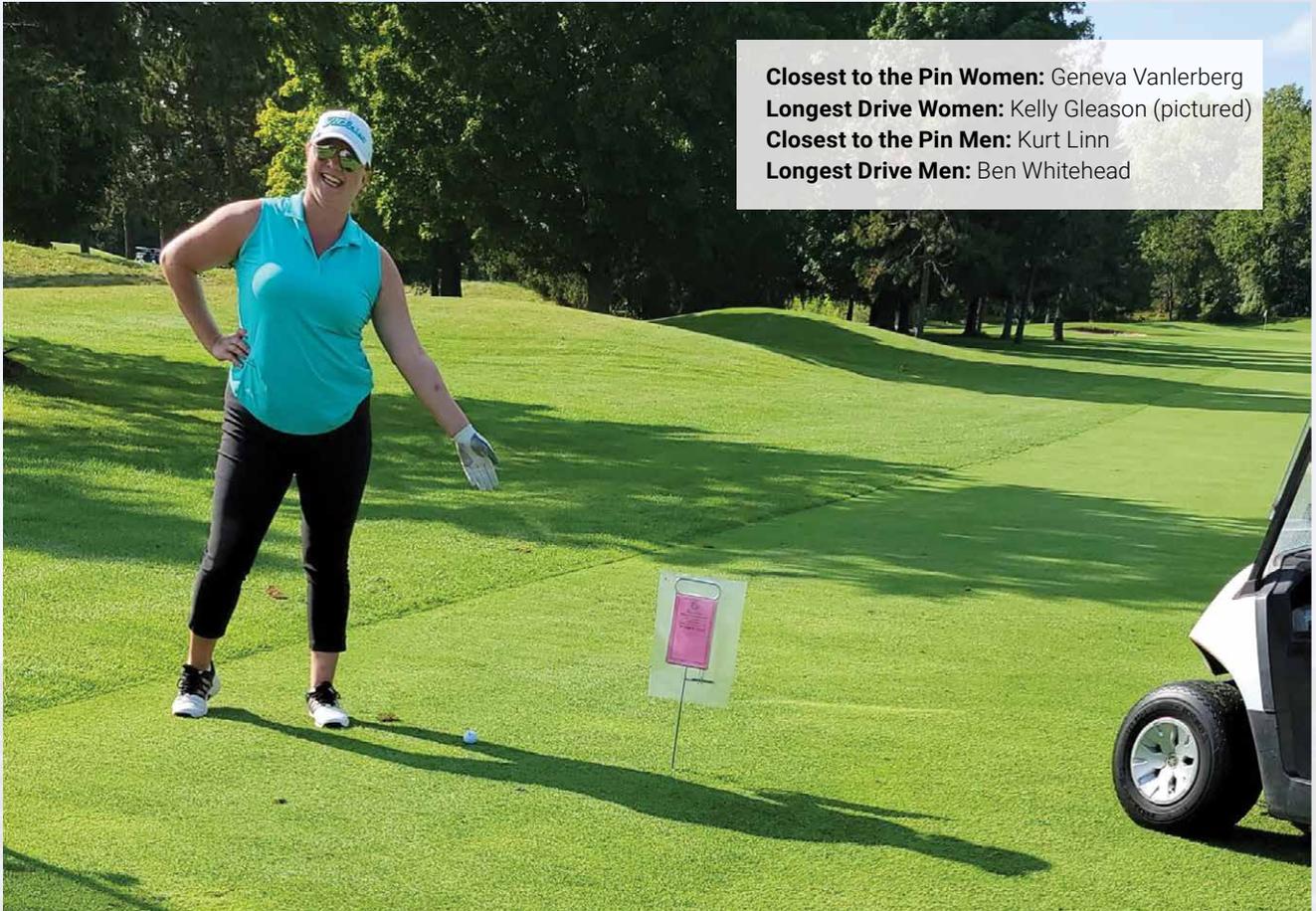
# Session Highlights





## MI-AWWA's Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser

MI-AWWA's annual golf outing fundraiser raised nearly \$4,000. Special thanks to hole sponsors: Arcadis, EJ, Fishbeck, Hazen & Sawyer, HydroCorp, Inline Solutions, Jones & Henry Engineers, Metro Consulting Associates, and Peterson & Matz.



**Closest to the Pin Women:** Geneva Vanlerberg  
**Longest Drive Women:** Kelly Gleason (pictured)  
**Closest to the Pin Men:** Kurt Linn  
**Longest Drive Men:** Ben Whitehead





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## Awards

MI-ACE was also a time to recognize excellence within the water sector in Michigan.

**Congratulations to all of this year's awardees!**

### SILVER WATER DROP AWARDEE



Silver Water Drop recipient Scott DeVries (center) with AWWA Vice-President Heather Collins, and MI-AWWA Past Chair Aaron Urang.

### LIFE MEMBER STATUS



AWWA member Barbara Marczak (L) reached the milestone of Life member status.

### EDWARD DUNBAR RICH AWARD

EGLÉ honored a number of individuals with the Edward Dunbar Rich Award for years of service in the water sector. Awardees this year included: Wood Chooi, William Fleming, Steven M. Gray, Darryl Knight, Barbara Anne Matthes, Gary Watkins, and Gary Wozniak.

### PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE INDIVIDUAL AWARD



Professional Excellence – Individual awardees Samarhia Giffel (2nd from left) and Mike Kasanic (3rd from left).



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#### Dedication

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### LEGACY

#### Clean Planet

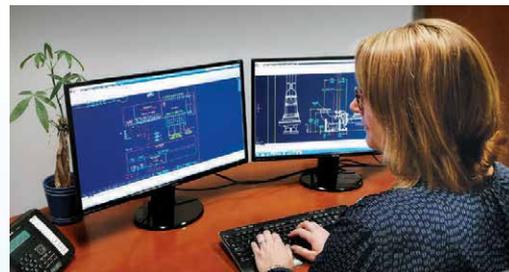
Forever committed to leaving this planet with a cleaner environment than we found it.



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# Awards

## PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE ORGANIZATION AWARD



Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office received the Professional Excellence – Organization Award. Pictured from L to R: AWWA Vice-President Heather Collins, Demar Byas, Julia Ruffin, Kelsey Cooke, MI-AWWA Past Chair Aaron Uranga, Sara Rubino, Trish Bruzek, and Mike Kasanic.

## OPERATOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S AWARD



Steven Taber was honored with the AWWA Operator Meritorious Service Award.



Zach Hampton (L) was recognized with the Executive Director Award.

## CHUCK VAN DER KOLK VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD



The Chuck Van Der Kolk Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to MI-AWWA long-time volunteer Jaime Fleming (R).

## AWWA OUTSTANDING SERVICES AWARD



Janice Skadsen (R) was recognized in June and again at MI-ACE with the Outstanding Services to AWWA Award.

## THE RAYMOND J. FAUST AWARD

The Raymond J. Faust Award was presented to Bill Fritz and Bruce Bartley.

## HALL OF FAME 2022 INDUCTEES



Pictured L to R: Historic Preservation Committee members Greg Alimenti and Gary Wozniak, and Hall of Famer Bruce Hawkinson. Not pictured is Warren "Ike" Isaacson.

# Awards

## GEORGE WARREN FULLER AWARD



As is tradition, past Fuller awardees stand to receive this year's winner.



Barbara Marczak was awarded the George Warren Fuller Award, pictured here receiving her Fuller pin with her in-laws.

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## YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD



Adam DeYoung receiving this year's award.

The premier water and wastewater conference in the Midwest.



# JOINT EXPO

## & OPERATORS DAY

# SAVE THE DATE!

## February 7-8, 2023

### Lansing Center, Lansing, MI

Mark your calendars for a renewed Joint Expo & Operators Day!

Joint Expo & Operators Day has been around for about three decades. Time for a refresh!

Operators Day will offer three different tracks, one specifically designed for leadership, on each day. With many options to choose from, you may attend both days and/or multiple tracks in a single day to maximize earning your continuing education credits. The final agenda will be forthcoming with registration opening no later than December 1.

The exhibit hall, which still allows you to earn continuing education credit, is also getting a refresh. Water professionals will find many of the long-time exhibitors as well as new companies all anxious to show you their latest wares. Competitions, games, and more will make walking the exhibit hall a new and livelier experience.

Mark your calendars



and make plans to attend!

## See you in Lansing!

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# Above the Bridge

## Quintessential Upper Peninsula – Bates Township



**B**ates Township is a small community just north and slightly east of the state line with Wisconsin. It is home to less than 1,000 people and boasts plenty of businesses and recreation year-round. According to its website, Bates Township is one of just five original townships in the county, established nearly 140 years ago. Many of its residents are descended from the original settlers, including Ed Benson of the water department.

The water department is lean, with just two employees – Ed Benson and Zack Powell. They also have a retiree, John Franmeier, who helps out occasionally. Ed is an S4 and holds a lagoon license since he manages both the water and sewer systems. Zack is being trained to take over when Ed retires.

“You don’t do this for the money. You just like what you do,” Ed explained as he talked about his responsibilities. Ed, Zack, and John maintain the water system, the sewer system, parks, the beach, the campground, and the cemetery. All that can be stressful. They are responsible for a lot. Ed is confident, though. “Just follow the rules, and you’ll be ok.”

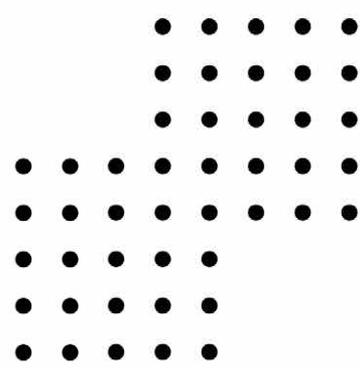
The water system uses two wells, a 50,000-gallon storage tank for the high-pressure district and a 50,000-gallon standpipe for the low-pressure district. The system is very spread out and includes 170 fire hydrants. The community has newer pipes, so lead isn’t really an issue for Bates Township.

The Board is proactive in making improvements to the system. Community pride might have something to do with that. The township is steeped in history, with family ties intertwined with the town’s founding and development. The town hall, built in 1907, is currently undergoing a preservation project.

Water bills have stayed low – just \$40 for 4,000 gallons and \$2 per 1,000 gallons after that. Quite a bargain for good quality water. Both Ed and Zack attended the UP Spring Water Con back in the spring, where Bates Township competed and won the region’s best-tasting water.

“We’ve been very fortunate,” says Ed. “We’re really blessed with good quality water.” 💧

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- Uses only passive energy to mix - No external power sources required
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- Zero maintenance



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# PROCO PRODUCTS patents the ProFlex™ 710TT

When the Uniroyal Company invented the rubber expansion joint in 1930, the success story that would one day become PROCO PRODUCTS began.

PROCO founders Gene Johnson and Merv Vater purchased the specifications for the rubber expansion joints in 1984, as friends, business partners and life-long industry members. Now the leading manufacturer of rubber, Teflon, metal and fabric connectors and expansion joints, it is with ninety years of experience in the field that PROCO formed the core values of the company into one that values customer service above all else, as well as fostering a network of committed engineering groups, municipalities, and end users.

PROCO is known throughout the trade as the go-to source for elastomeric products, as well as a rapid response to changes in engineering, design, pricing and delivery. Experience has allowed the company to develop sturdy, high quality expansion joints and rubber duckbill check valves to assist in the control of back pressure while resisting corrosion and breakage from harsh operating conditions.

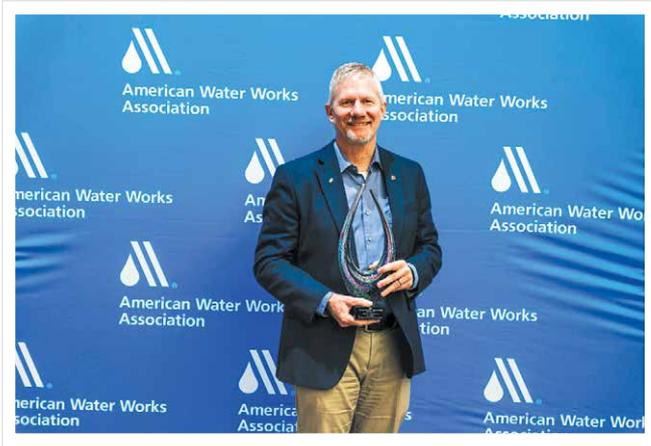
When drinking water safety drove a wave of innovation across the country, PROCO developed an entirely newly designed patented valve called the ProFlex™ 710TT. This valve is specially designed to encourage rapid mixing inside potable water storage reservoirs, without maintenance, without a power supply and with little head pressure needed to maintain positive flow. When inlet pressure is applied to the designed manifold in any reservoir, the intent is to ensure an adequate mixing of the media by blending the different temperature variations into one, thus eliminating hot spots, which is an ongoing concern in potable water reservoirs.

The ProFlex™ valve solution minimizes tank hotspots where stagnation or media settling can occur, keeping drinking water safer, longer, with less need for repairs or system downtime. The new patented torsional flow design of the ProFlex™ valve provides a unique spinning motion which has never been offered before, and is a stand-alone feature. Its operational value requires less head pressure and less pump energy, thus saving the client money as well as mixing time. 💧



# FULLER AWARD MOST PRESTIGIOUS OF SECTION AWARDS

Christine Spitzley, Principal, OHM Advisors, MI-AWWA Director



The Michigan 2022 AWWA ACE Contingent was proud to see Pat Staskiewicz receive the George Warren Fuller Award in San Antonio! George Warren Fuller Awards are presented annually by the American Water Works Association to the sections' respective selected members. This award is bestowed to a water professional for distinguished service to the water

sector in commemoration of the sound engineering skill, brilliant diplomatic talent, and constructive leadership, which characterized the life of George Warren Fuller.

Pat is the Public Utilities Director for the Ottawa County Road Commission and has over 30 years in the water industry. As a registered professional engineer, he has been a member of the

Michigan Section for nearly 30 years. He has also served on several section committees, as a Section Trustee, the Section Chair, and most recently as the Section's Director to AWWA.

Pat's ongoing contributions to the Michigan Section have been invaluable. Michigan is pleased to honor and recognize Pat for receiving the George Warren Fuller Award.

## APPLYING FOR THE FULLER AWARD

**Eligibility for the award:** To qualify for the award, the person must be an individual member or a duly appointed representative of an organization member of the American Water Works Association. In the case of a posthumous award, the recipient must have been an AWWA member at the time of their death.

**Entry requirements:** Submit a completed AWWA entry form by any section member to the Section Fuller Award Committee.

**Nomination procedure:** Any section member may nominate an individual by submitting the completed entry form to the Section Fuller Award Committee. A 'citation' or statement of the basis upon which the recommendation is made must be included. 

More information can be found at <https://www.mi-water.org/page/awardscurrent>.



## MI-AWWA ONLINE

MI-AWWA is evaluating the redesign of our website. Please tell us how you use the website and what you'd like to see differently. Take our web survey now. 

[www.mi-water.org](http://www.mi-water.org)



## WATER SOLUTIONS: CONSIDER PRESENTING IN 2023

The 'Water Solutions' webinar series is an inexpensive and easy way for water professionals to get timely, relevant information. Do you have a 30 or 60-minute presentation that would be helpful for other water professionals? There are still spots available for presentations. If you or a colleague has a topic that you'd like to present, please contact staff at [info@mi-water.org](mailto:info@mi-water.org). 



## NO ONE IS SAFE FROM SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES AND INFLATION

You have probably seen delays in getting equipment. And when you do get what you ordered, you are likely paying more for it. In your personal lives, you probably see it too – from the price of gas to the cost of a pound of beef.

Throughout the pandemic, MI-AWWA has purposely kept the cost of registering for an event steady and even made some events free to help alleviate the pressure

members faced during those turbulent and uncertain months. We continued with that practice even through this year. Unfortunately, no one is immune to the economic forces in motion now.

Supply chain issues are impacting the venues we work with to hold trainings. We are exploring all of our options and will get creative with solutions. Yet, the cost of registration will go up in 2023.

MI-AWWA will continue to provide exceptional training opportunities to water professionals and develop ways to add new value to membership as well. We remain steadfast in our vision of a better Michigan through better water and our mission of improving lives through the effective management of water, Michigan's most vital resource. 💧

## CONSERVATION TASK FORCE



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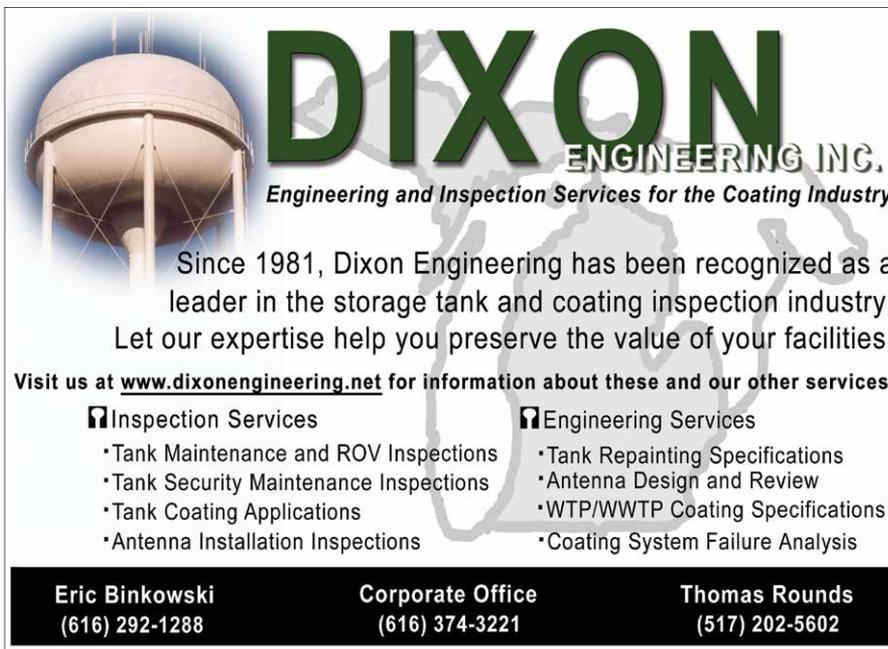
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Are you interested in water conservation and efficiency? If so, we have a great opportunity for you to get involved. In 2008, the Michigan Section AWWA developed 'Guidelines for Generally Accepted Water Management Practices for the Public Water Supply Sector.' The State of Michigan accepted the guidelines as the official water conservation measures for the public water supply sector, as required by Part 327. These guidelines need to be updated, and the section would like to convene a task force to complete this work.

The task force will be led by Pat Staskiewicz, who is the public water supply representative on the Water Use Advisory Council, which is a stakeholder group that helps the State with the Water Use Program. The work is anticipated to take approximately six months to complete. Three to four meetings will be held virtually, and volunteers can expect to spend 6-12 hours on the task force between meetings, research, and reviews.

Please consider helping with this important task. The first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26, from 10 am to 11 am. If you are interested, contact Pat Staskiewicz at 616-850-7208 or [pstaskiewicz@ottawacorc.com](mailto:pstaskiewicz@ottawacorc.com) to learn more about how to get involved. 💧



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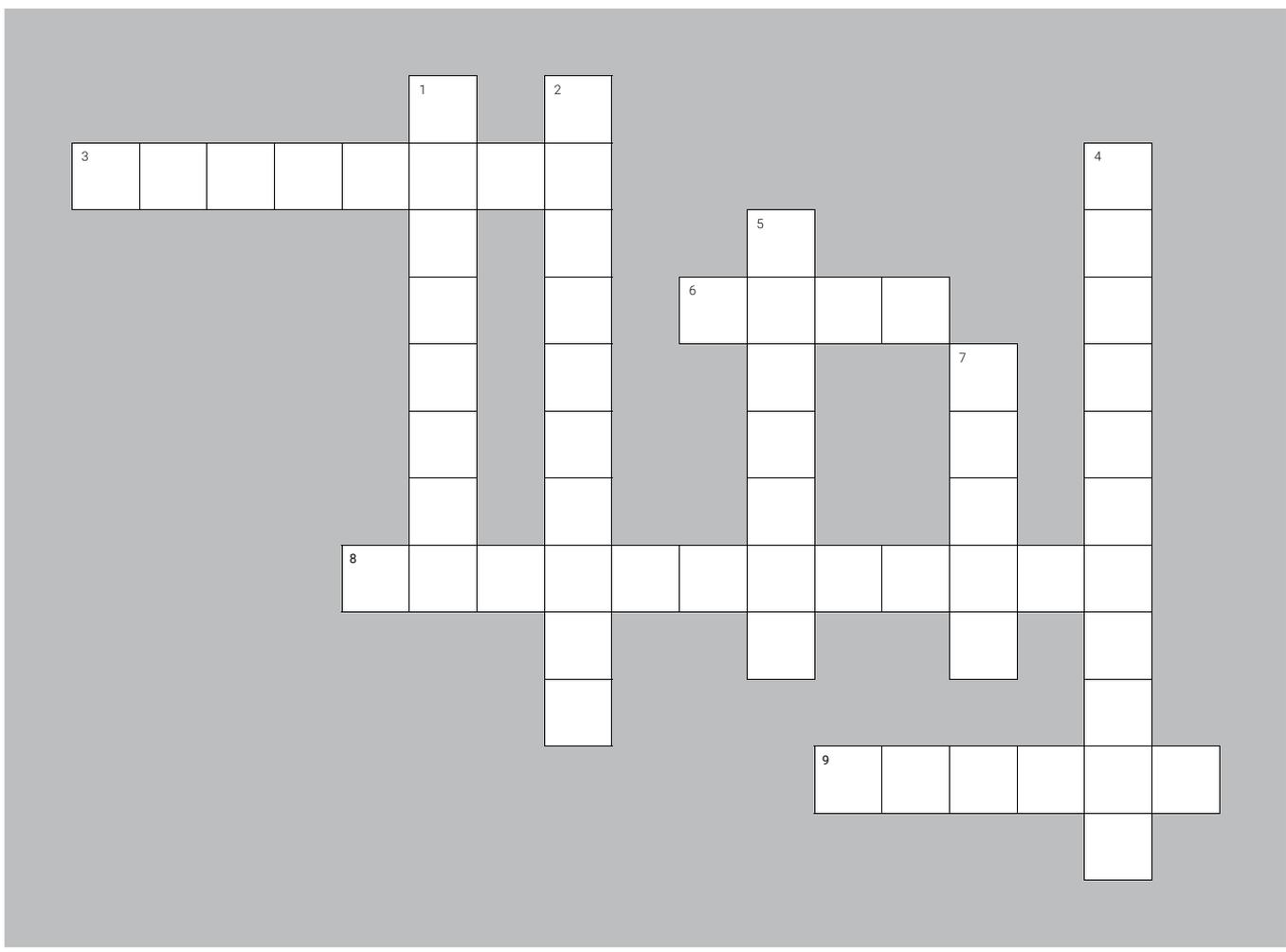
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• Antenna Installation Inspections	• Coating System Failure Analysis

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# CROSSWORD: THE GREAT LAKES



**ACROSS**

- 3. Lake \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest freshwater lake in the world by surface area
- 6. Lake Superior contains \_\_\_\_\_ of the water in all the Great Lakes
- 8. Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake that is entirely within \_\_\_\_\_ territory
- 9. More than \_\_\_\_\_ percent of all the world's freshwater is in the Great Lakes

**DOWN**

- 1. Lake \_\_\_\_\_'s shore is home to the largest freshwater sand dunes in the world
- 2. Michigan has the most \_\_\_\_\_ coastline of any U.S. state
- 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ Building would sink beneath the surface of Lake Superior
- 5. The Great Lakes are the \_\_\_\_\_ freshwater system in the world
- 7. The Great Lakes Region is the primary water source for more than \_\_\_\_\_ million people

See page 53 for answers





## COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL UPDATE

The Communications Council is updating its council's purpose to better support and impact our section. The Council has narrowed down sustainable programming and even has a new podcast on the horizon. We worked closely with staff on the MI-ACE mobile app that featured members' videos, including MI-AWWA Section leadership.

Also, get ready for the section's annual 'Communications Workshop' in December that will boost member confidence as

'Effective Presenters' and the launch of our new podcast series on "Building Public Trust on Water Quality."

As usual, *Water Works Updates*, the section's e-newsletter, will be delivered weekly. Let us know if you have any news you would like included.

We look forward to serving you as we work to make our website more appealing, develop and communicate outreach campaigns, and create an engaging new podcast series. 💧

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL UPDATE

The Education and Training Council (ETC) is now in the process of reviewing courses for the Michigan Water Academy. Classes are in varying stages of development at this point, with some in beta testing. Once initiated, the Michigan Water Academy hopes to serve as a career progression pathway that helps water professionals to advance with their organization and reach their long-term career goals. For more

information on the Michigan Water Academy, visit the section website at [www.mi-water.org/page/academy](http://www.mi-water.org/page/academy).

Paul Reinsch will soon be stepping away as the Council Chair of the Education and Training Council to begin enjoying his retirement. Everyone involved in the ETC and all of its committees would like to thank Paul for his efforts and wish him the best of luck. 💧

## MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL

Amy Vail, Membership Chair

Recruitment, engagement, and retention have always been the three main areas that the Membership Council focuses on. This year AWWA gave us even more incentive to meet some of those goals. Sections were given specific recruitment and re-engagement target numbers; if they met those numbers and AWWA membership met 50,000, those sections would share in a \$20,000 incentive. I am happy to say, that at the time of this update, the Michigan Section has exceeded our goal of 426 new or re-engaged members. The influx of members from the GLWA and member partner enterprise model with AWWA has been the driving force behind the increase in numbers. At the time of this update, the Michigan Section was ranked #6 in AWWA with 2,058 members. We were #1 in retention and retention/attraction ratio and had 20.4% growth for the year. We definitely will not take our foot off the gas and continue those recruitment, engagement, and retention objectives. At MI-ACE, I will be stepping down as the Membership Council chair, and Frank Williams of Peerless Midwest will take the reins. I thank him for stepping up to lead the group and their efforts. 💧



# YOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Recently the joint MI-AWWA/MWEA Youth Education Committee attended the Macatawa Water Festival in beautiful Holland, Michigan. This event was the committee's first in-person event since COVID-19. The committee and partnering organizations came together at Windmill Island to provide activities and information sessions focused on restoring the Macatawa watershed at no cost to the public.

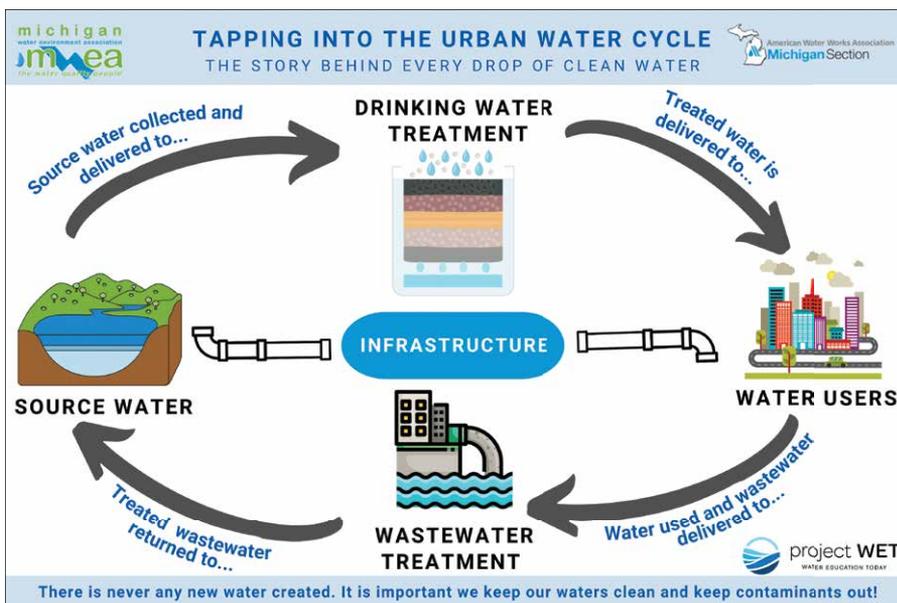
Although the weather was cold and rainy this year, the volunteers were enthusiastic about showcasing the types of careers in the water and wastewater fields to festival goers of all ages!

Utilizing a newly created poster illustrating the urban water cycle, volunteers talked to participants about their source of drinking water, the treatment process, and what happens to water after we use it.

They also educated residents about the negative impact 'flushable' wipes have on sewer collection systems and had tremendous success!

Another poster describing the history of water supply protection in Michigan made its debut. This poster outlines the landmark cases and steps Michigan has taken to safeguard our drinking water.

Both posters are available for use by any committee or for any event. 💧



**A Michigan History of Water Supply Protection**

- 1836 Detroit**: In 1836, the City of Detroit purchased their own water supply system.
- 1908 Escanaba**: Escanaba built a filter plant in response to high community Typhoid Fever rates. Studies completed by Dr. Oscar Breitenbach connected Typhoid fever to raw sewage in drinking water.
- 1913 The Sewerage Act**: The Sewerage Act in MI was a policy that protected source water through multiple barriers such as source water protection, frequent monitoring, etc.
- 1930 Chlorine**: Widespread water supply decreased disease rates. By the 40s few cases of typhoid were attributed to food service and milk production.
- 1945 Grand Rapids**: The City of Grand Rapids began testing the hygienic effects of fluoride in drinking water. Results found a 60% reduction of cavities in children. Today, 70% of the US population receives fluoridated water.
- 1976 The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act**: The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act replaced the MI Sewerage act establishing minimum standards for state programs to protect drinking water sources.
- 1991 First Federal Lead & Copper Rule Established**: Rule established following case studies to limit levels of these metals.
- 1997 Marquette**: Marquette, MI became the first treatment plant in the state to utilize membrane filtration. Water is drawn through a porous membrane to remove contaminants.
- Current Events**:
  - 2010 - 2020: Emerging Contaminant PFAS contamination found at various locations around Michigan.
  - 2018: MI Updates Safe Drinking Water Act Michigan updates its lead and copper rule.
  - 2020: PFAS Rule Michigan establishes first PFAS rule.

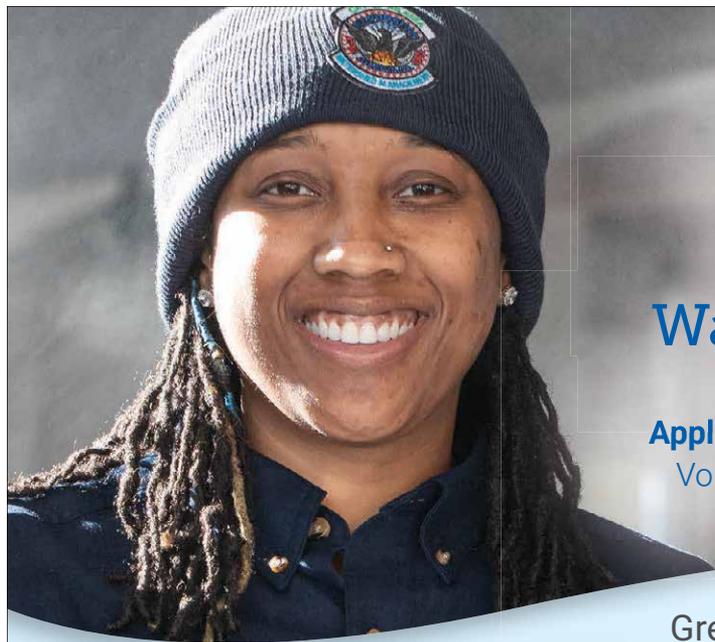


# CONFERENCE AND RECOGNITION COUNCIL UPDATE

Adam DeYoung, PE

The MI-AWWA Conference and Recognition Council have been working to continually improve how we gather and recognize the achievements within our ranks as a section. This year that includes a few objectives. One is how the section can enhance partnering with manufacturers, service providers, and consultants. This is a fundamental unit of our membership and is vital to the success of our industry. The second is to provide encouragement and space for those stepping into the discussion of water affordability. This is a topic that has the potential to define the next era of our industry for better or worse, which is why we are engaging in this work. 💧

**“THE MI-AWWA CONFERENCE AND RECOGNITION COUNCIL HAVE BEEN WORKING TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVE HOW WE GATHER AND RECOGNIZE THE ACHIEVEMENTS WITHIN OUR RANKS AS A SECTION.”**



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## IN MEMORIAM

The passing of **Louis Tardani** on July 5, 2022, at 94 years of age. Lou is a past Superintendent of the City of Muskegon Water Filtration Plant.

The passing of **Kenneth Dudley, Sr.** on July 6, 2022, at 83 years of age. Ken is a past Safety Training Admin for the Lansing Board of Water & Light.

The passing of **Bill Bailey** on July 24, 2022. Bill is a past Electric Systems Operator, System Control Supervisor, and Transmission & Distribution Supervisor for the Lansing Board of Water & Light before his retirement in 2001. 💧



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## ON THE MOVE

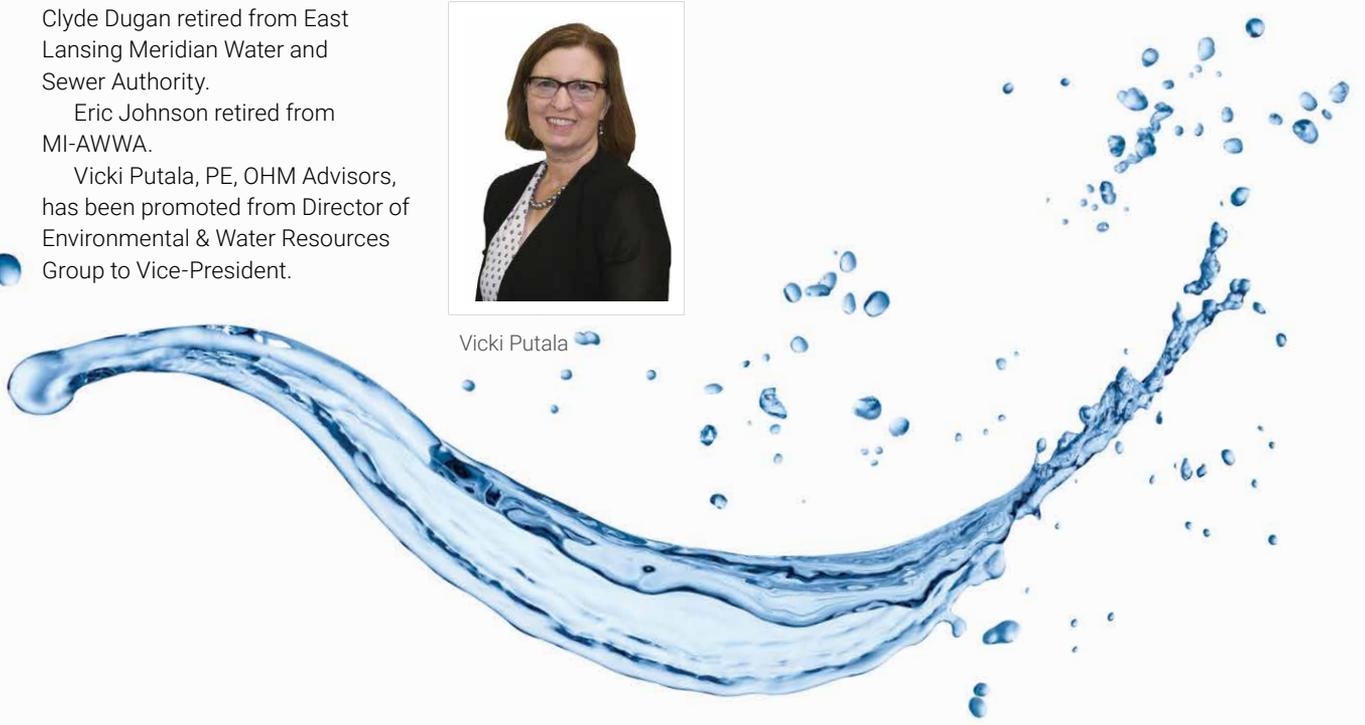
Clyde Dugan retired from East Lansing Meridian Water and Sewer Authority.

Eric Johnson retired from MI-AWWA.

Vicki Putala, PE, OHM Advisors, has been promoted from Director of Environmental & Water Resources Group to Vice-President.



Vicki Putala




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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Members who joined May 1, 2022, to July 31, 2022.

**Mark Adas**, City of Flint  
**Richard AlMBERG**  
**Backflow Solutions Inc.**  
**William Baker**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Guy Belew**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Jeanette Best**, City of Flint  
**Vincent Bey**, SWWP  
**Mdmahbubur Bhuiyan**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Martin Bonds**  
**Mike Booker**, City of Hazel Park Water Department  
**Mohamed Boudali**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Timothy Brooks**, Chesterfield Township  
**Aaron Brunson**, City of Detroit  
**Michael Buiten**, City of Wayne Water Department  
**George Burns**, Brownstown Township  
**Curtis Burris-White**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Raymond Card**, Emerson Process Management  
**Rick Castleman**,  
 City of Hazel Park Water Department  
**Asiha Chambers**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Patrick Clarke**, City of Dearborn Water Department  
**Clay Township Water Department**  
**Charise Collins**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Obeyra Colon**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Deidra Cook**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Kathy Corfman**, City of Saline  
**Summer Cox**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Bill Cox**  
**Alex Craigmile**, Holland BPW  
**Richard Creagh**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Melvin Dacres**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**John Danci**, Sumpter Township Water Department  
**Christine DeJarnette**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Paul DePaulis**, Brownstown Township  
**Vincent Depauw**, City of Troy  
**Scott Desenberg**, City of Buchanan  
**William Donaldson**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Thomas Dover**, Macomb Township  
**Soud El-Jamaly**, City of Dearborn  
**Roxie Fairchild**, Charter Twp of Brownstown  
**Dillon Ferguson**,  
 West Bloomfield Township Water Utilities  
**Ryan Ferrell**, City of Livonia Public Works  
**Andrew Frechen**, Lansing Board of Water & Light  
**Travis Frendt**, East China Water Filtration Plant  
**Marcus Frye**, City of Dearborn  
**Brandie Graves**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Ursula Gray**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Rich Greenhill**,  
 City of Southgate Water Department

**Joe Gregory**, City of Fraser Water Department  
**Daniel Guastella**, City of Inkster Water Department  
**Jackie Haggerty**, Brownstown Township  
**Brian Heeb**, City of Fraser  
**Melvin Hightower**,  
 Detroit Water and Sewerage Department  
**Thomas Hutchings**, City of Flint WPCF  
**Allen Jenkins**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Thomas Jennings**, Alfred Benesch & Company  
**Teresa Johnson**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Willie Jones**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Sydni Jordan**, Wayne State University  
**Melissa Joyce**, Backflow Solutions Inc.  
**Steve Kapeller**, Barr Engineering Company  
**Hassan Karim**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Connor Kost**,  
 Macomb Township Water & Sewer Department  
**Anupam Kumar**, GLWA Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Matthew Lane**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Antonio Lemus**,  
 Oakland County Water Resources Commission  
**Tracy Lester**, Pci-Vertex  
**Jamia Lewis**  
**Tom Liacakes**, City of Livonia Public Works  
**John Lilly**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Joseph Luttrell**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Holly Malewski**, City of Dearborn  
**Michael Mannion**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Daniel Marsh**, City of Southgate  
**Calvin Martyn**, City of St. Louis  
**Scott McGrady**, Waterford Township  
 Department of Public Works  
**Jason McGuire**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Nicholas McGuire**, Water  
**Mike McManemy**, City of Sterling Heights DPW  
**Brandon McVay**, City of Flint  
**Kevin Misch**, Macomb Township Water & Sewer  
**Daysha Monroe**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Barry Mosher**, Macomb Township Water & Sewer  
**Marci Moss**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Michael Nastasy**, Macomb Township  
**Jay Neiryneck**, Chesterfield Township  
**Brett Nesbitt**, City of Fraser  
**Corey Nicoloff**, Northville Township  
 Department of Public Services  
**Samuel Nouhan**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Dominique Pantoja**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Bailey Papes**, Fishbeck  
**Marjon Parham**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Carol Peitz**, City of Dearborn-Water  
**Justin Petrone**, City of Fraser

**Sheldon Petty**, Charter Township of Clinton  
**Joshua Pickett**, City of Flint  
**Robert Ponder**, Grosse Ile Township DPW  
**Amy Prociuk**, NSF International  
**Christopher Putman**, Northville Township  
**Melissa Raikes**, Northville Township  
 Department of Public Services  
**Peter Randazzo**, City of Grosse Pointe  
**Josh Ranes**, City of Galesburg  
**Tamika Rashad**,  
 Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority  
**Craig Richardson**, WickWire Solutions  
**Daniel Robbins**, City of Hazel Park  
**Jacob Roberts**, City of Dearborn-Water Division  
**Stephen Roberts**  
**Jordan Roberts**, City of Dearborn-Water Division  
**Dillon Rogers**, City of Hazel Park Water Department  
**Mike Rostkowych**,  
 City of Hazel Park Water Department  
**Andrew Ruggero**, Chesterfield Township Water  
**Sampleserve, Inc.**  
**Russell Schindler**, Sampleserve, Inc.  
**Ryan Schmid**, Macomb Township Water & Sewer  
**Alyssa Schubert**, University of Michigan Student  
**Joey Schuetz**, City of Livonia Public Works  
**Debbie Sedam**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Mary Shepherd**, City of Sterling Heights Water  
**Steve Smeal**, Northville Township  
**Dominic Smoot**, City of Flint  
**James Stevens**, City of Niles Utilities Department  
**Timothy Stewart**, City of Dexter  
**Janine Sweetman**, Prein & Newhof  
**Daniel Swiecki**, City of Wayne Water DPW  
**Dillon Talbot**,  
 West Bloomfield Township Water Utilities  
**Jeffrey Ternes**,  
 Macomb Township Water & Sewer  
**David Thoel**, Macomb Township  
**Heather Toutant**, City of Harper Woods  
 Water Department  
**Kevin Vallely**, City of Dearborn  
**Brian Vanhall**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Brenden Villalobos**, Northville Township  
**Naythan Ward**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Michelle Washington-Williams**,  
 Detroit Water & Sewer  
**Audrey Wells-Lewis**, Detroit Water & Sewerage  
**Dorian West**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Chris Wilcox**, City of Flint  
**Matt Wright**, City of Livonia Public Works 

# STATE REVOLVING FUND DEADLINES DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY



Municipalities interested in financing a drinking water, stormwater, and/or wastewater infrastructure project in 2024 should submit an Intent to Apply (ITA) form to the Water Infrastructure Funding & Financing Section in EGLE by **November 1, 2022**. The ITA is the first step in the application process to be considered for inclusion on the fiscal year 2024 project priority lists for State Revolving Fund (SRF) financing programs. Additionally, in 2024, federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds will again be available and operate in tandem with the SRF process.

Submittal deadlines for Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) final project plans have changed since FY 2023. Applicants seeking financial assistance from the CWSRF must submit their planning documents to EGLE by May 1, 2023, and for DWSRF consideration, those planning documents are due by June 1, 2023.

Scoring criteria and disadvantaged criteria (now called overburdened and significantly overburdened) are being drafted via a public participation process in accordance

with legislation signed June 30, 2022. Overburdened and significantly overburdened applications have been removed from the ITA form until the new criteria are finalized. New guidance documents on the project planning process and documentation required for SRF application should be available this fall.

For additional information and to review the progress of new definitions and scoring criteria, please visit EGLE's Overburdened Communities page at <https://www.michigan.gov/egle/regulatory-assistance/grants-and-financing/drinking-water-state-revolving-fund/overburdened-communities>.

For general SRF information, visit our CWSRF and DWSRF websites below, email [egle-wifs@michigan.gov](mailto:egle-wifs@michigan.gov) or call 517-284-5433.

- <https://www.michigan.gov/egle/regulatory-assistance/grants-and-financing/clean-water-state-revolving-fund>
- <https://www.michigan.gov/egle/regulatory-assistance/grants-and-financing/drinking-water-state-revolving-fund>

## MICHIGAN COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY TRIVIA

1. How many community water supplies are there in Michigan?
2. How many community water supplies use groundwater as their primary source? How many use surface water?
3. What was the average number of bacteriological samples collected by all community water supplies per month in 2021?
4. What is the number of compliance-related bacteriological samples that were positive for total coliform or E. coli in 2021?
5. How many certified drinking water operators does Michigan currently have?
6. How many community water supplies have 'Lake' in their name?
7. What is the percentage of Michigan residents served by a CWS?
8. How many privately-owned community water supplies are there in Michigan?
9. How many community water supplies in Michigan serve a population of less than 500?

1. 1,381. 2. Groundwater 1,075/Surface water 306. 3. 8,708. 4. 334. 5. 4,425. 6. 39. 7. 74%. 8. 644. 9. 713

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 Eric Oswald, Division Director  
 George Krisztian, Assistant Division Director  
 Brian Thurston, Assistant Division Director

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 Vacant, Section Manager

**Lansing District Office**

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 Justina Lyons, Envir Quality Analyst 517-899-4815  
 District 11 - Aaron Tytschkowski, Engineer 517-282-3161  
 District 12 - Hien Dang, Engineer 517-290-0170  
 District 14 - Kurt Swendsen, Engineer 517-525-1487

**Bay City District Office**

Joseph Reinke, P.E., District Supervisor 989-326-7709  
 Rebecca Kaiser, Environmental Quality Analyst 989-326-6949  
 District 21 - Marissa Drobitch, Engineer 517-242-6455  
 District 22 - Shane Mudd, Engineer 517-388-3582  
 District 23 - Kristin Bailey, Engineer 989-280-1291  
 MHC\* - Sue Hutteringer, Envir Quality Analyst 989-220-8640

**Jackson District Office**

Pat Brennan, P.E., District Supervisor 517-581-2769  
 Taryn Simon, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-257-7465  
 District 31 - Md Abdullah Al Masud, Engineer 269-569-4131  
 District 32 - Sean Brown, Engineer 517-937-6799  
 District 33 - Vacant, Engineer

**Warren District Office**

M. Yunus Patel, P.E., District Supervisor 248-228-5134  
 Vacant, Environmental Quality Analyst  
 District 41 - Tiffany Yusko-Kotimko, Engineer 586-817-9120  
 District 42 - Kyle Zimes, Engineer 248-820-7789  
 District 43 - Abuzoha Islam, Engineer 248-504-9142  
 District 44 - Yunfeng Li, P.E., Engineer 586-504-7163  
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**Kalamazoo District Office**

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 Stacy Wilson, Environmental Quality Analyst 269-491-3107  
 District 51 - Nathan Yutzy, Engineer 517-388-9125  
 District 52 - Vacant, Engineer  
 District 53 - Vacant, Engineer  
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**Grand Rapids District Office**

Luke Dehtiar, P.E., District Supervisor 616-307-0322  
 Jeremy Klein, Environmental Quality Analyst 616-250-1053  
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 MHC\* - Brian Esparsa, Envir Quality Analyst 616-307-0006

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 Carey Pauquette, Environmental Quality Analyst 231-878-2931  
 District 71 - Kevin Lemmer, P.E., Engineer 517-614-8632  
 District 72 - Bob Weir, Engineer 231-590-2050  
 District 73 - Jamie Wade, P.E., Engineer 231-878-8592  
 District 74 - Taylor Quillan, Engineer 231-878-1279

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Tom Flaminio, P.E., District Supervisor 906-236-9746  
 Lori Schultz, Environmental Quality Analyst 906-869-6624  
 District 81 - Mike Westra, P.E., Engineer 906-869-8823  
 District 82 - Amy Douville, Engineer 906-236-4277

**Engineering Section**

Michael Bolf, P.E., Unit Supervisor 906-630-4107  
 Ryan VanDerWoude, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-648-7662  
 Nick Swiger, P.E., Water Treatment Specialist 231-429-8926  
 Vacant, Distribution System Specialist  
 Stephanie Johnson, P.E., Surface Water Specialist (east) 586-506-6137  
 Robert London, P.E., Surface Water Specialist (north) 989-450-7834  
 Vacant, Surface Water Specialist (west)  
 Andrew Peterson, P.E., Surface Water Engineer 906-250-4392  
 Summer Haught, Surface Water Engineer 517-899-4962  
 Sally Castle, Surface Water Engineer 517-281-8936

\*MHC = Manufactured Housing Communities

**Community Water Supply Section**

Kris Philip, Section Manager

**Technical Support Unit**

Kris Dorcy, Unit Supervisor 517-898-1126  
 Krista Robinson, Environmental Quality Specialist 517-599-8655  
 John Karnes, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-242-0911  
 Brittany Earles, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-899-6735  
 Ariel Zoldan, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-599-8684  
 Randi Henderson, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-899-4974

**Operator Training & Certification Unit**

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 Scott Schmidt, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-899-6906  
 Brianna Moore, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-899-6955  
 Martin Morales, Environmental Engineer 517-525-8032  
 Courtney Vincent, Departmental Technician 517-282-6102  
 Edith Monteiro, Office Assistant 517-930-1912

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 Jeni Bolt, Environmental Quality Specialist 517-331-5161  
 Holly Gohlke, Environmental Quality Specialist 517-220-1904  
 Vacant, Environmental Quality Analyst  
 Steve Pennington, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-242-3923  
 Matthew Sylvester, P.E., Corrosion Control Engineer 989-395-8567  
 Aislinn Deely, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-388-1816  
 Tyler Postma, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-388-1833  
 Heather Brown, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-282-2844



# TRAINING CALENDAR

## OCTOBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4 Regional Meeting Livonia	5 Regional Meeting Kalamazoo	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Regional Meeting Mt Pleasant	19 Regional Meeting Gaylord	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26 Maintenance Seminar	27	28	29

## NOVEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Lab Practices Seminar	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

## DECEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Communications for Water Professionals Workshop	8 Diversity in the Water Sector: A Practical Workshop for Attracting and Retaining Talent	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## JANUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Asset Management with MWEA	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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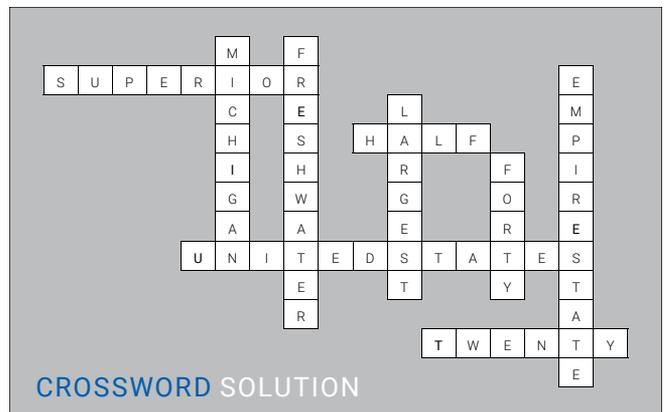
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