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Kelly Gleason, [kelly.gleason@lbwl.com](mailto:kelly.gleason@lbwl.com)  
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SPRING 2018



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# SPRING IS HERE

KELLY GLEASON

**W**elcome to the spring issue of *Michigan Water Works News*! Ah spring . . . it's starting to warm up, the snow is melting, and we begin to emerge from our cold winter hibernations.

January was low-key for me this year, but February was action packed. The Joint Expo & Operators Day went as planned, and all the competitions were completed. Both the Lansing BWL teams won the State titles again for pipe tapping, Battle Creek took the Hydrant Hysteria, and Troy is home to our Meter Madness winner. Way to go! Check out all competition results and info on the Expo on page 45.

I planned a vacation to Florida for after the Joint Expo & Operators Day to unwind, reset, and relax. We stayed on the beautiful Caloosahatchee River. I hoped to contact the utility and tour a water plant or two, but the in-laws kept our itinerary full of boating and beaches. When I returned I realized just how important it is to take that time away

from work. My mind is cleared and I feel ready to tackle the next project.

I'm currently working on my resolutions, increasing my professional development. I've enrolled in a class and am planning on taking a license exam in May. Make sure to check out all the training opportunities available to you on page 41.

On a sad note, we lost a very dear member to a tough battle with cancer. It is never easy to lose someone, but we can take this time to reflect on how they influenced our lives. I didn't know Chuck personally, only saw him in passing. What I have read tells me he was a wonderful person who had a passion for water – a passion that earned him the AWWA Volunteer of the Year award for 2017. Read more about Chuck and his life on page 32.

So, what have you been up to in the water world? Send pictures, stories and updates to [kelly.gleason@lbwl.com](mailto:kelly.gleason@lbwl.com) with the subject line *Water Works News*. 💧



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# ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

CHRISTINE SPITZLEY, CHAIR

**T**he spring issue of *Michigan Water Works News* marks more than the halfway point in another MI-AWWA year: it's that time when the day-to-day, nitty-gritty work of the Section gets done; when the excitement of the annual conference has waned a bit; when we are all busy at our 'real jobs.' These are the months that contain the hard work of the Section: council and committee meetings, budgets, board meetings, the leadership retreat, tests, trainings, Joint Expo, Michigan Water Academy, preparing for tapping contests; our list is long.

This year nothing illustrated the impact one person can make in our work more than the loss of our friend Chuck VanDerKolk. Chuck was an ardent MI-AWWA volunteer for over 40 years. He was, among many things, a past MI-AWWA Chair, AWWA Vice President, and AWWA's 2017 Volunteer of the Year. He served MI-AWWA

"IF YOUR ACTIONS INSPIRE OTHERS TO DREAM MORE, LEARN MORE, DO MORE AND BECOME MORE, **YOU ARE A LEADER.**"

– JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

proudly and firmly believed in hard work wrapped in fun. His sense of humor was as strong as his commitment to upholding the highest professional standards.

For so many of us, the water industry reaches far beyond a job and becomes a network of amazing friends and colleagues. Chuck's death brought out hundreds of people from around the country who travelled to Zeeland for the opportunity to tell his family how much he meant to them personally and to the water industry. As the weeks have passed, there have been many discussions about how to best honor Chuck's legacy. Like other water legends before him, we struggle to imagine

our lives without them and want to remember them well.

As an industry, we are in a time of unprecedented challenges. I believe the best way to honor Chuck's legacy is to do as he and the leaders who came before him did. Commit to building strong, well run, financially sound utilities using proven best management practices. Support legislation, leaders and research in the best interest of public health. Say 'yes' when volunteers are sought. Seek advice and share expertise. Pursue innovation and continuing education. Accept change. Engage community and embrace diversity. And always fight passionately for safe, reliable water. 💧

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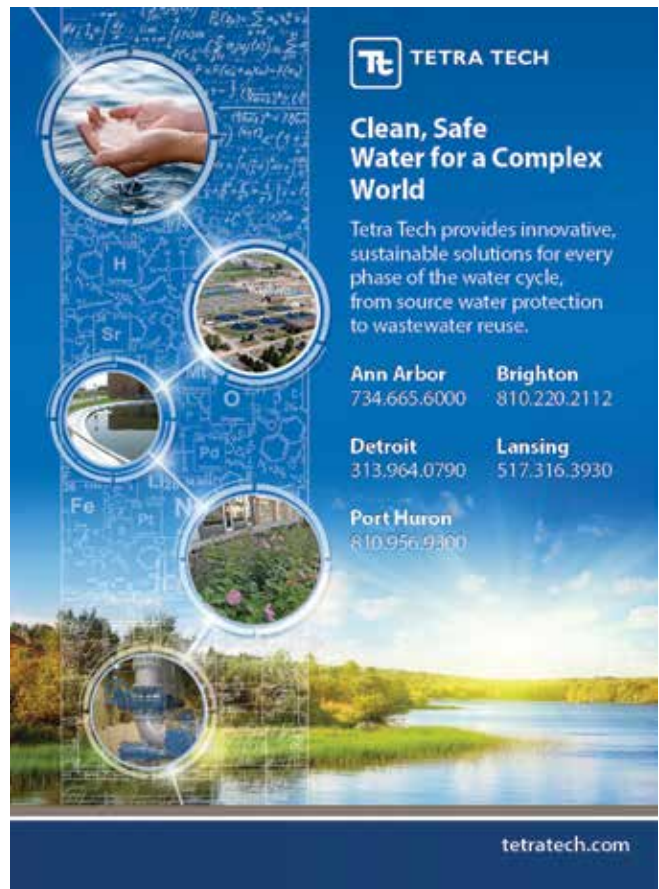
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# ASSOCIATION INITIATIVES

MARK COLEMAN, DIRECTOR

The AWWA Board of Directors Winter Meeting was held on Saturday, January 20, 2018. Some of the meeting highlights that you may find interesting include the following:

The Board of Directors selected Jim Williams of Mishawaka, Indiana as the Association's next president-elect. An AWWA member for over 30 years, Jim is currently the general manager at Peerless-Midwest, a Suez Company. Active in the Indiana Section, he has served as chair and director and currently sits on its Water Utility Council and Water for People Committee. He has received several water industry awards, including the Kenneth J. Miller Founders' Award and the George Warren Fuller Award. As a bonus, Jim's brother is our very own Section Secretary/Treasurer Mike Williams!

Two vice presidents and one director-at-large were also elected during the annual winter meeting. Elected by the board as vice presidents are:

- **Randy Moore**, who has been a member of AWWA for 35 years at the Missouri Section and is a regular contributor to *Opflow*, AWWA's magazine for operators. Currently an Association service provider director-at-large, he is director of sales – agency development and industry affairs for Tnemec Co. in Kansas City, MO.
- **Theresa O'Grady**, a member of the Illinois Section for over 20 years, is currently the Illinois Section Director and is involved in several committees. Teresa is a group manager of water resources at Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. in Aurora, IL.
- **Keisha Lisbon Thorpe** was elected as director-at-large. Keisha is a Watershed Director II at the City of Atlanta and has been a member of AWWA's Georgia Section for over 15 years. Active at her Section, she launched their Diversity Committee and helped launch their Model Water Tower Competition Committee.

All those elected will begin their new AWWA roles in June at the conclusion of AWWA's Annual Conference & Exposition that will be held in Las Vegas.

The board also approved the AD HOC Governance Review Committee recommendations that I outlined in my Winter 2018 *Michigan Water Works News* Association Initiatives article. Collectively, the implementation of these initiatives will streamline the organization's management procedures and allow its officers and directors more time to manage and monitor the strategic direction of AWWA.

David LaFrance, AWWA Executive Director outlined several 2018 initiatives, each designed to modernize the Association's business practices and communication to the membership. Our two publications – *Journal* and *Opflow* – will be available in a digital format by mid-year; they not only greatly expand audience reach, but will also allow members to digitally search for content and review prior year publications. Our website will be updated and an update to the website *Career Center* has just recently gone live. Two particularly exciting updates include our Benchmarking Survey and Water Operator Certification Study guide.

AWWA has been publishing an annual Benchmarking Survey since 1995. Widely acclaimed and used by our utilities, the development of the technical information by participating utilities has been time consuming. This year's edition will reflect an improved interface data collection approach (NO MORE SPREADSHEETS) designed to reduce the data collection effort, improve the QA/QC process, and provide faster and better reports that will include a utilities response history. Since data input collection will be more streamlined and less labor intensive, greater utility participation is expected.

In 2012, AWWA published its first Water Operator Certification Study Guide. In addition to developing a 2018 Study Guide update, a new 'Exam Prep' app is being developed for use on your smart phone or other mobile device. The app will include over 2,000 questions divided into four subject areas and will include a practice test. The 2018 updated guide, along with the 'Exam Prep' app, will launch in March 2018 and will be available for purchase at the AWWA online bookstore.

Thanks for your attention. Give me a shout if you would like additional information or simply want to chat. 💧



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# DIVING IN, MOVING FORWARD

BONNIFER BALLARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**T**he water sector operates conservatively. We're taught to play it safe and to keep things steady. So how can we as water professionals use innovation and the latest technology to ensure that we're using the best approach to safeguarding public health?

Recently, I was having a conversation with some of my peers. We were discussing the rate of change that technology has introduced into our lives and how stressful that can be, even when it's fun. One gentleman had just purchased a Smart TV. He decided to get rid of his cable and just use the internet for watching TV. He was really struggling with simple tasks, like finding a particular show he wanted to watch. He figured it out, but realized he was going to have to think differently about watching TV. Instead of surfing to find

something, he was going to have to get comfortable just diving in.

His experience with this new technology and new way to watch TV spurred a discussion about our tendencies in the work place. Do you still channel surf? Or are you learning to purposefully dive in to find what you're looking for? These questions really got me thinking about my own tendencies and about the broader water sector.

Where does innovation and the latest technology come in? How do we challenge ourselves to be better, to seek better, more efficient ways of creating and delivering clean, safe water? I believe it is in the interactions of AWWA members.

Through AWWA activities and events, water professionals have the opportunity to network with like-minded individuals, but also with individuals who perhaps think a little differently. Going to events and talking to companies

offering new technologies, meeting operators who have found a new and better way to manage a common problem, and engaging engineers in what-if conversations all lead to better outcomes for water professionals and ultimately water customers.

I know not everyone naturally seeks out new and different ideas. There are some of us pretty ok with regular old TV and surfing with the remote. But how wonderful that we can reach out and interact with those streaming their TV, i.e., approaching water treatment and distribution a bit differently! Even if we're not ready to lose our cable box just yet, AWWA allows us to live vicariously – all the while observing and getting comfortable with some of these new ideas – before we dive in.

Keep moving forward. 💧



As I reflected on this conversation and those members I've gotten to know best over the past three years, my mind and heart stopped on Chuck VanDerKolk. What a loss for us all. Chuck passed away in late January. Although I hadn't known him long, he left an indelible mark on me. He was part of the small group that interviewed me before the Section asked me to join as Executive Director.

He took me to lunch and schooled me on the Section and all things water. He always had a kind word (even if he was mad) and gave of himself tirelessly. What an inspiration he was! He was always moving forward. I will miss him.

**"WHAT AN INSPIRATION HE WAS!  
HE WAS ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD.  
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## PIECES FROM THE PAST

# UNDERSTANDING THE VALUE OF WATER

BY RANDALL ROOST, LANSING BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT

**W**ith all the discussion currently going on across the State of Michigan

related to the Governor's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure Commission and the latest report about a possible fee (to be assessed for each person served by a public water supply) to support infrastructure investment in the drinking water supply, I dug deep into my memory bank and remembered a chart that I saw, showing the water rates for the City of Lansing from 1895.

We all know that water rates are one of the least popular discussion items that you may have to address with your governing board or with the public. No one likes to have their water rates increased. After all, isn't water *free*? The response that I often give is "Yes the water is free, but you want it delivered to your home 24 hours a day and that costs money. Oh, and you also want it delivered under pressure and you want it clean and safe to drink? That costs money."

So, understanding that it does cost money to treat the water and deliver it to our customers, how do we determine how much to charge for these services? Rate structures, along with other fees and charges, are all part of developing a water rate strategy that not only provides the necessary funding for the continued operation of the utility, but also provides an assumed fairness across all the



various water-using customer classes, so that one class of customer is not subsidizing any other rate class. At least that is the way it works in an ideal world.

I looked at the rates the City of Lansing offered back in 1895 and to me it looked very complicated compared to the way we do things today. As you can see in the accompanying table we had very specific rates for different uses of water.

### Some of my observations:

- Saloons must use more water than ice cream saloons.
- I was fascinated that they had automatic sprinkling systems back in 1895.

- Did somebody actually have to count cows and horses? Did they do this every month?
- I liked the fact that water for public schools was free – an interesting concept.

What stood out as interesting to me in my review of these fees and charges from 1895 was that the utility had a declining block rate structure that allowed for a decreased cost, on a unit basis, based on the more water used.

That took me on another train of thought and I wondered if I could calculate how our rates today compared to the rates from 1895 as adjusted for inflation.

*Continued on page 18.*



## CITY OF LANSING 1895 RATES

Bakeries	\$10.00–20.00
Banks, including one wash basis	\$5.00
Barber Shops, one chair	\$3.00
Barber Shops, each additional chair	\$2.00
Bath Houses, public per tub	\$5.00
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16 ½ cubic feet	\$0.025
Brick work, per 1,000 square yard	\$0.12
Plastering, per 100 square yard	\$0.15
Concrete, street paving, per square yard	\$0.015
Cement for Sidewalks, per square yard	\$0.075
Water for settling trenches for service Pipe for each trench	\$0.50
Candy Manufactories	\$5.00–\$10.00
Cigar Manufactories, five persons or less	\$4.00
Each additional person	\$0.50
Cisterns Filled (exclusive of labor)	\$1.00–\$2.00
Cows, each	\$1.00
Dwellings, five rooms or less	\$4.00
Each additional room	\$0.50
Dyeing and Scouring, including laundry	\$10.00–\$20.00
Dental Offices	\$4.00
Drug Stores, including soda fountain	\$10.00
Eating Saloons	\$10.00–25.00
Fountains, not exceeding eight hours per day during season from April 1 to November 1	
1/8 inch orifice	\$5.00
3/16 inch orifice	\$10.00
1/4 inch orifice	\$20.00
5/16 inch orifice	\$40.00
Foundries	Special or meter rates
Gas Works	Special or meter rates
Hose for Sprinkling street including washing and sprinkling sidewalks, the outside of building, per lineal front foot	\$0.10
Hotels and Boarding Houses, per person	\$1.00
Ice Cream Saloons	\$5.00
Laundries	Special or meter rates
Livery Stables, per single stall up to six	\$2.00
Each additional one up to 24 in all	\$1.50
Each additional one over 24	\$0.50
Locomotives	Special or meter rates

Lumber Yards	Special or meter rates
Lawn Sprinkling, 1,000 square feet or less	\$1.00
Lawn Sprinkling, for all over 1,000 square feet per 1,000 square foot	\$0.50
Lawn Sprinkling (automatic)	Metered
Manufactories	Special or meter rates
Offices or Sleeping rooms, including wash basin	\$3.00
Each additional room	\$1.00
Photographic Galleries	\$8.00–\$20.00
Public Halls	Special or meter rates
Putding Ditches, etc.	Special Rates
Railroads	Special Rates
Steam Engines	Special or meter rates
Steam Boilers for house warming, each square foot of heating surface	\$0.30
Stores, 22 feet front or less	\$5.00
Stables, private one horse	\$2.00
Each additional horse	\$1.00
Saloons	\$6.00–\$20.00
Schools, public	Free
Schools, private, 25 scholars or less	\$5.00
Each additional scholar	\$0.10
Soda Fountain	\$5.00
Urinals, in private houses, each	\$2.00
In hotels and public houses, each	\$5.00
In stores, saloons banks, offices	\$3.00
Wash Basins, stationary, first basin free in private family, all others each	\$0.60
Water Closets, in hotels and public places, each	\$5.00
Private, one bowl	\$2.50
Each additional bowl	\$1.50
Work Shops, five persons or less	\$4.00
Each additional person	\$0.25
Water Power	Special or meter rates

Street Sprinkling with Carts	
Streets under 40 feet in width, per 100 lineal feet	\$5.00
Streets over 40 and under 50 feet, per 100 lineal feet	\$6.50
Streets over 50 and under 60 feet, per 100 lineal feet	\$8.00
Streets over 60 feet, per 100 lineal feet	\$9.00

Meter Rates	
For first 1,000 gallons or less used during the month	\$0.40
Next 49,000 gallons	\$0.10 per 1,000 gallons
Next 50,000 gallons	\$0.08 per 1,000 gallons
Over 100,000 gallons	\$0.05 per 1,000 gallons



Standpipe  
1885 to 1949



Our current rate for 1,000 gallons of water is \$3.93. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index, the dollar experienced an average inflation rate of 2.76% per year from 1895 to 2017. Prices in 2017 are 2657.5% higher than prices in 1895. In other words, \$0.40 per gallon of water in the year 1895 is equivalent in purchasing power to \$11.03 in 2017, a difference of \$10.63 over 122 years. This is well over our current costs.

Wow! What a great job we have done keeping our water rates well below the rate of inflation. On top of that, the water quality we produce today is much better than the water we produced 123 years ago. Pat yourself on the back for a moment because I am sure that the City of Lansing is not unique.

What does this have to do with the value of water?

Most water utility customers routinely take the water they drink for granted. You just open the tap and out it comes, safe to drink and refreshing. They have no idea what it takes to get

the water from the source to the tap. They also have no idea that the pipes, pumps and other equipment we use to deliver the water are aging with many in need of replacement. As utility managers, we need to do a better job of communicating with our customers about what it takes to run a modern water system. That is the purpose of the current push towards adoption of more robust asset management strategies and the main focus of the proposed legislation in Michigan to address water infrastructure, along with other infrastructure systems such as road, bridges, sewers, and electric systems. Your role as a water professional is to stay current with the trends in the industry and to apply the best practices to your local utility. If you need some help, the AWWA and the Michigan Section are here to provide you with the tools and the training to be successful. Whether through formal training or just simply the networking opportunities, you too can become part of the solution towards better water systems. 💧

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## COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL

The Communications Council has been active this quarter, finalizing a Communications Strategy and engaging with the media and stakeholders on issues related to infrastructure, as well as the Revised Lead and Copper Rule.

Highlights for the last four months include the following:

- developed and executed a member survey on Communications, which was initiated in January/February;
- liaised with Government Affairs Council on communicating lead and copper issues (issued a press release);

- Op-Ed published in Crain's Detroit in November 2017 on infrastructure;
- Op-Ed piece published in the Oakland Press in December 2017 on infrastructure;
- interviewed with Associated Press re: water issues (piece yet to be published);
- interviewed with Bridge Magazine reporter on Lead and Copper;
- aired interview on Fox 2 News in November on infrastructure issues;
- began development of a social media policy;
- initiated planning for drinking water week activities; and
- acted as monthly liaison with the Section's media consultant to direct the Section's public engagement efforts.

Communication Council efforts are beginning to reap benefits for the Michigan Section, as media representatives have been contacting the Section for comment and expertise on water-related issues. This is an important step toward meeting the Council's 2018 Goals and Objectives. 💧



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## EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL

Bob Miller, Chair

Last night, my wife and I attended the second round of parent-teacher conferences for the year at Blue Star Elementary School. My wife is an educator herself, so when we sit down with another teacher, I am clearly the cumbersome third wheel. At one point while working through teacher acronyms (how's your DIBELS score?) with my son's teacher, I did pick up on something that I not only understood, but could really appreciate. She said that Parker, my son, came to class like he was truly interested in everything that she had to say. This, his teacher said, was truly rewarding.

While obviously not a situation plucked straight from our industry, the dynamic above is something we are constantly looking for on the Education and Training Council. We strive to bring training and discussion to our partners that can be immediately interesting and relevant. We want to offer the information that you want to have. This can be a challenge when you, our target audience, are already capable, experienced, and accomplished professionals. Luckily, your willingness to communicate your challenges, needs, and knowledge gaps back to our group has granted us many opportunities to serve.

Such an opportunity was just taken advantage of in December when the Education and Training Council was able to partner with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to offer some 'Water System 101' training to new and veteran State employees, who would be conducting in-home hazard inspections in Flint. The training was very well received and served as a 'pilot' for future Michigan Water Academy offerings. Another great opportunity that we are continuing to pursue will be the Plankton and Algae Course offered again for 2018. There has been tremendous response, interest, and inquiry into this course as a result of the hard work undertaken by the Plankton and Algae task force. As always, the Regional Meeting task force has a full roster of great topics ready to go for the Spring meetings, and our Distribution System task force is hosting a day-long

training in Ann Arbor on April 19. Please see the section website for more info on these or any other upcoming training or events.

Lastly, I am very happy and encouraged to report that membership on the Education and Training Council has jumped quite a bit since my last update.

I look forward to all the new points of view and experiences that I'm sure will be of benefit to everyone. Again, a big 'thank you' to any and all of you who have helped to reinforce our group by sending members our way. With a full roster and many new ideas, we are all anxious to get to work. 💧



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# MEMBER RECRUITMENT AND ENGAGEMENT COUNCIL

By Tina Pawlak, Chair



Joe Eastman, Barbara Marczak and I had the privilege of attending the 2018 Membership Summit held at the American Water Works Association (AWWA) headquarters in Denver, Colorado representing our Michigan Section. Representatives of sections from all over the country, as well as Canada and Mexico, attended the meeting. Since the summit was held at AWWA headquarters, attendees were given a tour of the building, which houses both AWWA headquarters and the Water Research Foundation offices. We were introduced to many AWWA staff, and there were booths set up so we could ask questions and learn more about the various sections divisions within the headquarters. Evenings provided an opportunity to mingle and network at a welcome reception on Wednesday evening and a trivia night on Thursday.

The AWWA headquarters sponsors a Membership Challenge each year to incentivize each Section's drive to add more members. Incentive cash is awarded to all Sections that successfully add a minimum of 2% to their individual membership totals and/or retain at least 62% of the new members who joined in 2016. Our Section successfully competed in the 2017 Membership Challenge by retaining 63% of first year members and growing overall members by 2%, resulting in a \$1,911.05 check to the Michigan Section. Many of the attending Sections met the membership challenge this year and earned a cash reward. Attending the Membership Summit is a rewarding experience and one that is available to members of our Council. We are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer to join us, so please contact me or any member of the Council if you are interested in helping grow our Section. 💧



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## SAFE WATER IN EQUADOR (SWIE) UPDATE

What a trip! A team from Safe Water in Ecuador (SWIE) traveled to Ecuador in February 2018 to assist SWIE-sponsored communities. During the trip, SWIE assisted with the installation of three chemical metering pumps, shown in Figure 1 below. They also implemented a new chlorination system into a community's existing water supply. The trip began in the community of Calahuasig Grande, whose history with both SWIE and Calvin College dates back to the early 1990s. From there, the team traveled to Sananchahuan Grande to install the three chemical metering pumps for chlorination, providing much needed water disinfection for the community. The next day, repairs were made to the existing chlorination system in Castug Tungurahuilla. On the final day of work, SWIE made a circuit of a number of different communities, performing measurements of chlorine in existing systems, ensuring those systems are working properly. The opportunities presented by this trip were twofold: the sponsored communities got access to safe, clean water and the SWIE team got to experience Ecuador's rich, vibrant culture and peoples. Check us out on Facebook and see what progress we made at [www.facebook.com/SWIE.MI](http://www.facebook.com/SWIE.MI).

SWIE will be presenting on their work for the Ecuadorian communities at the MI-ACE 2018 Conference. They will also be hosting a number of awesome fundraising events at the conference. Help support two great causes: providing safe, clean drinking water



(something most of us take for granted) to remote communities in Ecuador, as well as the *One AWWA Operator Scholarship* by participating in the Golf Outing and Chance Auction! The Chance Auction will include items such as tasty wine, beer, or coffee baskets; the all-important golfing supplies basket; and items from Ecuador for a one-of-a-kind cultural addition to your home. The Chance Auction effort is being undertaken as a collaborative effort with the Young Professionals (YP) Committee.

Don't miss out on these great prizes! There is still time to


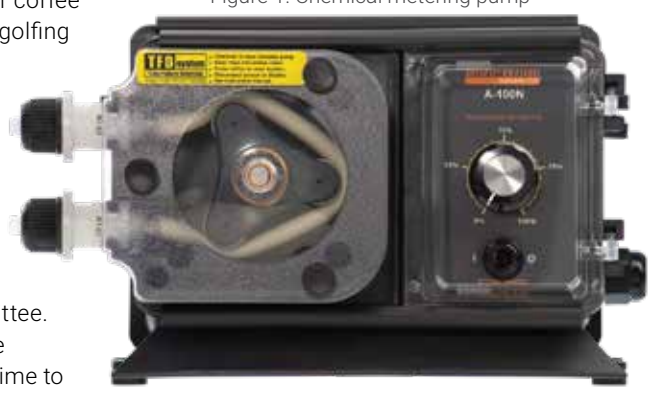
donate to this important cause. Donations can be made at [www.mi-water.org](http://www.mi-water.org) or by contacting Jessica Howard at [swie.awwa@gmail.com](mailto:swie.awwa@gmail.com) and Jenna Karazim at [jenna@karazim.us](mailto:jenna@karazim.us). 

Figure 1: Chemical metering pump





# ASSET MANAGEMENT ROUNDTABLE PROVIDES LESSONS LEARNED AND OTHER FEEDBACK ON DEVELOPING ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

By Sally Duffy, Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., Past Co-Chair, MWEA/MI-AWWA Joint Asset and Infrastructure Management (AIM) Committee

Last October, the MWEA/MI-AWWA Joint Asset and Infrastructure Management (AIM) Committee hosted a roundtable seminar to develop an understanding of what tools, resources, and standards communities found helpful in development of asset management plans for drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater infrastructure. The goal of the seminar was to gain information as to how communities and their consultants have been developing their individual asset management plans in response to new regulatory requirements and grant programs implemented by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). These include the asset management language added to NPDES permits for major wastewater dischargers, the Act 399 rule change requiring development of an asset management program for many drinking water systems, and the MDEQ's Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater (SAW) grant program that included funding for development of asset management plans for wastewater and stormwater systems.

A roundtable format was used in an effort to gather the maximum amount of group input on a given subject of common interest in a short amount of time. There were six moderators who asked pre-selected questions and recorded responses, and who also facilitated more open discussions so that more general conclusions and recommendations could be made. A variety of communities and consultants who had completed Round one and two SAW grants, or were working toward developing water asset management programs, were invited. The 30 attendees included a mix of regulators, consultants, vendors, and representatives from communities of

various sizes. They were assigned to groups that included each of the various perspectives and were asked questions on the following topics:

- Inventory, moderated by Maureen Wegener of C2AE
- Condition assessment, moderated by Matt Horton of Red Zone Robotics, Inc.
- Risk, moderated by Jaclyn Merchant of MDEQ Revolving Loan Section
- O&M/capital planning, moderated by Randy Roost of Lansing Board of Water and Light
- Rate integration and level of service, moderated by Sally Duffy of Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.
- Software, moderated by Frank LaPierre of Wightman & Associates, Inc.

Randy Roost presented a summary of the information gathered at the annual MWEA Asset Management Seminar the day before WWadCon in January. This article is provided in an attempt to summarize the data collected by the moderators and highlight general conclusions and information gathered during the seminar.

## **Inventory:**

Some respondents were surprised that the simple question of 'what do we own?' was harder to answer than anticipated. How to name, define and group assets were a common challenge, as were dealing with database integration issues and managing spreadsheets. There was consensus that naming assets with unique identifiers was critical to ensuring inventory data could be related to other data sources.

For horizontal inventory of assets, ESRI GIS was the most-used software, along with Cityworks or Lucity. For vertical inventory of assets, software included a pretty wide mix of CMMS programs, custom databases or

software, non-spatial tables in GIS, and spreadsheets.

Useful life for assets was estimated by industry standards, combination of age and condition scores, visual inspection of equipment, break history, last time since maintenance, and engineer judgement/operational staff institutional knowledge. At least one response was that everything was already at end of useful life. Estimating replacement costs was done by various methods, including reviewing historical costs, and gathering vendor quotes and cost tables. Some indicated that prior budget estimates were too low. Some consensus on using bid prices with escalation using ENR or other was best for replacement costs.

## **Condition Assessment:**

The primary condition assessment method for water mains was usually based on age, material, and break and maintenance history. Physical or internal inspection of water mains proved to be very difficult/costly. This was similar for sanitary force mains, where cost is so high that one may consider just budging for replacement or rehabilitation. Condition assessment of sewers and manholes is more cost-effective than water distribution with use of CCTV and NASSCO scoring that provides some consistency. To estimate probability of failure for sewers, NASSCO MAPC/PACP was almost universal. Condition assessment of equipment and facilities included a range of techniques with most common being visual/qualitative, maintenance history, and desktop reviews/staff interviews. Some developed quantitative scoring criteria and/or brought in specialized staff such as electricians as needed.



**Risk:**

Probability of failure generally based on condition, if available, and/or age, material and maintenance history. To estimate consequence of failure, most used some matrix of various parameters, such as size, depth, location, proximity to roads and other utilities, environmental impact, cost of disruption, critical customers, etc. Triple bottom line was also used. Risk evaluation overall seems subject to being skewed by personnel in different roles.

Modes of failure considered included structural, O&M, capacity, and age. High PACP maintenance scores were often not considered 'failure,' depending on type of asset. For aging communities, capacity was less of an issue. For equipment, failure was often typically associated with age.

Challenges included how to address redundancy when it is already part of most water/wastewater infrastructure. Hard data versus engineering judgement: which is better? You could not assess the entire system, so how can you balance risk of unknown versus what was actually inspected?

**O&M/Capital Planning:**

Some communities reviewed maintenance frequency, and preventative and predictive programs were incorporated. Most agreed that institutional knowledge is key to developing maintenance program. Some were using deterioration models for planning, developing consequence-based triple bottom line approach, and/or using information to develop operation and maintenance cycles.

Many communities used the data gathered in the asset management work to better determine future priorities and budgeting. It appeared that stormwater systems are much more neglected than other infrastructure due to inability to develop rate/fee structure and lack of funding.

**Rate Integration and Level of Service:**

As part of level of service, there were some meetings with public and governing boards. For stormwater, communities often met with the public to generate support for potential stormwater funding methods and also

to meet public education requirements for MS4 permits. For wastewater and water utilities, meetings were typically only held with governing boards, very few public meetings. Communicating with the public is very hard due to the lack of basic system knowledge/ education. There is some reduced trust from the public due to Flint. Meetings were sometimes discouraged as some system administrators only wanted to commit to what they were already doing; why stick their neck out?

There were definite funding gaps and challenges for stormwater. Most water and wastewater systems found no gap in meeting existing budget needs (not including near-term capital needs), but understand more money will be required in near future. Some lower income communities indicated they cannot keep up with shut offs, revenue and nonpayment costs.

Most water and wastewater utilities plan to start increasing rates a little now, even if they do not have the full picture yet.


Some plan to leverage bonds and SRF/ DWRF, but not much benefit to doing over bonding. Others that have been proactive about rate setting and would like to move away from any bonding. Stormwater looking at setting utility fee, tax, millage or special assessments.

**Software:**


Almost all attendees bought new software when undertaking their asset management plans. The SAW grant was helpful to initiate purchase of software they may not have done otherwise. Almost all attendees with sewerage collection or water distribution systems utilize ESRI GIS. Cityworks and Lucity were also very common for collection/ distribution systems. CCTV software was widely used for sanitary and stormwater systems, and programs included PipeLogix, Granite Net, and Wincan. CMMS for plants included Maximo, Infor EAM, Allmax/Anterro, and Facility Dude along with custom databases and spreadsheets. Asset management

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software included Assetic and PowerPlan AMP. Vendor software included Red Zone ICOM and Eramosa e.RIS. Other software packages included BS&A financial software, valve turning/maintenance software and customer service 311.

Some felt that asset management software is too generic for public works and not specific enough for water/wastewater. Many indicated the software provided limited assistance with asset management out of the box.

Challenges included server resources, IT support, and having staff trained to work with databases. A number of respondents indicated they experienced database issues with integration and that they needed to correct existing databases before they could be exported or used by other software, such as to correct naming issues or data format. Some found it difficult to make different software packages talk to each other. Software ‘overselling,’

version changes, and costs were also challenges.

**General Discussions:**

Each topic area also included questions related to the challenges and best outcomes encountered while undertaking asset management work, as well as information as to how the programs and plans will be sustained into the future.

**Common AMP Challenges:**

Common strategic challenges included deciding how much maintenance is too much given the cost; determining what is the right level of spending/ cost versus level of service; having to meet regulatory level of service with limited funding; and trying to move from reactive to preventive and predictive maintenance. Data challenges included creating an inventory framework and data structure. Found it was better to start smaller and expand data as needed. Databases, software integration, information technology support, and license costs were common software challenges. Cost challenges include making the assets ‘visible’ to gain support for funding, budget constraints, affordability issues, political limitations, and list of needs being greater than funding available. There seemed to be a lot of agreement that it is easier to get funding and work prioritized for water, wastewater and storm systems if done as part of road projects.

**Best Outcomes:**

A common best outcome was that communities had quantifiable data that provided confidence in planning, budgeting, and decision making. Also having pictures, maps, and hard data that could back up statements of operational staff was beneficial to present to decision makers. “So, this is what you do all day” was one comment made by a DPW representative. It was noted that having a complete inventory allowed communities to better demonstrate the need for investment with real numbers and back up with reports and maps.

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Other good outcomes included communities being able to move away from paper and being able to better access data for planning and budgeting. Some stated the work improved operation and budgeting by knowing what needed more maintenance and finding unexpected problems. In some cases, the work helped create a culture change, improved communication and shifted focus to prioritizing based on need. Level of service discussed allowed communities to better explain tradeoffs, such as that it might be OK to flood a road periodically given the cost to correct the issue.

**Lessons Learned:**

Reported lessons learned included the need to communicate better with other departments and define overall approach and goals at the beginning of undertaking asset management programs, and to get feedback throughout the process. Respondents suggested defining deliverables at the start to know what is trying to be accomplished and to get buy-in and commitment from staff. A champion is needed to keep staff


engaged toward goals and show off 'quick wins.' A respondent indicated that some parts of the process were tedious, but worth the effort. It was suggested to reach out internally and externally with technical experts and for training as technology continues to change. While there may not be complete and perfect data to start, you still need to move forward and add and refine as the program develops. The program was able to assist with making a case for increasing budget by showing the increased risk by not doing so. Some communities also indicated that field staff know what they are talking about, and the data gathered matched what they are saying.

**Sustaining AMPs:**

To sustain AMP efforts, some communities have dedicated staff, while smaller communities will utilize consultants/software vendors for periodic updates and maintenance of data. It was recognized that there is a need to establish work flows and processes for updating programs to ensure they are made sustainable.

**Moving Forward:**

With the current Governor's emphasis on infrastructure in Michigan, we expect that there will continue to be additional regulations and incentives for water, wastewater and stormwater systems to continue development of asset management programs. The AIM Committee hopes that the information collected in our recent seminar will be helpful to communities undertaking or continuing to develop their own asset management programs.

The AIM Committee greatly appreciates all those who participated in the seminar last October, and who continue to share their information and experiences with others. The committee recently appointed new co-chairs and a new secretary. If you would like more information on the joint MI-AWWA/MWEA AIM Committee, please contact the new Committee Secretary, Maureen Wegener ([maureen.wegener@C2AE.com](mailto:maureen.wegener@C2AE.com)), or new Co-Chairs Deann Falkowski ([defalkowski@ftch.com](mailto:defalkowski@ftch.com)) and Lindsey Kerkez ([Lindsey.Kerkez@ohm-advisors.com](mailto:Lindsey.Kerkez@ohm-advisors.com)). 


## TECHNICAL NETWORK COUNCIL


TNC has been meeting to strategize on how to engage more people and help better establish our group as both a resource and place to network and share ideas. We have taken an approach of trying to accomplish a few things very well versus trying to accomplish too much. Our group is set to host up to four events with the first in late February at the Genesee County Drinking Water Plant. Following the tour, a networking event sponsored by Hamlett Environmental, is being held at Tilted Axis Brewery in Lapeer.

Several other events spread throughout the state are being planned and we are always looking for volunteers to assist and of course looking for sponsors to host. Sponsorships are \$250 and include a 10-minute presentation on your firm and the ability to facilitate the event.


The TNC is closely working with other councils as well this year.

We feel our ability to help engage and act as a networking group, as well as provide resources, require us to stay engaged with the other councils and know what's happening. We are excited to sit in on other meetings and learn what the entire section is up to.

If there is any way we can help, or if you are looking to get more involved as a member as a whole, please do not hesitate to reach out to TNC by contacting either Matt Parks ([matt.parks@ohm-advisors.com](mailto:matt.parks@ohm-advisors.com)) or Sally Duffy ([sduffy@hrcengr.com](mailto:sduffy@hrcengr.com)). 



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## THE ONE AWWA OPERATOR SCHOLARSHIP

The wave of Baby Boomer retirements and the need to fill those roles is upon us! The water industry needs the next generation to continue where our leaders will leave off. What better way to poise yourself to step up into those roles than by increasing your education and skills!

This is where the *One AWWA Operator Scholarship* comes in. This scholarship is

meant to aid water operators in paying for continuing education and training. 2018 will be the third year of this new scholarship. We encourage you to apply if you are looking to further your education and training, and to please spread the word about this scholarship. Info and applications can be found on the [www.mi-water.org](http://www.mi-water.org) website under the 'Resources' tab in 'Scholarships.' The application deadline is Sunday, July 1.

Also, the first five applicants will each receive a \$10 gift card this year. We look forward to reviewing your applications and awarding the scholarship again later this year. 💧

Kyle Tryan, Jack Hughes and Jeff Keown  
The *One AWWA Operator Scholarship* Committee



## OPERATOR'S MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

The Michigan Section, AWWA is soliciting nominations of individuals to be considered for the 2018 Operator's Meritorious Service Award. This award will be presented at the Michigan Section, AWWA Annual Conference this coming September. The purpose of this award is to provide recognition to a section member for special performance in one or more of the following areas:

1. Continuous compliance with public health standards in finished water.
2. Consistent and outstanding contribution to plant maintenance thereby prolonging the useful life of equipment.
3. The development of new and/or modified equipment or significant process modifications to provide for a more efficient or effective treatment.
4. Special efforts in the training of treatment operator.

5. Special acts not directly related to water treatment but demonstrate dedication to the public beyond the normal operating responsibilities.
6. Constant and outstanding contribution to operation and/or maintenance of distribution lines, pump stations and reservoirs.

**Deadline for submission of nominations is June 30, 2018.**

To obtain a copy of the award nomination form, go to [www.mi-water.org/page/OperatorMeritorious](http://www.mi-water.org/page/OperatorMeritorious).

Send submissions to:  
Nathan Vriesman, P.E.  
Vriesman & Korhorn Civil Engineers  
7885 Byron Center Ave. SW Ste A  
Byron Center, MI 49315  
[nate@VKcivil.com](mailto:nate@VKcivil.com) 💧

## COME TO THE TASTE-OFF AT THE SPRING REGIONAL!

Think you have what it takes to win 'best-tasting' municipal water? Then bring a sample to the regional meeting this spring and let



the judges decide! All you have to do is fill a clean quart mason jar full of sparkling water from your plant tap, let it acclimate to room temperature, and give to the three fine judges at the spring regional meeting. Then enjoy the training, earn CECs, enjoy lunch, and wait for the judges to announce your water supply as winner. If you win, you can take home a trophy and tell your Board or Council.

But the competition doesn't end there! After winning the Regional, you can compete in the section finals in Kalamazoo at ACE. If you win, you are eligible to compete in the 2019 National AWWA contest in Denver, Colorado!

Even if you have won before, never won, never entered, want to compete with a new well, or just added ozone to your surface water plant, come compete in the taste-off! Hope to see you there.

*(Disclaimer: you must enter to win. Entering does not guarantee winning first place. Everyone who does not win gets second place. Even if you do not win, you can still enjoy lunch, training, and CECs.)* 💧





## MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SEEKS APPLICATIONS

The Raymond J. Faust Scholarship was started by the Faust family in memory of Raymond's contribution to the water sector. Applications are now being accepted from college students pursuing a degree in a water-related field with plans to work in the water sector. This is a merit-based scholarship for students who are members of AWWA and the Michigan Section. If you know a student in a program here in Michigan, please encourage them to join and apply for this \$1,500 scholarship. 💧



## MEMBERS' HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS HAVE CHANCE AT SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, the high school seniors of members have the opportunity to earn a \$1,000 scholarship. All that is required is for the student to complete the application and have a parent who is a current AWWA and Michigan Section member. This scholarship is sponsored by the Membership Council. All qualifying applications are placed in a draw for a chance to win the \$1,000 scholarship to the school of their choice. The winner is announced at MI-ACE in September. Applications are due July 1. See the Section website for details and to have your high school senior apply. 💧

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### MICHIGAN SECTION AWWA NEEDS YOU!

Nominations Solicited for the Michigan Section Board of Trustees

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for terms beginning in September 2018 (in conjunction with the Annual Business Meeting) for the following positions:

- **TRUSTEES** – two each for three-year terms
- **CHAIR ELECT** – three-year term
- **DIRECTOR** – three-year term

Self and peer nominations are both encouraged. Please also note the bylaws of the Section indicate that we should strive to have one Board member from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and one Board member either from the area of the Lower Peninsula north of Town Line Fifteen or from any district, area, or community in the Lower Peninsula maintaining water service to a population under 10,000 persons at the most recent Federal Census. The representation of the Board members is intended to reflect the diverse membership of the Section, including, but not limited to, geographical locations, membership categories, utility size, gender, and ethnic origins. Any member in good standing of the Section, including a multi-section member, is eligible to hold elected office in the Section.

A nomination should include a short statement of interest and a summary of industry and AWWA activities. Interested members are encouraged to contact any of the Nominating Committee members with any questions. Committee members are Mark Coleman (chair), John Willemin, Christine Spitzley, trustees Ken McDonough, Joe VanderStel, and Aaron Uranga, along with two at-large members, Randy Roost and Tom Smith.

Nominations are due by May 1, 2018, and should be submitted to:

**Mark Coleman**, Nominating Committee Chair

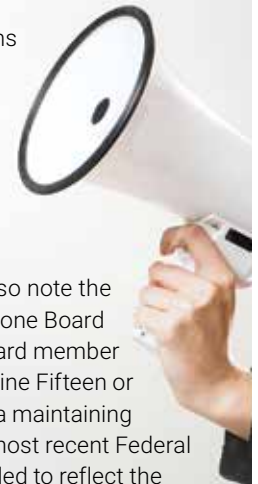
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c/o Wade Trim Associates Inc.

500 Griswold St. Ste 2500, Detroit, MI 48226

Email: [mcoleman@wadetrim.com](mailto:mcoleman@wadetrim.com) Phone: 313-961-3650

Folks who have submitted nominations in previous years are reminded to please reconfirm their interest for the coming year. 💧



## NATIONAL RECOGNITION OF MICHIGAN STUDENT

Nadine Kotlarz, a student at the University of Michigan, is being awarded first place for AWWA's 2018 Academic Achievement Award in the Doctoral Dissertation category. Nadine will be honored during ACE18 in Las Vegas in June for her work.

Her dissertation was titled 'Factors of Full-Scale Drinking Water Systems that Contribute to Risk of Opportunistic Infectious Disease.' Nadine worked with her co-advisors and the City of Ann Arbor's Drinking Water Treatment Plant to perform the research. The findings of her research were presented at the 2017 Borchardt Conference.

"My Ph.D. research was undertaken to contribute to our understanding of the presence of opportunistic bacterial pathogens in treated drinking water. Previous research on opportunistic bacteria has focused on intervention strategies in distribution system and premise plumbing, but the results presented in my dissertation suggest that specific drinking water

treatment plant design and operational considerations can improve microbial water quality and minimize risk of water borne infectious disease," she said. "The potential to control microbial water quality by focusing on changes during water treatment would centralize risk management in drinking water systems. We hope that our work will assist water system managers to improve the microbial quality of drinking water to promote health for everyone, including individuals sensitive to opportunistic bacterial infections."

Nadine is currently a postdoctoral researcher at North Carolina State University. Her goal is to continue working at the interface of environmental engineering and public health to significantly improve public health in the United States. She recognized and thanked her dissertation co-advisors, Lugarde Rasking and John LiPuma



Nicole Rockey and Nadine Kotlarz ready to take samples during the study.

of the University of Michigan, as well as her current research co-advisors Detlef Knappe and Jane Hoppin of North Carolina State University. She also thanked Nicole Rockey, a fellow student, and Terese Olson, another professor at the University of Michigan, for their assistance on the dissertation research.

Nadine is an individual member of AWWA. 💧

## 2ND ANNUAL NO WATER NO BEER EVENTS

It's that time of year again for the annual *No Water No Beer* events hosted jointly between MWEA and MI-AWWA. We all know that water is essential to life, but many of us overlook its importance. These events bring all aspects of the water industry together, and are focused on public awareness and education. Two events will be hosted this year in May, which is Water Awareness Month.

Our first event will be at New Holland Brewing – The Knickerbocker in Grand Rapids on May 10 with the second event taking place on May 17 at Grand River Brewing in Jackson. Tickets will be \$25 per person, and sponsorships that support both locations are available for \$500. Ticket prices include two drink vouchers, light appetizers, and a sponsoring vendor swag bag.

Bring your friends and join your colleagues in celebrating the importance of water, all while helping educate the public on the water industry. Be sure to purchase your ticket in advance as they tend to sell out quickly. Hope to see you there! 💧

### No Water No Beer Events - Public welcome!



#### Become a Sponsor!

**ALL EVENT SPONSOR : \$500**

- Advertising at both events
- 1 complimentary attendee registration per event
- 90 second update at each event
- Option to include organization swag in attendee welcome gift

#### ATTENDEE ADMISSION IS ONLY \$25 PER EVENT AND INCLUDES:

- Appetizers
- 2 drink tickets
- Water awareness swag
- Door prizes, and more!

#### PUBLIC WELCOME!

2 Locations and dates to choose from:

#### GRAND RAPIDS

Thursday,  
May 10th



#### JACKSON

Thursday,  
May 17th



(Both events run from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm)



Register at: [www.mi-wea.org/water\\_festivals.php](http://www.mi-wea.org/water_festivals.php)



## CHANGES TO THE LEAD AND COPPER RULE

The Section submitted comments to the EPA during their Federalism Consultation on possible changes to the national Lead and Copper Rule. However, Michigan has been pushing hard on changes to the state rule.

Late last year, the Section held a summit to discuss changes to the rule and collected input from members representing a wide variety of utility sizes and geographic locations. The Section also had two representatives participate in the stakeholder process: Randy Roost from Lansing Board of Water & Light and Molly Maciejewski from City of Ann Arbor.

When the draft rule was released at the beginning of the year, it was clear that many of the concerns raised by the water supply community had gone unheeded. The Section then joined a coalition of other organizations to address the specific shortcomings of the proposed rule changes. (Both the comments to the EPA and the comments submitted by the coalition to the State of Michigan can be downloaded from the LCR page on the Section's website at [www.mi-water.org/?page=LCRC](http://www.mi-water.org/?page=LCRC).)

As of the writing of this issue, the rule is expected to advance to the next stage of the rule promulgation process, which is to have a review by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR), a bipartisan legislative committee composed of house and senate members who have oversight of the rule-making process. The Section, together with the coalition of other stakeholder groups, will continue to follow this process and will provide updates periodically to members.

Once the rule is finalized, the Section's Government Affairs Council plans to host a workshop to help members understand how best to approach implementation. Keep your eyes on the Section calendar and the LCR page on the website for updates and information on future events. 💧



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## IN MEMORIAM

AWWA Connections

Chuck VanDerKolk was a beloved AWWA volunteer for 40 years.

He was a former AWWA Vice President, and Chair, Liaison, and Member of many committees at the Association level. He also formerly served as Chair and Director of the Michigan Section. His career spanned 44 years at the Board of Public Works in Zeeland, Michigan where he was Water Operations Manager.

On January 19, Chuck passed away after an eight-year battle with cancer. His obituary said he prioritized his time around loving people and that he shared the love of Christ while serving as a volunteer youth leader for more than 30 years, leading countless mission trips.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Kathy; three sons and their wives; three grandchildren; and eight siblings. Visitation was recently held with the

family and a celebration of life service is planned for this summer. To honor Chuck, memorial contributions may be given to Lake Champion Young Life Camp.

Last year, Chuck was named AWWA's Volunteer of the Year – chosen from among thousands of volunteers.

In an interview last June after the award announcement, Chuck talked about his life.



## Volunteer of the Year: Chuck VanDerKolk

July 5, 2017

People who know Chuck VanDerKolk know this story:

As a young water technician in the mid-70s, VanDerKolk was catapulted to superintendent of his small utility after the untimely death of his boss. A short time later, he attended a meeting of AWWA's Michigan Section and noted the attendees included many engineers and PhDs.

VanDerKolk thought his lack of advanced degrees would diminish his chances of serving on a committee. "There were 43 committees and I applied to all of them, just hoping I would get picked."

Within a few weeks, he had received letters from at least 20 committee chairs congratulating him on his acceptance to their committees.

"I had to backtrack on some of them," VanDerKolk said.

Since then, VanDerKolk has served on numerous Section committees, and even as the Section's chair and director. At the Association level, he's been a vice president, chair, and liaison to several committees, and member of the Section Services Committee, Member Engagement & Development

Committee, Membership Committee, and more.

And because of all that, he is AWWA's 2017 Volunteer of the Year – picked from among the Association's 4,300 volunteers.

Tom Curtis, the Association's former deputy executive director of government affairs, said VanDerKolk has been instrumental in guiding the Association through important and highly charged issues that can cause special problems for small systems. VanDerKolk served two terms on the Water Utility Council, where council members and AWWA staff



came to rely heavily on his keen insights and sage advice.

For several years, VanDerKolk represented the WUC to the Small Systems Division.

"Chuck will be long remembered for admonishing the Council – and indeed the entire Association – to work hard but have fun doing it," Curtis said. "He works hard and volunteers for numerous special work groups, all while his personal warmth and wonderful sense of humor enliven every meeting."

As for VanDerKolk, he was speechless when named Volunteer of the Year.

"I didn't even know I'd been nominated," he said.

He added: "I would have to give credit to all the people over the years who have contributed so much and helped me to this point."

It's a helping hand that drew VanDerKolk to the Association in the first place.

In 1976, VanDerKolk was a 23-year-old water technician at a three-man operation in Zeeland, Mich. He'd worked there just two years when the plant superintendent – "a great mentor and father figure" – died unexpectedly.

The responsibility fell to VanDerKolk, who felt ill-equipped to run the distribution system serving 5,000 residents.

VanDerKolk muddled through until a year after his ascent, when an iconic building in Zeeland caught fire. When firefighters opened the closest hydrant, very little water came out.

"The infrastructure was in serious need of repair and I had no idea how to address the problem," VanDerKolk said. "I was lost, but AWWA was there for me with the information, resources and training I needed. Everything I know, I owe to AWWA."

Not surprisingly, VanDerKolk is a favorite among AWWA staff.

Susan Franceschi, the Association's chief membership office, said VanDerKolk is friendly and "always remembers who you are – without exception. But he has no patience for those who would do things slipshod. In his congenial manner, you might not expect that. He has high standards of



**"WHILE (CHUCK'S WATER) SYSTEM MAY BE SMALL, HIS HEART IS LARGE AND HIS PASSION FOR THE WATER PROFESSION IS TIRELESS."**

quality, but he expects the most from himself. He walks the talk."

VanDerKolk is currently a member of AWWA's Small Systems Division and this past year co-wrote the Member Engagement Guide and the AWWA Opportunities Menu.

His volunteer activities have slowed in recent years, but only slightly.

In 2010, VanDerKolk was diagnosed with kidney cancer. He's had one kidney removed, but the cancer has since spread to his lungs, lymph nodes, adrenal glands, and bones.

Six months ago, he began an experimental trial involving diets and pills meant to improve the effectiveness of his chemotherapy treatments. VanDerKolk is one of only 11 people in the United States taking part in the trial.

So far, the news has been good. In the past few months, VanDerKolk's doctor has twice told him, "There's a significant reduction of the cancer in your body."

The cancer will eventually become resistant to the treatment, VanDerKolk

said, but that could be months, or even years, down the line.

At age 63, VanDerKolk has no plans to retire. He enjoys his work and his doctor says the routine is good for him.

"And, to be perfectly honest, my beautiful bride – the love of my life for 42 years – isn't ready to have me home five days a week," VanDerKolk said.

Meanwhile, VanDerKolk continues to pay forward all the help he got decades ago from AWWA when he became superintendent at the age of 23, and had to contend with out-of-commission fire hydrants and rundown infrastructure.

Last year, VanDerKolk was inducted into the Michigan Section Water Industry Hall of Fame. The citation captured the essence of the man:

"While (Chuck's water) system may be small, his heart is large and his passion for the water profession is tireless. It is an honor to nominate such a well-qualified candidate who has served – and continues to serve – the water profession with dedication and intelligence." 💧



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF AWWA

Members who joined between December 1, 2017 and February 28, 2018

**Hollie Adejumo**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Emily Alexander**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Charlie Anderson**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Adam Assink**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Kay Aurand**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Samuel Ball**, City of Monroe  
**William Basigkow**, Orion Township Dept. of Public Works  
**Benjamin Blaniar**, City of Battle Creek  
**Dave Bolan**, Lansing Board of Water & Light  
**Kyle Bond**, City of Grayling  
**Steve Bott**, City of Rochester Hills Water Department  
**Jarion Bradley**, Metro Consulting Associates  
**Christopher Brown**, Village of Pentwater  
**Iesha Bush**, Student at Michigan State University  
**Linnan Cao**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Zhichao Chen**, Student at Michigan Technological University  
**Lance Cherven**, Village of Roscommon  
**W. Clarke**, Waste Micro Systems Inc.  
**Lyndsey Covert**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Shannan Deater**, City of Kalamazoo - Dept. of Pub. Svcs.  
**Thad Domick**, Genesee County Water Plant  
**Michael Domine**, Bloomfield Township  
**Lucreitia Dove**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Yan Du**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Mark Evans**, Brandon School District  
**Thomas Fish**, East Lansing-Meridian Water and Sewer Authority  
**Doug Fowler**, City of Jackson WWTP  
**Mark Gipson**, Holland Board of Public Works  
**Julie Gonyeau**, Chesterfield Township Water  
**David Gutches**, City of Grand Ledge  
**Edwin Haapala**, Charter Township of West Bloomfield  
**Bruce Hammond**, C.E. Raines Company  
**Jamie Hockemeyer**, City of Mt. Pleasant  
**Amanda Hofstra**, Allied Mechanical Services  
**Ken Hottenstein**, Cadillac Utilities Dept.  
**Scott Isaacs**, Tyler Technologies

**Rodney Johnson**, City of Hamtramck  
**Kevin Johnson**, Chesterfield Township DPW  
**Adam Jones**, City of Monroe  
**Martin Jurish**, City of Bay City  
**Lindsey Kerkez**, OHM Advisors  
**Alex Kettwich**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Phil Koerschner**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Kyle Kosciolk**, Chesterfield Township DPW  
**Jill Kusters**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Lillian Lantis**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Mikel Levandoski**, Holland Board of Public Works  
**Andrew Matthews**, City of Battle Creek  
**Runpeng Miao**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Matthew Miller**, Battle Creek  
**Kayla Mulcahy**, Dixon Engineering, Inc.  
**An Nguyen**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Lee Nim**, Lansing Board of Water & Light  
**Andrew Opalewski**, Ferguson Waterworks  
**Jeremy Orr**, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission  
**Dylan Raye-Leonard**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Margaret Reuter**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Keith Risdon**, City of St. Louis  
**Ivan Scovel**, City of Battle Creek  
**Tim Sheridan**, Blumfield Reese Water Authority  
**Shilva Shrestha**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Andrew Sosnoski**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**John Souder**, City of Perry  
**Christopher Steary**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Jeff Stout**, Charter Township of Orion  
**Will Thies**, Prein & Newhof  
**Brian Van Nuil**, Holland Board of Public Works  
**Brett Wagner**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Worth Township DPW**  
**Yanran Xu**, Student at University of Michigan  
**Bowen Zhou**, Student at University of Michigan 💧



## ON THE MOVE

Kyle Tryan from the Water Plant Superintendent at Benton Township to Operator at Holland Board of Public Works Water Reclamation Facility.

Do you have a recent career change to announce? We'd like to feature you! Send promotions, job changes and retirements to Michigan Water Works News editor, Kelly Gleason.



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## Drinking Water Week | May 6-12, 2018



This year, National Drinking Water Week (DWW) will be held May 6-12, 2018. The theme, 'Protect the Source,' encourages municipalities, local businesses, and community members to recognize the importance of taking steps to protect our source water from pollutants, and raise awareness about the risks associated with polluted water.

MI-AWWA Chair, Christine Spitzley encourages members to engage their communities in conversation and activities recognizing National Drinking Water Week.

"It's important for everyone to get involved. There are so many things that we can do to promote source water education and raise awareness. I'm pleased to be a part of a professional organization that values community outreach and shares ideas on outreach and education," Spitzley said.

**Celebrating is easy.** Here are a few recommendations on how to engage your community members in *Drinking Water Week*, as well as tips from other MI-AWWA members:

### Go Public

- Advertise DWW in your local newspaper;
- Work with your local librarian to set up a Library Display;
- Coordinate distribution of AWWA News Releases; and
- Send public service announcement to your local radio or television stations.

### Get the Community Involved

- Invite your Community to an open house of your Public Works facility or Water Treatment Plant;
- Coordinate a Water Treatment Plant Tour; and
- Plan a community clean-up.

### Work with the Youth

- Conduct a children's water-themed coloring or essay contest;
- Coordinate school presentations on easy ways to keep out water clean; and
- Hold a Children's Water Festival.

### What Other MI-AWWA Members Are Doing

Ben Anderson, Superintendent of Public Works for the City of Cassopolis, is planning his community's first DWW event. Ben believes that community events should be fun, but also informative.

"In the past, we've had a Community Festival. We had a vendor set up a blind water taste test booth with two different types of bottled water and our own municipal water. Residents tasted all three and told us which tasted best. We found that almost every participant chose our city's water. I think this could be replicated by others fairly easily!" he said.

Last year, Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) created a 'man-on-the-street' inspired video, asking community members

general questions about their source water. Aftab Borka, GLWA's Social Media Guru used the video to raise awareness about *Drinking Water Week*.

"This was an opportunity to have a dialogue with our members and help them understand who we are and where their water comes from in a fun, non-intimidating way," he explained.

Additionally, GLWA hosted a DWW Photo Contest for its team members. Participants were encouraged to submit a photo of how they enjoyed water. The photos were displayed throughout the organization and the winning photo was published in the executive lobby. This is a great way to create ambassadors of source water, and to get to know more about your colleagues.

Clyde Dugan, Meridian Water and Sewer Authority Manager, emphasized creating events that can be accessible to all community members. A particularly successful event hosted in East Lansing was a free open-plant day, welcoming city residents and community members to the water treatment plant for a free tour.

"We used to host a water plant open-house tours; in conjunction, I brought in a historic steam traction engine and we did hayrides on the grounds for kids. We also brought in Fire/EMT for demonstrations. It all went well and was well received," he said.

For more ideas on how to engage your community members in *Drinking Water Week*, visit the American Water Works Association website under 'Resources' ([www.awwa.org/resources-tools/public-affairs/public-affairs-events/drinking-water-week.aspx#15548459-celebration-ideas](http://www.awwa.org/resources-tools/public-affairs/public-affairs-events/drinking-water-week.aspx#15548459-celebration-ideas)).



GLWA DWW Photo Contest Winner, Alan John.  
John and his family whitewater rafting in Tennessee.

### Did You Know?

In 1988, AWWA brought *Drinking Water Week* to the attention of our federal government and formed a coalition along with the League of Women Voters, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representatives to sponsor a resolution to name the first week of May as *Drinking Water Week* ([www.awwa.org/resources-tools/public-affairs/public-affairs-events/drinking-water-week.aspx#15548461-history](http://www.awwa.org/resources-tools/public-affairs/public-affairs-events/drinking-water-week.aspx#15548461-history)). 💧



## 2018–2019 SOURCE WATER PROTECTION GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division (DWMAD) will begin accepting Source Water Protection (SWP) grant applications on May 1, 2018 for the next grant cycle. Information on how to obtain applications will be provided to all municipal systems on May 1, 2018.

SWP grants are available to Public Water Supply Systems (PWSSs) utilizing groundwater or surface water as a source. Michigan’s SWP Program

grants are a fifty percent local match program to assist PWSSs in developing and implementing a SWP program. The goal is to protect PWSSs from potential sources of contamination. Protection is provided by identifying the area that contributes source water to the PWSS, identifying sources of contamination within that area, and developing methods to cooperatively manage the area and minimize any threat to the PWSS.

All completed applications and documentation must be postmarked

**no later than June 15, 2018**, or hand delivered to the Gaylord Field Office, DEQ, DWMAD, 2100 West M32, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, **no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 15, 2018**. Grants will be announced after the applications have been processed.

If you have any questions regarding the SWP program or grant, please contact Mr. Jason Berndt, Source Water Unit, at 989-705-3420; [berndtj1@michigan.gov](mailto:berndtj1@michigan.gov); or DEQ, DWMAD, Gaylord Field Office, 2100 West M-32, Gaylord, Michigan. 💧

## MICHIGAN PARTICIPATING IN EPA’S AREA WIDE OPTIMIZATION PROGRAM

In December 2017, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) notified Michigan surface water systems using conventional or direct filtration about the state’s recent participation in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP). Since its inception approximately 20 years ago, about half of the states have participated in AWOP. The program offers a formal strategy to target higher risk systems for state assistance to maximize public health protection and includes three main components: enhanced surveillance of public water system performance; strategically targeted technical assistance and training activities; and collaboration among a network of participating states. The program is voluntary for states and is managed by the EPA’s Technical Support Unit in Cincinnati, Ohio, with support from four EPA regional offices and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA). The AWOP National Optimization Leadership Team (NOLT)

develops the program optimization goals. These goals originally focused on microbial (turbidity) water quality, but have expanded to include disinfection byproduct control and distribution water quality.

The MDEQ is excited about the benefits this program will provide, including increased public health protection, a reduction in noncompliance, increased access to technical training for state and water supply staff, increased communication and networking opportunities, a better understanding of water facility operation to enhance performance (without major capital improvements), formal recognition opportunities for high performing systems, and improved public confidence.

Rollout of the program will take time and MDEQ anticipates focusing first on surface water treatment plants. However, AWOP also includes distribution water quality goals and therefore, most water systems will have an opportunity to participate and benefit.

### How will this impact your water system and what happens next?

The MDEQ has assembled an AWOP core team and is in the process of scheduling training with EPA. To implement the initial phase of the program, systems will be encouraged to enhance plant performance monitoring, reporting, and documentation. The MDEQ may also adjust the content and level of detail sought during the sanitary survey process, expand operator training opportunities, and emphasize optimization during water treatment plant design plan review. Participating states are expected to adopt the goals set by the NOLT. MDEQ’s prioritization and implementation of the goals will be based primarily on public health risk.

MDEQ is looking forward to the opportunities and tools this program offers and asks for your cooperation as the program moves forward. More information can be found at [www.asdwa.org/area-wide-optimization-program-awop](http://www.asdwa.org/area-wide-optimization-program-awop). If you have questions, please contact Michael Bolf, Water Treatment Specialist at 906-630-4107 or [bolfm@michigan.gov](mailto:bolfm@michigan.gov). 💧





## EDWARD DUNBAR RICH AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



Every year the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), along with AWWA, presents the Edward Dunbar Rich Service Award at the Michigan Section

Annual Conference. This award is presented to water utility personnel who have served meritoriously and faithfully for 25 years in the waterworks industry in Michigan.

We honor the memory of Edward Dunbar Rich, an author, Professor of Civil Engineering, Major in the Sanitary Corps, and State Sanitary Engineer of the Michigan Board of

Health, by recognizing water utility personnel for their dedication to the industry.

Rich Award applications are now being accepted, with an application deadline of July 15, 2018. Please visit [www.michigan.gov/drinkingwater](http://www.michigan.gov/drinkingwater) and click on 'Community Water Supply Home Page' to find information on the Rich Award and the nomination form. 💧

## LABORATORY AND WATER OPERATOR PROSECUTED FOR FALSIFICATION OF REPORTS

A laboratory owner and operator from northern Michigan pleaded no contest to two misdemeanors of the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). DEQ's Laboratory Certification Officer requested assistance from the Environmental Investigation Section of the Department of Natural Resources to investigate complaints that the laboratory and operator were not reporting positive total coliform results to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The investigation found 63 violations of the SDWA from June 2015 to December 2015. Additionally, required public notification was not distributed to the impacted citizens at water supplies that would have received MCL violations if proper reporting had occurred. The laboratory owner was also a certified operator and the operator-in-charge for many of the impacted water supplies.

Early in the investigation, the MDEQ pursued revocation of the operator's certification, resulting in the operator surrendering his license before revocation could occur. Following completion of the formal investigation,

the former operator paid a total of \$6,325 in fines and costs, and the laboratory paid a total of \$6,175 in fines and costs. The former operator was also placed on criminal probation for 18 months. Conditions of probation include no longer collecting compliance samples, not serving as a water

operator, and not providing treatment for drinking water. The probation also requires the former operator to terminate any remaining activities involved with administrative duties/compliance under the SDWA as it relates to public water supplies as of March 5, 2018. 💧





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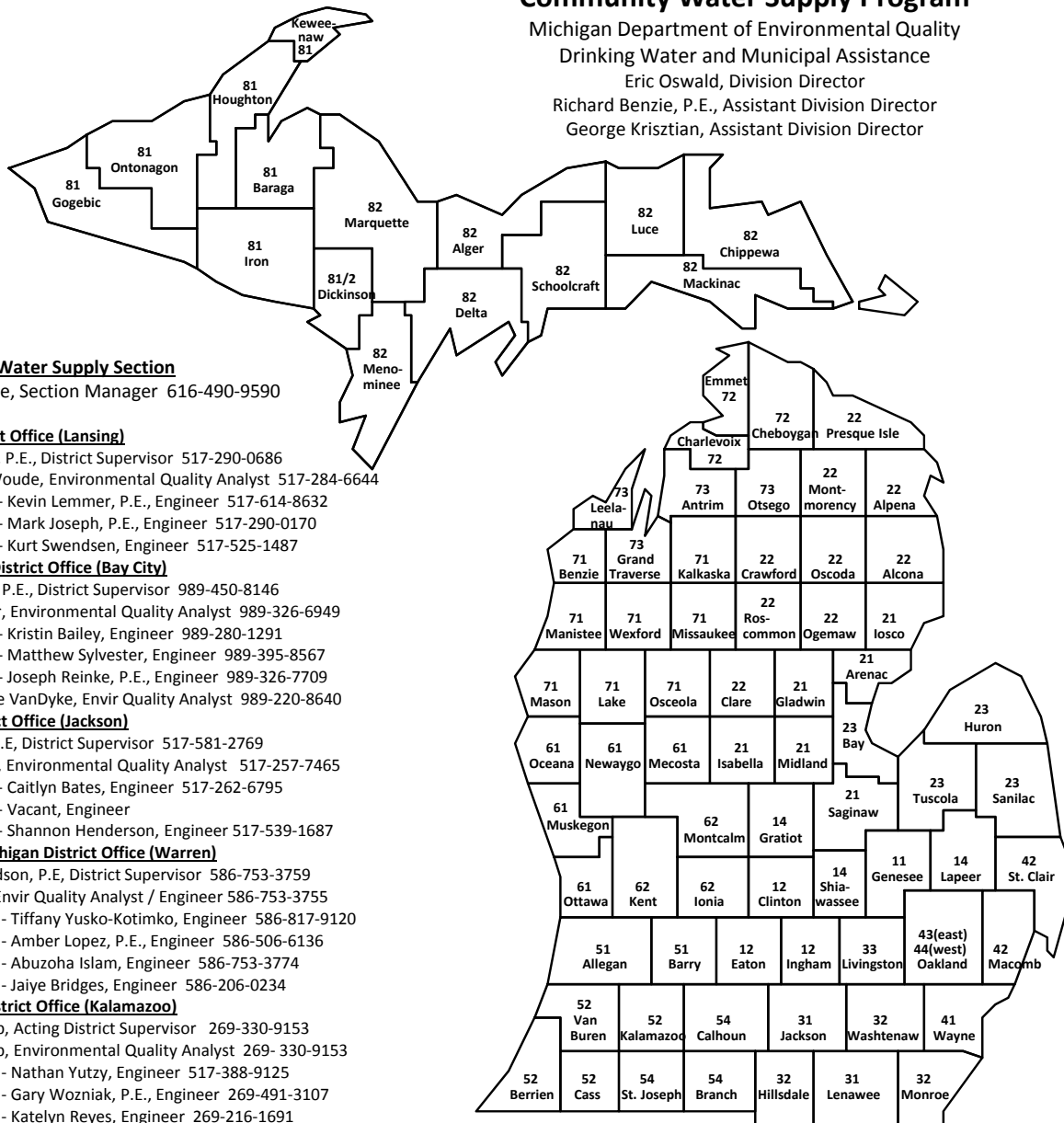
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1/29/2018

# Community Water Supply Program

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance  
Eric Oswald, Division Director  
Richard Benzie, P.E., Assistant Division Director  
George Krisztian, Assistant Division Director



### Community Water Supply Section

Amy Lachance, Section Manager 616-490-9590

### Lansing District Office (Lansing)

Bethel Skinker, P.E., District Supervisor 517-290-0686  
Ryan VanDerWoude, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-284-6644  
District 11 - Kevin Lemmer, P.E., Engineer 517-614-8632  
District 12 - Mark Joseph, P.E., Engineer 517-290-0170  
District 14 - Kurt Swendsen, Engineer 517-525-1487

### Saginaw Bay District Office (Bay City)

Daryl Gotham, P.E., District Supervisor 989-450-8146  
Rebecca Kaiser, Environmental Quality Analyst 989-326-6949  
District 21 - Kristin Bailey, Engineer 989-280-1291  
District 22 - Matthew Sylvester, Engineer 989-395-8567  
District 23 - Joseph Reinke, P.E., Engineer 989-326-7709  
MHC\* - Sue VanDyke, Envir Quality Analyst 989-220-8640

### Jackson District Office (Jackson)

Pat Brennan, P.E, District Supervisor 517-581-2769  
Taryn Johnson, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-257-7465  
District 31 - Caitlyn Bates, Engineer 517-262-6795  
District 32 - Vacant, Engineer  
District 33 - Shannon Henderson, Engineer 517-539-1687

### Southeast Michigan District Office (Warren)

Kristina Donaldson, P.E, District Supervisor 586-753-3759  
Joshua Aden, Envir Quality Analyst / Engineer 586-753-3755  
District 41 - Tiffany Yusko-Kotimko, Engineer 586-817-9120  
District 42 - Amber Lopez, P.E., Engineer 586-506-6136  
District 43 - Abuzoha Islam, Engineer 586-753-3774  
District 44 - Jaiye Bridges, Engineer 586-206-0234

### Kalamazoo District Office (Kalamazoo)

Heather Bishop, Acting District Supervisor 269-330-9153  
Heather Bishop, Environmental Quality Analyst 269-330-9153  
District 51 - Nathan Yutzy, Engineer 517-388-9125  
District 52 - Gary Wozniak, P.E., Engineer 269-491-3107  
District 54 - Katelyn Reyes, Engineer 269-216-1691  
MHC\* - Mark Kraenzlein, Envir Quality Analyst 269-366-6667

### Grand Rapids District Office (Grand Rapids)

Luke Dehtiar, P.E., District Supervisor 616-307-0322  
Jeremy Klein, Environmental Quality Analyst 616-250-1053  
District 61 - Coulton Pierce, Engineer 616-265-9129  
District 62 - Wood Chooi, P.E., Engineer 616-356-0228  
MHC\* - Brian Esparsa, Envir Quality Analyst 616-307-0006

### Cadillac District Office (Cadillac)

Brian Thurston, P.E., District Supervisor 231-590-3430  
Amy Vail, Environmental Quality Analyst 231-876-4481  
District 71 - Scott Conradson, Engineer 231-876-4461  
District 72 - Bob Weir, Engineer 231-590-2050  
District 73 - Jamie Wade, P.E., Engineer 231-878-8592

### Upper Peninsula District Office (Marquette)

Chuck Thomas, District Supervisor 906-228-4514  
Lori Schultz, Environmental Quality Analyst 906-228-3902  
District 81 - Tom Flamino, P.E., Engineer 906-228-3904  
District 82 - Amy Douville, Engineer 906-228-3905

### After Hours Emergencies: 1-800-292-4706

**Community Water Website:** [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq)

Click on Water > Drinking Water > Community Water Supply

\* MHC = Manufactured Housing Communities

### Technical Support Unit (Lansing)

Kris Philip, Unit Supervisor 517-284-6518  
Deborah Ostrander, Environmental Quality Specialist 269-491-4536  
Holly Gohlke, Environmental Quality Specialist 989-705-3422  
Jeni Bolt, Environmental Quality Specialist 517-284-6515  
Krista Robinson, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-599-8655  
John Karnes, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-284-6570  
Brittany Tack, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-284-6583  
Heather (Kot) Jackson, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-284-5413  
Vacant, Environmental Quality Analyst

### Operator Training & Certification

Koren Carpenter, Assistant Unit Supervisor 517-284-6857  
Scott Schmidt, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-284-5431  
Ariel Zoldan, Environmental Quality Analyst 517-599-8684  
John Koenigsknecht, Environmental Tech 517-284-5430

### Engineering Unit (Various)

Jon Bloemker, P.E., Unit Supervisor 989-460-7254  
Michael Bolf, P.E., Water Treatment Specialist 906-630-4107  
Doug Pascoe, P.E., Distribution System Specialist 906-228-3903  
Stephanie Johnson, P.E., Surface Water Specialist (east) 586-506-6137  
Robert London, P.E., Surface Water Specialist (north) 989-450-7834  
Ernie Sarkipato, P.E., Surface Water Specialist (west) 616-307-0261  
Brandon Onan, P.E., Corrosion Control Engineer 616-307-6736





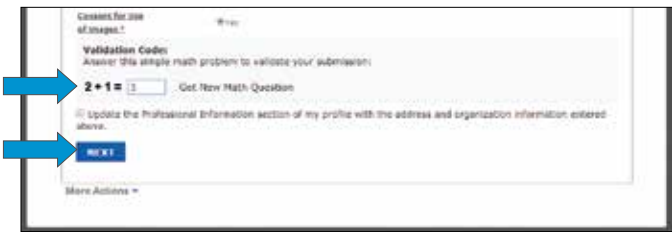
# MI-AWWA Online: getting the most out of *www.mi-water.org*

Let's look at how to register for an event. Although this article will focus on the online process, there is now a training registration form downloaded from the main page of the website and published in this issue of *Michigan Water Works News*, if you need to do the traditional method of registering.

By registering online, you secure your seat in the class or conference and you get a copy of your receipt or invoice immediately. (Note: Invoices are due by the date of the event.)


Once logged in, go to the event page for which you want to register and click on the Register button.

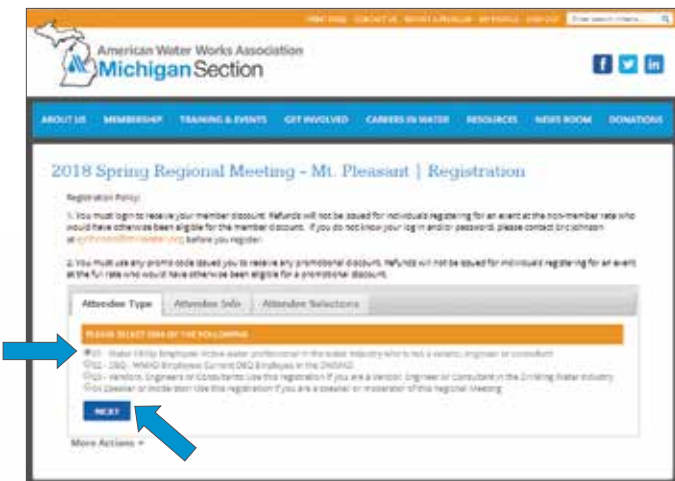
Select the type of attendee you are, **wait for the page to refresh**, and then click Next.



Click the radio button for the ticket to get added to your cart. Then, click Save & Finalize Registration.

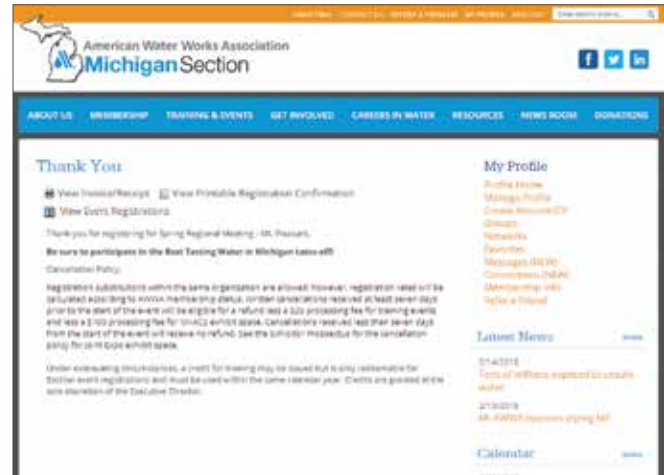
Complete the payment information or select Bill Me. Then, click the Proceed to Confirmation button at the bottom of the page. Once you check over your information, click Complete Order to either charge your credit card or finalize your invoice.

The Thank You page should appear. From here, you can print your invoice/receipt, print your registration confirmation, or view other events for which you are registered. 



Complete all of the fields. (A red \* indicates a required field.) If you are logged in, many of those fields will be completed already.

Remember to do the math (this prevents spam bots from getting through) and click Next.





### April 2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2	3	4	5	6
9	10 2018 Spring Regional Meeting at Livonia	11 2018 Spring Regional Meeting at Kalamazoo	12	13
16	17-18 2018 U.P. Water Works Institute, Harris		19 2018 Distribution Practices Seminar, Ann Arbor	20
23	24 2018 Spring Regional Meeting at Mt. Pleasant	25 2018 Spring Regional Meeting at Gaylord	26	27
30				

### May 2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1	2	3	4
7	8-10 2018 Short Course in Water Bacteriology - MSU, East Lansing			11
14	15 Laboratory Practices Seminar; LCC West Lansing	16	17 Small Systems SDWA Mt. Pleasant	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

### June 2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1
4	5	6 2018 Cyber Security in the Water Sector	7	8
11	12-14 AWWA ACE18 Las Vegas			15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

### July 2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24-26 Plankton Short Course; Water Works Park Detroit			27
30	31			



# MI-AWWA 2018 TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM

Course Date \_\_\_\_\_ Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Course Location \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Operator ID \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_ WWA Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Pre-event information is only sent via email.*

*(Required to receive member discount)*

### Registration and Cancellation Policy

You must login or include your member number to receive your member discount. Refunds will not be issued for individuals registering for an event at the non-member rate who would have otherwise been eligible for the member discount. You must use any promo code issued you to receive any promotional discount. Refunds will not be issued for individuals registering for an event at the full rate who would have otherwise been eligible for a promotional discount. Registration substitutions within the same organization are allowed; however, registration rates will be calculated according to AWWA membership status. Written cancellations received at least seven days prior to the start of the event will be eligible for a refund less a \$35 processing fee. Cancellations received less than seven days from the start of the event will receive no refund.

**PAYMENT**  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **member**  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **non-member** Promo Code (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed OR  Please charge my (check one)  VISA  MasterCard  AmEx  Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address same as registrant

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Billing City \_\_\_\_\_ Billing State \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Email Address\* \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Pre-event information is only sent via email.*

### Return completed form with payment to:

**MAIL** MI-AWWA Payment Processing • Dept 6091 • PO Box 30516 • Lansing, MI 48909 | **FAX** to (517) 292-2912

**OR REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.MI-WATER.ORG](http://WWW.MI-WATER.ORG)**

*A \$35 late fee will be charged for registrations received less than seven days prior to the training event.*

Save the date

# MI-ACE 2018

RIDING **THE WAVE** OF CHANGE

## MI-AWWA'S 81st ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITS

September 11-14, 2018

Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center  
Kalamazoo, MI



Exhibit space available starting May 1. Registration opens June 1.  
Visit [www.mi-water.org/page/MIACE](http://www.mi-water.org/page/MIACE) for more information.

# JOINT EXPO

## & OPERATORS DAY

The snow took a hiatus while MI-AWWA and MWEA came together to host the 2018 Joint Expo & Operators Day. A joint conference chock full of training sessions, networking opportunities, and the latest in water and waste water wares. Over 2,000 water professionals visited the Lansing Center over the two-day early February conference.

Operators Day saw record attendance with a strong problem that spoke to both water and waste water. Meanwhile, Directors and Managers listened to ideas for how best to finance the much-needed infrastructure every water system is going to need to replace in the not too distant future.

The Young and Emerging Professionals again brought energy and fun to the conference with the YEP Round Table and the Scavenger Hunt in the exhibit hall. At the Round Table, students and young professionals were able to network with established professionals, and there was a robust exchange of questions and ideas. (See page 48 for details.) The scavenger hunt saw nearly 100 people participate. The activities culminated with a mixer held after the exhibit hall closed Tuesday afternoon.

In the exhibit hall, there were more than 159 companies that brought equipment and experts to talk solutions with those who walked the hall.

Joint Expo & Operators Day is a fabulous opportunity for water professionals to get a taste of everything while earning CECs, reconnecting with distant colleagues, and making new connections. A special thank you to mixer sponsors Victaulic and Badger Meter, and to the planning committees that helped make the conference such a great success!

### Operators Day Committee

Sherrie Elliott  
Catherine Garnham  
Mark VerBerkmoes  
Ken Colston  
Mark Fowler  
Mike Levandoski  
Matt Weldon  
Jack Rafter  
John Snethkamp

### Joint Expo Committee

Rick Alvarez, Kennedy Industries  
Joel Annable, Peerless-Midwest Inc.  
Kyle Bentley, Peterson and Matz, Inc.  
Lorene Bruns, Duperon  
Dave Connors, Waterworks Systems  
Ira Gabin, Dixon Engineering, Inc.  
David Johnson,  
Fleis & Vandenbring Engineering  
Kip Koszewski, HESCO *Chair*  
David Mitchell,  
Perceptive Service & Operations  
Joseph Moore, DuBois-Cooper Associates  
Adam Pace, Monroe Environmental Corp.  
Amanda Rainville, ISCO Industries, Inc.  
Lenny Solomon, Clow Valve Co.  
Ken Wesley, UIS Scada

### Thank you to our onsite volunteers!

Lorene Bruns  
Sandra Buchner  
Tony Cecchini  
Dave Connors  
Bill Fritz



Stephanie Geiger  
Angie Goodman  
Brad Gurski  
Jeff Johnston  
Jenna Karazim  
Jim King  
Mike Levandoski  
Colin McCorkle  
Rick Mohr  
Mike O'Malley  
Tina Pawlak  
Jack Rafter  
Brian Ross  
Keith Sanders  
Bob Scheuerman  
Sid Scrimger  
Sheree Scrimger  
Tim Sikma  
Tom Smith  
Dennis Williams  
Larry Woodard  
Todd Nichols  
Matthew Griffith  
Amy Vail  
Joe VanderStel  
Mark VerBerkmoes



## STATE COMPETITIONS

# WHO WILL REPRESENT?

BY KELLY GLEASON, LBWL

Another set of riveting competitions have come and gone, the 2018 Michigan Section State competitions took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 6 and 7 during the Joint Expo in Lansing.

### Water Tapping

Two men's teams and two women's teams came ready to fight for the state title. The Troy women's team, *Smooth Operators*, were first at the main. They completed two runs with final tapping times of 2:31.94 and 2:10.47, setting the time to beat for the women. The Troy men's team followed on the pipe; they completed two taps with times of 1:52.59 and 1:51.90, also setting the time to beat for the men. The LBWL men's team, *Michigan Tappers*, defending State Champions tapped next and finished with a time of 1:40.28, maintaining their status as State Champions. The LBWL women's team and defending state and national champions, *Lansing Lethal Ladies*, tapped next and finished with a time of 2:07.06, maintaining the State title.

There will be three teams representing the Michigan Section



Smooth Operators



Lansing Lethal Ladies

AWWA at the National competition held in Las Vegas this June; the LBWL men's team, Troy's *Smooth Operators* and the defending national champions LBWL's *Lethal Ladies*. Congratulations to all teams for outstanding performances.

### Tapping Teams Present:

#### LBWL Men's Team:

**Coach:** Blake Kalchik  
**Set-Up:** Jon VanDommelen  
**Cranker:** Brad Lundquist  
**Copper:** Richard (Moe) Garza

#### Lansing Lethal Ladies:

**Coach:** Remecho Sanders  
**Set-Up:** Beth Zimpfer  
**Cranker:** Kelly Gleason  
**Copper:** Marissa Klimkiewicz  
**Alternate:** Maggie Emerson-Rich

#### Smooth Operators:

**Coach:** Mike Schlegelmann  
**Set-Up:** Jeanette Menig  
**Cranker:** Nikki MacMillan  
**Copper:** Kelly LaPointe

#### Troy Tappers:

**Coach:** Mark Pniewski  
**Set-Up:** Andy Willetts  
**Cranker:** Scott Carruthers  
**Copper:** Rich Wiles



Michigan Tappers



Troy Tappers



Hydrant Hysteria Participants

### Hydrant Hysteria

Hydrant assembly teams from Lansing Board of Water and Light, Battle Creek, Troy and Michigan State University were challenged to assemble a Clow Medallion fire hydrant in a timed event. In addition to speed, teams were scored on the quality as the main seat had to be closed and all fasteners and caps had to be tight.

Preliminary rounds had the two Battle Creek teams leading after each team completed two attempts. The posted scores reflect the outcome of the preliminaries. The Battle Creek teams then went head-to-head to determine the 2018 State Hydrant Hysteria winner. Competitors Ben Blaniar and Ivan Scovel,

coached by Nick Lichty, got their hands on the winner plaque with a final round score of 1:07:06 – a new state record for this competition.

Ben, Ivan, and Nick look forward to representing the Michigan Section at

ACE18 in Las Vegas for the 2018 national competition. Mark Olmstead and Rueben West would like to share their appreciation for letting them represent Michigan in last year's national competition where they took seventh place overall.

Team	1st Time	2nd Time	Championship
<b>LBWL</b>	1:52:03	1:46:59	
<b>Battle Creek #1</b>	1:17:66	1:15:20	1:07:06
<b>Battle Creek #2</b>	1:21:52	1:15:45	1:19:86
<b>Troy</b>	1:38:20	1:43:26	
<b>MSU</b>	1:34:47	1:26:66	

### Hydrant Hysteria Team Rosters

Team	Coach	Participant	Participant
<b>LBWL</b>	Brad Lundquist	Richard Garza	Jon VanDommelen
<b>Battle Creek #1</b>	Nick Lichty	Ben Blaniar	Ivan Scovel
<b>Battle Creek #2</b>	Mark Olmstead	Rueben West	Andrew Matthews
<b>Troy</b>	Mike Schlegelmann	Nick Schwab	Mark McCallum
<b>MSU</b>	Sam Fortino	Ryan Pung	Jason Pohl

### Meter Madness

This year's Meter Madness contest took place right after the Hydrant Hysteria contest wrapped up. The contestants performed two runs each, striving for the best time. The competition was fast and furious with Rick Greenwell coming in first place with a winning time of 33.83 seconds! Second and third place went to Jon VanDommelen and Tim Davis, respectively.

Great job to all the contenders! Good luck to Mr. Greenwell, the Michigan–Section 2018 Meter Madness Champion!

#### Meter Madness Participants:

Jon VanDommelen, LBWL  
Rick Greenwell, City of Troy  
Tim Davis, City of Troy



Meter Madness Participants



# JOINT EXPO

— & OPERATORS DAY —



## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COME TOGETHER AT EXPO

During the 2018 MWEA/MIAWWA Joint Expo, the Young Professional (YP) Committee, led by Jenna Karazim (GLWA), hosted a Round Table which brought college students together currently pursuing careers in the water sector, with water industry professionals. This year, students from Bay College attended; they had the opportunity to speak with professionals about their experience in the water sector, receive tips on the interview process, and share their passion for the water industry.

This unique experience offered students a glimpse inside the industry through a variety of perspectives. Professionals represented nine different organizations, including Oakland County, the City of Cassopolis, OHM, FTCH, Victaulic, the City of Wyoming, Holland BPW, and Great Lakes Water Authority. Their experience and expertise ranged from Human Resources, Safety, Water Operations, Engineering, Chemistry, Wastewater Operations, Sales, Consulting, Management, and Communications. Professionals shared how their range of skillsets and experience are utilized in the water sector. These rich discussions showed students how many options are available in the water industry.

Jamie Fleming from the City of Wyoming believes professional networking events, such as the Round Table, offer future professionals an opportunity to see how professional networks work.

"This gives students an opportunity to learn how to interact with others as professionals. Networking skills are invaluable in our profession," Fleming said.

Bay College student Tyler Sulk enjoyed learning about the different roles professionals play within the water sector.

"I really enjoyed the event. It was great learning different aspects of the industry. I think it's helpful for students who are trying to decide their career paths. I would definitely come back and participate in something like this again, as a professional in the future," Sulk explained.

Colin McCorkle from FTCH agrees that the diverse participation was beneficial for the professionals, as well as the students.

"It was great to meet others in the industry and learn what they do. These different perspectives added so much to the conversations that were taking place. I think it gave students a lot of options for potential career paths within the water industry," McCorkle said.

The event concluded with a guest speaker: 38<sup>th</sup> District State Senator Tom Casperson. Senator Casperson encouraged students to play an active role in politics by being vocal about current issues related to the environment and water industry. As future professionals, it's important to get involved and help educate the public about issues that affect the profession. 💧

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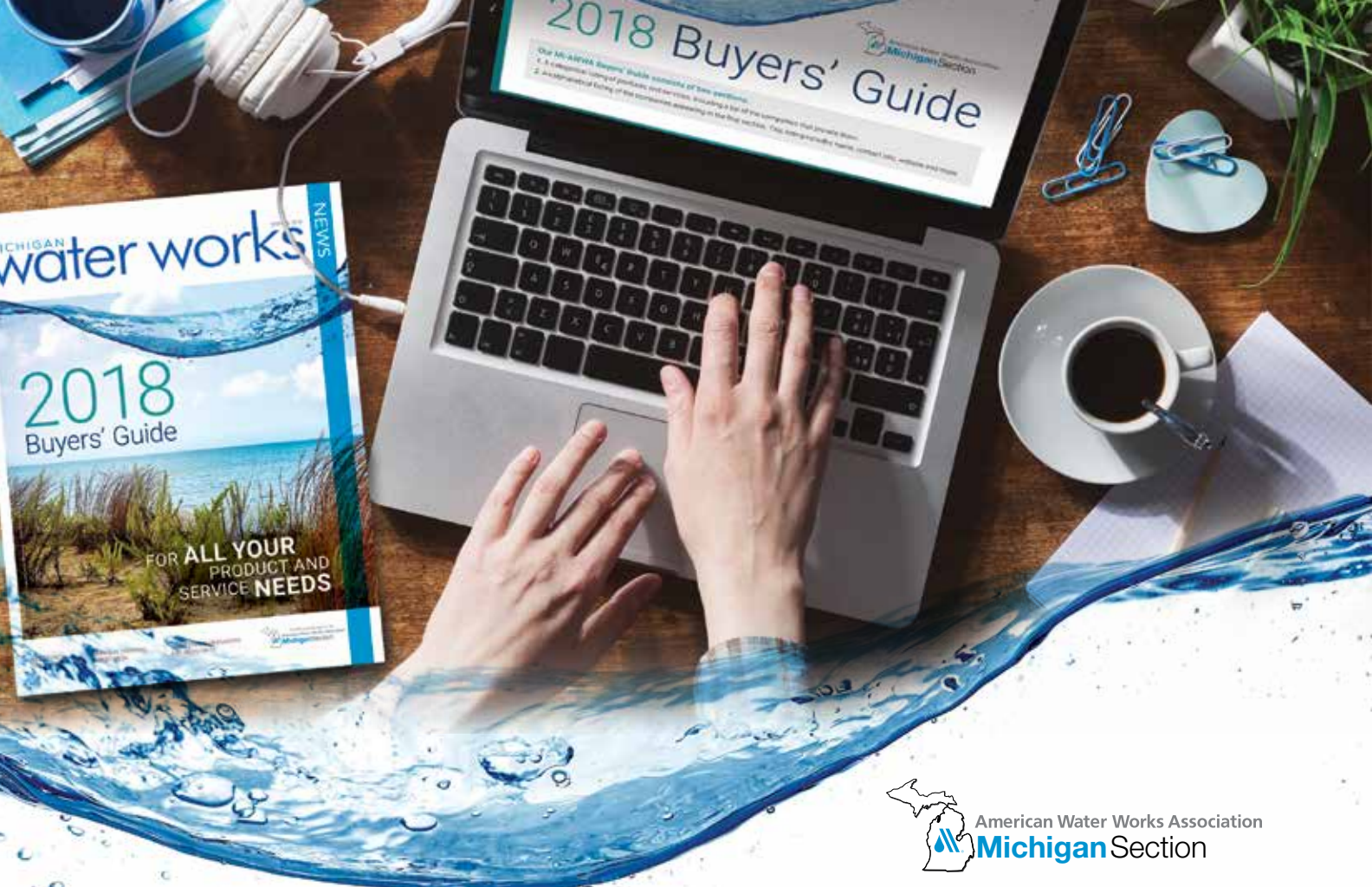
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# 2018 Buyers' Guide

## Our MI-AWWA Buyers' Guide consists of two sections:

1. A categorical listing of products and services, including a list of the companies that provide them.
2. An alphabetical listing of the companies appearing in the first section. This listing includes name, contact info, website and more.

## CATEGORIES

### Access Hatches

EJ

### Acoustic Pipeline Condition Assessment

M.E. Simpson Co., Inc.

### Activated Carbon

CEI-Carbon Enterprises, Inc.

### AMI Advance Metering Infrastructure

United Systems & Software, Inc.

### AMI Communications

Badger Meter

### AMR

Badger Meter

### Anthracite

CEI-Carbon Enterprises, Inc.

### Asset Management

M.E. Simpson Co., Inc.

### Chemical Processing & Feed Systems

TGO Technologies, Inc.  
Water Solutions Unlimited, Inc.

### Chlorine and Chemical Tank Scales

Force Flow

### Coatings, Linings, & Corrosion Control

Miller Pipeline  
SUEZ Advanced Solutions  
(Utility Service Co., Inc.)  
Water Solutions Unlimited, Inc.

### Construction Castings

Core & Main LP  
EJ

### Contractors

LiquiForce  
Miller Pipeline

### CSO/SSO Controls, Water Resources, Distribution & Collection

Arcadis  
CDM Smith Michigan Inc.  
Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc.  
Greeley and Hansen  
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.  
Kennedy Industries  
Tetra Tech  
Waterworks Systems & Equipment, Inc.



## CATEGORIES

### Cured In Place

**Pipe Lining-Potable**  
FER-PAL Construction

### Disinfection / Equipment

TGO Technologies, Inc.

### Electrical, Instrumentation / Controls / Generators

AECOM  
Fishbeck, Thompson,  
Carr & Huber, Inc.  
Force Flow  
KEI Controls LLC /  
KEI Industrial Sales  
Kennedy Industries  
Kerr Pump & Supply  
Tetra Tech  
UIS SCADA  
Wade Trim

### Employee Monitoring Systems

KEI Controls LLC /  
KEI Industrial Sales

### Energy Efficiency

**Rebate Program**  
Consumers Energy Business  
Energy Efficiency Programs

### Engineers / Consultants

AECOM  
Arcadis  
CDM Smith Michigan Inc.  
Dixon Engineering, Inc.  
Fishbeck, Thompson,  
Carr & Huber, Inc.  
Fleis & Vandenbrink  
Greeley and Hansen  
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.  
Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd.  
KEI Controls LLC /  
KEI Industrial Sales  
Moore & Bruggink, Inc.  
Prein & Newhof  
Wade Trim  
Williams & Works, Inc.

### Environmental Contaminant Treatment Systems

TGO Technologies, Inc.

### Filter Media Remove / Supply & Install

CEI-Carbon Enterprises, Inc.

### Filtration

CEI-Carbon Enterprises, Inc.  
J.G.M. VALVE CORP.  
Waterworks Systems  
& Equipment, Inc.

### FRP Doors & Grating

J.G.M. VALVE CORP.

### Geographic Information Systems

CDM Smith Michigan Inc.  
Fleis & Vandenbrink  
Moore & Bruggink, Inc.  
Prein & Newhof

### Greensand Plus

CEI-Carbon Enterprises, Inc.

### Large Diameter Leak Detection

M.E. Simpson Co., Inc.

### Leak Detection Services / Water Audits

M.E. Simpson Co., Inc.

### Manhole Covers & Frames

Core & Main LP  
EJ

### Manhole Rehabilitation

Core & Main LP  
Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd.  
Miller Pipeline

### Master / Production & Large Flow Meter Testing

M.E. Simpson Co., Inc.

### Meters / Meter Testing

Badger Meter  
KEI Controls LLC /  
KEI Industrial Sales  
SLC Meter LLC  
SUEZ Advanced Solutions (Utility  
Service Co., Inc.)  
UIS SCADA  
United Systems & Software, Inc.

### Meter Reading Systems

Badger Meter  
KEI Controls LLC /  
KEI Industrial Sales  
SLC Meter LLC  
UIS SCADA  
United Systems & Software, Inc.

### Odor Control Solutions

Arcadis  
Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd.  
Kennedy Industries  
PVS Technologies, Inc.  
Water Solutions Unlimited, Inc.  
Waterworks Systems  
& Equipment, Inc.

### Operation Services

Fleis & Vandenbrink  
LiquiForce  
Wade Trim

### Pipe & Appurtenances

AMERICAN Ductile Iron Pipe  
AMERICAN SpiralWeld Pipe  
Core & Main LP  
HYMAX by Krausz USA  
LiquiForce  
Miller Pipeline  
SLC Meter LLC  
Total Piping Solutions, Inc.

### Pipe Repair Products

HYMAX by Krausz USA

### Pipe Seal

Miller Pipeline

### Process Mechanical

CDM Smith Michigan Inc.  
Tetra Tech

### Pumps/Pump Systems

Core & Main LP  
Fishbeck, Thompson,  
Carr & Huber, Inc.  
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.  
Kennedy Industries  
Kerr Pump & Supply  
SUEZ Advanced Solutions  
(Utility Service Co., Inc.)  
Tetra Tech  
Wade Trim

### Rehab & Maintenance Services

SUEZ Water Advanced Solutions  
(Utility Service Co., Inc.)

### Residuals / Waste Management

Greeley and Hansen  
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.  
SUEZ Advanced Solutions  
(Utility Service Co., Inc.)  
Waterworks Systems  
& Equipment, Inc.

### Safety Products

Force Flow  
TGO Technologies, Inc.

### SCADA / Asset Management

UIS SCADA

### Septage Receiving Facility

Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd.

### Storage Tanks / Reservoir Systems

AECOM  
DN Tanks  
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.  
Pittsburg Tank & Tower  
Maintenance Co.

### Surveying

Fleis & Vandenbrink  
Moore & Bruggink, Inc.  
Prein & Newhof

### Tank Maintenance and Inspections

Pittsburg Tank & Tower  
Maintenance Co.

### Tapping Sleeves and Pipe Repair Product, including Couplings, Clamps and Bell Sleeves

Total Piping Solutions, Inc.

### Valves

Core & Main LP  
EJ  
J.G.M. VALVE CORP.  
Kennedy Industries  
Kerr Pump & Supply  
SLC Meter LLC

### Water Distribution Supplies

SLC Meter LLC

### Water Quality Monitors

Kennedy Industries

### Water Treatment Chemicals

PVS Technologies, Inc.  
Water Solutions Unlimited, Inc.

### Water / Wastewater Treatment Systems

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Arcadis  
CDM Smith Michigan Inc.  
CEI-Carbon Enterprises, Inc.  
Core & Main LP  
Fishbeck, Thompson,  
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## B



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**CEI-Carbon Enterprises, Inc.**  
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[uisscada.com](http://uisscada.com)

**United Systems & Software, Inc.**

Steve Flaherty  
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## W

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**Waterworks Systems  
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Dave Connors/Chuck Kronk  
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Tetra Tech	12	734-665-6000	www.tetrattech.com
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