

2010 MRWA Conference Sessions

Grand Traverse Resort – Traverse City, Michigan

March 16th – March 19th

THIS YEAR’S THEME: MRWA “PROUD OF OUR PAST, POISED FOR THE FUTURE”



PLEASE NOTE: CLASSES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BEFORE THE ACTUAL CLASS DATES.

TUESDAY - MARCH 16, 2010 (PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING)

Work Zone Mobility, Excavation/Road & Traffic Segment		W	WW	M	ST	PD
<i>Don Wiertella, DLZ- Michigan Incorporated</i>		WW-Other CECs (1:00pm – 5:00pm)				
<p>This four hour class is a review of work zone traffic control specifically tailored to communities under 5000 in population that have lower traffic volumes, lower traffic speeds and generally perform most, if not all, of their water and wastewater utility installation and repair work with their own forces.</p> <p>The class will detail the requirements of Part 6 of the 2005 Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices with special emphasis on uniformity in the placement and operation of temporary traffic control devices but allowing for the reduction in the number and type of devices based on the use of high-level, dominant devices on work vehicles and operating work vehicles with high-intensity safety lighting. Location of work, duration of work and work affecting pedestrians will be reviewed.</p> <p>This is a “hands-on” class that will include a review of proper and improper temporary traffic control, actual layout of temporary traffic control zones based on real life utility operations, handouts of related traffic control requirements and a presentation to bring all of these elements together.</p>						

Asbestos and Lead Hazard Awareness Training		W	WW	M	E	
<i>David T. Woods, Environmental Manager - Fibertec IHS</i>		WW-Managerial CECs (1:00pm – 5:00pm)				
<p>This four-hour asbestos and lead hazard awareness training seminar is for management and maintenance personnel dealing with asbestos and lead. It meets the requirements for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Regulation and the requirements for the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) Asbestos and Lead in Construction Standards. Course includes: Recognition and locations of asbestos and lead containing materials, recognition of damaged, deteriorated, or delaminated building materials, health effects associated with exposure. Standards and management practices for asbestos and lead, and analyzing the costs of management alternatives for various forms and uses will also be discussed.</p>						



WEDNESDAY-MARCH 17, 2010

Opening Session “Life Is Good” **PD**
Carrie L. Miel, Special Education Technology Assistant (8:00am – 8:45am)

One well-told story is far more effective at touching listeners and moving them to action than an entire encyclopedia of cold, hard facts. From myths and fables to personal anecdotes, storytelling has a unique power to create connections quickly. This story-telling session is tailored to encourage and to you get inspired.

Customer Relations (or How to Get Along with My Aunt Mildred) **W** **WW** **M** **PD**
Michael Harris, National Rural Water Association **WW-Managerial CECs** (9:00am – 10:00am)

Customers and customer service is at the heart of any business—and service is the key element to customer satisfaction. Attend this energetic session to learn ways to achieve effective and serviceable customer relations skills, while managing to maintain your own sanity in the process.

Moving Forward with Progressive Management **W** **WW** **M** **PD**
Paul Strobe, National Rural Water Association **WW-Managerial CECs** (9:00am – 10:00am)

Prepare your system for the uncertainties of the present and the future. Protect your organization and yourself by learning about the latest board management tools to effectively administer your system. Communication is the key to successful management and this session will provide you an opportunity to learn, discuss, and share techniques and problems associated with the responsibilities associated with a modern water system for board members and managers alike.

Going Green “Asset Management Preventative Maintenance” **W** **WW** **M** **E**
Ryan Costello, SEMS **WW-Managerial CECs** (9:00am – 10:00am)

This session will focus on asset management and preventative maintenance programs for drinking water and wastewater utilities. These programs will assist utilities with identifying and mapping all assets, scheduling routine maintenance, creating and implementing a work order tracking program, developing an inventory management system and generating 20-year financial projections for asset replacements and equipment budgets. Attendees will be shown how to implement these programs and effectively use software tools to help automate this process and ensure it is environmentally friendly

Collection System Assessment/Improvements **WW** **M** **E**
“Considering New Technologies”
Paul Galdes, P.E. - Fleis & Vandenbrink Inc. **WW-Managerial CECs** (9:00am – 10:00am)

This session will review of important factors, considerations, and methods for evaluating and rehabilitating sanitary sewer collection systems. This session will review the factors that deteriorate and reduce the life of sanitary sewers, and discuss methods for investigating and evaluating conditions to determine the problem areas and prioritize corrective actions to help ensure proper operation of this important utility. An overview of options for sanitary sewer rehabilitation, including open cut and trenchless technologies, will also be provided.



WEDNESDAY-MARCH 17, 2010

Storytelling “An Art, a Science, a Way of Life”

M PD

Carri Wilson, Story Teller

(10:30am – 11:30am)

Did you see the game? How are the kids? Did I tell you the one about...? Snippets of stories find their way into the workplace because facts and figures don't create relationships, stories do. This workshop will focus on the creative communication technique of storytelling in a high energy, hands-on format that gets everyone talking.

“Case Study” Ann Arbor-State of Infrastructure Report and How it Benefited the Community and Utilities Department

W WW M ST E

Damien Wetzel, P.E, Ann Arbor Township Engineer

Rick Judkins, Ann Arbor Township Utilities Director

WW-Managerial CECs

(10:30am – 11:30am)

State of Infrastructure Reports for the Township Wastewater Collection System and the Water Distribution System: Ann Arbor Township took a proactive intuitive approach to evaluate its water and wastewater assets in order to identify the funding requirements for sustainable infrastructure. Utilizing a life-cycle approach, the future needs of existing and proposed assets were predicted and the associated future costs determined. Through utilization of expert knowledge from both Township Staff and Stantec staff, and use of proven analytical tools, the report provided the Township with a detailed repeatable analysis of its infrastructure and funding needs. The State of the Infrastructure Report provides the Township a tool to highlight future trends in funding requirements that will be encountered as the Township moves toward sustainable infrastructure practices. In addition, it provides a cornerstone for ongoing communication between Township Staff, Management, Board and most importantly the public

Well Rehabilitation

W M E

Raymer Well Drilling

(10:30am – 11:30am)

This session includes fundamental aspects of well troubleshooting, rehabilitation and maintenance. It will provide up-to-date information about water well rehabilitation technologies, well maintenance and cost-effective solutions based on real locations and experiences here in Michigan.

“Our Big Break” Ironwood, Michigan Case Study

W M ST

Bob Tervonen, City of Ironwood

(10:30am – 11:30am)

“Preparing and Responding to Water Emergencies”. On a cold January evening, the City of Ironwood water system was paralyzed with a large break on the 16” transmission main. In a matter of minutes water service to over 3000 residents was nonexistent as 2.5 million gallons of water quickly drained out of the water system. This session will discuss how the break affected an aging water distribution system, how a limited staff quickly restored service, and problems that were encountered after the break.



WEDNESDAY-MARCH 17, 2010

Protecting Your Water Supply and Your Bottom-Line

W M E

Vic Sher from Sher Leff, LLP

(1:00pm – 2:00pm)

“St. Louis, MI Review” - Shifting Treatment Costs from Ratepayers to Polluters”. Traditional legal remedies for drinking water contamination focus on the “potentially responsible party” who actually released the pollution, for example, the operators of retail gas stations, local dry cleaning operations or fertilizer or pesticide applicators. Recent lawsuits by cities and other public water agencies have focused on pursuing parties higher up the chain of commerce. Instead of suing the traditional “potentially responsible party,” these cases focus on the defect in the “product” released and place responsibility on its manufacturer. This new approach to contamination litigation has important implications for public water supplier’s lawyers, regulators, and environmental consultants. This presentation will discuss the legal theories underlying these landmark cases and the status of lawsuits currently pending in jurisdictions around the country.

The Meth Awareness “Making Changes for a Safer Community”

M P D E

Detective Mary Jane Gay, Traverse City Police Department - Traverse Narcotics Team

D/Sgt. Mitchell J. Stevens, Michigan State Police - Criminal Investigative Team

(1:00pm – 2:00pm)

Public awareness is a key strategy in the fight against crystal methamphetamine “Meth” production and use. Law enforcement agencies across Michigan recognize the direct link between education of citizens and the capture of meth manufacturers turning up in houses, barns, apartments, trailers, campers, cabins and motel rooms – even the backs of pickups. This session will serve as a starting point by examining what meth is, what it does, what to watch for as a municipal employee and how the law enforcement agencies are facing the problem head-on.

Water Quality Management

W WW M E

Dan Kitchen, Water Systems Consultant - Utility Service Co. Inc

(1:00pm – 2:00pm)

Water quality begins to degrade immediately once it enters the distribution system and begins to age. Challenges to water quality maintenance from accumulation of disinfection byproducts, nitrification, bio-film development, Iron/Manganese deposits, accumulated sedimentation, and corrosion, depletion of chlorine residual and thermal stratification can be managed. This presentation will review recent AWWA-RF data on mixing, or lack thereof, within water storage tanks and discuss water quality management options. Participants will learn about strategies for the management of water quality from the water plant through storage and compliance with Stage 2 DBP and the relationship to water infrastructure sustainability.

Public Relations and PR! (Or Publications “R” Public Relations)

W WW M PD

Michael Harris, National Rural Water Association

WW-Managerial CECs

(1:00pm – 2:00pm)

What image does your utility publication project to your customers? Every piece printed by your utility should be, can be, a public relations tool. Everything from your newsletter to your CCR, from your letterhead to your business cards, whatever you put your name on should be viewed as a PR opportunity. Attend this session to learn more about what you can do to present a positive public image.



WEDNESDAY-MARCH 17, 2010

Exhibitor Modules 1 – 7

W WW M ST PD E

WW-Other CECs

(2:30pm –3:00pm)

Exhibitor Modules 1 – 7 (REPEAT)

W WW M ST PD E

WW-Other CECs

(2:30pm –3:00pm)

MRWA EXHIBITOR MEET & GREET 3:30PM – 5:30PM



THURSDAY - MARCH 18, 2010

“No Opening Session”

USDA-FSA Source Water Symposium Part 1 & Part 2

W M E

Paul Seegert, Michigan Rural Water Association

(8:30am – 10:30am)

The purpose of this Source Water Symposium is to bring together federal, state and local water specialists and managers to exchange information and ideas about effective source water protection programs and to promote the protection and prudent use of Michigan’s water resources. This session will include topic areas relating to transitioning from assessment to protection, development of effective source water protection strategies, partnership building, emerging issues, and other timely source water protection topics.

Exhibitor Modules 8 – 14

W WW M ST PD E

WW-Other CECs *(9:00am – 9:30am)*

Exhibitor Modules 8 – 14 (REPEAT)

W WW M ST PD E

WW-Other CECs *(9:30am – 10:00am)*

THURSDAY - MARCH 18, 2010

Michigan Rural Water Association – “Annual Business Meeting”

Chris Kenyon, President/Executive Chair MRWA

(10:30am – 11:30am)

You are cordially invited to the MRWA Annual Business Meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the "business" of the Association and the progress that is being made to fulfill the goals and purposes that, for more than 20 years have guided our work on behalf of rural communities and those who work for them. MRWA is your organization and we encourage you to attend the Business Meeting to show your support, of the organization, and to become part of the legislative process.

THURSDAY - MARCH 18, 2010

Exhibitor Modules 15 – 21

W WW M ST PD E

WW-Other CECs *(1:00pm – 1:30pm)*

Exhibitor Modules 15 – 21 (REPEAT)

W WW M ST PD E

WW-Other CECs *(1:30pm – 2:00pm)*

Math Skills 101 - Part 1

W WW M PD

Paul Strobe, National Rural Water Associati

WW-Other CECs

(1:00P – 2:00pm)

Having problems with fractions, decimals, and the equations needed to pass your certifications? Learn techniques and develop skills that will help you with the math associated with certification testing. Part 1 of this 2 part session will lift the veil of secrecy surrounding the mysteries of the basics of mathematics and give you the knowledge you need to solve problems associated with the day-to-day operation of water and wastewater systems.

THURSDAY - MARCH 18, 2010

"Retire with Confidence" - Retirement Planning

M PD

Greg Starry, Edward Jones

(2:30pm – 3:30pm)

This session will assist you with retirement and money management that you need to secure your future. Information will be provided on various retirement planning strategies including traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs, 401(k), and more.

Aquifer/Wellhead Protection for Your Community

W M E

Mark Sweatman, CPG-BCI Engineers & Scientists

(2:30pm – 3:30pm)

Since groundwater supplies and conditions vary from one part of Michigan to another, the responsibility for protecting a community's groundwater rests substantially with the local jurisdictions. By working together, local jurisdictions and state agencies can implement custom-designed local wellhead protection plans to protect groundwater resources. This course describes how one community in concert with the state agency developed a management system using Geographic Information System (GIS) tools to manage nearly 30,000 water quality data entries from over 75 monitoring locations spanning a period of 20-years.

Math Skills 101 - Part 2

W WW M PD

Paul Strobe, National Rural Water Association

WW-Other CECs

(2:30pm – 3:30pm)

Having problems with fractions, decimals, and the equations needed to pass your certifications? Learn techniques and develop skills that will help you with the math associated with certification testing. Part 1 of this 2 part session will lift the veil of secrecy surrounding the mysteries of the basics of mathematics and give you the knowledge you need to solve problems associated with the day-to-day operation of water and wastewater systems.

Completing the RUS Loan and Grant Application

W M ST E

John Padalino USDA, RUS

(2:30pm – 3:30pm)

Take a step-by-step trip through the RUS Loan and Grant Application process and learn the tips and techniques that may enhance your application. Understanding the application process can prevent costly time-consuming errors and expedite your application and project.

FRIDAY - MARCH 19, 2010

Federal Regulatory and Security Forecast “What’s Going on in Our Nation’s Capital”

Ed Thomas, National Rural Water Association

(9:00am – 9:30am)

Come to this session to hear about what the new Administration has in store for the Water Sector. The US Department of Homeland Security and the US Environmental Protection Agency have much to do in the next several years. We will have a discussion focused on future regulatory actions by both Agencies. Much of the discussion will be looking into a crystal ball attempting to predict what regulations and policies the industry will be facing. We will focus on potential security regulations, climate change, and emerging contaminants.

Rural Development Updates

Andy Granskog, USDA-Rural Development

(9:45am – 10:15am)

USDA Rural Development Community Programs had another record-breaking year in 2009 with over 205 million dollars obligated for rural water and sewer systems thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act! RD programs focus on rural community needs such as clean running water, sewers and waste disposal, community facilities, police and fire protection, rural businesses and renewable energy. This session will provide an overview of the many and various projects RD has funded in the past as well as priorities and goals for the upcoming year.

Drinking Water Rules and Regulations Update

Brock Howard, Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment

(10:30am – 11:15am)

Community Water Systems face many challenges regarding drinking water rules and regulations. This session will discuss the four federal rules that have recently been adopted by the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, Act 399. These include the Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproduct Rule, the Ground Water Rule, the Long Term 2 ESWTR and revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule. In addition, we will briefly discuss changes that have updated and expanded long-standing public water supply requirements including the General Plan, Reliability Study and standby power provisions, among others.

Conference Summary and Adjournment

Tim Neumann, Executive Director – MRWA

(11:15am – 11:30am)