



South Dakota Association
of Rural Water Systems

Quality On Tap!

June 2021 | Volume 17, Issue 1

SD RIPARIAN BUFFER INITIATIVE

SD BREWERY USES BIG SIOUX RIVER
WATER IN ITS NEW CRAFT BEER

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Ron Gillen, President
South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems



NRWA In-Service

In June, most of the Association staff are traveling to Orlando, Florida for the National Rural Water In-Service Training. At In-Service, rural water professionals from around the nation gather together to train and discuss their work with others in their peer group. The goal of in-service is to learn about new techniques unique to each position, share expertise, and learn about new funding sources. If you see our guys around, ask them what new things they've learned.

Rural Water Golf Tournament

Join us on July 20th for the 35th Annual SDARWS 4-Person Scramble Golf Tournament at Elmwood in Sioux Falls. The tournament is a great opportunity to gather together with other Rural Water folks for a day of camaraderie and fun. You can register your four-person team online at tinyurl.com/SDARWSGOLF. Tee times will be assigned to each team. You can find more information on our website at sdarws.com/golf-tournament.html. We hope to see you on the course!

WaterPro Conference

It isn't too early to start thinking about attending this year's WaterPro Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin September 13-16, 2021. NRWA puts on a fantastic show which brings in hundreds of vendors and hosts informative training sessions in operations, management, boardsmanship and governance for those involved in water and wastewater utility systems – large and small, municipal and rural. WaterPro features expert speakers from across the water/wastewater industry. Want to hear about new USDA projects or EPA priorities? You can find out at the WaterPro Conference. The WaterPro exhibit hall is filled with vendors and service-providers dedicated to offering high-quality solutions for small and rural water utilities. Find out about all the best solutions for rural water today and tomorrow. For more information on this conference, including registration and hotel reservations, please visit waterproconference.org.



September 13-16, 2021
Wisconsin Center | Milwaukee, WI

The Conference for Water & Wastewater Utility Systems
Large & Small, Municipal & Rural

Visit waterproconference.org for more information.



Quality On Tap!

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HARRISBURG VOTED BEST TASTING WATER IN SOUTH DAKOTA FOR THE 2ND YEAR IN A ROW!



The City of Harrisburg was recently named the Best Tasting Drinking Water in South Dakota. Harrisburg has also received this award in 2018 and 2020.

A panel of judges selected Harrisburg's water sample as the best tasting out of samples submitted by rural and municipal water systems throughout South Dakota during the Rural Water EXPO in Rapid City on April 28th. Each sample was judged on clarity, bouquet and taste. Harrisburg will go on to represent South Dakota in the Great American Water Taste Test at the National Rural Water Rally held in Washington, DC, in February 2022.

Harrisburg's water is provided by the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System and is overseen by Assistant Public Works Director Dustin Preheim.

Dustin Preheim, Assistant Public Works Director for the City of Harrisburg is pictured with the Best Tasting Water in South Dakota award. Harrisburg will represent South Dakota in the National Rural Water Taste Test in Washington DC in February, 2022.

WATERWORTH FINANCIAL SOFTWARE

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) in partnership with Waterworth are pleased to announce the Powered by Waterworth program.

Waterworth is financial management and rate setting software, designed specifically for water systems. Through this program, participating systems will receive affordable access to Waterworth's online platform, paired with training from technical support staff, to help you achieve more financially sustainable water and wastewater systems.

SDARWS understands that you are likely facing a lot of uncertainty as economic impacts of COVID-19 unfold, and you may have concerns about how this will affect the future operations of your water system. In an effort to help you gain confidence and clarity, SDARWS and Waterworth have agreed to offer 90-days free access to the Powered by Waterworth program.

Here's how it works:

- 3-months free access. Receive 90-days complimentary access to Waterworth. No council or board approval necessary.
- Easy setup. Work with SDARWS support staff to develop a baseline financial model in just 2 hours using easy-to-collect information.

- COVID-19 impact modeling. Do you know what cashflow issues could be coming down the pipe? Use your baseline financial model to explore reduced revenue scenarios for residential and commercial customers due to COVID-19.
- More Efficient Decision Making. SDARWS support staff can provide assistance in presenting model findings to elected officials using remote technology. Waterworth's simple visualizations get everyone on the same page.
- Continue or cancel – your choice. After the 90-day free trial period, you may choose to continue with a Waterworth annual subscription for \$1 per service population per year, capped at \$3,495/yr.

This offer is available for a limited time and to a limited number of systems! First come, first served.

SDARWS and Waterworth are excited to bring you this opportunity and deliver on their joint mission of providing resources, training and expertise to small and rural water systems. You can download our brochure at [sdarws.com/assets/powered-by-waterworth-brochure-\(nrwa---waterworth\).pdf](http://sdarws.com/assets/powered-by-waterworth-brochure-(nrwa---waterworth).pdf).



SUMMERTIME WATER SAFETY



Fish are able to live and breathe in water, but people need air to breathe. People drown when too much water gets into their lungs. When that happens, the lungs can't put oxygen in the blood. Then, too little oxygen gets to the brain and the rest of the body.

Drowning is the second most common cause of death from injuries among kids under the age of 14. Drowning can happen so fast — sometimes in less than 2 minutes after a person's head goes under the water. That leaves very little time for someone to help.

Many drownings and near-drownings happen when a kid accidentally falls into a swimming pool. But accidents can happen anywhere and that's why you need to know how to be safe around water.

DO YOU LIKE SWIMMING, FISHING, OR BOATING? MANY PEOPLE SPEND A LOT OF TIME IN OR NEAR THE WATER DURING THE SUMMER. WATER CAN KEEP YOU COOL AND CAN BE FUN TO PLAY IN, BUT IT CAN ALSO BE DANGEROUS. CAN YOU DECODE THE WATER SAFETY TIPS BELOW?



DIRECTIONS: on each blank provided, write the letter of the alphabet that comes right before the letter shown under the blank line.

1. NEVER
 T X J N B M P O F

2. ALWAYS A
 X F B S M J G F K B D L F U
 WHEN YOU ARE ON A
 C P B U

3. DON'T WHILE A BOAT IS
 T U B O E N P W J O H

4. ALWAYS OBEY " " SIGNS.
 O P T X J N N J O H

5. DON'T IN
 E J W F T I B M M P X WATER.

POOL SAFETY TIPS

Always have an adult watch you when you are in the pool — even in your own backyard. Never go in the pool if there is no adult around. Always call an adult or lifeguard if there is an emergency.

Gates are around pools for a reason — to keep kids away from the water when there isn't a lifeguard or adult around to watch them. Never go through any pool gates when they are closed. Stay safe and stay out!

Always obey pool rules.

Swim with a buddy.

If you're learning to swim, ask your mom or dad to make sure your flotation devices are Coast Guard-approved.

Walk slowly in the pool area. Don't run.

Swim at a depth that is safe for you. If you're just learning to swim, stay in the shallow end.

Don't push or jump on others. You could accidentally hurt someone or yourself.

Toys to help you float come in many shapes and sizes (an inner tube, air mattress, or beach ball, for example). Although they're fun and can help you while you learn to swim, what they can't do is save a life. They're toys that can lose air or float away.

LAKE SAFETY TIPS

Lots of kids swim in streams, lakes, or ponds. Take extra care when swimming in these beautiful places. You can't always see the bottom of the lake or pond, so you don't always know the depth of the water. This is another reason to always swim with an adult.

Although the fish swimming around won't hurt you, some ponds and lakes may hide jagged rocks, broken bottles, or trash. Wear something to protect your feet. Also, watch out for weeds and grass, which can trap even a good swimmer. If you panic and try to yank yourself free, you may get even more tangled. Instead, shake and pull your arms and legs slowly to work yourself loose and call for an adult's help.

If you're going out on a boat, always wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket. Even if you are a good swimmer, something could cause the boat to tip over and you could be trapped underneath.

Discover the DEX



* This is a rendering and is subject to change.

For 135 years, the South Dakota State Fair has been a place to celebrate youth and agriculture. Since the late 1970s, the Open Class Beef Complex has been a part of that celebration. It's held many memories and has been an important part of the culture of the South Dakota State Fairgrounds.

On October 31, 2020, Halloween night, that all changed with a fire that destroyed the 96,000 square foot building.

Out of adversity comes opportunity. It is our generation's time to bring this vision to life. **Discover the DEX**. Help us build **the DEX: Dakota Events Complex** - the new multipurpose livestock and equestrian complex at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds.

- 200,000 square foot, one-of-a-kind, livestock and equestrian facility that will set a new standard for hosting local and national events.
- 7,000 seats will hold spectators from around the globe, as they witness events brought to South Dakota never thought possible.
- The capacity to host two full size equestrian arenas, larger livestock shows, concerts, auto thrill shows, and events throughout the year make this complex unmatched.

The footprint will encompass the area abandoned by the Beef Complex, that is scheduled to be demolished by February of 2021, and replace the 37,000 square foot Sheep Barn, that has long outlived its useful life.

For the annual South Dakota State Fair, the capacity is expected to be 2,000 head of show cattle. Open class and 4-H beef will call this new livestock facility home. A commitment will be made to work with sheep and goat exhibitors to improve and modify the existing 4-H Livestock Complex to make sure it is done right and exceed their expectations as they move to this new home.

This will allow for species specific barns across the grounds, a trend favored by exhibitors, and address livestock transportation safety issues on the fairgrounds.

The estimated cost of \$19 million will be a product of all of us pulling this **VISION** together.

Governor Kristi Noem is asking the legislature for \$12 million and insurance from the fire will bring in \$3 million. **THIS IS WHERE THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA NEEDS YOU.**

Donate to the DEX. It is a "big ask" but it is time for us to rally together and bring a pool of \$4 million dollars, still needed to complete this vision, to the table. The task force lead by the South Dakota State Fair Foundation is asking for you to help us reach that mark now so we can meet the deadline of a **Grand Opening at the 2022 South Dakota State Fair**.

the DEX: Dakota Events Complex VISION TIMELINE



DEMOLITION
Winter of 2021

DESIGN
Spring of 2021

GROUNDBREAKING
2021 South Dakota State Fair

GRAND OPENING
2022 South Dakota State Fair

PLEDGE FORM

Date _____

Donor Information:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____



Gift Information:

In recognition of the project to construct the new '**the DEX: Dakota Events ComplexX**', I / We intend to contribute the sum of \$ _____.

Enclosed is my outright gift to the South Dakota State Fair Foundation capital campaign with the initial payment to be made as follows:

\$ _____ on or before _____, 20 _____.
Thereafter, payments of \$ _____ will be made:

Annually I / We would like to have a reminder sent, annually, in _____ (month).

Quarterly

Monthly *Monthly Payments are made using Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT).
A campaign representative will contact you with further information.



Donor Recognition:

Please print name or business name as you wish to be recognized:

This is a gift in honor of / in memory of (please circle which is appropriate):

I / We wish to remain anonymous.

Please make checks payable to **South Dakota State Fair Foundation**.

Contributions to the DEX are tax deductible as provided by law.

Pledge completed by (date): _____

Donor's Signature: _____



1060 3rd St. SW | Huron, SD 57350 | 605-353-7340

www.sdstatefairfoundation.com

Through the fire came a vision.

Discover the DEX

SD BREWERY USES BIG SIOUX RIVER WATER IN ITS NEW CRAFT BEER

By Rebekah Tuchscherer

In the land of 10,000 lakes, Matt Hastad spent his childhood days fishing and skiing on the open water.

When he moved to Sioux Falls, friends still would often ask him to go fishing on the Big Sioux River.

The only catch? He couldn't eat any fish he caught.

Sometimes called the "Big Sioux-er" by locals, the Big Sioux River has a history of pollution and water quality issues in the area. The 2020 Department of Environment and Natural Resources water quality report listed E. coli and total suspended solids — which can range from sediments to floating algae — as the most prevalent problems in the river basin this past year.

"We have this amazing natural resource that can be such a major source of tourism ..." Hastad, a co-owner of Remedy Brewing Co. in Sioux Falls, said. "(It's) part of the city's identity."

That's what drove him to collaborate with Friends of the Big Sioux River on a new beer with the intention of highlighting local water sources and their importance in the community.

A key ingredient? Surface water from the Big Sioux River, which cuts through Watertown.

Yeah. You read that right. But don't worry, there won't be any sand in your beer. In fact, it'll be cleaner than the water from any kitchen faucet.

On average, it takes 7 gallons of water to brew 1 gallon of beer.

Between the brewing, cooling and cleaning, Hastad said the beer-making process uses more water than the average beer lover might think.

"People often think water or beer," Hastad said. "They don't actually think about how much water is in beer."



Before the brewing could start, Friends of the Big Sioux River volunteers met on April 3rd and pumped 300 gallons from the river where it meets 26th Street in Sioux Falls and took it back to Remedy for purification.

ISG, a local engineering firm, lent a reverse osmosis system to the collaborators to clean the water. By the time all was said and done, only about 150 gallons of purified water were left.

"There was a lot of material we had to clean out," Travis Entenman, managing director for Friends of the Big Sioux, said. "You naturally have about a 50% loss."

Entenman noted the Big Sioux River water originally had more than 600 parts per million in total dissolved solids. Tap water typically

has between 100 and 200 parts per million. By the end of reverse osmosis, the river water tested between 15 and 100 parts per million.

From there, Remedy brewers took over and have since been turning that water into Kolsch, a light German-style beer.

"I just hope that (people) understand how important clean water is outside of drinking water and how important it is for the things they love," Entenman said. "People really like beer."

Where to get one

The Big Sioux Brew is available at Remedy's 8th and Railroad location in Sioux Falls.

Reprinted with permission from the Argus Leader



SOUTH DAKOTA RIPARIAN BUFFER INITIATIVE

By Hunter Roberts, DANR Secretary

“Water is the driving force of all nature.” Leonardo Da Vinci’s words are as true today as when he said them over 500 years ago, and I believe they will continue to ring true 500 years from now.

All South Dakotans have a vested interest in protecting our water resources – it’s not just a natural resource issue; it’s not just an ag issue; it’s an issue for everyone. We need to work together to implement practical and effective solutions. That is why I am excited to write to you about the South Dakota Riparian Buffer Initiative. Riparian buffers have a proven record of improving water quality (see the before and after photos from the Central Big Sioux Project). They also provide valuable habitat, stabilize stream banks, add forage for livestock, and reduce production costs on marginal crop lands. Riparian buffers are an excellent conservation practice. They just aren’t currently used enough to move the “water quality” needle in our impaired

watersheds. It’s time for a change, which is why we’re incentivizing development of riparian buffers.

Through the Initiative, we will establish more than 3,000 acres of new riparian buffers across the state making measurable water quality improvements in South Dakota’s impaired watersheds. This will not happen overnight, but together we can get it done.

The first step, which we have already accomplished, is to change the enrollment requirement from annual to once every 10 years and increase the existing buffer strip property tax incentive from 40 percent to 50 percent. This is more attractive to landowners financially and – from a paperwork standpoint – more manageable for county tax officials. Working together, we passed House Bill 1042 with unanimous support from the legislature – these needed changes take effect July 1, 2021.

Next, the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Photos before (left) and after (right) buffer installation from segment two of the Central Big Sioux Project – courtesy of Barry Berg



and the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, along with a diverse group of partners (the working group) from across the state, will acquire and pool dollars from multiple funding sources to establish a voluntary, state riparian buffer program. The program will incentivize buffer strips with annual cash payments to landowners based on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) county rental rates for filter strips on croplands and marginal pastures lands.

However, we do not want to duplicate CRP, which is a great program on its own; we want to specifically target impaired waterbodies to maximize water quality improvements. To do this, the working group identified and will continue to identify priority areas to target enrollments. In these areas, rental payments will be based on ten-year contracts at 100 percent of the CRP rate for cropland or pastureland. Rental payments on pastureland will include funding for fencing and alternative water sources. Outside of the priority areas, rental payments will be based on ten-year contracts at 50 percent of the CRP rate for cropland or pastureland with the opportunity for additional incentives provided by local sponsors as available.

As I have said, I want to see measurable water quality improvements, and I want you to see it too, so monitoring and documenting success is essential to the initiative.

Throughout the process, my team, with support from the working group, will collect and evaluate water quality samples and use proven modeling techniques to evaluate program success or failure. This information will be made available to the public.

Efforts on the Initiative are well underway. The next step is to secure program funding by leveraging state and local dollars to secure federal dollars available through the US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation grant programs. We are working on those applications now. Our goal is to begin enrolling landowners later this year, so be on the lookout for more information on eligibility requirements and how to enroll. If you have questions, please contact us at 605.773.3623 (ask for Bill Smith) or email at SDRCF@state.sd.us.

Finally, thank you to all our partners who are working with us to make the Riparian Buffer Initiative a success. Folks from across the state including our legislators, Ag groups, water development districts, Friends of the Big Sioux, conservation districts, federal partners, Pheasants Forever, Izaak Walton League, planning districts, and Ducks Unlimited have stepped up to get this done.

I am very excited about the Initiative and can't wait to see it underway.

SYSTEM SPOTLIGHT

WEB WATER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

WEB Water Development Association, Inc. is located in Aberdeen, SD and was formed in December 1975 by community leaders from Walworth, Edmunds and Brown counties who were looking for ways to improve their drinking water. The acronym for WEB was taken from the names of these three counties. Within a year of development, the interest had grown to six counties, and within four years the project had grown to 10 counties. The WEB Water project was authorized by Congress on September 20, 1980 as part of a settlement of the Oahe Irrigation Project with support from President Jimmy Carter. It took two more years of hard work, lobbying and negotiation until Congress reauthorized the WEB Water Project. On September 22, 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed WEB Water into law. The WEB Water Board of Directors then entered into a loan and grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior on September 29, 1983, with construction work beginning on October 20, 1983. The first WEB customers – the Keith Vojta family, who had been hauling drinking water for their farm home for 14 years – received water on May 26, 1986.

Elected officials who played a major role in the development of WEB Water were US Senator Tom Daschle (D) working with the Carter Administration and U.S. Senator Jim Abdnor (R) working with the Reagan Administration. Other elected officials also involved were Senator Jim Abourezk, Senator Larry Pressler, Congressman Clint Roberts, Senator George McGovern, Governor George Mickelson, and Governor Bill Janklow.

WEB Water now serves more than 8,500 meters with an average of 6,376,500 gallons/day. Besides rural hookups, WEB Water serves 105 town/bulk users and five ethanol plants through 6,800 miles of pipe in Walworth, Edmunds, Brown, Day, Spink, Hand, Hyde, Campbell, Faulk, Potter, McPherson, Beadle, Clark & Marshall counties in South Dakota; Emmons, Dickey and McIntosh counties in North Dakota.

WEB Water is overseen by a nine-person Board of Directors including a Chair, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Each Director can serve a total of three 3-year terms. They

also employ 42 people throughout the WEB Water system.

The success of the WEB Water system is an example of what communities can do when they work together. Like the Rural Electric Cooperatives, the development of Rural Water has been grass-roots effort that has served South Dakota well. Hundreds of local leaders and citizen volunteers donated their time, helped sign up their neighbors, attended meetings, served on Steering Committees, served on the WEB Water Board, traveled to Pierre and Washington, DC to present testimony, and going door-to-door explaining to Congressmen, Senators and federal officials why a rural water system was needed in South Dakota.

Over thirty years ago WEB Water was the first water project of its kind. Funding a regional pipeline project by federal authorization through the Interior Department had never been done before. The

idea of piping Missouri River water through thousands of miles of pipelines to farms, homes and towns seemed outlandish to many in government – and looked almost impossible to many in South Dakota. Because of the precedence WEB Water set, regional water systems are commonplace today. Other South Dakota projects have benefited by the precedent set by WEB Water; Mid-Dakota Rural Water, Lewis & Clark Regional Water, Perkins County Rural Water, West River/Lyman-Jones Rural Water, BDM Rural Water, and Mini Wiconi.

WEB Water continues to grow and expand. In August of 2014, WEB introduced a spin-off water bottling service aptly named WEB Water Bottling Company. This new company offers home and office delivery of 5-gallon water cooler jugs within a 10-mile radius of Aberdeen, SD – with the hope to expand as far as Ellendale, ND and Redfield, SD. They are the first rural water system in South Dakota to offer such a service.





DIRECTORS:

Bob Schuetzle – Chairman (*Bulk*)
Tim Van Hatten – Vice-Chairman (*Bulk*)
Lori Goldade – Secretary (*Brown*)
Les Hinds – Treasurer/State Association Director (*Bulk*)
Craig Oberle – Director (*Spink, Beadle, Hand*)
Allan Walth – Director (*Walworth, Potter*)
Bob Whitmyre – Director (*Day, Clark, Marshall*)
Dick Werner – Director (*Campbell, McPherson, Emmonds, Dickey, McIntosh*)
Jeff Stoecker – Director (*Edmunds, Faulk, Hyde*)

STAFF:

Angie Hammrich – General Manager
Clayton Larson – Water Treatment Plant Manager
Shane Phillips – Operations Manager
Eric Hansen – Construction Manager

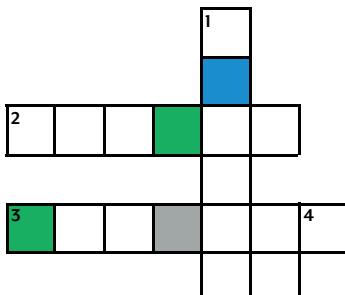
STATISTICS:

Hookups: 8,500
Miles of Pipeline: 6,800
Water Source: Oahe Reservoir
Counties Served: (SD): Beadle, Brown, Campbell, Clark, Day, Edmunds, Faulk, Hand, Hyde, McPherson, Marshall, Potter, Spink, Walworth.
(ND): Emmons, Dickey, McIntosh
Towns Served Individual: Akaska, Andover, Athol, Ashton, Barnard, Bath, Butler, Columbia, Ferney, Frankfort, Glenham, Holmquist, Lily, Lowry, Loyalton, Mansfield, Mina, Miranda, Mound City, Rockham, Turton, Verdon, Zell
Towns Served Bulk: Bowdle, Brentford, Bristol, Chelsea, Conde, Cresbard, Doland, Eden, Eureka, Faulkton, Forbes, Frederick, Grenville, Groton, Herreid, Hosmer, Ipswich, Java, Leola, Long Lake, Mellette, Northville, Onaka, Pollock, Redfield, Roscoe, Roslyn, Selby, Seneca, Stratford, Warner, Webster, Wecota, Westport, Wetonka, Zeeland

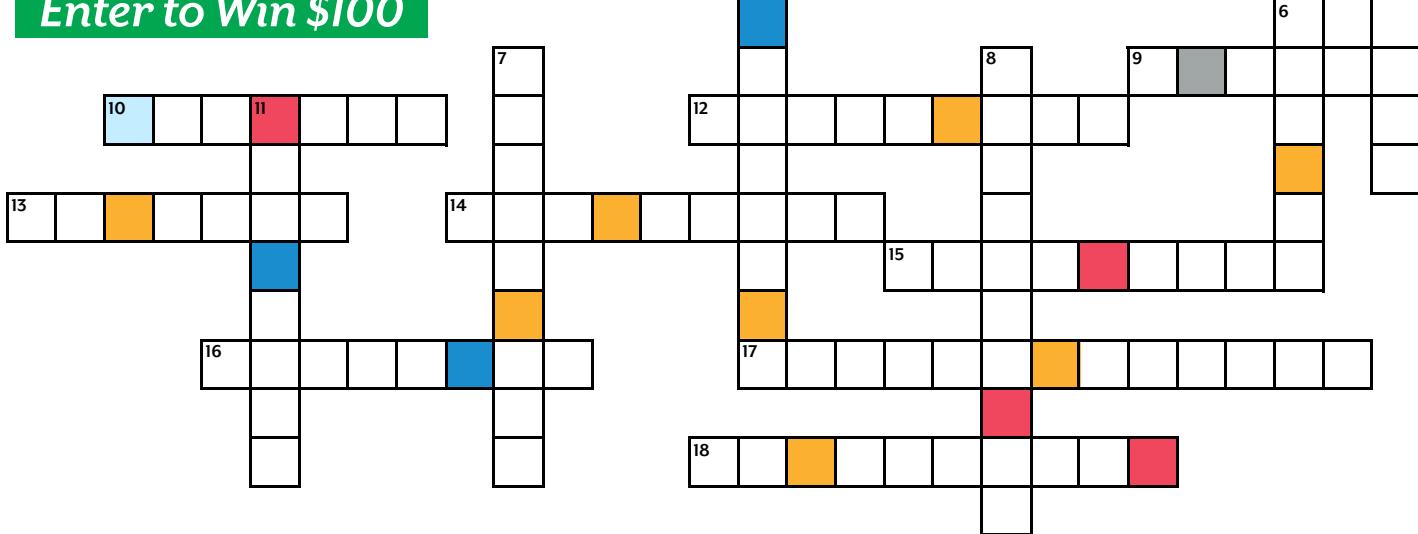
RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

SUMMER OLYMPICS

SCRAMBLE ANSWER



Enter to Win \$100



DOWN

1. Game of love?
4. Exercises developing or displaying physical agility and coordination
5. Football's British relative
6. Plunging head first
7. Swimming, cycling and running
8. Game of digs and spikes
11. Off the wall sport

ACROSS

2. Crew sport using oars
3. Catch a wave - Olympic's newest sport
9. Fighting with fists
10. Robin Hood's mastery
12. Team sport in a pool (2 words)
13. Sword sport
14. Birds fly back and forth in it
15. Win with a pin
16. In which a long run leads to home
17. Tony Hawk's preferred mode of transportation
18. "Springy" event

RULES: Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or enter online at www.sdarws.com/crossword.html with the correct phrase by July 12, 2021 to be entered into the \$100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize.
Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Jarret Lee who had the correct phrase of "Hope always rises in spring" for April 2021.

RURAL WATER

ACROSS SOUTH DAKOTA

LOOKING TO BRING MISSOURI RIVER WATER TO RAPID CITY

The most important environmental factor for community settlement has always been water. The greatest challenge that today's community leaders face is ensuring that quality water will be available. The West Dakota Water Development District board has been wrestling with this concept for the past several years. They have reached out to neighboring stakeholders to gauge interest in bringing Missouri River water to the Rapid City area.

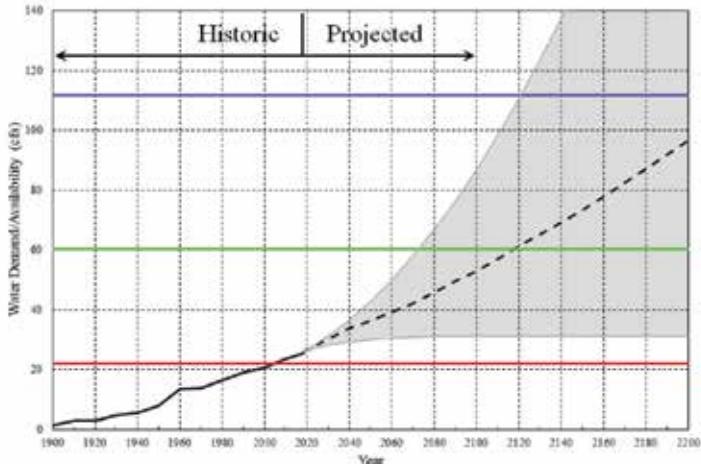
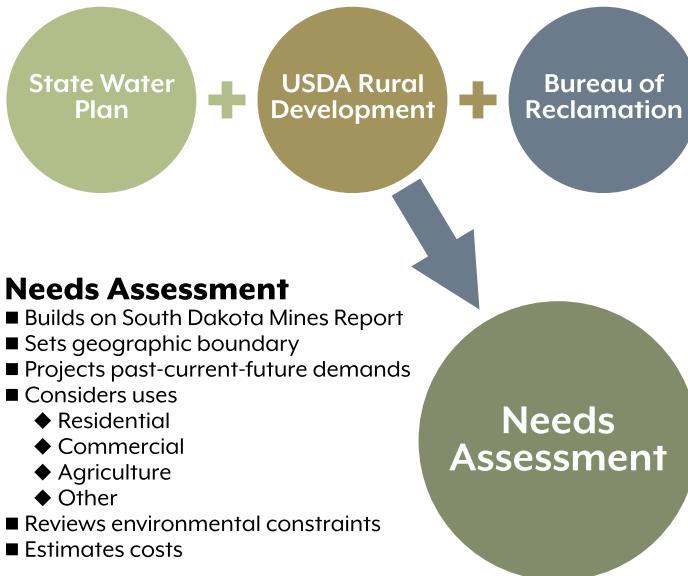
The genesis for their conversation is future use water permit #1443-2. That permit grants 10,000 annual acre-feet (3,258,514,290 gallons) for "future municipal, industrial, commercial, and rural water system use" of Missouri River Water to the West Dakota Water Development District (WDWDD). The district is required to renew the permit every seven years. The last renewal period provided an opportunity for the district to assess the region's potential need for that future water.

WDWDD commissioned a group from the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology to develop a report. The Final Report entitled: Missouri River Water Allotment Study for Future Water User Permit 1443-2 was completed in December of 2019.

The report produced three findings:

1. Local water supplies currently meet demand; the region is not currently in need of new sources
2. Based on projected growth, the area may not be able to meet future water needs
3. The district should retain its future water rights permit.

In addition to the findings, the report suggests potential routes for bringing Missouri River water to the area and provides an estimated cost to do so (in 2019 dollars).



The district started a meeting of stakeholders in the second half of 2020 to look at the viability of developing a pipeline to deliver water to the area. The meeting's topics ranged from the discussion of past regional water system projects to presentations by potential funding entities.

The group has now reached the point of developing a needs assessment. As part of that, they are soliciting water systems that may be interested in partnering on a project that brings Missouri River water to Western South Dakota. They are asking systems to look at their system's water needs will be in 50 years. Projects such as these take decades to come to fruition.

Once the final stakeholders and their needs have been identified, a more realistic cost estimate can be established. Once that step is complete, the group will start pursuing project funding.

The idea to bring Missouri River Water to the Rapid City area is not a new one. In the 1970's Energy Transportation Systems, Inc. (ETSI) planned to slurry coal from the Powder River Basin to coal-burning power plants in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. One of the possible sources of water for ETSI was the Missouri River. That project was eventually canceled in 1984 after stiff resistance from multiple railroad companies.

On the eastern side of South Dakota, Lewis & Clark RWS (L&C) started as a dream in the early 1990s, with over 60 systems being interested. By the time L&C delivered its first drops of water in 2012, the system membership had included twenty systems.

If you would like more information about this group's stakeholder meetings, contact the West Dakota Water Development District. Daniel Mulally is the district manager; he can be reached via email at wdwdd0@outlook.com.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kurt Pfeifle, Executive Director
South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems

BUDGETING 101

The SDARWS fiscal year is October 1 through September 30. SDARWS starts its annual budgeting process in April or May each year (about halfway through a fiscal year). As we get started planning for the next fiscal year, I thought this would be a good time to outline the budget process we use at SDARWS.

Let's answer the most basic question first; what is a business budget? Simply put, the budget is a detailed plan that outlines where you'll spend your company's money monthly or annually. You assign every dollar of a "job" based on what you believe is the best use of those funds. At the end of the year, you look back and compare your plan (the budget) with how you actually did... you adjust for the next year.

The budget can be broken down into two essential elements. First, how much money you will take in over the year aka, revenue. Second, how much money you will spend over the year aka, expense. The difference between the two (revenue v expenses) will make up your profit margin. There are a multitude of nuances found in each of the aforementioned budget segments, but the fundamental calculation remains the same... revenue minus expense.

SDARWS starts its annual budget process with a question to staff... what are your needs and wants for the next fiscal year? We often refer to this list as the "wishlist." Staff will write down things from computers to vehicles to the latest in other technologies that will help in doing their job. We don't promise that all items on the wishlist will be granted, but we do promise it will be looked at and considered. We follow the staff question with a board question... The SDARWS Advisory Board is queried and asked to provide some "budget direction" to staff typically this direction is provided following the June meeting.

We then gather up all the information we can to try and gauge our revenues for the next fiscal year. For us, revenues come in many forms, including Programs funds awarded though governmental Programs (e.g., Circuit Rider, Source Water etc...); internally generated funds through dues, conventions & events, advertising, equipment charges etc... All sources of revenues are important, but it should be noted that revenues emanating from Programs and Dues account for a very high percentage of the SDARWS revenues.

Once we have an idea of how much money will be coming in, we begin to plan on how these dollars will be expended. SDARWS uses a modified "zero-based budget" technique for determining expenditures. Zero-based budgeting means that all budget line items are set to zero at the beginning of the process and each line item is reexamined and justified rather than taking last year's budget and simply adding a percent

escalation factor. I say it's a modified version of the zero-based budget method because for employment costs (e.g., salaries, benefits, taxes etc...) we generally do apply a percent increase to last year's dollar amount.



SDARWS staff will take the revenues and expenses and construct a draft budget. The preliminary document will be presented to the SDARWS Advisory Board (acting as the budget committee) at a meeting in June or July. The Advisory Board's input will be incorporated into the budget and the document will be tweaked here and there to accommodate the Advisory Board's input. Once complete, the budget will again be presented to the Advisory Board for further action and input. Final touches will be made to the budget and the document will be readied for presentation to the full board of directors at the September board meeting, which is the last regular meeting before the beginning of the next fiscal year.

It's often said that "budgets are moral documents" meaning that it tells us "mathematically," what areas, issues, things, or people are most important to the authors of that budget. While I believe that's true (that budgets are a moral document), I prefer to believe that budgets are more than that... they're also an existential exercise of reality! Learning to live within your means and make plans for the good times as well as the bad.

So, the next time you take pencil to paper, and whether for business, personal or family, remember that a budget is great tool to help guide your priorities and activities for the next year. However, remember too that ultimately a budget is just that "a guide" and that plans can alter, priorities can change, and your budget should be nimble enough to adjust with the changing environment.



OPERATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING AND EXAMS

IN-PERSON CERTIFICATION CLASSES RESUME SUMMER 2021

Pre-Registration is required and will be limited based on the chart below. Those who have not pre-registered will not be able to attend in person training since we have a hard limit as to the number of tables and chairs that are being setup for the room size. During the registration process the operator will be able to choose if they wish to attend in person or online. Once the in-person limit has been reached any additional registrants will be for the online course. Those who either selected online training or were moved to online training will receive

information on how to register for the online course through Zoom and a link to download the course materials. **All class times will take place in the time zone of the in-person class.**

Vaccination rates and the course of the COVID-19 pandemic will determine when we can relax our social distancing requirements. If vaccination rates are high and the rate of new cases is low it may be possible to increase the number of people we can accommodate for in person training. Those operators who have pre-registered and were moved to online training will be notified in the event we can increase the number of in person attendees.

Course	Date	Location	In-Person Limit
Wastewater 101	June 29, 2021	Winner City Hall	No Registration Limit
OpCert Exam	July 6, 2021	Pierre: Matthew Center/Foss Bldg	18 Seats Left
OpCert Exam	July 8, 2021	Rapid City Ramkota: Rushmore Room	49 Seats Left
Water Distribution	July 13-15, 2021	Watertown: Ramkota	30 Registration Limit
Wastewater Collection	August 3-5, 2021	Aberdeen: Ramkota Arikara Room	30 Registration Limit
OpCert Exam	August 5, 2021	Aberdeen: Ramkota Arikara Room	30 Seats Left
Basic Water Treatment	August 17-19, 2021	Huron: Events Center	30 Registration Limit
Intermediate Water Treatment	September 28-30, 2021	Rapid City: Ramkota Sylvan Room	40 Registration Limit
OpCert Exam	September 30, 2021	Rapid City: Ramkota Sylvan Room	40 Seats Left
Stabilization Pond Workshop	October 10, 2021	Aberdeen: Ramkota Arikara Room	20 Registration Limit
Stabilization Pond Workshop	October 14, 2021	Mitchell: Highland Conference Center	20 Registration Limit
Water Distribution	November 16-18, 2021	Spearfish: Holiday Inn 76/Swarm Room	40 Registration Limit
Wastewater Collection	December 7-9, 2021	Sioux Falls: Ramkota Harvest Room	40 Registration Limit

Classes start at 8:00 AM Tuesday through Thursday. Classes end at approximately 4:30 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday, and noon on Thursday. One-day Workshops start at 8:30 AM and end at 4:30 PM.

HOW DO I ATTEND AN ONLINE WEBINAR?

First, register for the class online at www.sdarws.com. Upon registration you will need to enter a valid email address for each registrant or we will not be able to send you the following: After you are registered, SDARWS Trainer Jim Zeck will send you a link with instructions on how to get signed up for the online course using Zoom. When registering on Zoom we ask that you use your full name instead of a handle so we know who you are when you logon to the course. You will also get instructions on how to access the course materials to download and which material you may want to print off (typically the ABC Formula Conversion Table and the Math Handout) prior to the day of the course. If you have multiple participants from one system, please fill out a

registration for each attendee. During the start of the course you may be asked to use the chat function to let trainer Jim Zeck know who is in attendance at your site if you have more than one person. You will also need a pen/pencil, notepad, and calculator available. The webinars are accessible via computer (may need headphones or speakers if not built in), smartphone, or tablet (the bigger the screen the better). During the webinar, if you have questions you are able to ask them by typing your question in the Q&A box. There is a possibility to request to turn on and use a microphone on your end if you have a very specific question or comment. Attendance will be taken periodically during the duration of the webinar. Certification webinars are not recorded - you must attend on the day the class is given for credit.

For Study materials, visit: www.abccert.org/testing_services/ExamReferences.asp

For more information contact SDARWS Trainer Jim Zeck: 605-201-9568 or jzeck@sdarws.com

REGISTER FOR CLASSES ONLINE: sdarws.com/certification-classes.html



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WATER MATTERS

Aquifers 102

For most South Dakotans, the water that comes out of your tap started out in the ground and has been drawn from an aquifer. As such, the importance of aquifers to all of us can not be exaggerated. In the last issue (April 2021), we learned what an aquifer is, how water gets into them and how it is drawn from them. Let's touch on a few more key points:

How do we find aquifers?

Because aquifers (water bearing geologic materials) are underground, locating them in any detail often requires the drilling of exploratory (test) holes to see what is down below. Each new test hole in an area helps define where an aquifer might be, and how extensive it is. In some cases, the aquifers are large and expansive, and cover parts of many counties. In others, materials that might function as an aquifer, such as sand and gravel, are found in one test hole, but may not appear in a hole drilled just a few tens or hundreds of feet away.

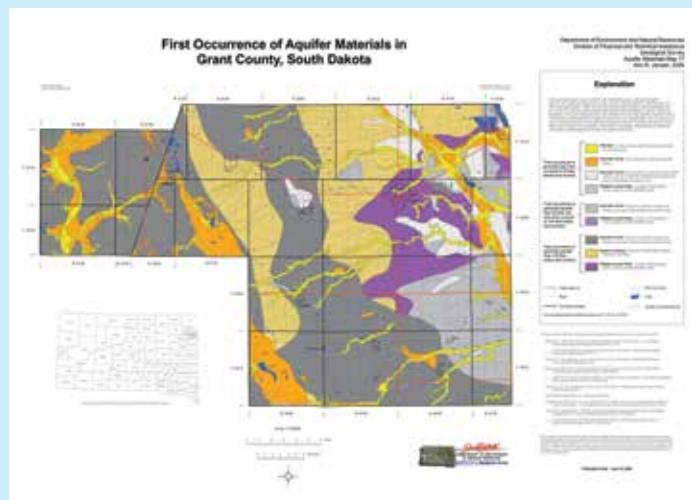
To learn more about an aquifer, wells are sometimes installed after a test hole is completed. These 'observation' wells allow hydrologists

and engineers to measure the amount and level of water in the well, and by inference the aquifer. They can also be used to gather samples of water from the aquifer to assess its suitability for various uses and to monitor changes in water quantity and quality over time.

Where are the aquifers in South Dakota?

In South Dakota, the Geological Survey Program of the Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources has been working to define the State's ground water resources for many years. They have drilled roughly 24,000 test holes to help understand the geology of South Dakota, including the nature and extent of our aquifers. Maps and publications have been prepared that can be used by anyone interested in learning more about these critical resources.

Would you like to know if there are aquifers in your area? The Geological Survey Program has produced numerous reports and maps dealing with the State's water resources. Visit their website, www.sdgs.usd.edu, to find information on aquifer resources in your area.



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