

H₂O Outlook

Kentucky Water & Wastewater Operators' Association, Inc.

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Operators: Making A Difference Every Day! 56th Annual Water and Wastewater Operators' Conference

Water and wastewater professionals gathered in Louisville at the Galt House April 14 – 18th for the 56th Annual Water & Wastewater Operators Conference. Word on the street is that the economy is improving with house and car sales increasing, and this was evident in our attendance as well. Registration was up from the last couple of years, with 431 attendees registered for continuing education training. Attendance grew to approximately 848, once you factor in the DCA's Certification School attendees, speakers and exhibitors.

The Conference kicked off on April 15 with KWWOA's general membership meeting, where Dave Enzweiler handed over the gavel to the incoming Chairman, Shaun Youravich and election results were announced, naming Ed Fortner as KWWOA's new Vice-Chairman. KWWOA also recognized the following recipients with outstanding achievement awards (pictures may be found on page 3).



Each day, attendees had the opportunity to choose from a variety of topics and earn up to 18 hours of continuing education for license renewal. A sound program, coupled with the opportunity to visit with old as well as new friends, solicit product information from the many exhibitors present, and enjoy some down time during the Conference social events, made the 56th Annual Conference a worthwhile event. By early May, KWWOA had submitted documentation to the State for over 5,000 certified operator and 509 lab analyst training hours earned by attendees at the Conference.

The Exhibit Hall contained 86 booths this year, with all aspects of the industry represented. In addition to our faithful exhibitors and Conference Sponsors, referenced throughout this publication, we also had several new vendors that participated. Jim Pelton of Pelton Environmental Products, wanted KWWOA "to know how impressed his Company was with the state conference. Nice facility, well attended, well organized." Jay Fisher, Gilson Engineering Sales, also shared how great he felt the show went as well.

Evaluations received indicate that it was a productive week, with one operator noting that he was "very impressed with this year's Conference" and another noting that "KWWOA is a great value" and "to keep up the good work!" While a vast majority of the speakers received rave reviews, the industrial wastewater series on Tuesday, coordinated by Jim Collins of Brenntag, stood out. Our thanks to Jim for coordinating this event! The informational Scavenger Hunts held in the Exhibit Hall were also well received, as well as the hands-on distribution and collections training on Wednesday. Thanks to all the speakers and volunteers who assisted with the Conference, as we could not do it without you!

We hope that if you attended, that the Conference was of benefit and that the information gleaned will be shared with other operators. If you were unable to attend, we hope to see you next year for the **57th Annual Conference to be held April 6 – 10, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Louisville, KY!** Watch the KWWOA website, www.kwwoa.org, for details later this year as we have many fun and educational activities planned for you during the week.



How Can You Reach KWWOA?

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Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Plants:

- Manchester Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Madisonville Wastewater Treatment Plant West

J.C. Chambers Award—Kenneth Martin

Earl T. Mitchell Award—Ray G. Osborne

Eugene Nicholas Award—Jerry Cravens

Upon completion of the meeting, Sandy Gruzesky, Director of the Division of Water spoke to the group on the Division of Water's role in water and wastewater and new programs that they are currently implementing and/or see coming down the pike that operators and utilities will have to address.

KWWOA Continued

Dear KWWOA Membership,

I'm very proud to have been recently elected as Vice Chairman of KWWOA. I had been previously elected as President of the NC Chapter and will serve in that position as well. Berea has historically been very active in the Chapter and annually holds a January training event. I'm equally proud to be Director of BMU. Berea has a very unique character reflected in sustainability, arts and crafts and ecological stewardship. What follows should introduce me to folks who might not know me.

My education includes a B.A. in Organizational Management from Midway College and an A.S. in Electronics from CKVTS. I hold Licenses as a Class IV Water Treatment and Water Distribution System Operator and Class II Wastewater Treatment and Collection System Operator in Kentucky.

My first job in Water Treatment/Utilities came by chance. A friend, Chan Combs worked at the Richmond Water Plant when he wasn't farming and informed me of an opening as an Operator at the WTP. Steve Fowler had been promoted and I assumed his old position as Operator/Lab Director. I very much enjoyed the work and have worked in water treatment, water quality, utilities work since.

I have been Utility Director for two years with Berea Municipal Utilities. I have been pleasantly surprised by the quality of the people working for the City and Utility. I'm proud to manage groups in Administration, Electric, Water and Wastewater and each group is staffed with intelligent, hard-working folks who also take great pride in the family atmosphere in Berea. I most enjoy finding solutions to complex challenges as a group and seeing the improvements we have achieved. Learning the complexities of the Electric Division of the Utility has been very interesting and rewarding.

My proudest professional accomplishment has been achieving my Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Management while working full time and helping raise my two wonderful daughters, both in diapers at the time. I was very proud that I had a perfect 4.0 GPA in my core tract. I will be forever thankful to Mr. Music, the former City Manager of the City of Danville, now deceased, who supported my completion of that important milestone. I'm also very proud of achieving International AWWA Top Ops with Robin Strader and Kelly Neal. My close friend Andy Gentry coached that team.

My proudest personal accomplishment has been raising two wonderful young women who make their Dad proud beyond belief. I'm equally proud of leading and teaching young people and mentoring. It gives me great satisfaction seeing good people achieving their personal goals and accomplishment.

I have been a member of KWWOA since the mid-1980s in each Utility I have worked including Richmond, Danville, Bardstown and Berea. The reason I joined then is my belief that this is the most important Association in the water and wastewater industry due to the fact that it is a grass roots organization created by operators for operators. I will always be an Old Water Plant Operator at heart. I believe I will bring a unique perspective to the Association due to my diverse background including operations, management, regulatory, laboratory, optimization and director. My goals for the Association are to grow membership, improve training opportunities and grow participation in Chapters.



Above: Ed Fortner and his wife Rachel

I have had numerous mentors in the Industry over the years including Bob Jackson and Teddy Croushorn in Danville, Dr. Jim Dinger with Kentucky Geological Survey and Julie Roney with the Division of Water. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Croushorn taught me so much about operations and compliance. Dr. Dinger taught me about professionalism and respect and Julie Roney has been such a leader in so many areas of water treatment and compliance including optimization. My advice to folks new in the Industry is to show persistent initiative, educate yourself in your craft and most importantly be proud of the service you provide in the field of public health.

Three words that best describe me are father, husband and professional. My family is the most important thing in my life. I have two beautiful intelligent daughters, Tamara Karin and Kasey Isabella Fortner. Tamara just completed her freshman year in College and Kasey is a junior year scholar at Woodford County High School. My gorgeous, amazing wife Rachel is an Attorney working for the State with underprivileged folks. Rachel is also a certified Yoga instructor. She is the love of my life and my best friend. Rachel has two children Hannah and Tyson who I love dearly. My Mother, Sister and Brother live in Winchester.

Sincerely,
Ed Fortner, Vice Chair

Employment Opportunities

If you are looking for a job, check out the "Employment" tab on the KWWOA website (www.kwwoa.org). Typically, you will find job postings from both the public and private sectors and across the state. The postings run the gamut from entry level operator jobs, to management, engineering, and sales positions, and typically include the job title, description, rate of pay, how to apply and the closing date. There are other links included on this page as well, that may help in your job search.

As KWWOA members, you are eligible as well to post open positions that you have available within your organization. Simply log into your account on the KWWOA website (www.kwwoa.org), select the "Employment" tab on the left side menu, and click "Add a New Job Posting" at the top of the page and supply the requested information. By entering a "closing date," the job posting will automatically expire and be deleted from the site once the date passes.

2013 KWWOA Conference Award Winners

Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Plant
Less Than 2 MGD
City of Manchester Wastewater Treatment Plant



Award presented by Dave Enzweiler and
Accepted by Kenneth Martin

Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Plant
Greater Than 2 MGD
Madisonville Wastewater Treatment Plant West



Award presented by Dave Enzweiler and
Accepted by Alan Todd

Earl T. Mitchell Award
Ray G. Osborne
London Utility Commission



Award presented by Dave Enzweiler

J. C. Chambers Award
Kenneth Martin
City of Manchester



Award presented by Dave Enzweiler

Eugene Nicholas Award
Jerry Cravins
WASCON, Inc.

Award Presented by
Dave Enzweiler



Operators: Making A Difference Every Day!

56th Annual Water and Wastewater Operators' Conference



KWWOA Membership Meeting & Opening Session



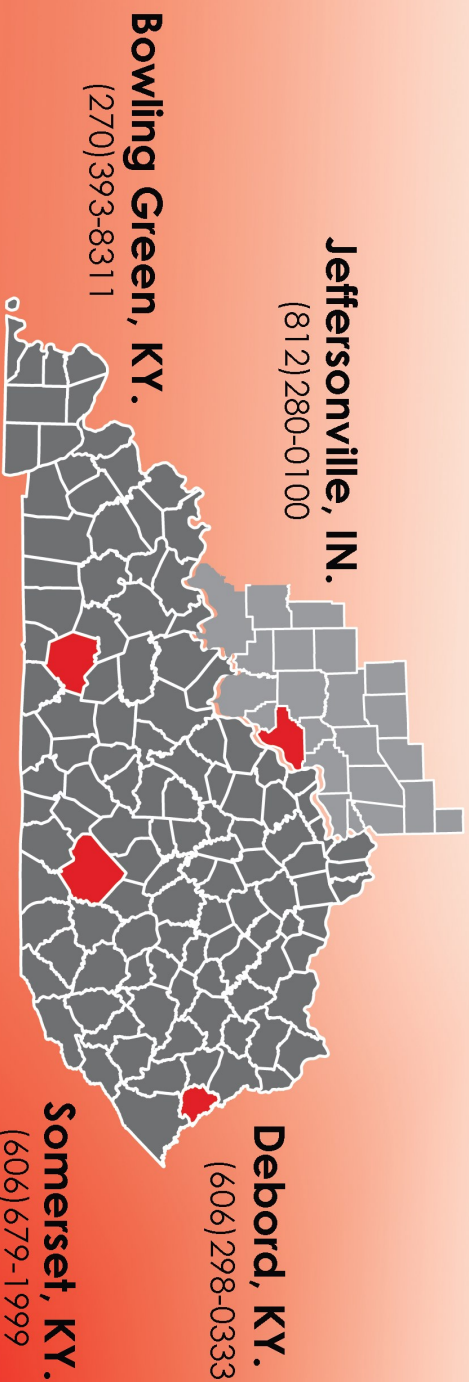
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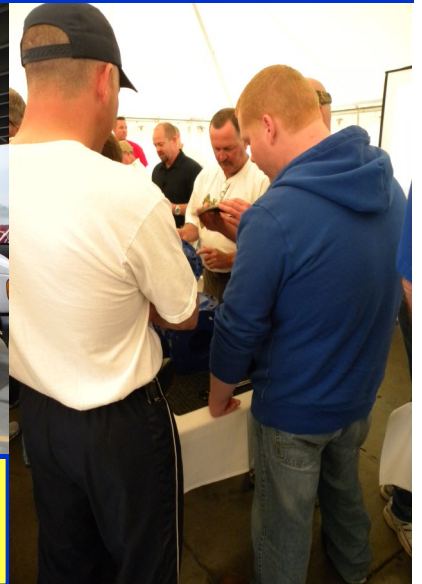
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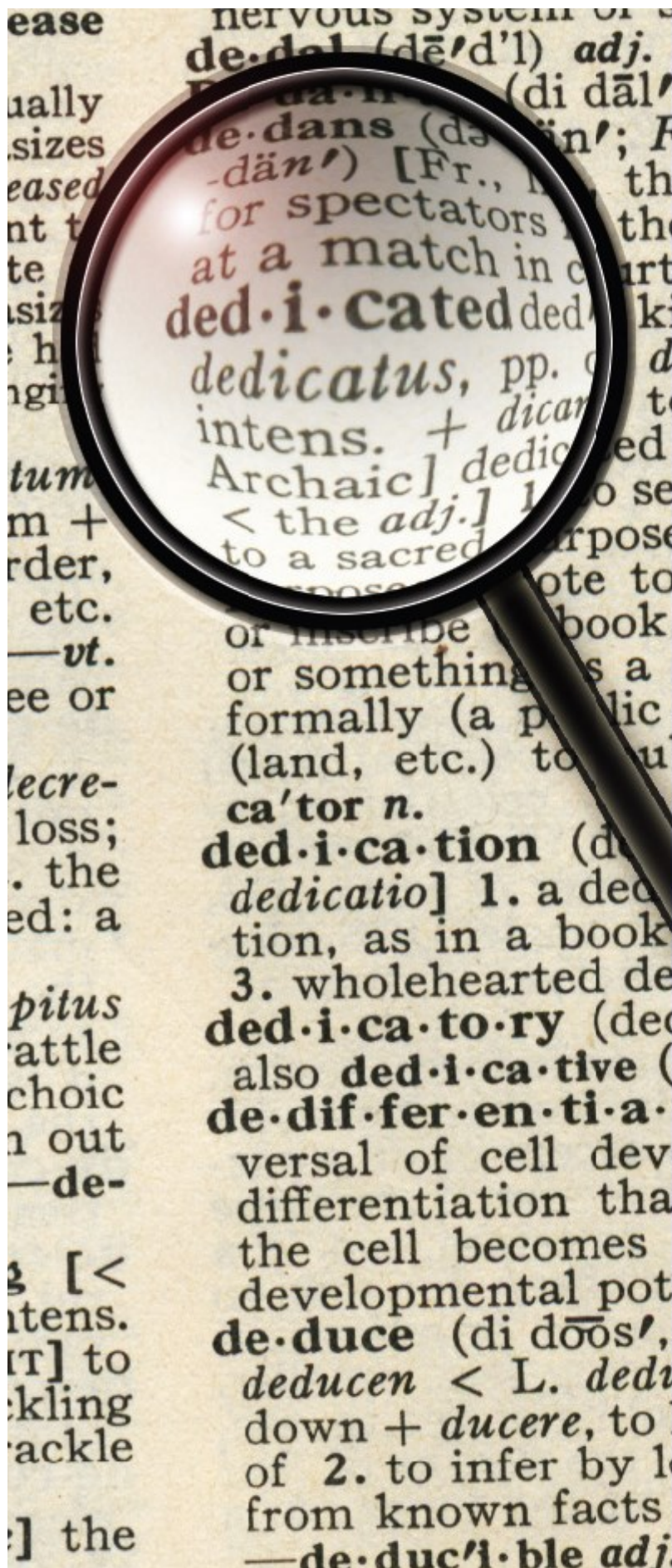
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KY Division of Water Updates:

DOW Helps Water Systems Prepare for Emergencies

The Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) is helping public drinking water systems prepare for emergency situations by providing an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) template. An ERP is a written plan that describes the actions a public water system will take in response to emergency events. An effective ERP includes plans to provide adequate potable water during emergency situations and restore normal operations afterwards. The template is designed to provide a framework for the public water systems to create a comprehensive ERP to fit their specific needs, said Anne Powell with the DOW Capacity Development Section.

"Utilities that maintain a current list of system components, emergency contacts and pre-defined response actions are better prepared to respond quickly and appropriately in emergency situations to protect public health," said Powell. The template, which is an interactive PDF document, will help utilities compile and update essential information, including:

- An internal chain of command;
- water treatment plant schematic;
- basic system components;
- ERP training and exercise records.
- current contact information;
- stand-by power requirements;
- alternative water sources; and

The interactive ERP template is available on the DOW website at <http://water.ky.gov/DrinkingWater/Pages/CapDev.aspx>. For more information, call Powell at 502-564-3410 or email anne.powell@ky.gov.

Division of Water Sets Guidelines for Electronic CCRs

The Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) has established guidelines to be followed by community water systems opting to use electronic notification when issuing their Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs). In January, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved the use of electronic issuance of CCRs in addition to other forms of notification currently in use.

The annual reports are required for those public drinking water systems serving populations of 10,000 and over. The reports notify customers of sources used, any detected contaminants, compliance with regulations and other educational information.

The new option is being offered as a cost-cutting measure, said Natalie Bruner, supervisor of the DOW Drinking Water Compliance and Technical Assistance Section. "Prior to January, the EPA had required that drinking water systems mail their consumer confidence reports to customers," said Bruner. "With the widespread availability of computers and the Internet, it has become much more economical to make them available on water systems' websites and through email."

Bruner said that in order to issue the information electronically, water systems must adhere to specific guidelines, which have been spelled out by DOW in an instruction document. The instruction document and the 2013 CCR certification form can be found on the DOW website at <http://water.ky.gov/DrinkingWater/Pages/ConsumerConfidenceReports.aspx>. They are titled "CCR Certification 2013" and "Kentucky Division of Water CCR E-Delivery Guidelines 2013." For more information, contact Natalie Bruner at 502-564-3410 or Natalie.Bruner@ky.gov.

Kentucky Wastewater Laboratory Certification Program

On March 14, the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) filed the much awaited "Kentucky Wastewater Laboratory Certification Program" regulations with the Legislative Research Commission. These draft regulations are the result of the 2011 General Assembly enactment of KRS 224.10-670, authorizing the Energy and Environment Cabinet to promulgate an administrative regulation establishing a wastewater laboratory certification program for laboratories that are responsible for providing data to the cabinet for the purpose of demonstrating compliance with wastewater discharge permits under the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

The purpose of the certification program is to determine that a laboratory has the necessary technical competence, facilities and equipment to perform the required laboratory analytical procedures. The certification program provides procedures for laboratories applying for certification, establishes laboratory certification fees and provides the appropriate methods and references for evaluating laboratory competence. The program will affect approximately 300 laboratories that perform wastewater testing services. According to the Fiscal Note prepared by DOW, this number includes 97 municipal wastewater treatment plants that perform their own wastewater laboratory analyses. This would include inorganic general chemistry; inorganic metals; organic chemistry volatiles; organic chemistry semi-volatiles; organic chemistry pesticides, herbicides, or PCBs; organic chemistry dioxins; microbiology; whole effluent toxicity and field analysis. Field analysis, as defined, includes the measuring of dissolved oxygen, residual chlorine, pH, temperature, conductivity, turbidity and/or flow.

While the initial comment period for this draft regulation closed April 30th and the regulation is still under review and moving through the regulatory approval process, you may visit <http://water.ky.gov/Pages/RegsInProcess.aspx> to review the initial proposal, the application for certification and technical manual.

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KWWOA State Board Treasurer Change



It is with great regret that KWWOA must announce the departure of Laurie Berry as KWWOA's State Board Treasurer. Laurie has held this position since 2009 and has done an admirable job, during a time when the organization undertook several major initiatives. Laurie has not only served as the Association's Treasurer, she was KWWOA's representative on Western Kentucky University's Water Training Institutes Advisory Board and a member of KWWOA's Technical Committee. If this was not enough, Laurie was always willing to assist, offering up her services at the KWWOA Conference, conducting training for the local Chapters and by contributing to the H2Outlook Newsletter. Laurie has committed a generous amount of personal time to KWWOA and we will forever be grateful for her contributions, particularly those over the last four years.

Laurie feels that her time playing in the creeks and streams as a child, fueled her passion for pollution prevention and is the reason she served 27 years in the wastewater business. While officially retired and heavily involved in her family's businesses, Laurie said that she plans to "continue to work in the water and wastewater industry using my experience and skills learned in my career to benefit and assist operators and water specialists in this field" as well as "continuing friendships with my operator family." Laurie has been and will continue to be an integral part of the KWWOA family. In and email to the KWWOA State Board, she offered "continued success to KWWOA and its mission of cleaner waters in KY through operator and water specialist education."

Tanya Andersen, an employee of the Frankfort Electric and Water Plant Board's (FEWPB) Distribution Division, has been appointed by the KWWOA State Board to serve as KWWOA's new Treasurer. We appreciate Tanya's willingness to serve in this capacity and FEWPB's continuous support of KWWOA.

As you can see, it takes many dedicated volunteers to run the KWWOA organization. If you are interested in contributing your skills and time to KWWOA in support of the operator community, contact Lisa Detherage at kwwoa@fewpb.net or by phone at 502-352-0510.

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Leveraging Today's Meter Reading Technology

By Scott W. Smith

Like many things, meter reading has evolved over the years as advances have been made in technology. The equipment that used to be considered a luxury, reserved for the largest utilities, is becoming more widely implemented by utilities of all sizes. Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) & Automated Meter Reading (AMR) provide the type of necessary information today's utilities require to properly manage system wide infrastructures, while advancing customer relations.

AMI, the more advanced meter data collection technology, typically differs from an AMR system by offering more data than just a monthly billing read. Typically AMI systems are referred to as fixed networks and AMR systems are considered mobile solutions. In the past, AMI systems consisted of a network designed to send meter readings directly to the utility office, through various backhaul options, eliminating the need to manually read meters. AMI systems haven't always been a good fit for every utility due to geography or customer density. However, there are now hybrid technologies available that allow deployment of a single AMI RF module (radio endpoint) that can be used in either fixed network or mobile modes. Utilizing this technology, AMI systems can be tailored to your specific geographic area & customer density to provide the same critical data whether collected via a network or mobile solution.



With meters equipped with the latest hybrid AMI technology, a utility can reap the benefits of a fixed network system at a much lower cost. This advanced metering infrastructure data has many benefits to the utility including: the empowerment of customer service representatives, reduction in necessary truck rolls, & continuous leak monitoring of the distribution system.

Empowering Service Representatives through Data-Logging

The growing customer demand for more information is met by data-logging or interval read data. This new technology is designed to capture the current meter reading as well as historical data that can be broken down daily or hourly. Mobile Drive-by data-logging provides the interval data necessary to reap many of the same benefits provided by a fixed network.

Most mobile based radio systems collect the current reading only and store data-logging information at the meter. Data is retrieved from the meter as needed on a case by case basis. Additional data isn't typically available unless a fixed network is deployed. The latest hybrid AMI modules available today offer not only the current reading but also collect data-logging while reading in a mobile environment. This data is gathered and returned with normal billing reads and is available in daily and/or hourly usage formats. With this AMI data on tap, the information empowers the CSR's and can be used to generate usage graphs on the spot to visually show consumption to a concerned customer.

Reduction in Necessary Truck Rolls through Data-Logging

The latest hybrid AMI modules are designed to gather the interval data on the front end, eliminating the need to make a special trip to the meter which has been standard protocol in the past. The current and historical daily consumption usage can be collected while driving posted speed limits and the data is then stored in the office making it available to the utility's customer service representative when handling a billing dispute. The historical readings can also be used to generate move-in and move-out readings without making a special trip to the meter. After a customer moves out, the utility can determine the final read out from the following months read history file. The bill is then generated and the utility has saved the time required to manually read the meter.



Identifying Unaccounted for Water with Synchronized Data-Logging

With the ability of the latest hybrid AMI modules to track time synchronized interval data, the utility can monitor the amount of unaccounted for water with the interval readings. The amount of water produced or purchased can be cross referenced with customer consumption data, during the same period, to determine the amount of system wide water loss. This same approach can be used with district metering by placing a radio endpoint on the master meter and comparing daily consumption with the total consumption on meters down the line.

Leak Sensor Technology

It's estimated that seven billion gallons of water goes unaccounted for every day in the US, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers. There are several products available to check the lines for leaks but very few designed to constantly monitor the system. The latest hybrid AMI modules offer leak monitoring technology consisting of an acoustic sensor designed to mount on the distribution side of the water meter. Once installed, the sensor samples the pipe conditions, stores collected leak/noise data, and transmits the results through the radio upon meter reading.



Utilities using this leak monitoring system can view a map of deployed sensors indicating those in good standing and those that have detected distribution line leaks. Detected leaks are ranked on size & probability. Utilities then use pinpointing equipment to find the exact location of the leak. Finding and repairing leaks is one of the fastest ways a utility can cut costs. With permanently installed real-time leak detection deployed, you take the guess work out of when to run another leak survey. It's a proactive approach with measureable benefits, as many leaks can go un-detected for years before they are recognized.

Compatibility

It is also important to recognize that metering technology and meter reading technology are two independent items. Many meter reading technologies on the market are meter agnostic and thus compatible with most brands available without a need to splice wires. In summary, choosing the right meter reading technology today can impact the flexibility and options you'll have tomorrow.

KWWOA 2013 TRAINING & EVENT SCHEDULE

Chapter	Date	Training Cost	Location of Training	Type of Training	Hours**
Central	August 14	Free-KWWOA Members \$50.00—Non-Members	Bowling Green Utilities Bowling Green, KY	Confined Space	6
Eastern	August 15	Free-KWWOA Members \$50.00—Non-Members	Morehead, KY	Confined Space Training	6
Central	Sept. 18-19	Free-KWWOA Members \$50.00—Non-Members	Barren River State Park Glasgow, KY	Fall Conference & Golf Scramble Water and Wastewater	12
North Central & Eastern	October 21-23	\$30.-KWWOA Members \$75.00—Non-Members	Four Points Sheraton Lexington, KY	Fall Conference & Exhibit Show Water & Wastewater	18
Central	December 6	Holiday Dinner Meeting	Mammoth Cave Natl. Park Mammoth Cave, KY	Holiday Dinner Meeting	N/A

*Periodically check the KWWOA website at www.kwwoa.org, as additional classes may be added for 2013.

** It is the intent of the KWWOA to solicit approval from the Division of Compliance Assistance and the Kentucky Boards of Certification for approval of the hours referenced above prior to the class. Once the hours have received Board approval, a notice will be posted on the KWWOA website with information on the particular class. If you need these hours for renewal purpose, you should inquire ahead of time as to whether this approval has been obtained.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Typically, most KWWOA events provide sponsorship opportunities for our Associate Members and Vendors. Set event sponsorships are posted on the KWWOA website (www.kwwoa.org) on the "Sponsor KWWOA" tab, approximately a month prior to the event and/or announced through the Chapter. Typically several options are offered, but the Chapters are willing to consider other opportunities that will benefit the operators we serve. If you would like to sponsor an event or purchase exhibit space, there will be individual product options from which you may select. Simply log into your account on the KWWOA website, make the purchase and note your intent to mail a check or process the payment via credit card.

If you would like to sponsor an event, but require an invoice to support the payment, simply make the purchase and note when checking out that you intend to pay by check. You may make a copy of the shopping cart order to serve as an invoice or contact Lisa Detherage at 502-352-0510, or via email at kwwoa@fewpb.net, and she will forward one to you.



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"Working Together to Preserve the Environment and Future of the
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Membership Application/Renewal Form

—Please check the appropriate boxes and print clearly—

You may file a membership application or determine which Chapter serves your area on the KWWOA website at www.kwwoa.org.

- ☐ - Western Chapter
 ☐ - Central Chapter
 ☐ - North Central Chapter
 ☐ - Eastern Chapter

☐ - New Member
 ☐ - Membership Renewal

Name: _____ If Certified, AI No. _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Employed By: _____

Business Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (Home) (_____) _____ - _____ (Business) (_____) _____ - _____

Email: (Home or Business) _____

Where would you like your KWWOA information sent? ☐ - Home ☐ - Business

How Would You Prefer To Receive KWWOA Training Announcements? ☐ - Email* ☐ - Regular Mail

(*Selection of the Email option will ensure that you receive KWWOA information more quickly.)

Active Membership ☐ - After February 28, 2013.....\$50.00

Active membership is designed for those who actually hold a valid water or wastewater license and/or who are employed in a water or wastewater utility. This includes pretreatment and/or lab technicians as well.

☐ **Honorary Membership**.....Free

Honorary membership is designed for those who are retired from the water or wastewater field and held an active membership in the KWWOA during the previous calendar year. There is no fee for Honorary membership.

☐ **KLA Membership**.....\$10.00

TOTAL _____

NOTE: Associate Members should not use this form as a separate Associate Membership Application Form exists.

Please make check payable to **KWWOA** and forward with the application to the address below. You may also elect to file your membership application online at www.kwwoa.org, and pay via credit/debit card or note your intent to mail a check.

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For information, comments or questions regarding KWWOA or this newsletter, contact:

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Recently moved, changed employer or email address? If so, be sure and log into your account on www.kwwoa.org, select the "edit" tab, to make and save the necessary changes. If you do not know your account login for the site, contact KWWOA.

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PLEASE CONTACT RANDY SHELLEY OR
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