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OAWU's mission is to provide service, support and solutions for Oregon water & wastewater utilities to meet the challenges of today & tomorrow.

Adapting Opportunity in Change

by Jason Green, Executive Director

Wanting to bring a little attention to this great Association with a brief update. OAWU staff seem to have great employment longevity. The OAWU Board of Directors takes pride in service and retention is often 20 years or more. Membership continues to remain steady with slow but sure growth, as does attendance at the five annual conferences and training sessions. Do you know that OAWU trained over 1,500 operators and managers last year? We also spent many hours at utilities with requests for and emergency responses from the eight full-time expert field staff. We take pride in what we do and value our membership and friendships all over this state! If you have not met us yet, give us a call or attend one of our many training sessions. You'll be glad you did.

Interested in being a Circuit Rider working in the field or a project manager or trainer? Or, do you want to give back and provide leadership to OAWU and our industry by serving on the board? Give us a call or email please. We are looking for qualified candidates and will be hiring for several positions! We would love to hear from you!

National Rural Water Association (NRWA) has been working hard in Washington DC, as have several OAWU staff and Association board members. Recently we were notified of two programs/positions funded through NRWA for Oregon with an additional Wastewater Circuit Rider and the Oregon Utility Apprenticeship Program. Heather Davis has been working in the front office at OAWU for many years coordinating training classes and CEU records and much more. She has taken the opportunity to manage this program for the Association as our Apprenticeship Coordinator. We are currently working through the policies, identifying classes and training goals necessary to be approved by the state, and will soon be contacting member systems and cities to work with us in this new and needed program! We are excited and looking forward to working with you in this area!

OAWU was also selected as a bid recipient by OHA-DWS to conduct part of a training class and assisting systems to identify, collect data about, and report regarding lead service lines. We should receive all the details and begin this work soon.

We owe a great deal to Harmony Burright, who diligently worked on HB 3321 and especially also to Representatives Owen, Helm, Evans, Marsh and Senator Smith who sponsored this bill. We also must thank the OAWU Board of Directors, staff, and the many members and groups who so quickly supported OAWU and lobbyist Mark Landauer. Though this bill was placed into two others that later passed, all original contents were retained. In summary, this is all about the importance of safe drinking water in Oregon and especially assisting the small water utilities and cites. We take pride in being the steward to carry out these such important tasks!

The primary points of interest are: construction of a training center at OAWU in Independence, providing a needs assessment/study for small systems with populations <3,001 and report directly to the legislative body, and employing a trainer and two technical assistant/circuit rider personnel to assist small systems in Oregon.

Wishing you a fantastic and meaningful summer! My best to you! ♦





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Let's talk solutions!

Summer

by Mike Collier, Deputy Director/Source Water Specialist

Summer is now upon us. My kids are out of school and their allergies are kicking. The grass is growing and there is much yard work to get done. For utilities, it is time to mow and get our projects done before the rain and short days come back. That is what summer usually is all about.

This summer, let's try to take a little time for ourselves—time with family and friends. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." This famous line has some truth to it. When we don't make time for ourselves and some relaxation it is easy to start going down the road of burn out. This usually makes people more tense and have a shorter fuse for our work and interactions with others.

So, remember this summer could be any of our last summers. The human body is amazing, but at any moment it could all be over. What keeps that heart ticking? If it stops, we are done, not to be morbid, just a reminder that any day could be the last and that we should remember to enjoy each one. Our jobs are great, and we really get to help people on a daily basis and provide for their essential needs, but our family and personal mental health is important too.

This summer, remember these things and the amazing blessings we have. Be sure to find a little time to pause, take a break, and enjoy what we have all been given. •









Perspective!

by Monty Norris, Wastewater Technician

Sometimes we think about parts of our lives like home chores, work issues, financial struggles, and even simpler things that give us grief. We get through them, get them done and squared away most the time without real difficulty. My wife and I attended a child abuse awareness event in our local community. This event takes place every April and was a good reminder that things can be, and for some, are much worse for others in the world. A lot of our problems exist due to our own decisions, but when you consider children and abuse, it is always placed upon them by others. What can we do? First let's look at some data.

There are four common types of abuse and neglect:

- **Physical abuse** is the intentional use of physical force that can result in physical injury. Examples include hitting, kicking, shaking, burning, or other shows of force against a child.
- **Sexual abuse** involves pressuring or forcing a child to engage in sexual acts. It includes behaviors such as fondling, penetration, and exposing a child to other sexual activities. Please see CDC's Preventing Child Sexual Abuse webpage for more information.
- **Emotional abuse** refers to behaviors that harm a child's self-worth or emotional well-being. Examples include name-calling, shaming, rejecting, withholding love, and threatening.
- **Neglect** is the failure to meet a child's basic physical and emotional needs. These needs include housing, food, clothing, education, access to medical care, and having feelings validated and appropriately responded to.

At least 1 in 7 children have experienced child abuse or neglect in the past year in the United States.

About 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 13 boys in the United States experience child sexual abuse.

Someone known and trusted by the child or child's family members, perpetrates 91% of child sexual abuse.

In 2020, 1,750 children died of abuse and neglect in the United States.

Experiencing child sexual abuse can affect how a person thinks, acts, and feels over a lifetime. This can result in short and long-term physical, mental, and behavioral health consequences.

Remember, we are just coming out of COVID-19 time and the closure of schools, libraries, and after school programs has hindered the ability to notice and report these abuses and the effects of COVID-19 will not be fully known for probably years to come.

Now, what can WE do?

The first step toward helping is to recognize signs of child abuse. Children often can't or won't speak up if their parents, caregivers, or third-party individuals are abusing them. They rely on you and others in the community to recognize when

something isn't right and to act upon the suspicions in order to help protect them.

Warning signs include:

- Physical signs present on the child.
- Behavioral signs or statements made by the child, or
- Behavioral signs or statements made by the parent or caregiver.

Any single sign may or may not mean that abuse is occurring. But observing any of these indicators — especially when more than one is present — should prompt you to think about what might be happening and report your concerns.

Oregon's children are relying on all of us in the community to observe, recognize and report concerns of child abuse.

Have you already taken the class for being a mandatory reporter? You may already be a mandatory reporter, but regardless of whether you are classified as a reporter or not you can benefit from taking the training on being a reporter and doing your due diligence in combating abuse and saving a child from abuse.

Who is a mandatory reporter?

Mandatory reporters are public and private professionals required by law to report suspected child abuse. Some examples of mandatory reporters include: medical practitioners, law enforcement personnel, employees of a public or private organization providing child-related services or activities, public and private school employees, and members of the clergy. The data and info have come from the State of Oregon, CDC, and child welfare.

This article will come out after child awareness month, but child awareness is year-round! Sometimes we need to be reminded of other people's struggles and abuses to realize our own problems are not that big after all. Stay strong and stay vigilant. •



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Being a Water or Wastewater Operator

by Keith Bedell, Wastewater Technician

What does it take to be a wastewater or water operator in a small town, or both. A lot of people get into the role of a utility worker and move up within the city's work force. There might be only two or three people, so you get to do a little bit of everything depending on the time of year. We are able to work outside, possibly learn how to operate equipment and many hands-on experiences with water, wastewater, and public works jobs. Having a good crew to work with, which could be just you and the public works director/supervisor, there is a good chance that we will know how a city or utility operates within a year or two, making us a great asset to our employer.

Some people are followers and others are leaders, this is just human nature. If we are a follower and can take instructions on how to do things, with limited responsibility, then we can fit in and enjoy the position. If we tend to lead and can also take instructions without questioning everything that is put to us, then we can go far as well. Being a leader doesn't mean that we have to take control of everything but are able to guide other workers with our knowledge and expertise while still being able to listen to suggestions from other people.

With smaller communities/utilities there will be more opportunities to learn how to operate equipment, from hand tools to heavy equipment such as skid steers and mini excavators. We will have to start with the basics such as operation of a shovel in the ditch while learning how to lay and bed water, sewer, and storm pipe. How to get the slope for the direction of flow for the gravity lines. Doing a hot tap for a water service using a tapping machine, depending on our location we might do a sewer service tap on asbestos concrete pipe correctly, so we don't inhale asbestos fibers. There are many hazards with any job and working for a city or utility has almost every kind of danger you could imagine, but with a good supervisor and safety program we learn the proper and safe way to fulfill the job. We have chemicals, equipment, confined spaces, electrical hazards, and other dangers that could physically harm us.

Working with the public and getting to know the people that we work for, citizens and rate payers, will give the satisfaction of contributing to the community. There is usually a little more flexibility giving the opportunity to see our families' sporting events and other school functions.

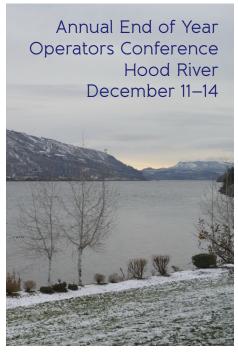
Some people enjoy working in large cities and doing the same thing day after day knowing that everything is scheduled out. With a small town we start on one thing in the morning and could be called out for a water leak or sewer backup, this makes the job interesting and usually helps prevent getting bored with the job. •

UPCOMING CONFERENCES









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Commercial Driving

by Tim Tice, Projects Manager

In February 2022 some of the biggest changes to the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration (FMCSA) to obtain a commercial driver's license (CDL) were confirmed and implemented. These changes initiated many conversations among our members and staff navigating the new rules and where to find support. The focus of the new rules was a change to mandated training for "Entry Level Driver Training" – EDLT for any new drivers. Those individuals who are looking to obtain a CDL for the first time, upgrading a CDL from Class B to class A, or adding an endorsement for the first time.

Speculation as to the actual time required to complete said training stemmed from 160 hours for both theory and behind-the-wheel (BTW) training to minimum hours if the individual trainee can show proficiency in both areas.

The theory training curriculum must cover topics that are required by FMCSA (from ODOT's website). They include:

- Basic Operations
- Safe Operating Procedures
- Advanced Operating Procedures
- Vehicle Systems and Malfunctions
- Non-driving Activities (Hours of Service)
- 30 individual topics are outlined in the above five points.
- BTW training curriculum focuses on:
- Actual operation of commercial motor vehicle
- Vehicle control skills
- Demonstrate basic maneuvers

Use of the driving range or public road is required—no simulators.

With the above points defined, the likely next step would be obtaining the appropriate curriculum and begin instructing the employees. A number of options are available, from on-line courses for purchase, commercial driving schools, local community colleges, to in-house curriculum. Costs vary depending on the path your utility chooses.

Clear Roads provides information regarding the ELDT program with brief videos explaining how to implement a ELDT program, all at https://clearroads.org/request-for-eldt-training-modules-form/. The information from Clear Roads is free.

Once the curriculum is established, registration with FMCSA's Training Provider Registry (mandated) allows an employee from the utility to conduct the training. This step self-certifies that all the required training is met through the employer-provided training. Once registered, the utility can track driver accomplishments toward obtaining a CDL. The State of Oregon DMV uses the registry to verify ELDT completion. ELDT completion is required prior to obtaining a commercial learner's permit (CLP).

To obtain the CLP a driver must pass the CDL general knowledge test, combination test (if applicable), air brake test (if applicable), and some additional paperwork.

The commercial skills test consists of a) pre-trip vehicle inspection, b) basic control skills – backing and c) on-road driving test. The majority of first-time test failures are related to the pre-trip inspection. When you believe you have thoroughly gone over the pre-trip checklist, do it again. Spend some additional time looking over various inspection lists found on the web.

Getting employees trained to operate equipment for the utility has multiple roads to travel with the cost diminishing as more steps are completed in-house.

- Send an employee to a CDL school, complete the required instruction, and obtain a license (Probably the most expensive)
- Do theory training virtually from a company, complete BTW training with a registered employee in-house, schedule with the DMV or a third-party CDL tester. Link below are third party testers https://www.oregon. gov/odot/DMV/Pages/Driverid/3rdpartytest.aspx (Less expensive, pending how much time an employee may need to become proficient)
- Do all training in-house using current employees who possess a valid CDL (If the utility is outfitted with enough personnel and equipment, the least expensive)

 Eliminate the need for CDL program by using outside contractors to perform the work (No CDL program means no cost, but additional expenses using contractors)

A challenge with in-house curriculum is establishing a test that will prove the training program is effective. Trainees must receive an overall score of at least 80 percent in order to get their permit, which may nudge a utility to use purchased video on-line courses. Most provide a testing score once completed.

The BTW training performed in-house would be the preferred method as crews become familiar with working around equipment. Utility work is a natural path for individuals as they grow in performing various tasks, one task may be getting equipment back and forth from a site. A utility will need an employee with a CDL to set up the BTW training. One oddity about the new program is the self-certification and the judgment call or assessment of each driver's performance by the lead employee.

This area will be subjective and only the highest level of competency should be certified. A ten-wheel dump truck pulling a large track hoe, when operated without keen understanding, can become deadly. A great many thanks to our members who have shared their findings related to the CDL licensing of employees.

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Thinking About Cyber Security

by Sam Waller, Circuit Rider

As our world becomes increasingly digitized, cyber security has become a significant concern across several industries. Water and Wastewater plants rely heavily on digital infrastructure to function, making them particularly vulnerable to cyber threats.

Drinking water plants are responsible for treating and distributing safe water to the community. These facilities operate using technologies such as Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems and programmable logic controllers that depend on the internet and interconnected networks. Most of the equipment that controls these systems are digital and many of these systems can be remotely operated or monitored from anywhere. Therefore, it is essential that these systems remain secure from cyber-attacks.

The potential consequences of a cyber breach targeting a drinking water plant are severe. A hacker could shut down the entire system, cause malfunction or tamper with the water supply. One example of an attack happened in 2021 where an attacker hacked in and released high amounts of sodium hydroxide into the water supply. A fast-thinking operator caught the attack and stopped it only 5 minutes into the attack, saving the day, but this is just one example of what can go wrong in a cyber-attack.

Besides the public health risks, a cyber-attack on a drinking water plant can have huge financial implications. In addition to the cost of repairing any damages and investigating potential breaches, there is also the possibility of lawsuits filed by affected individuals or organizations. Such an attack could cause damage to the local economy and have a ripple effect on local businesses.

To prevent such incidents, cyber security experts recommend securing the plant's systems through various measures. For instance, the facility can use firewalls to protect sensitive control systems from unauthorized internet access.

Given the critical infrastructure and sensitive nature of drinking water plants, it is of utmost importance that the elected officials provide adequate funding for cyber security within these facility protocols. Complex security measures come at a cost, and without funding, these security measures are impossible to implement. Aside from financial assistance, it is also necessary to ensure all employees undergo proper cyber security training. By improving the knowledge base of employees, skills development improves along with their ability to notice and report any security concerns or potential loopholes in digital infrastructure.

Recently, the EPA issued a memorandum guiding states to assess cyber security threats at public water systems during the sanitary survey. OHA-DWS is working on how to implement this change. Updates will come out in the ePipeline and on the OHA-DWS website. •



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It's the Dose that Makes the Poison

Heath Cokeley, Programs Manager/Circuit Rider

In '08 a man dumped poison in the water supply for a quarter of a million people. Imagine reading that as a headline...instantly all the images of what you could easily assume is a horrible individual poisoning so many people all at once. This was just not the case. While the first sentence of the article is loosely based on the truth, it leaves out some extremely important details. You see, the year was 1908 and the poison in question was chlorine. That little bit of extra information may change some of our perspectives from just reading that first sentence.

It is interesting to me, as I have studied this individual whose name was John Leal, how my perspective on what he did and how he did it has changed. The first time I heard the story of Mr. Leal it was suggested that he had this theory on how chlorine could kill bacteria in water, so he dosed the water supply with no one knowing. That just doesn't appear to be the case. Before putting chlorine in the water, he was already well aware that chlorine could kill bacteria. This was because John Leal was a trained physician who had been a Health Inspector and had a Health Office in the town of Paterson, New Jersey. During that time, they would frequently use chlorine to disinfect houses that had seen scarlet fever, diphtheria, and other diseases. He had studied chlorine extensively and researched instances where people had used chlorine to disinfect reservoirs and pipelines in England. He had conducted laboratory experiments, using chlorine to disinfect water starting in 1898 and had even consumed the water that had been disinfected himself.

Leal was one of the principal expert witnesses in two different trials which looked at the quality of the water supply in Jersey City, New Jersey that evaluated the safety of using chlorine in a public water supply. Ultimately, Leal would contract with George Fuller, who at the time, may have been the most widely respected sanitary engineer in the US. Fuller was contracted to build a chlorination system to chlorinate the water in Jersey City, New Jersey. This system would go into operation on September 26, 1908, making it the water supply with the longest continuous disinfection system.

It is apparent that Leal had a passion for public health, specifically clean drinking water. This passion likely stemmed in part from what happened to his father. Leal's father, who was also named John Leal, was a physician in the Civil War and had contracted amoebic dysentery, likely from contaminated drinking water, and this disease would ultimately take his life. Dysentery was such a common issue during the Civil War it is believed to be responsible for the deaths of 50,000 soldiers from both sides.

Shortly after Jersey City began chlorinating its drinking water, outbreaks of water borne diseases went down so dramatically that within 10 years, more than 1,000 cities across the US were chlorinating their water that served more than 33 million people. I would argue that the addition of chlorine to public water supplies has likely saved millions of lives over the years, and at least here in the US, it all started with a physician, turned Water Operator, named John Leal. I hope you have enjoyed this look back at a great early water operator and with that I will see you down the road. •





Survey Says?

by Hans Schroeder, Circuit Rider

Our email inboxes are inundated with surveys, questionnaires and "rate us" emails. "How was your service?" "How was your experience?" "Were your expectations met?"

We become numb to the surveys. They get the old "swipe delete" stroke usually before even reading the survey. Companies and businesses are always trying to better their services by receiving feedback from the consumer. The feedback is used to improve services.

With that being said...OAWU has sent out a questionnaire that is called a Similar System Survey. It is being used to compile data about service users, water used by both residential and businesses. This questionnaire's purpose is to assist systems acquire funding for future projects and to also help USDA-RD in comparing like systems with similar processes be it for water or wastewater treatment, groundwater, or surface water systems alike. Compiling this data will benefit communities throughout Oregon. See below for an example of how the questionnaire will look.

OAWU Circuit Riders are able to assist cities in preparing this Similar System Survey. A digital PDF is available from OAWU as well. Reach out to us if help is needed. •

Similar System Data Collec	tion Form (Rev. 8)	20)		United	d States Department of Agriculture	_
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What was completed?			What was com	pleted?		
Annual Water Operating Revenue (excluding wholesale)	(13)		Annual Sev Operating Re- (excluding who	venue	(20)	
Annual Revenue from Wholesale Water Sales, if applicable	(14)		Annual Revenu Wholesale Se Treatment, if ap	ewer	(21)	
Major System Needs:	(15)		Major System	Needs:	(22)	
Plans for Future Improvements:	(16)		Plans for Fu Improvement		(23)	
2. METERED USES: Provmonth period as above. Customer Class	# of Water Users (24)	Gallons of V		# of Sewe Users		
Total Users (excluding wholesale)	(24)	(25)		(30)	(31)	
Residential Users	(26)	(27)		(32)	(33)	
Wholesale Users (wholesale sales on a contract basis to another entity)	(28)	(29)		(34)	(35)	



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Emergency Response

by Scott Berry, Operations Manager

Part of my job over the past several years has been providing training for and working with small water system operators. One of the topics that keeps coming up is Emergency Response Plans (ERP) for the small systems in Oregon. It's true that some systems still lack this document, and it is frequently a significant deficiency noted during a Water System Survey. My goal is more focused on providing pertinent information to help draft a usable document that meets the small system operators needs during all phases of an event. Compliance with the rules requiring an ERP is a convenient side effect. Let's start with the specifics of the rule:

333-061-0064 (page 277 of current Oregon Administrative Rules)

Emergency Response Plan Requirements

Water suppliers must maintain an emergency response plan for every community and NTNC water system. Water system staff must be instructed and trained in the use of the plan and the plan must be accessible at all times to all water system staff for use during emergencies.

- (1) At community water systems serving 3,300 or fewer people and NTNC water systems, the emergency response plan must include procedures for reasonably anticipated emergencies.
- (a) These procedures must include but are not limited to: a plan for physical security measures, procedures to isolate all parts of the water system and procedures for emergency disinfection. There must also be a procedure for issuing a boil water or do not drink advisory to water system customers in the event of:
 - (A) Loss of electrical power;
 - (B) Loss of pressure in the water distribution system;
 - (C) Disruption or failure of disinfection or other treatment systems; or
 - (D) Detection of E. coli bacteria or another contaminant exceeding the MCL.
- (b) If computer networks or automated control systems operate or monitor processes at the water system, water suppliers must implement cybersecurity measures to prevent attacks on process controls including but not limited to: establishing a password policy based on current cybersecurity standards, creating a software update plan, monitoring for suspicious activity, and installing and updating antivirus or anti-malware software.
- (c) Water suppliers must have a procedure to coordinate with local emergency management agencies in the event of an emergency event that overwhelms the water system staff's ability to respond.

The rule continues with more information regarding Risk And Resiliency Assessments that are currently only required for community water systems serving greater than 3300 people.

Let's break this down a little bit, starting with part (1) of the rule that says you must develop plans for "procedures for reasonably anticipated emergencies."

I always start by looking at local history. What types of emergencies have befallen our area in the past? Have we experienced floods, ice storms, windstorms, wildfires, vandalism, etc.? What were the problems encountered as a result of those events? Power outages, loss of infrastructure, loss of adequate pressure in distribution, and other consequences of the disasters are all examples of things that may need to be specifically addressed in your emergency response plan.

There may be some things that need to be addressed even if they have not occurred in our area in the recent past and there are resources available to help figure out what types of events may happen in our location.

Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has compiled and plotted a list of possible hazards in their HazVu GIS mapping system. The HazVu map provides a way to view many different geohazards

in the state of Oregon. You can enter the address of your business or area to see what hazards might affect you. You can print the map you create and add it to your ERP. Geohazards include 100-year flooding, Cascadia subduction zone earthquake shaking and tsunami, coastal erosion, volcano, active faults, earthquake soft soil, landslide, and more.

Other guidance can be obtained at these sources:

- https://www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse/ develop-or-update-emergency-response-plan
- https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/ HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/DRINKINGWATER/ PREPAREDNESS/Pages/index.aspx

In the next issue of *H2Oregon* I'll dissect additional parts of the regulation and provide insight on what other resources are available to help you draft a comprehensive ERP. ◆



Poochie Throwing My Loop by Michael Johnson

In 1939 there was a young doctor in our home town. His name was Ellis Blair McGee. His dad had been the only doctor in town for years, and now his son would be joining the practice...but there was a little problem. The winds of war were blowing on the other side of the world—and the young Dr. McGee had an idea.

My father, Cork, was twenty years old at the time, and his sister had just joined Dr. McGee's practice as a nurse (where she would remain for 53 years.) Dr. McGee approached my dad and proposed the following, "Why don't you go enlist in the Army? If you will do that, I can request you as my medic. We can stay together and watch out for each other. Once we have served our year, we can have our military service out of the way, and come home." My dad thought that was a great idea. He would later say, "It took me five years in Europe with Dr. McGee to serve that year." But back to the story...

My dad traveled down to the recruiting office on that day he signed up. The recruiter took care of all the paperwork and the deal was sealed...or so everyone

thought. The next day, my dad shows up back at the recruiter's office.

"Forget something?" asked the recruiter. "I hope you are not going to try to back out. Bit too late for that."

"No, no," said my father. "Nothing like that. I just forgot something."

"And what would that be?" asked the recruiter.

"My dog," my dad said. "I forgot about my dog."

My dad said, "At that point, I will never forget that recruiter leaning back in his chair and saying, 'Oh, I bet this is really gonna be good.'

For the next ten minutes or so, my dad explained how his crazy idea wasn't quite so crazy after all. "He's a big dog. German Shepherd. Almost five now and has his full growth. My mother and I read in the paper that the army needs dogs for the K-9 Corps. So here's what I'm thinking," he said. "All these young people down there at the boot camp in Brownsville, Texas - they're gonna have to stay there six weeks. They will be homesick. They won't know anybody." (Now the recruiter is





Cork (left), Poochie, and a friend in 1940 at the Brownsville boot camp.

leaning forward.) "Poochie—that's his name, Poochie—would be a real morale booster. He's a friendly dog. You could let him go to boot camp with us. Some of my cousins are going with me. They all know Poochie. Now," my dad said beginning his conclusion, "...if you will let Poochie stay with us at boot camp, when we are done, my mother and I have agreed we will give Poochie to the K-9 Corps. Our only condition is that if the dog lives through the war, you send him home."

I guess nothing explains the magic of my father like what happened next. He said the recruiter stared at him for the longest time not saying anything. Then, he raised one finger as if to say, "Hold it a minute." He dialed a number—talked a while. He hung up and looked at my father again and grinned. "They are going to consider it."

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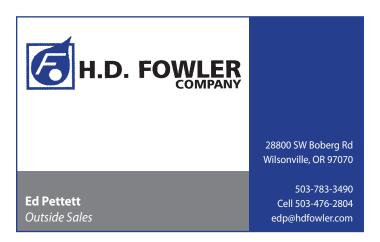
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Three days later, my grandmother and father were notified that Poochie would be going to Brownsville with my father and uncles. After six weeks, Poochie would be taken into the K-9 Corps with the promise that if he lived through the war, the dog would be sent home. Poochie became a member of the K-9 Corps and spent most of his time in Europe and...Poochie made it home. Four years older, but just fine.

My grandmother said she received two telegrams about Poochie's service during his time in Europe. He lived until he was 14.

My dad stayed at Dr. McGee's side for almost five years. After a couple of years back stateside, Dr. McGee would deliver his son...me. I grew up with my dad and uncles, Dr. McGee, and stories of Poochie.

No one was ever more fortunate.





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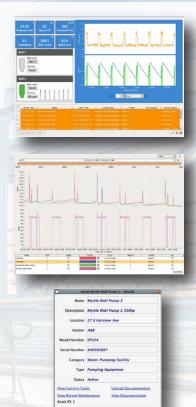
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August 8–9 August 9 August 10 August 10 August 21–24	Wastewater Treatment/Collections Certification Review Lock Out Tag Out Operations Confined Space Hazardous Communication Standard (Global Harmonization) 29th Annual Summer Classic Conference	Salem Bend Bend Bend Seaside	1.4 Wastewater/0.7 Water 0.3 Water/Wastewater/Onsite 0.3 Water/Wastewater/Onsite 0.3 Water/Wastewater 2.3 Water/Wastewater	4227 4397 4634 4193 TBA	Fee Fee Fee Fee
September 11–14 September 19	2023 Fall Operators Conference Distribution Basics	Florence Baker City	2.7 Water/Wastewater 0.6 Water	TBA 4117	Fee Fee
October 11	Distribution Basics	Lake Oswego	0.6 Water	4117	Fee
Oct. 31 – Nov. 2 November 8 November 28 November 29 November 29	Spirit Mountain Casino Operator's Conference – 2023 Confined Space & Job Site Safety Distribution Basics Developing Your Operations & Maintenance Manual Leak Detection	Grand Ronde Eagle Point Salem McMinnville McMinnville	2.0 Water/Wastewater 0.6 Water/Wastewater/Onsite 0.6 Water 0.4 Water/Wastewater/0.2 Onsite 0.2 Water/Wastewater	TBA 4331 4117 4116 4396	Fee Fee Fee Fee
December 11–14	25 th Annual End of Year Operators Conference	Hood River	2.7 Water/Wastewater	TBA	Fee

Levels 1-4 Water Operator Exams

Trained and certified operators are necessary to ensure that the systems are managed in a manner that fully protects public health and the environment. The OARs for certification stipulate that the qualifying experience for applicants for certification as a water treatment plant operator must attain at least half the required operating experience at a public water purification plant that uses complex filtration technology and is not more than one classification lower than the level of certification they are seeking. In other words, if you have only worked for a Class 2 treatment plant, we allow you to apply for a Level 3 certification but not a Level 4 certification. If you move on to a Class 3 plant, then you must have ½ the qualifying experience (at the Level 3 plant) before allowing to apply for a Level 4 certification. Reciprocity from state to state ensures that the operator have the operating experience for which they are certified.

For additional information, please visit http://public.health.oregon.gov/HealthyEnvironments/DrinkingWater/OperatorCertification/Levels1-4/Pages/exams.aspx

Drinking Water Data Online

https://yourwater.oregon.gov

Drinking Water Services

https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/DRINKINGWATER/Pages/index.aspx

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QUIZ CORNER

1. Trenches five feet deep or greater require a protective system unless the excavation is made entirely in stable rock. If the trench is fewer than five feet deep, a competent person may determine a protective system is not required.

A. True

B. False

- An incident investigation:
 - A. Is good for who to blame when an incident occurs
 - B. Should focus primarily on the behaviors of those were closest to an incident
 - C. Should focus primarily on the immediate cause of an
 - D. Can help an employer reduce factors that create unsafe conditions
- 3. Spoil piles should be kept back from the edge of the trench:
 - A. Not less than 1 foot

D. A distance equal to the depth of the trench

- B. Not less than 2 feet C. Not less than 6 feet
- A Job Hazard Analysis (JHA):
 - A. Is a technique that focuses on job tasks as a way to identify hazards
 - B. Focuses on the relationship between the worker, the task, tools, and environment
 - C. Will always prevent injuries
 - D. Both A and B
- The basic causes of accidents/incidents are:
 - A. Unsafe acts (personnel-related)
 - B. Unsafe conditions (substances and the environment)
 - C. Neither A or B
 - D. Both A and B

- 6. To be effective, corrective/preventive actions must:
 - A. Have acceptance by employees
 - B. Have acceptance by managers
 - C. Be effective in mitigating/controlling the hazard
 - D. All of the above
- 7. A near miss is an event that:
 - A. Causes an injury but not a death
 - B. Could have caused a serious incident but did not
 - C. Does not need to be investigated
 - D. Must be reported to OSHA
- 8. Trenches _____ feet deep or greater require a protective system unless the excavation is made entirely in stable rock.

A. 3

C. 5

B. 4

- D. 6
- 9. An approved means of safe egress must be available if the trench is ____ feet deep.

A. 3

C. 5

B. 4

D. 6

- 10. What are the potential hazards in excavation?
 - A. Collapse of the sides of the trench
 - B. Materials falling onto people working in the excavation
 - C. People and/or vehicles falling into the excavation
 - D. Undermining of nearby structures causing their collapse into the excavation
 - E. All of the above

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Cove, City of

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Fir View Water Company

Fishhawk Lake Recreation Club, Inc.

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Forest Park Mobile Village

Fossil, City of

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Grand Ronde Sanitary District

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Hunnell Hills Community Water System

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Idleway Improvement District, Inc.

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Indian Meadow Water Company

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Netarts Water District

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Paradise/Rogue Meadow WS Parkdale Water Company, Inc.

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Sunset Water Systems, Inc. Sunshine Village Water Association

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SW Lincoln County Water PUD

Sweet Home, City of Talent, City of Terrace Mobile Plaza

Terrebonne Domestic Water District

The Dalles, City of Three Rivers School District Tierra Del Mar Water Company

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