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We are also seeking articles, clean jokes, Oregon trivia, letters to the editor and interesting stories. Please send submissions (no more than two pages in length) to:

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*H*<sub>2</sub>*Oregon* is published for the Oregon Association of Water Utilities by

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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.

## Water Troubles — All Part of the Job

by Jason Green, Executive Director



Global Warming, Climate
Change, The Ice Age, mini ice
ages—their effects and/or connections—some claim these are the cause
to our current drought conditions.
Interestingly Global Warming claims
were news in the early 1900s. Today
Global Warming has seemingly
become Climate Change and to others
it is simply cyclic, normal patterns.

Water, it's what we do. Seems I read or hear something regarding climate and drought conditions several times each day. I recall during the last drought in the 90s (some believe the Oregon drought conditions and data from the 90s are comparable to today, and that the 70s drought was much worse), attending a drinking water drought seminar in Salem. We listened to the research presented, the warnings, and the plans to save water. About half way through the key speaker's presentation, the cameras were turned off. There was a tremendous racket—the horrendous noise originating from the auditorium roof had drowned out the speaker's voice over the audio system. It was rain—wet and cool, torrentially falling as it does in the tropics. The drought had ended—the rain was not expected in the forecast. Timely and somewhat amusing. We had a job, a duty, yet we knew the rains would come—this is Oregon. But, what if... next year? What if the rains do not come and the mountains lack snow pack? What if we go through another winter without at least an average precipitation and its

summer 2016 following on the heels of a 2015 drought?

This year, having attended a number of drought meetings, an EOC manager stated, "It's my job to worry and plan." I smiled at that. I could identify with him. Its what we also do in the utility business, maybe not as many varied scenarios, nor possibly every day, but we do it. My experience is water and wastewater managers, superintendents and public works directors do it pretty well too. We must contemplate and plan for the "what ifs" to be effective. Our utilities are designed and built for maximum flows, demands, consistent service in all conditions, and the future. Utility planning, operations and demands change given growth. seasons, regulations, etc. We also must prepare for emergencies and catastrophic events. Leadership, management and staff training, planning and policies help prepare and guide us. We are expected to be prepared and continue to provide services, even during challenging circumstances.

Interestingly, there is the occasional person who is surprised that utilities practice planning. Most utilities have done so for years. Maybe not exactly in the way some expect, possibly not as in-depth as we do today, but it was done. Greater attention and training directed towards management, operations and planning has proven beneficial and effective in the last several decades.

Politically, professionally, and monetarily—there are dangers in

questioning, innocently or otherwise, current mainstream belief trends or might I term, doctrine. It seems to be borderline heresy in these matters to question human error, assumptions, agendas or how data was obtained. Occasionally, we find some common ground, but obviously, opinions, research and science are polarized on many major issues. None-the-less, we do have a duty and an obligation to our customers and utilities. We must vet out and seek realistic, effective and affordable answers; plan for the future, emergencies, changes, growth, catastrophic events, and yes, drought conditions. And certainly, there are drought conditions that many states currently face, what ever the cause or influence.

There will be water troubles, challenges of some sort. Always has been, always will be and likely more serious and complicated in the future. A plan to address such issues as loss of source, drought or catastrophic occurrences is a solid management practice. This may be included within the Emergency Response Plan as part of the O&M Manual or the Water Management and Conservation Plan with various conservation triggers and steps. Some of the smallest systems have plans too, they have had them for years, just haven't gotten around to writing them down yet; some utilities may simply need to polish and update them. We know, when the well runs dry, it's too late for planning and all is reactive at that point.

There are a number of good practices to consider or implement regarding water conservation and source management. Some might include: a leak detection program; monitor the source—if you have wells, monitor static, drawdown, recovery and influences; consider impoundments, intakes, stream flows and pumping rates; review of water rights or permits, rule changes and legislative updates; neighboring utility inter-tie or emergency water deliveries; conduct a tabletop scenario as a practice for utility employees; public relations and informational flyers; extend or improve

already developed water sources or develop new sources; adopt a Water Management and Conservation Plan including authority and enforcement abilities; conduct a rate study to address conservation and revenues.

During the heat of the battle, it is often challenging for a utility to define what constitutes a drought condition and decide when to implement conservation measures. For some, defining and implementing drought measures are simple, for others the decision may be more complex and include the financial health or growth

of a city, politics or other considerations. When, why and how do we implement conservation measures? What are the social, business, growth and political climate conditions and demands and how will implementation of conservation measures affect. these? Generally, utilities are in the business to sell water. Selling water to meet revenue requirements is not necessarily as PC as is conservation. Local goals, management practices and philosophies vary as much as rates and structures and are all utility specific. What if we do not implement conservation practices? What are the liabilities and potential damages by not planning and acting? What if we are too late in properly managing our resources or making decisions and the well does run dry?

Awaiting the rains. Best wishes. •

#### **CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS**

Don't forget your CCR! Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) must be delivered to customers by July 1st. By rule, a copy of the CCR must also be submitted to Oregon Drinking Water Services (DWS) by July 1st.

Tired of mailing out your CCR? OAWU can host your CCR on our website!

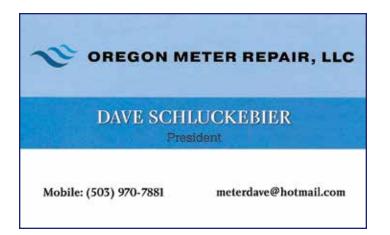
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## A Must Read

#### by Jeff Crowther, Wastewater Technician

Treatment plant staff are continuously striving to stay in touch with new treatment options and process information. Sometimes, however, we get so caught up in trying to stay on the cutting edge that we forget how important it is to read and understand our State issued permit.

As wastewater operators I feel we have an obligation to know certain information. It makes no difference if we are an operator in training - just beginning our career, or a State certified level four operator - conducting mostly management duties. This important information is contained in your NPDES or WPCF permit issued by the State. Too often the permit is only looked at to determine sampling locations, frequency, and permit limits. Many times this information is summarized in a sampling schedule that is placed in the laboratory for quick review. While these aspects are important, there is a lot of additional information in the permit that all certified operators should be aware of.

The permit covers much more than just permit parameters and testing frequency. Each permit is tailored specifically for an individual discharging facility. Do not expect that permits for different facilities and systems will be the same. Each permittee will negotiate a permit with the regulatory agency

that is specific to their treatment process, type of effluent discharges and receiving stream. Other factors that may influence the permit are the number of comments received regarding the permit and/or the political climate at the time of permit renewal.

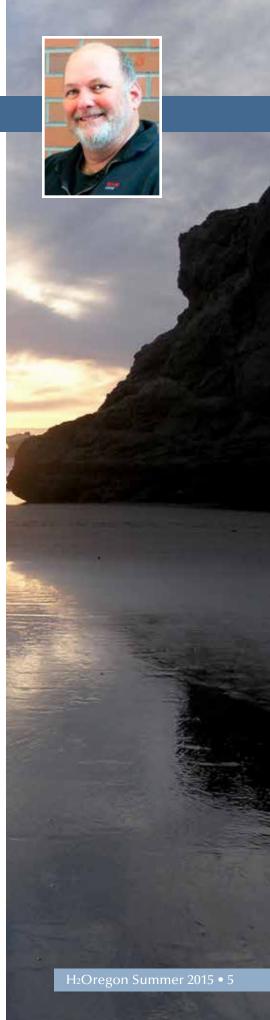
It is our responsibility as operators to read the permit and have a copy available to refer to when questions arise regarding discharge limits and report due dates. All operators should also review the permit for special compliance schedules. The permit may also require special testing in the third or fourth year of the permit in preparation for the issuance of a new permit. Don't wait until the end of the permit cycle to complete the testing. It is always best to have the data ahead of time so that it may be thoroughly reviewed and evaluated. It may also be beneficial to budget for special testing so the cost can be spread over time.

The next time you have some spare time or want to make some spare time, read your permit and make a copy for yourself. I find that if I make notes and highlight specific permit requirements, wording, and report frequency, it may jog my memory to submit the annual report. Whether you are the supervisor, operator, laboratory analyst, or operator in training, it is a team effort to stay in compliance with your permit. •

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

21st Annual Summer Classic Conference in Seaside ..........August 17–20 Small System Operators Conference in Florence .........November 2–5 17th Annual End of Year Conference in Hood River......December 7–10

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!





## Quantity and Quality

by Mike Collier, Source Water Specialist

There are two main functions of a water system: first, to ensure that there is water available to supply the needs of the people whom we are trying to serve and second, that the water we are providing is safe to drink (not necessarily in that order).

The quantity of the water that is available to us is mostly out of our control. We are reliant on the water right, or water permit that we have or are trying to obtain. The water right/ permit comes from the Oregon Water Resource Division. The quantity is also dependent on the natural characteristics of the local aquifer or surface water body. Sometimes if we have a limited supply we can find a system close to us that we may be able to purchase water from for our system's needs. Overall, this amount is pre-determined and is quantitative, there are only a few choices we can make as a water provider for the amount of water we have available to us and the amount of water we can sell.

Now it is a completely different story when it comes to the quality of our drinking water. The actual contaminants that are monitored by us, because of the Safe Drinking Water Act, are quantitative amounts determined by the EPA. However, there is much with promoting and encouraging the protection of our water quality that is not quantitative, but rather qualitative.

The initial protection of the quality of the water we serve is predetermined, it is based on the water that is available to us and what the water currently has in it. If it has something that is above the MCL that was established for that contaminant, then we must filter, or treat for the contaminant. We also must take steps to protect the water from microbiological contaminants. This is done through backflow prevention, proper screens, hatches, and other sanitary improvements.

What about future potential contaminants? What can we do about these? This is an area that gets a little murky. It takes a little more effort and research to nail down what any particular system should do in order to protect the water supply from future contamination. This is where source water protection comes in.

Source water protection looks at the aguifer characteristics and land uses near the source (well head or surface water intake) to determine if the source is susceptible to contamination. This part of source water protection can be found in the Source Water Assessments that are available at the state. The next step is to figure out ways that these potential contaminants can be stopped, or at least the likelihood of contamination reduced. This is usually completed through community educational programs and working with local landowners to promote the use of the Best Management Practices for the contaminants. These steps and programs can be outlined for your system in a Source Water Protection Plan.

Maybe it is time to consider developing a Source Water Protection Plan for your system. OAWU can help. Developing these plans is currently a free service OAWU can offer your system. Call OAWU so we can get a Source Water Protection Plan started for you today.

## Jeff Swanson Memorial Scholarship

Jeff Swanson passed away on July 4, 2009, from esophageal cancer. Mr. Swanson was an accomplished and passionate Circuit Rider and Programs Manager for ten years at OAWU. He was a great water operator, manager, troubleshooter, treatment plant operator, instructor and a great friend.

Jeff had a warm and memorable personality, exceptional integrity, personal character and work ethic.

It is to Jeff Swanson's memory that this scholarship is named; he believed that obtaining education was paramount to a person's success and encouraged people to obtain it.

As Jeff would often say regarding one's attitude and actions, "Choose to make it a great day!"

An application with further details is available on the OAWU home page at www.oawu.net. The scholarship is awarded at the Annual Management and Technical Conference in Sunriver.

Please submit application by December 3, 2015 to: OAWU Scholarship Committee, 935 N. Main St., Independence, OR 97351, Attn: Scholarship 2015. •





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## Droughts Can Happen

by Hans Schroeder, Circuit Rider

Headlines read: Community stricken by drought; City is forced to purchase water; Farmers are reluctant for harvest; Communities, Cities, Counties and States are looking for water supply alternatives; and County commissioners struggle between agriculture and city water needs.

As we read and listen to the news we tend to lend a deaf ear to continual tragedies on planet earth. It's like it becomes mundane, even common place. We are now experiencing the early warnings about our river, stream and well levels declining due to a below normal snow pack. In March and April I visited with many systems that were already experiencing lower levels of their surface water supplies.

Droughts occur when there has not been enough rainfall and the water levels get low. They can happen anywhere in the United States; droughts increase the risk of other hazards like wildfires, flash floods, landslides, agriculture and community water needs not being met. The water that exists today is the same water that existed since the beginning, that's why it is called a limited renewable resource. It's always on the move, traveling through the oceans, rivers, ground and atmosphere. The four factors in a drought are: lack of precipitation, lack of moisture in the soil, low levels of water in surface waters (lakes, streams, rivers, and reservoirs), and groundwater shortages. Droughts can have major impact on agriculture, recreation,

tourism, water supply, energy production, and transportation.

California, where drought regulations are set to be adopted, will be forcing the biggest water users, which include some of the wealthiest communities, to bear the brunt of the 25% cut in water consumption. If water providers can't get customers to conserve, they may resort to financial penalties. Some communities will be charging higher water rates to people who consume excessive water.

How can we help with water conservation? Most important is education; educating our users is key. Did you know water covers more than 80% of our earth and is found in oceans, lakes, rivers, glaciers and underground? Also, 97% of the earth's water is saltwater — which people and animals cannot drink and is not good for many plants. That leaves only 3% as freshwater and most of that freshwater is stored as ice.

There are many options community leaders can try in order to educate users to help make sure there's enough water for the things we really need. Such as, conserve water by taking short showers, not baths, showers use less water. Don't let the water run when you brush your teeth, wash your hands, or do the dishes. When washing your car, utilize a car wash, most of them recycle the water. You may not have the shiniest car this summer, but you will be able to drink a glass of water.

Oregon Association of Water Utilities

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Take a break from using outdoor water toys, conserve on your outside watering and most importantly, water during evening hours when evaporation is at its lowest and use timers!

Communities don't like to, but if the need is there, they can put in place the dreaded water restrictions. If your community has never had to go through one you should feel fortunate. Each and every one of us will see the effects of the drought in one way or another, in our grocery stores and pocketbooks. Be aware of a treasured resource we have... WATER!



Record drought in California will affect communities and utilities far beyond the state's borders.



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## Water Rationing

by Heath Cokeley, Programs Manager/Circuit Rider

I know the title of this article is not a fun topic for many systems, but with that, said it begs the question: What are you going to do when your water intake in May looks worse than it does most years in August?

Given our snow pack this year, or lack thereof, many surface water systems are facing this question. Of course this is not just a surface water dilemma. Do you monitor the water levels in your wells? How far down can you draw the aquifer before having issues? What will you do if you lose a motor?

I go back to the old saying of Benjamin Franklin: "When the Well is dry, we know the Worth of Water." Hopefully, for those of us in this industry, that is not true and we understand, not only the worth, but the vital need to protect this precious resource. Part of that protection is, of course, prevention. Making sure the intake is clean and all the pumps are in good working order, but what will you do if, for whatever reason, you cannot get enough water to your system for normal day to day operations? This is when the seven "P"s come into play:

Proper Planning and Preparation Prevents Piss Poor Performance.

So it's time to pull out your Water Management and Conservation Plans, if you have them, or whatever policies you have in place to curtail the amount of water customers can use and dust them off in order to be ready to implement them if need be. If you don't have any plan to address this type of situation then start one.

These plans can be as simple as identifying the most important uses for water. For most systems the number one use is going to be household usage, then figure out what can be cut back or eliminated. Can you have your customers stop washing



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cars or only water lawns on Monday/ Wednesday for even number addresses and Tuesday/Thursday for odd number addresses?

Whatever order you do this in is up to you and should be based on your system's specific needs. Just remember to keep the plan as simple as possible. If you are going to assess fines for people who do not follow the rules, set them and make sure the information they need is available early.

The conversation about water rationing with your board and your community will not be a fun one. I can almost guarantee that you will

have people angry about the idea, being told how and when they can use a product they are paying for, but having that conversation early and often, before you get into an event, will help everyone be on the same page when it is needed.

I truly hope that I am just crying wolf with this article and, if nothing more, this gives you the opportunity to make sure your plans for water curtailment still makes sense for your community and is easy to implement. Unfortunately, given the current state of water in Oregon, I believe this year is shaping up to be a tough one on

systems. So have a plan in place, make sure you, your staff and your board can support that plan. Then hope that the plan ends up sitting on a shelf gathering dust like so many of the other plans we as water and wastewater operators are required to write, but if you need it, it will be there.

As always, if something does happen or you have any questions, don't hesitate to call one of your OAWU Circuit Riders. We have been in your shoes and even if we don't have an answer to your question we may know where to find it and with that I will see you down the road. •









## Uncertainty into Surety

by Tim Tice, Projects Manager

For most of us reading and understanding any rules or statutes can seem confusing, especially when we do not live and breathe the particular subject. Many times, either in a game of horseshoes or cribbage, the interpretation of the rules leads to a short discussion prior to play.

Revisions to the 1989 Total Coliform Rule (TCR) will go into effect in April 2016, when both primacy agencies and public water systems (PWS) must comply with the revised requirements.

Total coliforms are a group of closely related bacteria that are (with few exceptions) not harmful to humans. Their measurement serves as an "indicator" to other pathogens that may be in drinking water, they are simply one measurement showing the quality of the water. Health problems associated with these pathogens include diarrhea, cramps, nausea and vomiting.

Unless the State of Oregon determines an earlier date, all PWS must comply by April 1, 2016. This includes: 1) Community water systems (cities, towns, mobile home parks) 2) Non-Transient Non-Community water systems (schools/work sites) and 3) Transient Non-Community water systems (parks, restaurants and campgrounds).

Some key elements of the Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) are as follows:

- Monitor for both total coliforms and E. coli (EC) in the distribution system. The results are used as indicators to the integrity of the water system and potential presence of fecal contamination.
- If monitoring results indicate the system might be susceptible to contamination (multiple positive results of TC or E. coli), the water system must conduct an assessment and determine sanitary defects.
- Another cause of positive results might be with incorrect sampling procedures.

Many times a positive TC test result is found and there is no reason for the positive result determined, this can begin to create a "cry wolf" scenario. Emphasis should be placed on the sampling procedures to assure proper techniques are used.

The RTCR establishes new criteria for TC positive results dependent upon the number of occurrences, which will require an assessment of the water system. Two levels of assessment have been established.

- Level 1 shall be conducted by the PWS
- Level 2 will be conducted by the State or partnering agency.

Triggers for an assessment are: 1) MCL violation, and 2) failure to take repeat samples when a positive TC occurs. During the assessment

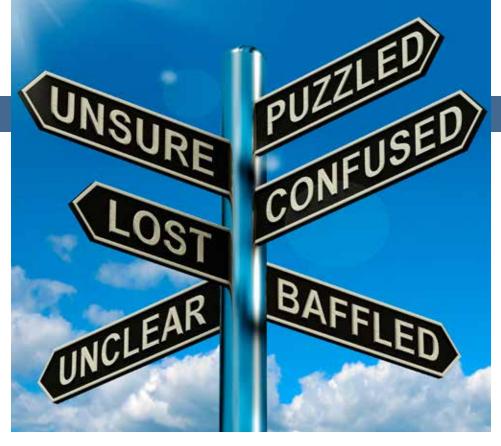
if sanitary defects are found, they must be corrected within a required timeframe.

Monitoring and sampling stay relatively the same under the RTCR, with a few minor exceptions, such as three repeat samples reduced from four for PWS serving < 1,000 for each TC positive sample, and one sample shall be from the source(s). This keeps in line with the Groundwater Rule.

Quarterly / Annual TC routine sampling plans must collect repeat samples (at least 3) the following month of a TC positive routine or repeat sample.

Seasonal systems must monitor and certify the completion of state-approved start-up procedures. Speak with your State or County sanitarian about changes in the start-up procedures prior to certification.

The biggest change with the RTCR is that there will no longer be a public notification required for TC positive samples, which currently are a Tier 2 notification. Only if the sample is determined EC positive, shall there be public notification and it will be a Tier 1 notice. Failure to take repeat samples after an EC positive will result in an MCL violation and Tier 1 notification. Along with notifying the consumer, the State must also be notified.



If a TC positive is discovered, the PWS will be required to perform a level 1 assessment and corrective actions based on the findings of the assessment. This is the substitute step in place of requiring a public notification. If the PWS fails to perform the level 1 assessment and corrective actions, then a tier 2 public notice is required.

It is believed that most of us want to provide good clean drinking water. And a second belief is, "when the water goes bad, we want to make it good. We can begin using several steps.

- Ensure your sampling procedures are adequate so a bad sample is not incidentally caused.
- Understand the rule(s) if and when we fall out of compliance.
- Make sure sample locations are representative of the distribution system.

 Make sure the sample taps are of good design and selection.

When it comes to understanding the rules it is a good practice to read them often and stay up to date with any changes. The RTCR is a change that will take place in April 2016.

When multiple generations of cribbage players from within my family get together to play, once in a while someone goes off track and swears to a new rule or a variation to an established rule. With twelve months to review and familiarize yourself with the rule, take time to contact someone on our staff or your local sanitarian to assure, next April, the compliance bar is met.

The best of that life has to offer!

—Mr. OpTIMist



## The Theory of Evolution

by Scott Berry, Operations Manager

Since the industrial revolution began, scientists have been trying to solve a deadly puzzle: ships are a leading cause of mortality for the endangered marine mammals. Why can't highly intelligent blue whales avoid deadly collisions with these ships?

At more than 100 feet long and 320,000 pounds, blue whales are the largest animals that have ever lived and for 30 million years they've never had to move out of anything's way! They have never before been compelled to evolve. For millennia, they have continued doing just as they have always done. They have done it well and are a credit to their species. Even with the most robust species there are times when change is needed, not that there was anything wrong with the way they have been living, just that it is possible that things could improve.

It's time for progress, it is in this spirit that we at OAWU are venturing out of our traditional feeding grounds. For the past 7 years, Tim Tice, our Projects Manager has been providing services such as rate studies, Water Management and Conservation Plans, and other written studies. He has done very high quality work and has made a positive impact on the industry as a whole and looks forward to assisting you with whatever your utility needs in the future.

With my departure from the Circuit Rider position and some internal restructuring we have made it possible to put a much higher level of focus on Contract Operations and services. We will be providing professionalism and a high level of service to utilities at a very competitive price and we bring a wealth of experience and, as always, we operate in the best interest of the utility. We will be actively seeking out new contract operations projects and look forward to hearing from you.

Additionally, we will be providing construction services such as hydroexcavation, installation of appurtenances, pipeline construction and other maintenance activities.

Heath Cokeley, in his new position as Programs Manager and Circuit Rider, as well as our other Circuit Riders, Training Specialist, and Source Water Specialist, will continue to provide training, troubleshooting, and other services at no cost to utilities.

We look forward to a continued and expanded relationship with the utilities in Oregon and to continue our tradition of providing services that have a positive effect on the industry as a whole. •



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Name preferred for name badge							
Water Op. Cert. #/_		Wastewater O	p. Cer	t.#_		/	
System / Company							
System Address							
City					7in		
System Phone							
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<b>Pre-Conference (Monday</b>	)						
Course						Fee	Attending?
Small Water System Training Course (0.6 V	/ater CEUs)		System	ı ID i	‡41- <u> </u>	_ FREE	
Effective Utility Management (0.6 W/WW	CEUs)					FREE	
Conference Registration  OAWU Member  Non-Member (non-members receive a one-year individual membership with conference registration)  TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE				Subtotal			
				10	TAL REGIS	I KATION FEES	
Additional Meals for spouses or guests Quantity					Fee	Subtotal	
Tuesday Evening BBQ						\$20	
Tuesday Lunch				TO	TAL ADDIT	\$20 IONAL MEALS	
				10	IAL ADDIT	IONAL MEALS	
Wednesday Golf Scramble Registra	tion				Quantity	Fee	Subtotal
Golf Players (up to 4):						\$75 per	
Name:						player (includes	
Name:	Name:					lunch)	
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		то	TAL	CC	NFERE	NCE FEES	
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If paying by credit card, please call	the OAWU office for	or processing and re	eceipt.				



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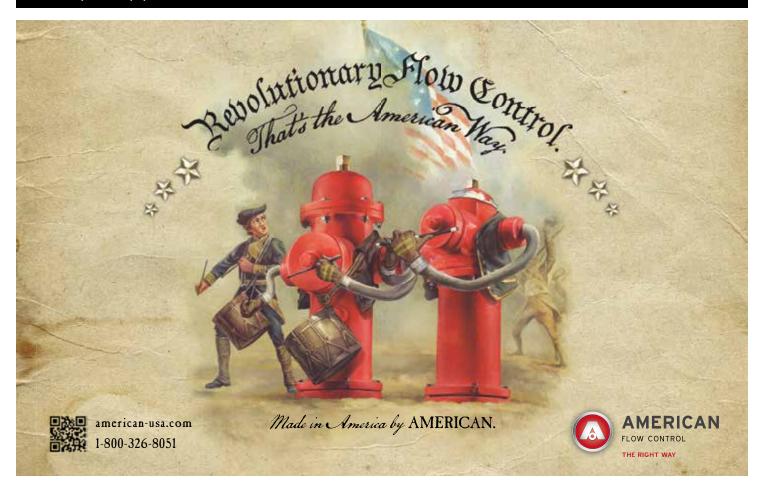




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## Water Tanks and Severe Weather

Severe weather can be devastating, and according to numerous weather sources is occurring more frequently and widespread. Tornadoes are now occurring anywhere from the Rockies to the east coast. Currently, the southern pacific coast is experiencing a severe drought, many areas in the east coast are flooded, and thousands of people were killed in the Nepal earthquake.

Severe weather does not discriminate and it can damage or destroy everything in its path including water tanks. Necessary water supply for consumption, fire protection, and emergency needs is crucial to everyday well-being, and even more when a severe weather event occurs. Therefore, water tanks should be

designed, constructed, maintained, and inspected to withstand severe weather.

Tanks that have experienced winter storms and freezing should obviously be inspected for damage, but seismic activity, high winds, lightening, droughts, and flooding also occur in the summer months and tanks are susceptible to damage from them as well.

#### **High Winds/Lightning Strikes**

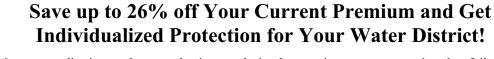
National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) states, "Anchor bolts shall be arranged to securely engage a weight at least equal to the net uplift when the tank is empty and the wind is blowing from any direction." Lightweight tanks definitely

need to be anchored against high winds in areas that experience them, and elevated water tanks should have their windage rods inspected and tightened regularly to maintain winds of 150 mph, blowing from any direction.

Tanks not grounded are subject to lightening damage. Lightning strikes could cause power outages that could affect the ability to receive water. Water pumps and alarms could malfunction, or a complete tank failure could occur. NFPA 780 states, "Tanks shall be grounded to conduct away the current of direct strokes and the buildup and potential that cause sparks to ground."<sup>2</sup>



Rex Lesueur, Licensed Agent & Consultant, National Speaker & Author



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#### by Erika Henderson, Pittsburg Tank & Tower Group

#### **Drought/Flooding**

When a drought occurs, aggressive water conservation measures are often taken; but tanks still need to be inspected and cleaned. To conserve precious water, Robotic Operated Vehicles (ROVs) can be used to inspect and clean tanks without draining them, thus saving the water.

Foundation damage can easily occur if tanks are subjected to flooding for prolonged periods. Tank sites should have good drainage to minimize or prevent possible foundation damage from flooding. The site design should also include provisions for draining the tank and the discharge from the tank overflow without damaging the tank site or neighboring properties.

#### **Seismic Activity**

Tanks are designed and constructed for resisting earthquake damage by complying with the earthquake design load provisions of American Water Works Association (AWWA), in accordance with its Seismic Use Group (SUG) and site class. The SUG is a classification assigned to a tank based on its intended use and expected performance; Tanks that serve multiple facilities use the highest SUG. Site class accounts for the effect of local soil conditions on the ground motion and are based on the soil present and their engineering properties as established by a geotechnical investigation. The SUG and site class help determine the appropriate freeboard and the number of anchor bolts needed. Freeboard is the distance from the Maximum Operating Level



(MOL) to the lowest level of the roof framing and is determined by the sloshing wave height that could occur.<sup>3</sup> Freeboard is taken into consideration to prevent a tank from overturning or causing roof damage due to sloshing.

The design of the piping system connected to the tank should consider the effects of foundation movements and potential movement of the connection points during earthquakes. Sufficient flexibility should be provided to avoid release of the tank contents due to failure of the piping system. The piping system and supports shall be designed so as not to impart significant mechanical loading on the attachments of the tank. Mechanical devices that add flexibility, such as bellows, expansion joints, and other flexible apparatus, may be used when designed for the seismic displacements and defined operating pressure.<sup>3</sup>

#### What to Look For

Water tanks should be inspected regularly for proper working order and stability before severe weather hits. Overhead obstructions, trees

and overgrowth that could puncture or damage a tank during severe weather should be removed, and operators should routinely look for foundation, wind, and earthquake damage. Such damage on towersupported tanks may be indicated by cracked coating or welds at the tower connections; broken, bent, or sagging rods; buckled struts; dented or twisted columns; or missing or loose rod pins. If any of these conditions are observed, the tank should be professionally inspected. In addition, tanks in areas at high risk for wind or earthquake damage should be inspected more frequently than tanks in low risk areas.4

#### References

- 1. National Fire Protection Association, NFPA-22 Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection. 2013
- 2. National Fire Protection Association, NFPA-780 Standard for the Installation of Lightning Protection Systems. 2014.
- 3. American Water Works Association, D100-11 Welded Carbon Steel Tanks for Water Storage. 2011.
- 4. American Water Works Association, M42 Steel Water Storage Tanks. 2013.

Oregon Association of Water Utilities

## The Three R's: Recycling, Repairing,

While working with a \$48,000 budget for a new 2015 Ford F450 utility 4x4 truck we at the Corbett Water District came upon the realization that the truck and utility box would use every penny in our vehicle budget.

We did some internal checking on each of our old existing work vehicles and with our water operator, Hans Rathjen, who is also our main mechanic. He found that the new Ford F450 frame was the same size as our existing 2000 Ford F550 and 1990 Ford F350. We decided to install the old utility box from the 2000 Ford F550 onto the new 2015 cab chassis. Recycling this utility box saved the District over \$10,000.

We then thought about what to do with the 2000 F550 cab and chassis since the bid we received from a dealership was too low. We decided to pull our 1-yard dump truck body from the 1990 F350 Ford which had a hard time carrying a full load of rock and install it onto the diesel 2000 F550.

The F550 bench seat frame was worn out and hurt the backs of the operators. We checked into getting the old seat frame welded and repaired, however this was not cost-effective—so we researched and found a set of leather XLT Lariat bucket seats with a center console from a much newer Ford truck.

We also wired in electric seat motors for easier seat adjustment.

Our 1990 F350 had only 32,000 original miles on it and we deemed that it still had many more years as a work truck for the District, so we followed up on a Craigslist add for a flatbed frame. After purchasing it for only \$200, we cut, welded, sandblasted, painted, and replaced the wood deck on the frame. This gave it a new life as a flatbed with a hoist, and a section was cut out of the side in order to carry the jumping jack for use during our projects.



## and Refurbishing In-House Corbett Water District







We were on a roll. We had also budgeted for the replacement of the wooden deck on our 12-ton trailer, which we use for transporting our John Deere backhoe. When we pulled the old boards off, we decided to sandblast it and give the trailer a fresh coat of shiny red paint and new safety reflector tape on the sides, along with replacing three worn out tires. This made the trailer look like new.

The District crew of Jeff Busto, Hans Rathjen, and I did the sanding, welding, fabricating, painting, wiring and installed the different beds on each of the new respective frames.

With the money we saved on the utility box recycle project, we were able to upgrade the 1990 to a flatbed, the 2000 to a 1-yard dump truck, the 2015 to have a utility box, upgrade the 12-ton trailer with a fresh paint job and have a fleet that the entire crew takes great pride in.

We set the extra funds aside for Capital Improvement projects in the future. ♦



## System O&M Manuals Required

Have you completed your state-required Operations & Maintenance Manual?

Oregon Association of Water Utilities has prepared a full day class to assist operators in outlining an operations and maintenance manual per the Oregon Administrative Rule 333-061-0065 which requires each water system to develop an operations and maintenance manual.

This class will assist the water and wastewater system operator in outlining the specific points in developing the draft of the O&M manual. Step by step, each attendee will create their draft as it relates to their utility system during class. The e-file may then be completed back at the system office.

Class cost is \$155, or if you are unable to attend a class you may purchase a thumb drive with e-files for \$155. To sign up for the class, or to have a thumb drive mailed to you, contact your Association for further information. •







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## QUIZ CORNER

1. A test in wastewater to check for pipe 6. About 47% of the human body is deflection in plastic pipe?

A. Air

C. Mandrel

B. Water

D. All of the above

2. What causes water to move through pores in soil and rocks?

A. Temperature C. Barometric pressure

B. Viscosity

D. Gravity

- 3. What is a commonly used indicator of possible health problems found in plants, soil, water and the intestines of humans and warm-blooded animals?
  - A. Viruses
  - B. Coliform bacteria
  - C. Intestinal parasites
  - D. Pathogenic organisms
- 4. Water is the only substance on Earth that naturally occurs in three forms (solid, liquid, and gas).

A. True

B. False

5. More than 90% of the Earth's water is frozen or salty.

A. True

B. False

made of water.

A. True

B. False

- 7. Carbon Dioxide in water will
  - A. Decrease turbidity
  - B. Decrease algae growth
  - C. Lower pH
  - D. Increase pH
- 8. What is the major limitation to the use of ozone as a disinfectant?
  - A. Ozone leaves to much of a residual in the distribution system.
  - B. Ozone leaves to little of a residual in the distribution system.
  - C. The inability of ozone to provide a residual in the distribution system.
  - D. Ozone is expensive to capture in the atmosphere and bring back to earth.
- 9. What is Giardia lamblia?

A. parasite

C. virus

B. bacterium

D. enzyme

- 10. Which of the following is not a disinfection byproduct?
  - A. Haloacetic Acids
  - B. Bromate
  - C. Chlorite
  - D. Chlorine dioxide
- 11. When lashing two poles together, most starting knots are clove hitches. What is the starting knot when tying a "diagonal lashing"?
  - A. Double clove hitch
  - B. Clove hitch
  - C. Timberline hitch
  - D. Taut-line hitch
- 12. What knot is (was) believed to have healing powers?
  - A. Fireman's coil C. Constrictor knot
  - B. Square knot D. Water knot
- 13. Pi (3.14) was discovered as a relationship between the circumference and what part of the circle?

A. Tangent

C. Diameter

B. Area

D. Sector

A, 11-C, 12-B, 13-C 1-D' 5-D' 3-B' 4-Y' 2-Y' 9-B' 2-C' 8-C' 6-Y' 10-**VASWERS** 











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## OREGON ASSOCIATION OF WATER UTILITIES 2015 TRAINING & EVENTS SCHEDULE

Date	Class Title	Location	CEU Information	ESAC#, F	ee/Free
August 4	Disinfection Options for Water & Wastewater	Salem	0.4 Water/Wastewater	2888	Fee
August 4	Water Operator's Toolbox	Pendleton	0.4 Water	TBA	Fee
August 5	SDWA Update	Brooks	0.4 Water	2887	FREE
August 6	Water Wells 101	St. Paul/McMinnville	0.4 Water	TBA	Fee
August 17	Effective Utility Management	Seaside	0.6 Water/Wastewater	3010	FREE
August 17-20	21 <sup>st</sup> Annual Summer Classic	Seaside	1.7 Water/Wastewater	3010	Fee
August 25-26	Water (WT/WD) Certification Review	Bend	1.4 Water/0.7 Wastewater	r 2787	Fee
September 2-3	Wastewater (WWT/WWC) Certification Review	Salem	1.4 Wastewater	2882	Fee
September 9	Developing Your O&M Manual	Florence	0.6 Water/Wastewater	2780	Fee
September 16-17	Water (WT/WD) Certification Review	Salem	1.4 Water/0.7 Wastewater	r 2787	Fee
September 17	Wastewater Treatment & Labs	Newberg	0.4 Wastewater	2883	Fee
September 23	Water & Wastewater Field Operations & Safety	Salem	0.6 Water/Wastewater	2944	Fee
September 24	Developing Your O&M Manual	Salem	0.6 Water/Wastewater	2780	Fee
October 6	Water Rights & Other Legal Issues	Springfield	0.4 Water	2717	FREE
October 6	Wastewater Law 101	Springfield	0.2 Wastewater	2893	FREE
October 21	Math for Operators	Independence	0.4 Water/Wastewater	2885	FREE
October 28	Preparing for Your Water System Survey	Eugene	0.4 Water	2881	FREE
November 2-5	Small System Operators Conference	Florence	2.0 Water/Wastewater	TBA	Fee
November 12	Lagoons	Madras	0.4 Wastewater	TBA	Fee
November 17	SDWA Update	Bend	0.4 Water	2887	FREE
November 18	Confined Space & Jobsite Safety	Independence	0.6 Water/Wastewater	2886	Fee
December 7	Effective Utility Management	Hood River	0.6 Water/Wastewater	ТВА	FREE
December 7-10	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual End of Year Conference	<b>Hood River</b>	2.0 Water/1.4 Wastewater	r TBA	Fee

#### Levels 1-4 Water Operator Exams

Trained and certified operators are necessary to ensure that 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 applying for a Level 4 certification. Reciprocity from state to state ensures that the operator has 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

#### More Resources

Drinking Water Data Online https://yourwater.oregon.gov

Center for Health Protection http://public.health.oregon.gov/PHD/Directory/Pages/Program.aspx?pid=4 http://public.health.oregon.gov/PHD/Directory/Pages/Program.aspx?pid=58

#### State Wastewater Exam Dates

All categories: http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/opcert/stpoperexamsqry.asp (2015 dates have not been announced)
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For additional wastewater exam information, visit http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/opcert/opcert.htm

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Training class dates, class topic and/or locations may be subject to change as needed.

For more information on any class by OAWU, please contact the office at 503-837-1212, office@oawu.net or visit www.oawu.net.

## The Lost Sheep Throwing My Loop by Michael Johnson

Always fascinated me—that story about the lost sheep. Remember now, I'm not a religious nut. I'm not even very high up...after all, Sherry and I are just Methodists.

But the other day, the story came home. I loved that story when I was young—and it confused me. I remember at age ten or eleven asking my mother about it. "I don't understand this," I said. "Would daddy and all the men leave the herd to find the one?"

"It's a story about God's love for us," she said. "He loves us as much as all the rest—and yes, your daddy and uncles would look for the one until they found it. We're all like that. That's in all of us."

Sherry was gone to see the grandkids in Colorado. Rowdy and I were batchin' and cooking, and after feeding the roping steers, we relaxed on the porch before dinner. Twenty minutes later, the steers were lying peacefully, horses munching grass...and a biological miracle occurred. One of the steers came up off the ground with a baby calf by her side. (My friend, Kenneth Colson, says,

"Michael never knows if he has a bull, steer, or a heifer... he just ropes them.") Well, all that was just wonderful. Everybody was so interested in the new baby—particularly the horses. We shooed them away, and watched the momma take her baby to a safe place. That was the last time I saw him for six days. I began to torment myself.

No one suffers from the "Lost Sheep Syndrome" more than me. I began to beat myself up unmercifully. "You idiot! Any fool would have known to put that momma and baby in the arena for a few days. What if she doesn't take him—doesn't let him nurse? You could have saved him because surely he is dead." Couldn't sleep. Couldn't eat. Sick. On day three, Rowdy and I began to look for him. The Rowdy Cow Dog and I scoured every inch of our fifty acres with a fine-toothed comb. No baby. The mother ate with the herd every day. Never saw the baby. Day four. Day five. On day six, I'm too sick and heartbroken to do anything.

"Rowdy? Let's go. We are going to find that calf." Four hours later, no baby, no body, and no buzzards. Made no

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no mixing or
tack coat.

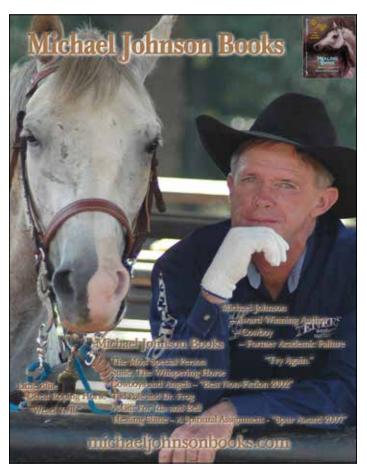


EZ STREET® Utility Cuts — Bulk, Tote, or Bag

sense whatsoever. I drove the four-wheeler close to the herd. I did something I had seen my daddy and uncles do. I made a bleating sound like a baby calf calling for his mother. She looked at me and suddenly, she shot to the east on a dead run. Rowdy and I were right behind her. She went into the far pasture and stood by the fence. My heart sank. I knew the baby had somehow managed to get under that fence. Now he was on the other side; poor thing probably starved to death because I hadn't found him sooner. Rowdy and I got over and through the fence to look for his body in the tall grass. I was heartbroken. And not five feet from me, that baby stood up alive and well.

Have you ever drank a twelve ounce bottle of pure adrenalin?

Joy shot through me so hard I almost fell. Another jolt, then another—too intense to bear. Pure joy. And in that moment, I transformed into an old-time, tent revival preacher screaming, "Thank you, Jesus! Thank you, Jesus!" Of course, the congregation couldn't understand a word 'cause I was crying so hard. (Uh...crying like a...well, like a big, strong macho guy, of course. I mean, you know, not





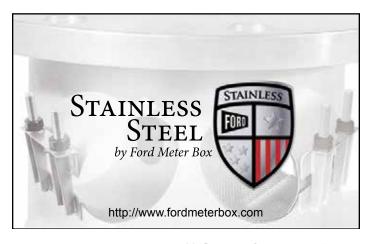
cryin' like a wuss or something.) Then it hit me...how in the world do you plan to get this baby through that fence to his momma? No clue. What we needed around here was a real good cowboy. Since I've never been accused of being one of those, we were in trouble.

Boy, was that not a problem. That momma went "Moo" really loud calling to her baby, and he went through that fence like a goat. Didn't even touch a strand of barbwire. His mother smelled him and licked him, and Rowdy and I watched, as she let him have his dinner. That old cow had hidden that baby like a magician doing close-up magic with a coin. I turned to see the wood ducks land on the pond, and I thought, "My goodness, how could any one person be this lucky?"

Sherry came driving up at that moment. We hugged. When she noticed the tears on my face, she said, "What on earth is wrong?"

I said, "There is no more joy in heaven than when the lost sheep is found," and I pointed to the pasture. When she saw him by his mother, she lost it. We watched him 'til it was too dark to see, and woke up the next morning still giggling like two teenagers.

Naturally, we named him "Lazarus." ▶





## Why Aquastore® Tanks?

Glass-fused-to steel has become the premium choice for water and liquid storage technology. Aquastore owners choose glass-fused-to-steel technology over other tank designs.

#### No Painting for the Life of the Tank

- Corrosion resistant
- Low maintenance
- Over 30 years of proven experience
- NSF approved tank for potable water
- The environmentally safe choice

#### Porcelain Enamel Chemically Bonded to Steel

- Mechanically and chemically bonded at temperatures above 1500° F
- Graffiti removal does not damage the coating
- Tank does not need to be taken out of service for repainting

#### Warranty

- 10-year factory extended performance
- Total low life cycle cost

Since 1980, Engineering America has erected more than 1,000 liquid and dry storage tanks ranging in size from 12,000 to more than 3,000,000 gallons.

Our mission is to be America's employeeowned leader in liquid storage tank solutions. When evaluating your tank storage needs, know the facts, contact Engineering America for all your tank needs.



In 1980 we made an innovative promise that Aquastore tanks would never have to be sandblasted or painted. No Aquastore tank has required sandblasting or painting since!

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Name:				
Address:				
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County: ZIP				
System Email:				
Phone: Fax	:			
Operator:				
Contact Person:				
Number of Hook-ups:				
Were you referred? By whor				
Type of System:  Water Wastewater				
Membership Category  ☐ Regular Member	Amount of Dues			
☐ Associate Member☐ Individual Member	See schedule below \$400.00 \$75.00			
Regular Member Dues Schedule				

1 to 100 \$75 + 30 cents per hookup 101 to 500 \$80 + 30 cents per hookup 501 to 1,000 \$90 + 30 cents per hookup 1,000 and up \$100 + 30 cents per hookup

Maximum dues is \$930.00

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935 N. Main Street

Independence, OR 97351

If paying by credit card, please call the OAWU office at 503-837-1212 for processing and receipt.

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#### Regular Member

A Regular Member shall be any water or wastewater utility, public or private, engaged in the production, distribution or reclamation of water. A Regular Member shall have one vote.

#### Annual Dues - See Dues Schedule

#### Associate Member

An Associate Member shall be any organization individual or corporation, supplying services or equipment to water and wastewater utilities. An Associate Member shall have one vote. For Associate Member Benefits, please contact OAWU.

#### Annual Dues \$400.00 per year

#### **Individual Member**

An Individual Member shall be an individual involved in the water/wastewater industry or a user of such utilities. The membership is informational in nature and shall be non-voting.

#### Annual Dues \$75.00 per year

#### Benefits of Membership

- On-site technical assistance
- Various free training programs
- Discounts on training courses
- Discounts on Annual Conference registration
- Access to on-site training program
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- Direct mailings in your area about upcoming training courses
- Summaries of legislative issues
- Legislative representation at state and federal level
- Associate Member Services and Products Guide
- Access to technical assistance library
- Access to technical and testing equipment for loan
- Voting rights in Association affairs (Regular & Associate Members)
- Positive contacts with other organizations
- Camaraderie with water and wastewater professionals
- Operator Of Record services
- Job referrals, announcements and searches
- Well testing
- Plan review
- $\bullet\,$  System performance evaluation and options
- Additional programs and services
- Disaster response assistance and planning

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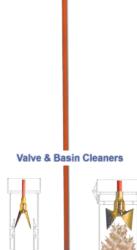


















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