



Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

Volume 5 • Issue 1

115

Partners in PA

70 Phase I & II Plants
45 Awarded Phase III

Dear Partnership Member: You are invited!



Hershey Convention Center • Hershey, PA

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our annual Partnership for Safe Water Mixer, at the 56th Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania Section American Water Works Association.

This year, the Mixer will provide the PA Section officers, and representatives from the PA DEP an opportunity to recognize members of the Partnership for Safe Water program, and acknowledge accomplishments of the past year.

Please join us at 5:00 pm Thursday, May 27, 2004 to participate in the Phase III Achievement Water Drop Award ceremony. If you haven't registered for the conference yet, contact Diane Cox at 717-774-8870.

Local Water Utilities Receives National Award of Recognition

Larry's Creek Filtration Plant of Jersey Shore, PA and Octoraro Water Treatment Plant of Chester Water in Nottingham, PA have successfully completed Phase III. Report submittals were reviewed and approval granted by the Partnership's Program Effectiveness Assessment Committee (PEAC). These water treatment plants have been awarded the "Directors Award of Recognition" for their efforts in completing the Phase III self-assessment process to obtain excellence in water quality. With the addition of Shenandoah Municipal Water Authority, and Stroudsburg Water Authority a total of four (4) Phase III Achievement Water Drop Awards will be presented at the 56th PA-AWWA Annual Conference.



Octoraro Water Treatment Plant of Chester Water (top) and Larry's Creek Filtration Plant of Jersey Shore (right)



Have You Sent in Your Annual Report?

If you haven't sent in your annual report yet, please collect your turbidity data and e-mail it to Dan Rodeheffer at rodeheffer@awwa.org or mail it (on a computer disc) to: Dan Rodeheffer, AWWA, 6666 W. Quincy Avenue, Denver, CO 80235.

Update Your Partnership Information

Send any changes to your Partnership contact information to Debby Qualls at dqualls@awwa.org. If we don't have the correct information you may miss out on upcoming program improvements. Be sure to include current e-mail address if available.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are planning to advance to Phase IV of the Partnership program, we strongly suggest you contact DEP before completing the Phase IV application. Call Phil Consonery at 717-772-4018 to obtain details about Pennsylvania's Phase IV program.

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Equipment Tips for Individual Filter Effluent (IFE) Monitoring and Recording (Part II)

As previously discussed in Volume 4, Issue 2 of Partners in PA. The Partnership for Safe Water encourages Individual Filter Effluent (IFE) monitoring as a means to optimize filter performance. Currently, EPA requires surface water filtration plants, that serve >10,000 customers, to continuously monitor and record IFE turbidity. Starting January 1, 2005, the Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule will require small systems (serving <10,000 and using conventional or direct filtration), to monitor IFE turbidity. PADEP's Filter Plant Performance Evaluation staff offer the below list of tips to help systems successfully record IFE turbidity.

IFE Recorders

- Must be able to record turbidity values at least every 15 minutes.
- Turbidity values greater than 1 NTU must be reported to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). If your recorder "flat lines" at its maximum setting and you have no

valid turbidity values to report, you could be in violation of regulatory requirements.

- If you are using a chart recorder, use the 24-hour chart instead of the 7-day chart, because the lines on the 24-hour chart are 15 minutes apart.
- Recording data electronically provides many options for data management. However, electronic data should be backed up at least every 24 hours. Telling DEP that you lost turbidity data because of computer problems may not be an acceptable reason and could result in failure to comply with the monitoring requirements.
- Data must be retained at the filter plant (and available for review upon request) for at least three years.
- Calibrate recorders to match the turbidimeter output.

Maintenance

- Maintenance practices for turbidimeters and recorders must be completed as per the manufacturer's recommendations.

The Partnership is Growing and Looking for More Staff!!!

Partnership for Safe Water Program Representative Wanted

The Pennsylvania Section of the American Water Works Association (PA-AWWA) is seeking a representative for the Partnership for Safe Water program (PFSW). The PFSW focuses on optimizing the operation of water filtration plants and is supported by both the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Section. The representative will visit surface water filtration plants in the eastern and central portions of the Commonwealth. The representative's primary objective will be to provide technical assistance and training (e.g. report writing and computer software) to systems working through the Partnership's Phase III Self-Assessment process. A secondary objective would be to educate the owners/operators of the benefits of membership in the Partnership, with a goal of enrolling additional filter plants in the program. This is a compensated and part-time position. If you have a strong background in optimizing surface water treatment plant operations, are knowledgeable and supportive of the PFSW, are proficient with Word, Excel, and the internet, have good people skills and a desire to see the Partnership Program flourish, please contact Diane Cox at 717-774-8870 or dianecox@paawwa.org. PA-AWWA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Opportunity for Drinking Water Operators

PA-AWWA BETA TEST Drinking Water Operators Certification Exam

PA-AWWA is partnering with PA DEP to present the Drinking Water Operator Certification Beta test at Penn State University Harrisburg Campus Wednesday, June 23, 2004, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) requires testing in order to obtain a license to operate a water plant in Pennsylvania. The current Operator Certification Exam is being updated and the new exam is being beta tested this year.

Any uncertified operator is eligible to take the Beta Test free of charge. No records will be maintained of failing the BETA test.

Your registration must be received by May 14, 2004.

PA-AWWA Members will be given preferential treatment. Remember: Register as soon as possible because seating is limited.

If you have additional questions, please contact:

Diane Cox at 717-774-8870 or e-mail: dianecox@paawwa.org