



Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

Volume 9 • Issue 3



50 Phase I & II Plants
47 Awarded Phase III



The SPOTLIGHT is on: City of Harrisburg Bureau of Water



L-R: Chad E. Bingham, Director of Harrisburg Bureau of Water, Gregg Haney, Operations Maintenance Superintendent, James (Jim) Close, Director of Public Works.

Congratulations on Achievement of Five-Year Director's Award

Congratulations on successfully receiving the Five-Year Directors Award of recognition as part of the *Partnership for Safe Water* Program. This achievement is no small task. The City of Harrisburg should be very proud of their accomplishment. Their *Partnership* award status has been highlighted in the June issue of *Mainstream*, AWWA's monthly newspaper, the September issue of the *AWWA Journal*, and was recognized in Atlanta at the AWWA Annual Conference.

Superintendent Gregg Haney, who has been a long-term advocate for the *Partnership for Safe Water* program said, "The *Partnership* has helped our facility to operate in a more efficient manner. The coordination between the operators and the maintenance divisions, as well as the management staff and the bargaining unit, has helped identify potential problems before they happen. Also, all personnel have contributed in trying new ways to do things in order to improve the efficiency.

WATER INDUSTRY NEWS

Members of *Partnership for Safe Water Program* earn AWOP Awards

WHAT IS AWOP?

The Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) is a collaboration of 22 states, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators. Its goal is to encourage water plants to go beyond what is legally required and produce the best water quality possible. That includes submitting more water quality data than required, and analyzing that data to find deficiencies.

The top performing filter plants in PA were honored at recent water conferences. The *Partnership* members that received AWOP Awards were: Blossburg, Shenandoah, Greencastle, Forest Park, Allentown, Highland, Lewistown, Harrison Twp, Westmoreland, and Waynesboro.



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Two More Facilities Begin Phase III Report

The *Partnership for Safe Water* Program is pleased to note that two additional Pennsylvania public water supply systems, Northampton Borough Municipal Authority and Western Berks Water Authority, have recently begun writing their Phase III self analysis reports utilizing the Pennsylvania Partnership Password Protected Program.

The PA-AWWA section and City of Allentown Water Filtration Plant Personal have developed a Password Protected Questionnaire Assistance Program intended to enlist and assist water treatment plant Operators in completing the Phase III portion of the *Partnership for Safe Water* Program entitled "Self-Assessment and Peer Review". The Questionnaire is intended to complement the recently released Self-Assessment Template (S-AT), the AWWA-RF document "Self-Assessment Guide for Surface Water Treatment Plant Optimization" (S-AG) and example report, which can be found on the AWWA web site, www.AWWA.org

Experience gained from systems recently utilizing the Questionnaire has revealed that individual password protected responses,



Northampton Borough Municipal Authority (L-R) Robert Montgomery, Microbiologist, and Marty Hozza, Treatment Plant Supervisor



Western Berks Water Authority (L-R): Operators Cliff Conrad, Mark Keith, John Ruth, Lenny Bigler, Operations Manager – George Torak, Jr., Chip Bigler, Executive Director, Operators Jason Miller, Matt Walborn, Joe Pezzino, Cory Pannebecker, and Mike Gull

coupled with monthly organization meetings has resulted in a collective response in which all operators have truly participated. Additional experience has shown merit in setting up "teams" that are given responsibility for coordinating a response to identified "problems", also known as performance limiting factors and providing "recommendations", known as action plans. These responses are presented by the teams to the group in follow up meetings, discussed and fine-tuned if necessary and incorporated in the appropriate section of the Report. Typically when the Questionnaire is completed the Phase III Report can be finalized utilizing the collective response of all Operators, along with the appropriate data assembled in the Appendices, as identified in the checklist, the Report can be submitted for peer review through AWWA.

The Password Protected Questionnaire is just one of a number of tools available to Pennsylvania's *Partnership* members, providing assistance in completing the various Phases of the Program and, maybe more importantly, assisting operators in optimizing their operations. Please contact your *Partnership* representative to discuss and try out these new tools.

Update Your Partnership Info

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.



www.paawwa.org

Pennsylvania
Section

American Water Works Association

Please Note the Following:

Excel 2007 May Need Adjustment

Several Partnership members have experienced difficulty using the Partnership's data collection software with Microsoft Excel 2007. If you are using Excel 2007, please follow the instructions below to avoid problems processing data using the *Partnership* software. YOUR MACRO SETTINGS MAY NEED TO BE CHANGED.

- After opening the data collection software, you may see a message right below the toolbar that says: "Security Warning - macros have been disabled"
- Select the "options" button located in this message
- Select "Enable this content"

You should now be able to proceed with data entry. If you have any other problems using the *Partnership* software with EXCEL 2007 contact Debby Qualls (dqualls@awwa.org).

Annual Reports Overdue!

Your annual report for the period 6/1/07—5/31/08 was due in June. Guidelines for annual reports are found on the Partnership website (www.awwa.org) You must use V3.1 (or later) of the data collection software to submit your data.

Use the Phase III Report Template

A template is now available for preparing a Phase III completion report. This tool was developed by our Regional Partners at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and provided to the Partnership for our members use. Those with "writers block" should find this very helpful. The template is posted for download on the Partnership website.