



Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

Volume 4 • Issue 2

115

Partners in PA

74 Phase I & II Plants
41 Awarded Phase III

Show Your Commitment to Optimization— Display Your Partnership Posters!



All Partners in PA have been provided with a Partnership Optimization Poster. It is suggested that you display these posters in a highly visible area of your filter plant (ex. entrance way or filter gallery) for all operators and visitors to see. Below, Tim Cohick, an operator of the Jersey Shore - Larry's Creek Filter plant, receives a Partnership poster. Larry's Creek is a small system that has been actively pursuing Phase III status. If you have not yet received your Optimization Poster, contact Diane Cox at 717-774-8870

Partnership for Safe Water Data Collection Software Upgrade

The new data collection software upgrade (version 3.1) for the Partnership for Safe Water is now available. Version 3.1 replaces the previous version 2.1, and will be provided by mail to all Partnership members.

This is the software that is used to submit your annual report data. A printed copy of the statistics table page with the turbidity, and probability distribution graphs must also accompany your Phase III completion report. The data outputs are identical to the previous version.

Version 3.1 contains numerous improvements to make data entry more efficient. Remember that there are two files to save: the

entire workbook that includes all of your data, the statistical table and graphs; and the "save file for AWWA" which is only a statistical table and all you need to send in for your annual report.

Please use the new version to enter and submit your data this year. You will find it easier and more trouble free. If, however, you have already completed your data entry using the version 2.1 you can submit this as your annual report data.

The Partnership for Safe Water is always interested in your input on how to make this program more valuable. Please contact Bill Lauer at blauer@awwa.org if you have any comments or suggestions.



55th Annual Conference PA Section — AWWA

The PA Section – AWWA held its 55th Annual Conference in May at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, in Pittsburgh, PA. At the Opening General Session, Chair Deb Lippert presented the Partnership for Safe Water Report, in which she acknowledged Oakmont Water Authority as a recipient of the Water Drop Achievement Award for completing Phase III of the partnership program. By completing Phase III, the Oakmont Water Authority is working to provide an additional measure of protection to drinking water consumers.

In attendance were Edward Adams, Water Production Superintendent who accepted the award on behalf of the authority, and John Dunlap, General Manager. Oakmont presently provides drinking water service to over 39,000 people through approximately 16,000 residential, commercial and industrial connections in Allegheny County.

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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New Look for the Partnership Website

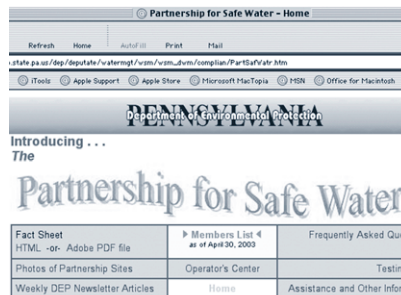
www.awwa.org/science/partnership



The Partnership website has been completely re-designed. You can find a lot of information on the Partnership website—including a download of the Annual Report Requirements, Phase III Checklist, Phase III example reports, and the Phase IV guidance package.

Accessing PA's Partnership Website

To access the latest information on PA's Partnership Program... visit DEP's Web site at www.dep.state.pa.us and type the word "filtration" (without quotes) in the directLINK box. Then click on the "Partnership for Safe Water." This website is updated quarterly.



State Board for Certification of Water & Wastewater Systems Operators 2003 Examination Announcement

Examination Dates:

November 1, 2003

Applications must be received, complete and correct, no later than August 18, 2003

The certification examination will be offered in the area of the following cities:

- Altoona
- Harrisburg
- Meadville
- Philadelphia
- Pittsburgh
- Wilkes Barre
- Williamsport

Applications may be obtained from and must be returned to the Department of Environmental Protection, Certification and Licensing, P.O. Box 8454, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8454, telephone 717-787-5236, by the established cutoff dates stated above (not postmarked). Information regarding the certification examination can be obtained by contacting this same address and telephone number. Web site information: www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/

The PA Section - AWWA would like to offer exam review workshops on (less than one month from DEP's exam date):
October 15, 2003 locations to be announced

Why optimize performance through the Partnership Program?

It is important to keep in mind that the purpose for optimizing filter plant performance is to provide an additional measure of safety to reduce the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks. Research indicates that when filter effluent turbidity ranged between 0.1 and 0.3 NTU, Cryptosporidium presence was as much as 90 percent greater than when filter effluent turbidity was optimized at 0.1 NTU or less. The Partnership program's self-assessments identify areas that will enhance your water system's ability to prevent entry of Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial contaminants into the treated water. At the same time, you can voluntarily make corrections that are appropriate for your water system.

Mentoring Program

PA-AWWA and PADEP are considering developing and coordinating a "Mentoring Program" for the Partnership for Safe Water. Mentoring provides an opportunity for filter plant staff who have been involved in the Phase III self-assessment to help other operators who are currently working toward Phase III completion. The focus of this assistance would be to share Partnership experiences, operational knowledge gained, and tips and hints on working through the Phase III process. Phase III award recipients that may be interested in becoming a mentor should contact Ed Chescattie at (717) 772-4018. Please note that we are in the planning phases of this initiative...updates will follow.

Good News

If you are currently working on the Phase III self assessment, you may be eligible for 20 contact hours upon receiving a Phase III award. Please contact Diane Cox at PA-AWWA for more information.

Congratulations Philadelphia Water Department!

Partnership for Safe Water Partner the Philadelphia Water Department was awarded the "Exemplary Source Water Protection Award for Large Systems." Christopher Crockett, Source Water Protection Manager for PWD, submitted the entry. They received the award at the AWWA National Conference, held in Anaheim, CA.