



Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update



59 Phase I & II Plants
47 Awarded Phase III

Volume 7 • Issue 3



The SPOTLIGHT is on:



Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority

Claricone system helps Kittanning maintain low turbidity levels

Recent upgrades to the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority's treatment process are aiding the water system's goal of reaching Phase III of the Partnership for Safe Water program.

Kittanning installed a claricone, which uses centrifical force to separate and remove solids from the water, thus reducing turbidity prior to filtration. The claricone is 30 feet high, holds 150,000 gallons and has a five hour detention time when running at 500 gpm.

The Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority's water treatment plant, located in the Tarrtown area of East Franklin Township, provides water to residents in northwestern Armstrong County including Cadogan, North Buffalo, East Franklin, Washington and Sugarcreek townships.



Richard Lauer, Plant Manager



The upgrades have increased the plant's capacity from 800,000 gallons to 1.2 million gallons per day. The plant operates at 50 percent of its capacity. Everything at the plant is now more state-of-the-art, more high-tech and computer controlled.

The Authority was established in 1968. The plant, using water from the Allegheny River, was built in 1992, and serves 2,600 customers. Kittanning Suburban joined the Partnership for Safe Water program in September 2000 under the direction of Richard

Lauer, manager of the Authority's water treatment plant.

Partnership for Safe Water Phase III Questionnaire:

By completing Phase III of the PFSW program do you feel that?

1. You have improved your overall facility operation? Explain.
Yes, by involving the operators in the development of the Phase III report, a number of issues become apparent to ALL operators.
2. Your plant operators have gained better understanding of the water treatment process? Explain.
Certain limiting factors came to light and were able to be recognized, and talked through amongst operators. All agreed upon solutions and SOP changes were instituted.
3. The quality of the plant effluent has improved? Explain.
Yes, SOP changes to meet <0.1 NTU have improved plant effluent quality.
4. Your plant is now at or near optimization? Near.
5. The time, invested in the self-assessment was well worth the effort? Explain.
Definitely, involvement by all levels of management and staff

proved to be an education to all. A better overall understanding of the entire process and capability of each unit process was obtained.

In a paragraph or two, please state why you would recommend to other WTP's, that have completed Phase II, that they should proceed to completion of Phase III of the PFSW program.

Phase III coerces you, at all levels of staffing, to evaluate, in detail, the capabilities of your treatment plant. Simple changes to SOP's without capital costs can be implemented to improve overall water quality. By acknowledging limiting factors, changes can be made to eliminate complacency and correct inadequacies resulting from sub par past practices ("...because we always did it that way...." responses). A definite worthwhile time commitment that can show immediate returns in improving water quality.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Congratulations to Pennsylvania American Water!



Pennsylvania American Water's Big Run Water Treatment Plant in Punxsutawney, Pa. held a ceremony Friday, September 22, 2006 to recognize attainment of the Partnership for Safe Water's Five-Year Directors Award.

Gathered at Punxsutawney, Pa's Big Run Water Treatment Plant for a Partnership for Safe Water Five-Year Directors Award presentation are (left to right) Pennsylvania American Water colleagues Bruce Steinhiser, Brian Henretta, Tom Zimmerman, Doug Hollenbaugh, Jon Natale, PA DEP Water Supply Program Manager Brad Vanderhoof, and Pennsylvania American Water's Ron Bargiel.

The Partnership is 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 north-west and north-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.

Pennsylvania American Water Receives National Award for Ongoing Safe Water Practices

Pennsylvania American Water recently received national awards for maintaining the Partnership for Safe Water's Directors Award requirements at nine filter plants for five consecutive years.

The Director's Award is presented to water systems that have successfully completed a rigorous review in the Partnership's Self-Assessment and Peer Review phase. During this phase, participating utilities identify areas of possible improvement in plant design, operation and management and then create a plan for implementing these improvements.

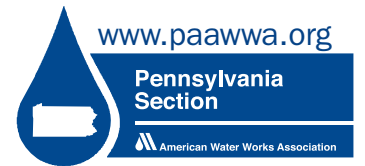
To receive the five-year award, utilities must carry out these improvements and deliver water that not only meets drinking water standards, but also surpasses what is required by regulation, for five consecutive years.

The following Pennsylvania American Water treatment facilities have achieved the

Partnership's Five-Year Directors Award in 2006:

- Brownsville Water Treatment Plant, Fayette County
- Crystal Lake Water Treatment Plant, Luzerne County
- Lake Scranton Water Treatment Plant, Lackawanna County
- Kane Water Treatment Plant, McKean County
- Norristown Water Treatment Plant, Montgomery County
- Punxsutawney Water Treatment Plant, Jefferson County
- Watres Water Treatment Plant, Luzerne County
- White Deer Water Treatment Plant, Union County
- Susquehanna Treatment Plant, Susquehanna County

More information about the Partnership and the Pennsylvania American Water plants receiving the award in 2006 can be found at www.pawc.com under "In the Spotlight."



Please Note the Following Information

Partnership online course provides 6.5 CEU's for operators

"Optimizing Performance Using Turbidity Data" course content closely follows the procedures used in the Phase III self-assessment. Operators from participating Partnership plants should find taking the course familiar. Operators that are associated with Partnership member plants can take the course for only \$25 (regular member charge is \$60). To enroll in the course go to www.awwa.org/learnonline

Questions? Contact Diane Cox at the PA Section office, 717-774-8870.

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 to Debby Qualls at dqualls@awwa.org and copy dianecox@paawwa.org or mail it (on computer disc) to:
Debby Qualls – AWWA
6666 West Quincy Avenue
Denver, CO 80235

ALMOST DONE WITH PHASE III?

Prior to submitting your Phase III report, it may be beneficial to contact PA-AWWA. A Partnership Rep could look over your draft report and provide helpful suggestions. If interested, please contact Diane Cox at 717-774-8870.

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.