



Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

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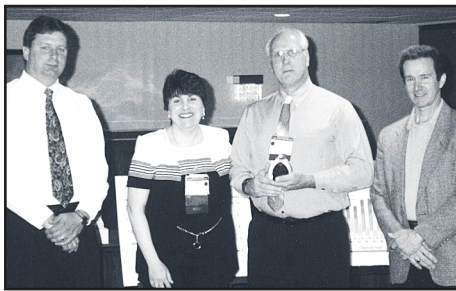
Partners in PA

85 Phase I & II Plants
39 Awarded Phase III

Three water systems receive awards for completing Phase III self assessments

Three water systems received awards for completing Phase III of the Partnership for Safe Water Program at the PA Section – AWWA's annual conference in May.

The City of Harrisburg's Bureau of Water, Downingtown Municipal Water Authority, and the Forest Park Water, owned jointly by North Penn and North Wales Water Authorities, each received recognition for their voluntary effort to optimize treatment.



Pictured left to right are Dan Standish, Director of Harrisburg's Bureau of Water; Debbie Lippert, Division Manager with PA American Water Co. and PA-AWWA Chair; Gregg Haney, Operations/ Maintenance Superintendent with Harrisburg's Bureau of Water; and Fred Marrocco, Director of the Bureau of Water Supply and Wastewater Management with DEP. Dan and Gregg were recognized for their efforts in completing Phase III requirements with the Partnership program at Harrisburg water.

Harrisburg operates a filtration plant that provides drinking water service to 65,000 people in Dauphin County. Receiving recognition for their efforts were Dan Standish, director, and Gregg Haney, operations/maintenance superintendent.

Downingtown Municipal Water Authority serves 9,500 customers in Chester County. John Lichman, executive director, was recognized for his efforts in bringing the plant to Phase III completion.

The Forest Park Water treatment plant provides drinking water service to 150,000 customers in Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Receiving

recognition for the plant's award was Jeffrey Pifer, plant manager. Pifer said he wants to thank Peter Lukens, executive director at North Wales, and Tony Bellitto, executive director of North Penn and the entire staff at the plant for their efforts in reaching Phase III status.

The Partnership for Safe Water is made up of DEP, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Pennsylvania Section American Water Works Association (PA-AWWA) and other drinking water organizations.

Frederick A. Marrocco, director of DEP's Bureau of Water Supply and Wastewater Management, recognized the outstanding efforts of water systems for their strong commitment to optimizing treatment and providing safe drinking water to consumers.

"The partnership program involves a broad spectrum of water systems, ranging in size from some of the very smallest systems to the state's largest system," Fred said. "The fact that Pennsylvania has more members than any other state in the nation is a testament to the progressive attitude of our water suppliers."

Fred awarded the water systems with a "Certificate of Recognition." The Partnership's goal is to implement preventative measures that are based on optimizing treatment plant performance. Phase III culminates in a detailed, peer-reviewed report that summarizes the rigorous self-assessment portion of the program. This phase is specifically geared toward identifying and correcting weakness in plant operation, design and administration that could

lead to breakthrough of waterborne disease-causing organisms.

Correcting these weaknesses helps prevent waterborne disease outbreaks from organisms like *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*. By completing this phase of the program,



Debbie Lippert (left), Division Manager with PA American Water Co. and PA-AWWA Chair; and Fred Marrocco (right), Director of the Bureau of Water Supply and Wastewater Management with DEP; are shown with Jeff Pifer (center), manager of Forest Park Water. Jeff was honored for his efforts in attaining Phase III status at Forest Park with the Partnership program.

the three systems are providing an additional measure of protection to drinking water consumers.

Currently, 124 surface water treatment plants serving about 5.4 million people are now involved in Pennsylvania's Partnership program.

For more information on how to get your water utility involved in the Partnership for Safe Water program, contact Diane Cox (PA-AWWA) at 717-230-8935 or email at dianecox@paawwa.org or Phil Consonery (DEP) at 717-772-4018 or e-mail pconsonery@state.pa.us

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Maintain active status in the Partnership

In order to maintain active status in the Partnership, systems that have completed Phase III need to submit a yearly short narrative, along with their annual data. In Volume 1, Issue 2, the suggested format was provided for this report.

This issue will provide a worksheet designed specifically for plants that have NOT yet achieved Phase III status. This worksheet should be used as part of the Phase III self-assessment and annual data submittal. More specifically...

Surface water treatment plants may be involved in the Partnership for Safe Water Program (PFSW) for several years before actually writing a Phase III self-assessment report. Throughout this period, plant personnel collect and review annual turbidity trends, identify performance-limiting factors (PLF's), and address necessary improvements. Significant efforts and accomplishments occur. When it comes time to compile a Phase III report, you may have difficulty in recalling and summarizing all of the progress that has occurred since joining the Partnership. A better approach would be to continually track improvements. This is where the PFSW worksheet can be very helpful.

How to Use the PFSW Worksheet:

Later this summer, you will receive a PFSW worksheet by mail. To help with the Phase III report: It is suggested that you make multiple copies of the PFSW worksheet. Fill out this worksheet at least quarterly; you may find it beneficial to fill out a worksheet more often, possibly monthly. When completing this worksheet, lead operators are encouraged to request input from all plant staff. For example, many water suppliers have found it useful to have regular meetings to identify PLF's and discuss possible actions to address them. Record the results of these meetings on the worksheet. Another option may be to post an electronic copy of this worksheet on your computer and solicit anonymous comments from operational staff for later discussion. Whatever format you use, file all of your worksheets for later reference when preparing your Phase III report.

As part of the annual data submittal: In June, summarize the worksheet information you've collected from the previous year on one worksheet. Submit this summary worksheet with your Annual Data Submittal. Be sure to carefully review your annual turbidity trends to help identify PLF's to include on the worksheet. For example, if an elevated raw water turbidity event resulted in a significant increase in finished water turbidity, identify the reason(s) for this occurrence. Perhaps a lack of frequent jar testing prevented proper adjustment of pretreatment chemicals. This should be included on the worksheet as a PLF for the appropriate unit process – Pretreatment. Include your response actions or your plans to prevent a similar raw water turbidity event from impacting finished water in the future.

For more information:

This worksheet is intended to compliment the AWWARF Self-Assessment Guide for Surface Water Treatment Plant Optimization manual. It does not replace the need for this manual. The AWWARF manual will provide you with detailed questions to help perform a thorough self-assessment and identify all performance limiting factors. See Table 7.1, pages 100-103 for a comprehensive summary of questions for assessing performance limitations. It will also provide you with an outline to organize worksheet information into the proper report format. For more information on Phase III process, visit the PFSW website at www.awwa.org/Science/partnership.

Look for the full worksheet and instructions in the mail soon.

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.

Sample Worksheet

Partnership for Safe Water Worksheet:
A "Performance Limiting Factor" can be defined as anything that is preventing, or has the potential to prevent optimized operation.

	Performance Limiting Factors identified:	Actions taken or planned to help address each limiting factor:
Pretreatment		
Sedimentation/ Clarification		
Filtration		
Disinfection		
General — Administration, Funding, Training, Staffing		

Date (Months) the Worksheet Covers: _____

Educational Opportunity

Security Risk Assessment Methodology for Water Utilities (RAM-W)

Sponsored by: PA Section – AWWA

August 5, 6, 7, 2002: Harrisburg Area
September 11, 12, 13, 2002: Location to be announced

American Water Works Association of Pennsylvania is proud to be able to provide four venues for training on the new RAM-W developed by AWWA Research Foundation and Sandia National Laboratories. This intensive 3-day course will prepare you to conduct comprehensive assessments of water system threats and vulnerabilities and assess improvements to facility and system security.

Demand, security and Sandia licensing requirements may affect our ability to offer training. Priority will be given to Water Utilities and individuals at established firms that are identified by Water Utilities as providing them with security related services.

For further information or if you have questions, please contact us at: www.paawwa.org or Chris Fitting @ phone 717-230-8935/fax 717-230-8935.

Basics of Water Treatment & Distribution for Operators

Sponsored by: AWWA – Denver, CO

JULY 25, 26, 2002: Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, PA

Waterworks Operator Certification Examination Review Workshop

Sponsored by: PA Section – AWWA

Date & Location to be announced