

Time Flies and Training Keeps Coming

By the time this article is published and received by readers including water and wastewater system personnel, board and council members, state and federal agencies, associate members, legislators and other friends, the year 2016 will be half gone. It is amazing how fast time seems to (and does) go, especially the more advanced in years we grow. I refuse to say older because I don't plan to get old. Seasoned maybe, but not old. It was George Carlin who said, "I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a lot more as they get older, and then it dawned on me – they're cramming for their final exam." I had never thought of it in those terms.

The mission of Kansas Rural Water Association (KRWA) is to *Provide education and leadership necessary to enhance the effectiveness of Kansas' water and wastewater utilities*. KRWA staff work hard to carry out this message and provide the assistance needed by those utilities twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, three hundred sixty-five days per year, 24/7/365.



Early in 2016, KRWA hosted a Sustainable Utility Workshop in Concordia, Kan. KRWA Circuit Rider, Rita Clary, and Technical Assistant, Monica Wurtz, facilitated the workshop, covering the ten key management areas, the self-assessment exercise, and they led group discussions. KRWA Wastewater Technical Assistant, Charlie Schwindamann, and Consultant Jeff Lamfers provided supplemental information regarding wastewater operations.



KRWA provides numerous training sessions for wastewater utilities also. This photo shows KRWA staff member Jeff Lamfers discussing lagoon operations during a session in Columbus, Kan. on May 25.

The importance of training

Attending training provides a significant portion of the information that is needed for water and wastewater systems to be operated efficiently and within the requirements of state and federal regulations. Attending training is also essential for operators to attain or maintain operator certification from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

Who's providing the training in Kansas?

As an organization, KRWA is not aware of the outcomes, meaning who presented or how many people attended, training sessions sponsored by other organizations in Kansas. But KRWA does provide that information and it makes it available to the public. It is posted on the KRWA Web site at www.krwa.net/training/history.asp. The sessions can be sorted by location or date. KRWA has conducted 2,479 sessions since July 1976 through May 30, 2016. There have been 162,626 people who have attended those sessions.

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KRWA typically has provided an average of 80 to 105 training days per year since 2000. A significant amount of time and resources is devoted to training. In 2015, KRWA contributed nearly \$170,000 of internal funds towards training. Topics covered were varied, from PLCs to learning about Excel and QuikBooks accounting. On numerous occasions, the training was

KRWA Sponsored Training June 1, 2016 to April 1, 2017 (tentative)

DATE	TOPIC	LOCATION	CREDIT
June 2, 2016	Water Distribution Workshop	Parsons	w
June 7, 2016	Math Made Easy for Water & Wastewater Operators	El Dorado	w/ww
June 8, 2016	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation	Dodge City	w/ww
June 8, 2016	Math Made Easy for Water & Wastewater Operators	Parsons	w/ww
June 9, 2016	Confined Space Entry	Dodge City	w/ww
June 9, 2016	Math Made Easy for Water & Wastewater Operators	Lawrence	w/ww
June 14, 2016	Maintaining Good Water Quality	Hays	w
June 14, 2016	MonoChloramine / Free Ammonia and Chlorine Testing	Chanute	w/ww
June 15, 2016	MonoChloramine / Free Ammonia and Chlorine Testing	Emporia	w/ww
June 16, 2016	MonoChloramine / Free Ammonia and Chlorine Testing	Lawrence	w/ww
June 21, 2016	Advanced Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Iola	w/ww
June 22, 2016	Advanced Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Iola	w/ww
July 7, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Concordia	w/ww
July 8, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Concordia	w/ww
July 12, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Dodge City	w/ww
July 12, 2016	Wastewater Stabilization Ponds	Russell	ww
July 13, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Dodge City	w/ww
July 14, 2016	Wastewater Stabilization Ponds	Oakley	ww
July 14, 2016	Generators and Grounding	Ulysses	w/ww
July 19, 2016	Water Wells, Water Rights and Source Water Protection	Hiawatha	w
July 21, 2016	Water Distribution Workshop	Manhattan	w
July 27, 2016	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation	Leavenworth	w/ww
July 28, 2016	Confined Space Entry	Leavenworth	w/ww
July 28, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Tonganoxie	w/ww
July 29, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting	Tonganoxie	w/ww
August 4, 2016	Understanding and Troubleshooting Electrical Motors and VFDs	Hoisington	w/ww
August 5, 2016	Understanding and Troubleshooting Electrical Motors and VFDs	Hoisington	w/ww
August 10, 2016	Regulatory Basics and Water System Operations	Smith Center	w
August 16, 2016	Wastewater Stabilization Ponds	Moundridge	ww
August 17, 2016	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation	Chanute	w/ww
August 18, 2016	Confined Space Entry	Chanute	w/ww
August 18, 2016	Wastewater Stabilization Ponds	Cimarron	ww
August 24, 2016	Water Distribution Workshop	Hays	w
August 25, 2016	Water Wells, Water Rights and Source Water Protection	Dodge City	w
Aug. 30 - Sept. 2, 2016	Cross Connection Control / Backflow Prevention	Liberal	w
Sept. 7, 2016	Water Wells, Water Rights and Source Water Protection	Abilene	w
Sept. 21, 2016	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation	Colby	w/ww
Sept. 22, 2016	Confined Space Entry	Colby	w/ww
Sept. 27, 2016	Collection System Basics	Goddard	ww
Sept. 29, 2016	Collection System Basics	Norton	ww
Oct. 5, 2016	Collection System Basics	Leavenworth	ww
Oct. 5, 2016	Regulatory Basics and Water System Operations	Greensburg	w
Oct. 6, 2016	Water System Workshop	Independence	w
Oct. 11-14, 2016	Cross Connection Control / Backflow Prevention	Emporia	w
Oct. 18, 2016	Chloramination Disinfection	Fort Scott	w
Oct. 19, 2016	Sampling and Distribution Monitoring	Fort Scott	w
Oct. 26, 2016	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation	Manhattan	w/ww
Oct. 27, 2016	Confined Space Entry	Manhattan	w/ww
Nov. 3, 2016	Water System Workshop	Russell	w
Nov. 15-18, 2016	Cross Connection Control / Backflow Prevention	McPherson	w
Dec. 6, 2016	Regulatory Basics and Water System Operations	Holton	w
December 8, 2016	Water System Workshop	Manhattan	w
Dec. 13-16, 2016	Cross Connection Control / Backflow Prevention	Topeka	w
Jan. 25, 2017	Regulatory Basics and Water System Operations	Winfield	w
March 7, 2017	Regulatory Basics and Water System Operations	Chanute	w
March 28, 2017	KRWA Annual Conference	Wichita	w/ww
March 29, 2017	KRWA Annual Conference	Wichita	w/ww
March 30, 2017	KRWA Annual Conference	Wichita	w/ww
April 19, 2017	Regulatory Basics and Water System Operations	Abilene	w



KRWA staff member Monica Wurtz explains drinking water regulations at a training session on August 11, 2015. Attendance totaled 61 people from 38 water systems at the session held at the Prairie Band Conference Center near Mayetta north of Topeka.

provided in response to specific requests from utilities. The KRWA training calendar is posted online at www.krwa.net, then under “training”, then under “schedule and register”. Typically, notes are entered in relation with the training event to make it as

transparent as possible to anyone who may be considering attending. Many times, KRWA places notes in the location column like the following: “Iola (Riverside Park Community Building – session limited to 20 registrants)”. See example below.

Dates	Course	Location	View Brochure	Operator Credits	Cost	
June 21, 2016	Advanced Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting (Iola)	Iola (Riverside Park Community Building - session limited to 20 registrants)	Details	w/www	No Charge	Register

KRWA also provides the listing of training sessions to be held to KDHE. KDHE also posts training sessions on its Web site with those of other training providers.

It is not really all that practical to determine a year in advance what and when training will be held. So to that extent, KRWA encourages people to check the Web site frequently for any updates.

Kansas Rural Water Association is committed to providing the training that water and wastewater systems need. I encourage you to notify KRWA if you have any suggestion on training that you would like to see in your area. Give KRWA a call at 785-336-3760 or email me directly at greg@krwa.net.

Greg Duryea has worked for KRWA since 1993 as Technical Assistant. He holds a Class I water certification and is the certified operator for Sycamore Springs Resort in Brown County.



KANSAS RURAL WATER
association

ABOUT ONLINE RESOURCES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TRAINING MEMBERSHIP

KRWA encourages you to visit www.krwa.net for training opportunities in your area!

Dates	Course	Location	View Brochure	Operator Credits	Cost	
July 21, 2016	Water Distribution Workshop (Manhattan)	Manhattan		No Charge		Register
July 27, 2016	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation (Leavenworth)	Leavenworth		w/www	\$90.00	Register
July 28, 2016	Confined Space Entry (Chanute)	Chanute		w/www	\$90.00	Register
July 28, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting (Tonganoxie)	Tonganoxie (VFW Building)	Details	w/www	No Charge	Register
July 29, 2016	Electrical Maintenance and Troubleshooting (Tonganoxie)	Tonganoxie (VFW Building)	Details	w/www	No Charge	Register
August 04, 2016	Motors and Drives (Holsington)	Holsington		w/www	No Charge	Register
August 05, 2016	Motors and Drives (Holsington)	Holsington (Day 2)		w/www	No Charge	Register
August 10, 2016	Regulatory Basics and Operations (Smith Center)	Smith Center		w/www	No Charge	Register
August 16, 2016	Wastewater Stabilization Ponds (Moundridge)	Moundridge		ww	No Charge	Register
August 17, 2016	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation (Chanute)	Chanute		w/www	\$90.00	Register
August 18, 2016	Confined Space Entry (Chanute)	Chanute		w/www	\$90.00	Register

View by Course Topic

- Administrative / Management
- Board / Council
- Cross Connect / Backflow Prevention
- Drinking Water Regulations
- Electrical
- Safety
- Water System Operations
- Wastewater Utility Operations

[LIST ALL](#)

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