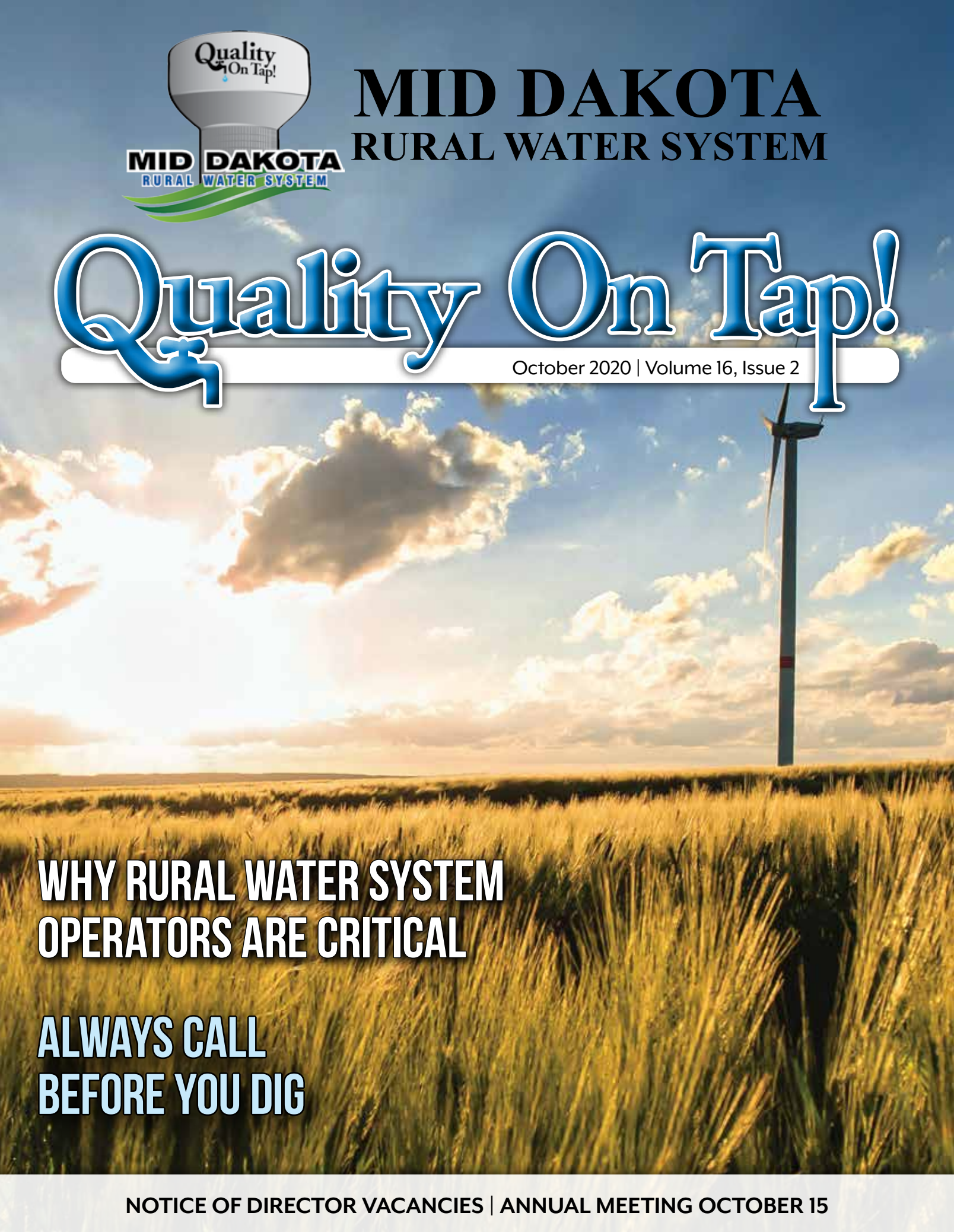

MID DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Quality On Tap!

October 2020 | Volume 16, Issue 2

WHY RURAL WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS ARE CRITICAL

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

NOTICE OF DIRECTOR VACANCIES | ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 15

FROM THE MANAGER

Scott Gross, General Manager
Mid Dakota Rural Water System, Inc.

With another year winding down, it is time to start working on next year's budget and water rates. As of writing this column I'm still working through the numbers to figure out what to do with the rates. I'll go a little out on a limb and say that I'm fairly confident that with Mid-Dakota's increasing costs for power and keeping our ageing infrastructure in repair, I'm guessing a slight increase in costs again this year.

Mid-Dakota has had a busy construction season this year, our main-line parallel pipe project is coming along nicely both contractors are moving along and should be finishing up this fall. If you are unfamiliar with this project, Mid-Dakota is paralleling our 20" mainline with another 24" pipe for approximately 20 miles in three different segments between Highmore and Wessington along Highway 14. The new 1.5 million-gallon watertower that is also part of this upgrade has also begun to take shape, with the column being completed this summer. The tank portion is on schedule to be finished next year. When this new tank is complete there will be two 1.5 million-gallon tanks at this site west of Highmore. Ree Heights also has a project going this summer and by the time you are reading this those individuals should be individual customers of Mid-Dakota instead of the town being a bulk customer.

If you have not yet signed up or heard of MiData, I encourage you to do so. This is a program you can sign up for to view on your home computer and view your water usage and set alarms for high or low usage. This is a good tool for customers who have far away pasture taps, or who travel and get curious on their water use while away, or just like to be able to view their water use. If interested in this program you can call the Mid-Dakota office for more information.

Quality On Tap!
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Email: office@mdrws.com
Website: www.mdrws.com

Rural Directors
Steve Robbennolt ..... District 1
Leslie Brown ..... District 2
Scott Oligmueller ..... District 3
Lennis Fagerhaug ..... District 4
Rick Benson ..... District 5

Municipal Directors
Dwight Gutzmer ..... At Large
Jim McGillvrey ..... At Large
Jeff McGirr ..... Huron
Darrell Raschke ..... Huron

Office Staff - Miller, SD
Scott Gross ..... General Manager
Connie Aymar ..... Financial Manager
Jamie Brueggeman ..... Office Administrator
Sandy Holt ..... Customer Accounts Specialist
Tammy Oligmueller ..... Customer Accounts Specialist
Kristen Arthur ..... Customer Accounts Specialist

Member Services Staff - Miller, SD
Susan Hargens ..... Member Services Manager
DeAnn Hargens ..... Customer & Legal Records Specialist

Operations Staff / Water Treatment - Pierre, SD
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Mike Polak ..... Water Treatment Plant Specialist
Steve Laird ..... Water Treatment Plant Specialist

Water Transmission & Distribution - Miller, SD
Lorin Johnson ..... Operations Manager
Terrek Butterfield ..... Operations Administrator
Calvin Kindle ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Scott Manning ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Michael Nicholson ..... Main Transmission Pipeline Specialist
Wayne Ruhnke ..... O & M Specialist
Mike McCready ..... Small Systems Specialist
Deric Diede ..... Hookup Specialist

Pierre, SD
Shane Bothwell ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Ron Ramsey ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Al Thomas ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Randy Bauer ..... Electrical Specialist

Gettysburg, SD
Gary Tobin ..... Water Distribution Specialist

Wessington Springs, SD
Mark Gran ..... Water Distribution Specialist

Huron, SD
Troy Dorris ..... Water Distribution Specialist
Scott Perry ..... Water Distribution Specialist

Consultants
Bartlett & West Engineers
May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson – Law Office
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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Save the Date

ANNUAL MEETING

October 15, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
All Mid Dakota offices

New Employee at Mid-Dakota

Shane Bush resigned to pursue a career closer to his family in Iowa. Mid-Dakota advertised the vacancy and was able to fill the position in a short amount of time. Deric Diede was hired as Hookup Specialist and he is familiar with Mid-Dakota. Deric served as an intern with Mid-Dakota in 2019 while going to Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown studying Energy Technology. This speaks well for the internship programs which help to introduce young individuals to careers that are available to them.

Special thanks go to Gale Auch, who came out of retirement to help Deric with his work since Deric is starting out during the busiest time of the year. Deric is learning quickly and everyone is glad to have him on board.

Deric Diede

MID DAKOTA CALENDAR

The Mid Dakota Rural Water System offices will be closed on the following dates:

October 12, 2020 – Native American Day

November 11, 2020 – Veteran's Day

November 26, 2020 – Thanksgiving Day

December 25, 2020 – Christmas Day

January 1, 2021 – New Year's Day

In case of an emergency, please call the office Toll Free at 1-800-439-3079, or call our After Hours answering service direct at 1-888-545-7440.

Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc.

NOTICE OF VACANCY on the Board of Directors

Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc. hereby gives notice to its membership that the following seats upon the Board of Directors will be up for election at its 2020 Annual Meeting:

There is one expired term in Rural Director District area #2, consisting of the following: All of Hughes County except that portion of the Highmore West service area lying in Hughes County.

There is one expired term in Rural Director District area #5, consisting of the following: All of Kingsbury County; that portion of the Highmore East service area lying in Hand County; those portions of the Highmore East, Pearl Creek and Wolsey service areas lying in Beadle County.

There is one expired term for City of Huron Director.

(Note: Contact Mid-Dakota if you question whether or not you are in Districts #2 or 5)

Rural director nominations must be made by petition. Petitions must be filed with Mid-Dakota not later than 4:00 p.m. on September 15, 2020.

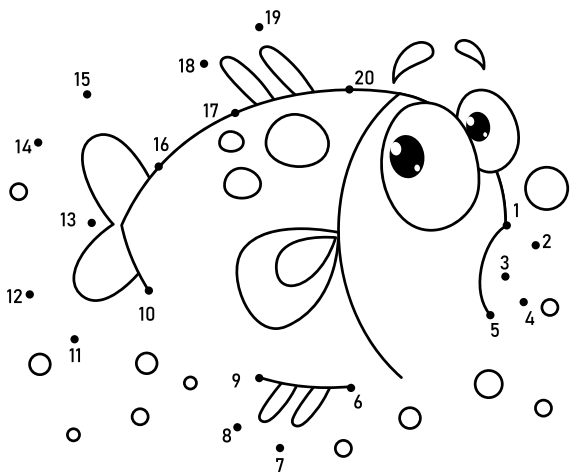
Nominations for City of Huron director will be made by the City of Huron. A nominating resolution from the City of Huron shall be filed with Mid-Dakota's office not later than 4:00 p.m. on October 5, 2020.

For more information, contact the Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc. office at 605-853-3159 or 1-800-439-3079.

WHAT IS WATER?

_____ is one of the most important things on Earth! It makes up 60% of our _____ and 71% of the _____. Water can change state, too. That means it can be a _____ (regular water), _____ (when it is frozen as ice), or ____ (when it is heated into steam). Water falls from our sky as _____ and collects on the ground as _____, _____, and _____! Water is not only needed for us to live, it's ____ to play and swim in. Isn't _____ great!

☺-a	◎-e	◎-i	☹-m	△-q	☺-u	✪-y
☻-b	✳-f	☺-j	☺-n	☺-r	☺-v	◎-z
☺-c	☺-g	☺-k	✪-o	☹-s	☹-w	
☺-d	☹-h	☺-l	☹-p	☺-t	☺-x	

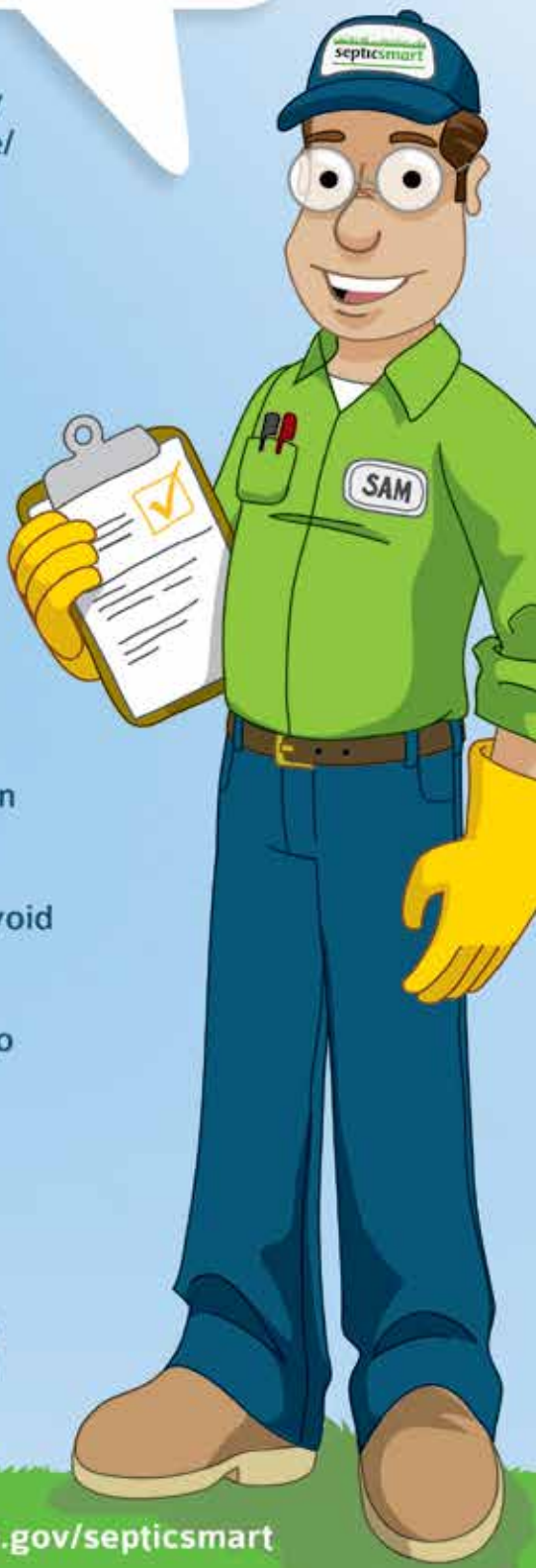


What kind of bear enjoys hanging out in the rain?

A drizzly bear!

Top 10 Ways to Be a Good Septic Owner

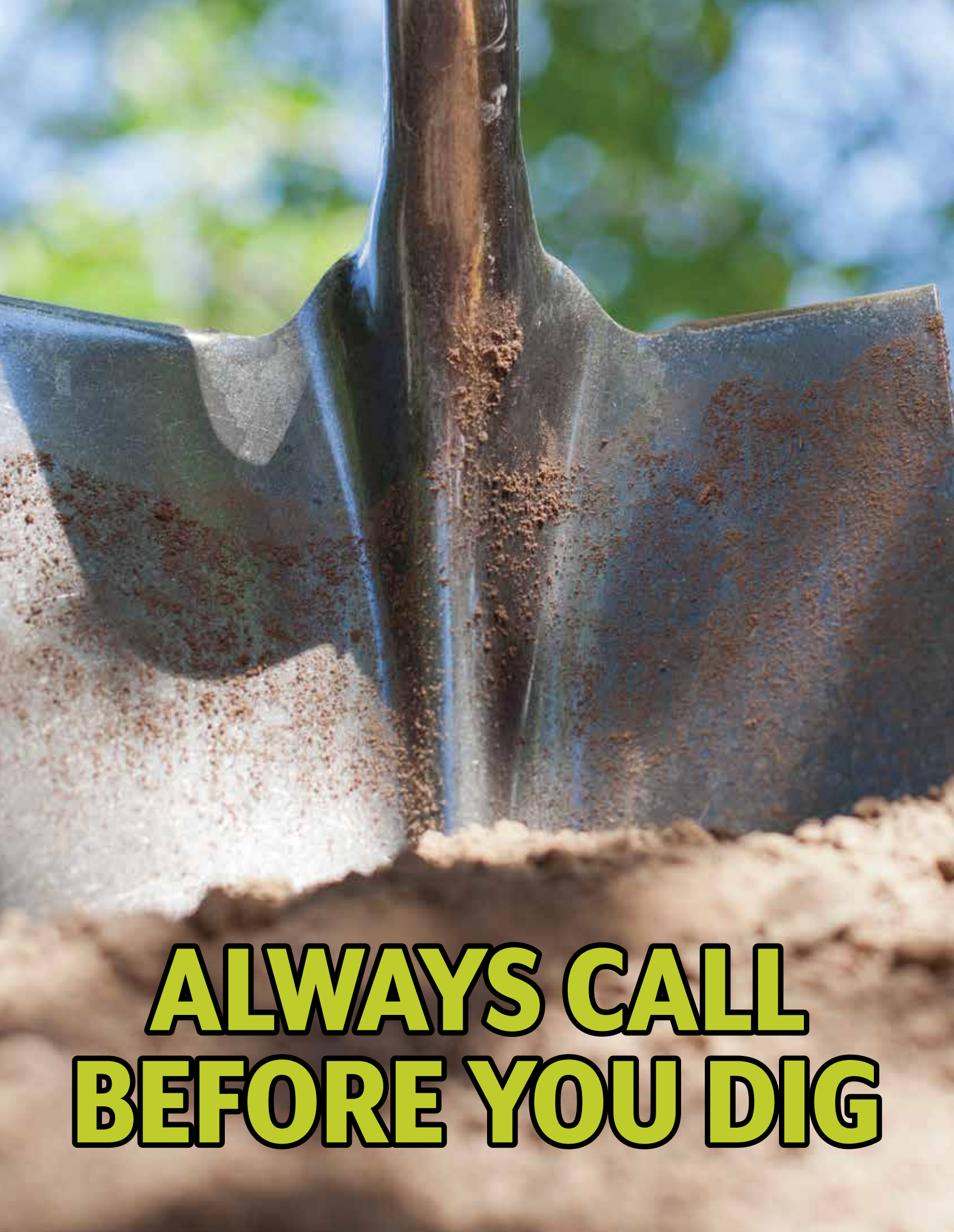
- Have your system inspected every three years by a qualified professional or according to your state/local health department's recommendations
- Have your septic tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years
- Avoid pouring harsh products (e.g., oils, grease, chemicals, paint, medications) down the drain
- Discard non-degradable products in the trash (e.g., floss, disposable wipes, cat litter) instead of flushing them
- Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the drainfield and tank
- Follow the system manufacturer's directions when using septic tank cleaners and additives
- Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system
- Maintain plants and vegetation near the system to ensure roots do not block drains
- Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low- or phosphate-free
- Prevent system freezing during cold weather by inspecting and insulating vulnerable system parts (e.g., the inspection pipe and soil treatment area)



septicsmart
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

For more SepticSmart tips, visit **www.epa.gov/septicsmart**

EPA EPA-832-F-16-010 | July 2016


ALWAYS CALL
BEFORE YOU DIG

By Larry Janes, Executive Director, SD One Call/SD811

Have you ever thought about what it would be like not to have good tasting, clean water available when you need it? Probably not. I know I rarely do, but there's just nothing better than turning on the tap and getting a refreshing cold glass of water to quench your thirst on a hot day or having that steaming hot water ready for you in the shower. And in those rare cases when there's a water break, we just can't wait until it's repaired.

For many, having clean water available for basic human needs is just not the case. There are all kinds of figures available on the internet ranging anywhere from hundreds of millions of people to several billion people who don't have access to clean or even adequate water supplies, either on a regular basis or ever. Fortunately for those of us living here in South Dakota, we do. And we have our water suppliers, excavators and you to thank for that.

Our water suppliers work hard to learn about new technologies to keep our water clean and safe. But why thank excavators and you, you ask? That's because you contacted the South Dakota 811 Center before digging, more than ever before, in 2016. In fact last year was a record year for contacting the South Dakota 811 system, either by calling 811 or by going on-line to request utilities to locate their underground services and mark them with paint or flags before digging occurred. The 811 Center was contacted, a whopping 161,767 times last year. That's more than any other year since the service began back in 1993. With our population in South Dakota of about 882,000 people, and with this large number of locate requests, it works out to a little over one in five people digging something, somewhere in the state all year long.

What's really cool about this is that 61% of all these requests were made online, with no hold time, even during the busiest times of the year, which are always during the spring thaw and just before freeze-up. We're constantly working to make it easier and more efficient for you to get your work projects out to the utilities in your area as quickly as possible. A call to the 811 Center takes about 7 to 8 minutes, from the time you reach a representative until you hang up, but the new, online Homeowner Portal takes only about half that time. Just go to ***sdhop.southdakota811.com*** to process your request using the South Dakota Homeowner Portal. It's a step-by-step process that's really easy to use. (Even I can do it, and that's saying something).

South Dakota 811 is there to accept your calls and on-line requests 24/7, 365 days a year, so water suppliers and other underground facility operators know to mark their lines to prevent outages. This can protect those buried services during excavation projects, such as planting trees, placing fences or drain tile, and any other projects where the earth will be disturbed and where those buried lines could accidently be damaged. Once you've made contact with the Center all utilities in the area are notified of the work you'll be doing and when you plan to do it, so they can mark those underground lines, including your water, to ensure your safety and making sure that you won't lose your valuable services.

South Dakota 811®

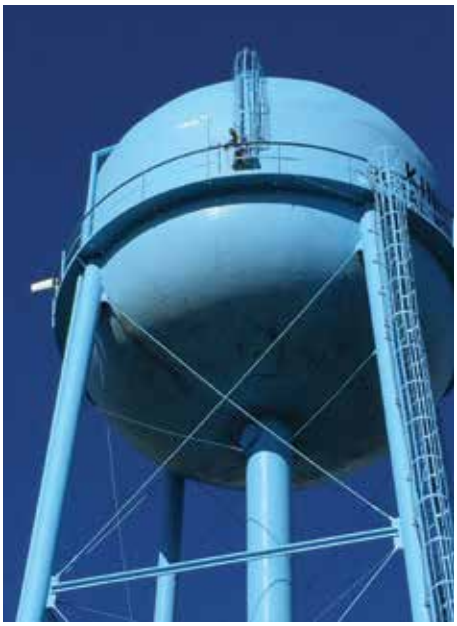
Know what's below. Call before you dig.

HOW TO REQUEST SD 811 LOCATES

PHONE: Make a free call to 811 (in-state) or (800) 781-7474 (outside of South Dakota).

ONLINE: Use the new South Dakota 811 Web portal for faster processing of locate requests. Just visit: ***sdhop.southdakota811.com***

MOBILE APP: The South Dakota 811 app is available free in the Apple App Store and Google Play. Just search for "South Dakota 811."



WHY RURAL WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS ARE CRITICAL

by Erin Hayes, General Manager, Kingbrook Rural Water System

Water operators are the first line of defense in public health. They deliver safe, plentiful drinking water to our members. Being a water operator is a very meaningful career choice as they make a huge, positive difference in the health of our communities. Most technical operations are handled by our operators, who are probably the most important person in the overall operations of our system.

Operators provide one of the most valuable services to Rural Water members. They work in vital jobs that we cannot do without a tremendous amount of knowledge and fortitude. They keep us supplied with a necessity of life 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Water keeps us alive and is delivered or treated to protect our health as well as the environment.

It is important for everyone to understand how as leaders we need to support and equip operators with the skills and financial resources to do their job and help the operator keep the community's system running well.

Every state requires water operators to pass certification exams to show they are capable of overseeing critical aspects of water operations; it is no different in South Dakota.

Water operators run the equipment and control the process that cleans drinking water. They maintain and repair the pipes, valves, pumps, controls, engines, generators, and other equipment used to produce water. They sample and test the water at various points during treatment and distribution to ensure the treatment processes are working correctly to maintain water quality.

Once water leaves the treatment plant, it is stored in a tank or distributed directly to members through the distribution system. This is a network of pipes and pumps that carry water from the treatment system to the homes, businesses, schools, pasture taps for livestock, etc.

Rural water operators generally work on their own in a specified geographic area and are supported by an entire team of operators throughout the organization. ***"A successful team understands that regardless of how different each person on the team is, they all share a common goal."***

Rural water operators monitor the miles of different size pipes daily within their respective service area. An operator begins their day by looking at the overnight activity of water in their service areas using a technology called SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition). This is a system of software and hardware elements that allow rural water organizations to directly interact with devices such as sensors, valves, pumps, motors, and more. To simplify this, the operator looks for any anomalies that may have occurred throughout the night that may have caused potential leaks, or other related issues.

Every day the operator reviews their work orders and other service work the office may have scheduled for them. The workload generally consists of adding new services, repairing leaks, maintaining customer meters, responding to utility locates, assisting at treatment plants, obtaining easements for pipe routing, collecting GPS points on valuable assets, servicing pasture taps, taking equipment from one site to another to assist other operators and so on. These individuals also serve on an on-call duty rotation six times a year where they are expected to know every aspect of our footprint and what their responsibilities are for each community we serve.

This may sound like "all in a day's work," but to understand how your system operates is essential. The type of work an operator does is ever changing. Automation and digital technologies are requiring operators to be able to do more with data.

The most rewarding factor an operator can do to achieve their goals in rural water, is to stay focused on the plan, the action, and be better than the day before. Every day in this profession, is an opportunity to provide safe drinking water for families, our members, and our communities. Having a winning career in the water industry creates a long-lasting ripple effect that any operator can and should be proud of.








CLARK RURAL WATER SYSTEM

In 1976, the worst drought in South Dakota's history was beginning to dramatically impact the lives of rural Clark county residents. Wells and dugouts were going dry and livestock was sold due to the lack of feed and water. Knowing that a guaranteed water source could break the back of drought cycles and help both the farmer and main-street prosper was a motivating factor in the development of Clark Rural Water System.

The original idea for the Clark Rural Water system started with a group of farmers from southern Clark County gathered around a kitchen table. By 1977 a steering committee was formed and began the daunting task of developing interest in rural water among the county residents. Although there were setbacks, the committee secured nearly 400 sign ups by 1978 and the Clark Rural Water System was put on the State Water Plan in 1981.

By 1982, the Clark Rural Water Board of Directors had secured $5.2 million dollars in loan and grant funds. Funding for Clark Rural Water primarily came from Rural Development (called FmHA in those days) with a combination of loan and Grant funds. The state of South Dakota also contributed loan and grant funding to the system. The grants Clark received included a HUD Community Development grant, Oahe Subdivision grant, Oahe exploratory Grant, and a small grant from the East Dakota Water Development District. The developing membership also contributed nearly $160,000 towards the project.

Construction started on Clark Rural Water in October of 1982 with work starting on the first well; the final distribution lines were installed December 1983. 525 rural users and five municipalities were part of the original project with the final cost of the original construction of Clark Rural Water totaling around $5,250,000.

The design of the system called for the source to be developed, the treatment plant constructed and the distribution lines installed at nearly the same time. As a result, there was no treated water available to pressure check the distribution lines being installed. The process of using untreated water worked great at the time for verifying that the newly constructed lines were leak free, but now whenever there is any disruption to the lines they need to be flushed as the iron that settled out of the water from that initial construction can dirty the water.

Clark's first expansion project began in 1984 after the system acquired some grant funding. After the initial project, there were some monies left over – so a small project was developed to connect 20 additional rural users and several miles of distribution main line. The next expansion occurred in 1989 when the system expanded to the east connecting hookups to the north side of Lake Kampeska. The project included a storage tank, pumping station and added 125 new members to the system.

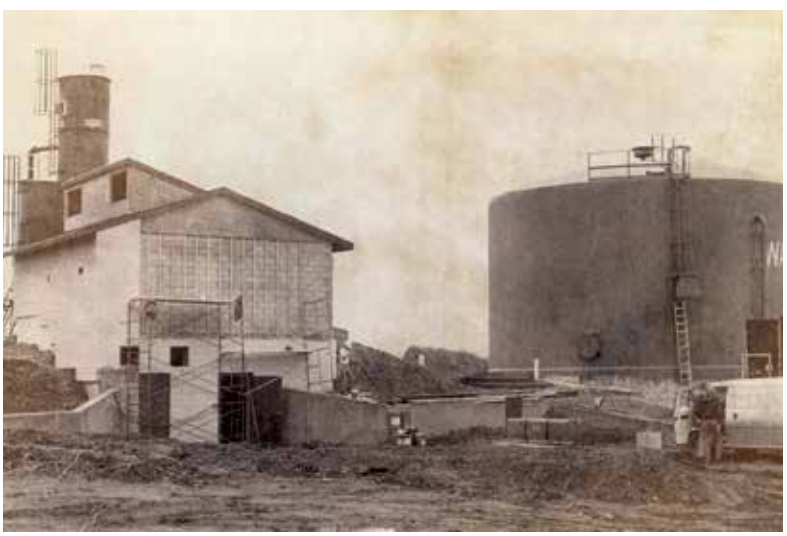
In 1992 Clark Rural Water joined forces with Codington-Clark Electric to save costs and increase service reliability for both organizations. Clark Rural Water installed a 150 kW backup generator at the treatment plant to help with load management. This agreement was the first between a Rural Water System and a Rural Electric for load management. The agreement allowed the rural electric utility to reduce their wholesale power costs, and as a result Clark Rural Water received a reduced rate on electricity – which in turn reduced the cost of delivering water to the membership.

By 1993 the demand on the system had exceeded the original plant design capacity. A second filtration unit was added that doubled the system capacity from 600 gpm (gallons per minute) to 1,200 gpm. With this added capacity, the system was able to expand to the northwest from Raymond to Crocker and north

to another 125 people who were requesting water service. A small storage tank and pumping station were constructed to serve the members. Three additional wells have been constructed since 1991 to serve the main treatment plant, bringing the total number of wells to six. Land around the wells has been purchased over the years for wellhead protection. Currently, 675 acres are rented to local farmers or dedicated to the CRP program, while giving Clark Rural Water control over the activities and practices around the well field.

Another dry cycle in 2006 demonstrated the limits of the distribution system, with tanks running very low or dry. A tanker truck was used for three days to keep members in water during August by delivering over 136,000 gallons to keep the Kampeska storage tank from going dry. In October the staff at Clark RWS began construction of a 200 gpm nitrate removal plant, storage tank and wells to serve the area north of Watertown. The plant went online in 2007 and has eliminated the shortage that was experienced the year before, and enabled the system to provide water to a 48 home development and the Joy Ranch facility for Lutheran Outdoors. By building the plant with system personnel, the system saved over $300,000 in construction costs. An additional 137 acres was purchased around the wells at the Kampeska Plant for well protection.

The original treatment plant had a design life of 20 years. 2007 took the plant five years beyond that figure with a couple more years to do something about it, after evaluating the condition it was in. Engineering reports and design proposals took a couple of years to approve, and when the project was ready to look at funding resources the Stimulus Program was announced. Shovel ready projects were the qualifier and we had a shovel ready project. A lime softening treatment plant with a total cost of $7,820,000 was approved with a great ratio of 36.6% Grant, or $2,862,000 grant money and a loan of $4,958,000 at a 2.75% interest rate. It would be hard to imagine that the system will ever outgrow this facility with a treatment rate of 2200 gallons per minute, and the construction of the plant and the process equipment inside will have an extremely long life cycle and will be able to provide good water for decades. The ongoing evolution of the system has brought us to over 1,200 members and six municipalities that use nearly 300 million gallons annually, and now with capacity for future development in our service area.



CLARK RURAL WATER SYSTEM

DIRECTORS:

Steve Arnesen – President
Mark McHenry – Vice President
Darrell Seefeldt – Secretary
Arlen Boehnke – Treasurer
Larry Wasland – State Association Director
Marlin Fjelland – Director
Michelle Birkholtz – Director
Myron Hanson – Director
Ryan Helkenn – Director

STAFF:

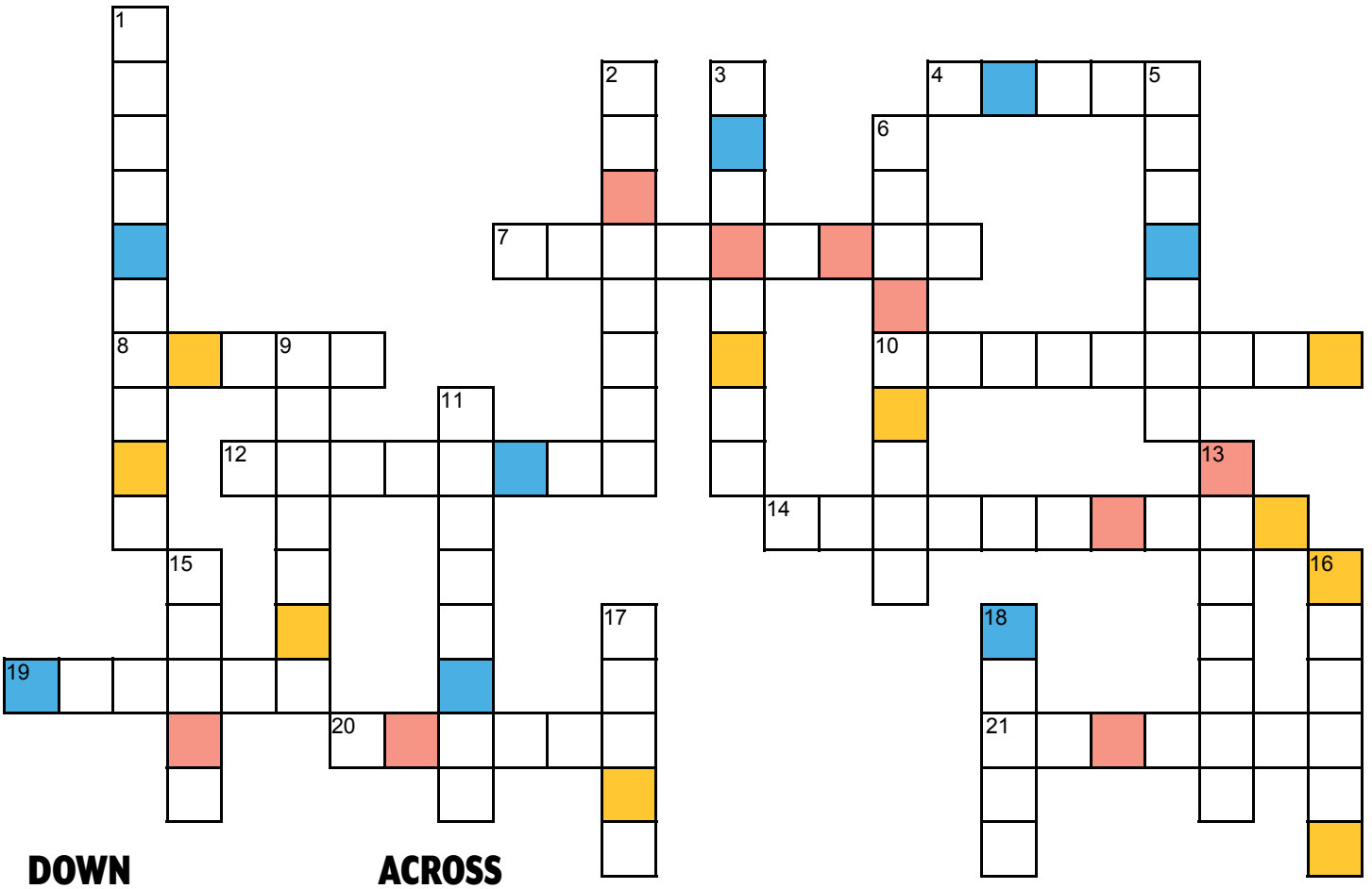
Terry Kaufman – Manager
Diane Spieker – Office Manager
Greg Marx – Operations Specialist
Jeff Hoffman – Operations Specialist
Scott Hovde – Operations Specialist

STATISTICS:

Hookups: 1,200
Miles of Pipeline: 1,150
Water Source: East Fork Vermillion Aquifer, Big Sioux Aquifer (North Unit)
Counties Served: Codington, Day, Grant, Hamlin, Clark
Towns Served Bulk: Dakota Sioux Casino, Nature's Deli, Clark, Florence, Henry, Wallace, Raymond, Bradley

RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

Back to School



DOWN

1. Temporary educator
2. Loose-leaf or bound
3. Little learners
5. Class that dwells on the past
6. School boss
9. Homework assigner
11. Putting letters in the right order
13. Colorful wax sticks
15. Vocal or instrumental
16. Grade school break
17. Measuring device
18. Student's stations

ACROSS

4. Boxed, bagged, or on a tray
7. Educational excursion (2 words)
8. Midterm and final
10. Teacher's domain
12. Carryall
14. Clean when black and dirty when white
19. Mistake eliminator
20. Of the number 2 variety
21. Biology or chemistry

Enter to Win $100

SCRAMBLE ANSWER

RULES: Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or **enter online at www.sdarws.com/crossword.html** with the correct phrase by October 12, 2020 to be entered into the $100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Doug Kiesz who had the correct phrase of "The first wealth is health" for July 2020.

MID-DAKOTA PROJECT

2020 is a big construction year for Mid-Dakota Rural Water System. A new lagoon, which is bigger than the other three on location, finished construction in the late spring. The addition of the lagoon will help to improve the output of the water treatment plant by increasing the amount of sludge that can be released speeding up the water treatment process.

The Town of Ree Heights wanted Mid-Dakota to take over their water system. There were old water lines and service lines in the town and they really needed to be replaced. Ree Heights applied for funding and advertised bids. Once the project is completed, the Town of Ree Heights intends to turn the town's water system over to Mid-Dakota and get out of the water business.

The board and staff wanted to push more water to the eastern portion of the Mid-Dakota service area. To do that there were projects that needed to be completed. First, extra storage was needed so another 1.5 million gallon tank is being built to the west of the existing tank west of Highmore. Landmark Tank was the winning bidder on this tank project. Completion of the construction of this tank is in the summer of 2021 The other project is the paralleling of 21 miles of 24" mainline pipe in three different sections from Highmore to east of St. Lawrence. Carstensen was awarded the bids on the first two sections of pipeline and S.J. Lewis was awarded the last section. Pipeline completion is set for this fall.

Scholarship Winners Say 'Thank You'

Dear Mid-Dakota Rural Water System,

Thank you for selecting me to receive your scholarship. It is truly a great honor to receive this scholarship. I plan to use the scholarship money this fall at Mitchell Tech on my education. I plan to graduate next May with a degree in welding.

Thanks again,

Bailey Binger

Mid Dakota Rural Water,

Thank you for the scholarship. It will be used for books and tuition as I attend Dakota Wesleyan University in the fall. I will be a sophomore and am excited to continue my education at DWU. Thanks again for the scholarship to help me continue my education.

Thanks so much,

Erin Moncur

Dear Mid-Dakota Water,

Thank you so much for selecting me for one of the Mid-Dakota Water Scholarships. I sincerely appreciate the scholarship. It will make a huge difference in helping me to pay for my college. I'm looking forward to attending Black Hills State University in the fall.

Sincerely,

Maria Noyes

Thank you so much for the Mid-Dakota scholarship money I was awarded! This money will be used to help me as I attend South Dakota State University this fall. I will be majoring in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education with a music minor. Thank you again!

Sydney Jessen

MID DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Rate Table Effective January 1, 2020

501 Residential 1-Unit

$43.00	per month minimum bill
$5.00	per 1,000 gallons 1st 33,000
$7.25	per 1,000 gallons over 33,000

502 Rural Household 2-Units

$53.00	per month minimum bill
$5.00	per 1,000 gallons 1st 10,000
$4.00	per 1,000 gallons next 56,000
$7.25	Per 1,000 gallons over 66,000

504 Rural Household 4-Units

$71.00	per month minimum bill
$5.00	per 1,000 gallons 1st 10,000
$4.00	per 1,000 gallons next 122,000
$7.25	per 1,000 gallons over 132,000

506 Rural Household 6-Units

$88.00	per month minimum bill
$5.00	per 1,000 gallons 1st 10,000
$4.00	per 1,000 gallons next 188,000
$7.25	per 1,000 gallons over 198,000

511 Livestock

$31.00	per month minimum bill
$4.00	per 1,000 gallons 1st 300,000 (per year)
$5.00	per 1,000 gallons 301,000 to 700,000 (per year)
$7.25	per 1,000 gallons over 700,000 (per year)

161, 162, 164, 165 Special Class I & II

$16.40	per GPM per month minimum bill
$25.00	per GPM per month demand charge
$0.55	per 1,000 gallons

163, 166 Special Class III

$4.69	per Pers (equiv) per month minimum bill
$4.75	per Pers (equiv) per month demand charge
$0.55	per 1,000 gallons up to contract amount
$7.25	per 1,000 gallons over contract amount

1 Minimum & demand charges do not include any water.
2 Livestock (511) water allocations are annual use, not monthly.
3 "equivalent" population "person" = contract GPD ÷ 270

After Hours or Emergencies
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or call the answering service direct at
1-888-545-7440

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What Does Your Water Travel Through?

This year, travelers along Highway 14 east and west of Miller couldn't help but notice the large pipe that is being placed along the highway. This pipe is 24" PVC pipe and part of a pipeline extension for the mainline serving customers east of Highmore.

In the Town of Ree Heights, there was a construction project by the town to replace the pipeline that is currently in place with new PVC pipe. While digging the pipeline route, they found a piece of abandoned waterline history in the town. Before the wonderful materials we use today (PVC, black plastic, concrete lined ductile iron, galvanized steel, etc.) people had to make do with what was available. In this case, the founding fathers of Ree Heights used wood pipe to transport their water throughout the town. They used a hollowed out log and placed metal bands around the log to give it extra support. This pipe was angled towards the railroad and was thought to have been used to supply the water tower at the railroad for the train.

A section of wooden pipe once used in the city of Ree Heights

The ancient Romans used lead because it was pliable and easy to work with. Lead was used yet not so long ago in homes but it is not recommended anymore due to health concerns. If you have lead pipes, you may want to have them replaced in your home with PVC or some other safe materials. Materials used in the Mid-Dakota system are steel, ductile iron, PVC and plastic (service lines). Wooden pipes are a thing of the past but it is interesting to see how things were done in the past. Who knows what will be the water conveyance materials in use when these lines are replaced and what will be the reactions of those that dig them up?

Mid Dakota Rural Water System, Inc.
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Miller, South Dakota 57362-0318
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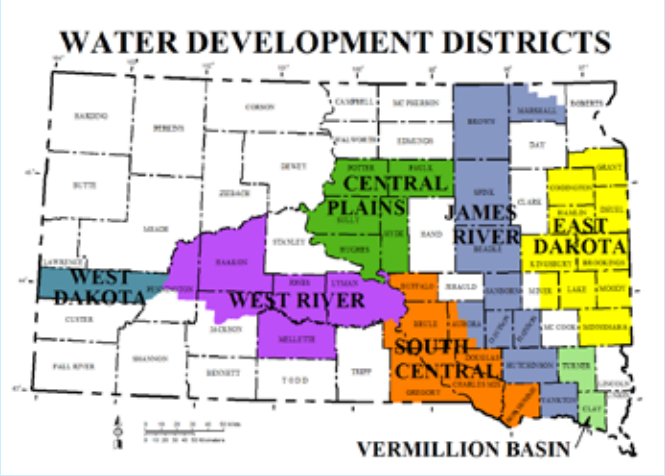
WATER MATTERS

Water Development Districts



Water Development Districts (WDDs) are political subdivisions of the State. WDDs promote the conservation, development, and proper management of water resources according to district priorities. They can provide technical, organizational, and financial assistance to prospective and existing projects and activities. While sharing many common efforts, each of the seven existing WDDs (see map) have developed programs and expertise designed to address those issues most important to their area.

Each WDD is governed by an elected Board of Directors, consisting of 5, 7, or 9 members, depending on population. The Board hires or contracts for staff and other services as necessary. WDDs have a limited taxing authority, being able to levy a tax of no more than thirty cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation (0.3 mill). They also pursue external grant support for priority activities.

If an organization, entity, group or individual has a project or activity that needs technical, organizational, or financial assistance, contact the WDD for that area. Staff has extensive experience in developing and supporting projects. They can assist in preparing an application to include a project on the State Water Plan, an important step if a project needs state or federal assistance. They can also help project sponsors search for funds from other sources.

WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

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