

REPORT TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Vol. 1 No. 22

February 2011

Year To-Date Summary

Technical Assistance Provided

925 Community Systems Visited

Training Provided Statewide

Classes	Individuals Trained
34	754

Highlighting Training & Technical Assistance Provided

COMMUNITY PWS RURAL WATER MEMBERS	
WI RURAL WATER DISTRICT	NUMBER OF SYSTEM MEMBERS
1 (NE)	96
2 (SE)	235
3 (Central)	102
4 (NW)	103
5 (SW)	124
TOTAL	660

WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE WATCHING

With all the State & Federal changes in leadership & budgets, Rural communities are concerned over a loss of local control and programs that provide assistance in times of added stress on local budgets.

WRWA Technical Assistance in February

On Friday, February 11, 2011, Wisconsin Rural Water Association's Circuit Rider, Ed Hendzel, received a call from Jerry Mehring requesting assistance in locating a water leak. Mehring is the water superintendent for the **Williams Bay Waterworks**. Hendzel arrived at 11:30 A.M. on February 11, to begin the technical assistance. Ed and Jerry checked the entire upper zone of the water distribution system. They found a couple of bad hydrants and they also found the pipe that was leaking approximately 80,000 gallons of water per day. The utility will now be able to make the needed repairs. Hendzel also gave Mehring training on the use of a leak detector and left a leak detector from WRWA's loaner equipment so that Jerry can check the lower zone of the water system. The total contact time was 4 hours and saved the utility about \$3300.00, the cost of a leak detector if the utility were to purchase one. The technical assistance will also save the utility a huge amount of additional water loss.

Chris Groh, the Wisconsin Rural Water Association Wastewater Trainer, was requested to visit the **City of Park Falls WWTP** by Mr. Kurt Damrow (certified Wastewater Operator) to demonstrate how to convert phosphorus data from the ponds treatment to useable data for engineering a phosphorus treatment process into the plant. Chris showed how to convert the most common form of phosphate to total phosphorus. A plant addition for phosphorus treatment was discussed and Chris suggested several strategies that would maximize phosphorus treatment with a minimum amount of money. The data required for the process to be properly monitored was being gathered by Mr. Damrow and now he is able to submit the information without hiring a consultant to manipulate the data. This training will save the city approximately \$1000 in consulting engineering fees.

This contact actually started on February 1, 2011 when **City of Durand** operator Ed Sabelko asked Wisconsin Rural Water Association Field Staff Supervisor Jeff La Belle to assist with a leak detection. The first leak detection was in an area that had a water line through a woods that was not able to be listened on with leak detection equipment. La Belle had requested that the line be isolated for a day to see if pumpage would reduce. This isolation did not have any effect on the water pumped. The system was losing approximately 90,000 gals a day to this leak. On February 10, 2011 CR La Belle returned to the City of Durand at the request of Sabelko to try and find the leak again. Upon this visit La Belle found noise in the same area that it had been found on another previous visit. After working the area over and not finding any noise any place else, Sabelko located a private 2" lateral that fed water to some duplex's and a couple of private homes. After finding the valve for this private lateral, it was determined that this was where the leak was located. The total time of these two visits was 10 hrs. , saving the system approximately \$6000.00 in what it would have cost to have a leak consultant for two visits and the cost of a leak detector if purchased.