

RURAL WATER LEGISLATIVE NEWS.....January 2008

***MUNICIPAL UTILITY LEGISLATIVE RALLY** - The leadership of the municipal utility organizations will gather in Madison for the 4th Annual Municipal Utility Legislative Rally on Thursday, January 31, 2008. For more information check the front page of www.wrwa.org and follow the 2008 Municipal Utility Legislative Rally link to **registration information**.

In March of 2005, municipal water, electric, telecom officials gathered to make our collective voices heard in Madison. Now in 2008, the leadership of the municipal utility organizations aim to make the 4th Annual Municipal Utility Legislative Rally better than ever! Do not miss a chance to meet your legislators!

WHO: All municipal electric, water, wastewater and telecom utilities

WHAT: Legislative Lobby Day

WHERE: Concourse Hotel-Madison, Wisconsin

WHEN: Thursday, January 31, 2008; Sessions and speakers in the morning; legislative visits in the afternoon

WHY: The time is short for the 2007-08 Legislature as the official session ends in early March. It is imperative municipal utility voices be heard in the Capitol. Together we can help shape local legislation to make it better for our ratepayers, our residents, and ultimately, our communities.

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Lunch will be served prior to legislative visits.

***AB 649** – proposed to prohibit municipal electric and water utilities from collecting certain utility arrearages from owners of rental properties as property liens. Introduced by representatives Roth, Albers, Kestell, F. Lasse, Nass, Nygren, Petrowski, Townsend, Vos, Vruwink, and Ziegelbauer – cosponsored by Senator Roessler. The bill was sent to the Assembly Urban and Local Affairs Committee, consisting of Mark Gottlieb R-Port Washington (Chair), Dan LeMahieu R-Oostburg, Scott Gunderson R-Waterford, Thomas Lothian R-Williams Bay, Don Pridemore R-Waukesha, Gary Sherman D-Port Wing, Mary Hubler D-Rice Lake, Frank Boyle D-Superior, and Robert Turner D-Racine.

***AB 638** – prohibits DNR from allowing municipal water utilities to use more than 25 percent of water produced for bottled water purposes. Introduced by Representative Marlin Schneider.

***QUOTE** – “No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent.”

Abraham Lincoln