



# Aqua Talk

A newsletter from the Safe Drinking Water Program



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

## New Water Sources and Drinking Water Policy No. 3

Volume 6, Issue 4  
Fall 2012

by Andrew Ross, Standards Unit and Tyson Ingles, Engineering Section

In March the water quality control division (division) updated its 2005 policy on classifying sources of drinking water as either groundwater (GW) or groundwater under the influence of surface water (GWUDI). This policy, drinking water policy no. 3, is available on the division's website at: <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-WQ/CBON/1251596877213>

There are two significant differences between the former policy and the updated policy:

1. How the division defines and relates the setback between underground sources of drinking water and the nearest surface water body to a GWUDI classification. The setback is a natural barrier, in essence a filter, to prevent the presence of bacteria and viruses in the well. These pathogens are typically present in the nearest surface water body or surface conditions around the well. Prior to the updating the policy, the division used a setback of 100 feet horizontally and 100 feet vertically to determine GWUDI. Now, the division changed the setback to 50 days time-of-travel between the well and the surface. To determine the 50 days time-of-travel, the division recommends that water systems develop a groundwater model for their system. Many times a model is not practical for a water system.
2. Water quality monitoring: In the absence of a groundwater model, the division will request water systems to collect water quality data for 6 months. The former policy mentioned this water quality data, but not in specific terms. This water quality data is utilized as a surrogate to a groundwater model to establish that the natural barrier between the underground source of drinking water and the nearest surface water body is robust enough to prevent the presence of bacteria and viruses in the well. If the data indicates either less than 50 days time of travel or presence of photosynthetic organisms in significant quantities, the well (or water source) will be classified as GWUDI and must be filtered.

### NEW WATER SOURCES

The Colorado Department of Natural Resources Water regulates well siting and permitting; the division does not provide input into those activities. Although a water system may not have full control over where to site a water well due to water rights and the division of water resources

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# Improving the Readability of the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations

by Ron Falco, Safe Drinking Water Program Manager

Hello,

The Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations (CPDWR) form the foundation and framework for all we do together to ensure that consumers get safe drinking water when they turn on their tap. The CPDWR were first adopted in 1977 when Colorado gained primacy to implement the federal safe drinking water act. The regulations have been updated and modified many times since 1977 with major changes in each of the ensuing decades. However, it appears to me that rarely, if ever, have they been evaluated in their entirety with respect to readability, consistency and obsolescence. We have a small window in time before EPA finalizes the revised total coliform rule, and numerous other federal rulemakings are scheduled for this decade. So now is the time to undertake the effort to make our regulations better!

We will work with stakeholders over the next several months to update and revise the format and language in the CPDWR without changing the substance in the regulations. There will not be new requirements. Additionally, we are not seeking new staff for this effort or as a result of this effort. In fact, any new proposed revisions must be resource neutral for our implementation.

We began with some stakeholder meetings in August held in conjunction with our design criteria stakeholder meetings. Additional meetings are slated for September and early 2013. These initial meetings will help us gauge stakeholder issues and concerns and help us solicit input on big picture organizational issues including whether the regulations should be split into multiple regulations, or remain as one document.

Please read the more detailed article on page 5 for more specific information about this undertaking and how to join the stakeholder effort. We are really excited about this opportunity! It has been a long time coming.

As always, thank you for everything you do to keep our drinking water safe!



# Updating Design Criteria for Potable Water Systems

by Tyson Ingels, Engineering Section

## OVERVIEW

The *Design Criteria for Potable Water Systems* are used by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for reviewing waterworks at public water systems. The current version of the design criteria was last updated in March 1997. In 2007, the department began a project to update the design criteria. After significant effort by both the department and stakeholders, the effort was placed on hold due to significant workload and resource limitation issues. Considering developments that have occurred since 2007 including: degree of detail of design reviews, update of wastewater criteria and acceptance of alternative technologies; the department will largely abandon the previous revision work in favor of a more succinct process to update the design criteria and facilitate a system where they can be updated on a regular interval. Therefore although workload and resource issues persist, the dynamic nature of treatment technologies and the rate of change of practice necessitate that the department begin again with revisions to the design criteria.

## APPROACH

A large group of stakeholders from the regulated and professional engineering community are participating in several workgroups to develop the criteria. Once completed, the criteria will be reviewed by the department, workgroup leaders and the stakeholders late winter to early spring 2013. After finalized, modifications to keep this document current may be made by the department as necessary.

Generally, the goal will be to perform a major technical review and update of the criteria every five years through a formal stakeholder process. This stakeholder process is expected to be more routine than the current effort simply due to the fact that the projected timeframe will be five years between updates rather than the current 15 years.

## GENERAL PHILOSOPHY

As of the summer 2012, there are over 2100 regulated public water systems in Colorado. Most of these systems are classified as small; with many serving less than 500 people per day. Because we regulate so many small systems, many of the designs reviewed by the department are for facilities without the benefit of large amounts of site-specific data that are available at larger facilities.

Therefore, the design criteria are intended to serve two main purposes:

1. Establish a code for the design of new waterworks that sets forth *minimum* requirements for protecting the *reliability and quality* of the finished water;
2. Summarize and characterize more than 100 years of nationally-recognized industry best *minimum* practices for designing waterworks given that many designs occur without substantial site-specific data.

At the end of this project, the department hopes to achieve consensus about the content of the current criteria and a method to regularly update these criteria. Also, we wish to add clarity to the design submittal process which will expedite the review and approval timeline for all regulated public water systems within the state. If you wish to get involved in this effort, please contact Jacki Main at 303-692-3665.

## Did you know . . . . .

More than 25-percent of bottled water comes from a municipal water supply, the same place that tap water comes from.

Source: Environmental Protection Agency

# Water Quality Control Division Staffing Changes



**Dave Akers** retired on June 30 after 33 years of dedicated service. Throughout his lengthy career, Dave held various positions within the water quality control division. He retired with the title of Division Deputy Director.



**Lori Gerzina** retired from the water quality control division on June 30. Lori served the people of Colorado for 22 years. While Lori held many positions, her most recent role with the water quality control division was the compliance assurance section manager.



**Doug Camrud** has recently been promoted to an engineering review unit manager in the engineering section of the water quality control division. Mr. Camrud began working for the water quality control division as a district engineer in June 2007. He was assigned to the engineering review unit within the engineering section after reorganization of the engineering section in October of 2011.



Doug works closely with drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities, engineering companies and the public on design reviews, compliance evaluation inspections, sanitary surveys, spill response and also provides technical assistance regarding

division regulations, policies and procedures. Overall, Mr. Camrud has over 25 years of engineering and project management experience.

**Kelly Jacques** was recently promoted to field service section unit manager for the Denver unit from a review engineer within the engineering review section. Ms. Jacques began her career with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) as a district engineer assigned to the engineering section review unit. She has worked closely with the regulated community on design reviews and sanitary surveys.

Prior to joining the CDPHE team, Ms. Jacques spent four years as the senior environmental engineer for the support contractor to the National Science Foundation's United States Antarctic Program. She oversaw and served as a liaison for the drinking water and wastewater safety and quality programs. Kelly has also worked in the private sector as a reclamation specialist at a remote mining site.

Photo of Kelly  
to be inserted here

Kelly attained her professional engineering license in 2009. She holds a bachelor of science in civil engineering from Montana State University at Bozeman.

# Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations Increased Readability Rulemaking

by Alison Brinton, Policy and Planning Unit

Tired of flipping through pages of regulations unsure whether or not they apply to you and upon finding an applicable requirement realizing it's nearly unreadable? Not to worry, the department has already begun to fix this problem through the Colorado primary drinking water regulations (CPDWR) increased readability rulemaking. The CPDWR increased readability rulemaking will address these problems through reorganizing, simplifying and clarifying the existing CPDWR while creating no or only minor change to current implementation practices and requirements.

The reorganization will maintain the current article structure of organizing by contaminant group. Within each article the CPDWR will be reorganized by monitoring lifecycle (initial, routine, reduced, increased) and by system type (community, non-transient non-community, transient, non-transient, surface water, groundwater). This consistent structure will allow applicable requirements to be found with greater ease.

The actual language will be simplified and clarified through the use of shorter sentences, active voice, consistent terms and definitions, logic tables and other devices. Typographical errors, outdated requirements and errors in references will also be removed. These changes will enhance the readers ability to understand and comply with CPDWR.

The final CPDWR increased readability rulemaking hearing will be in Aug of 2013. In Aug and Sept of this year, stakeholder meetings were held to gather input on the proposed strategy. Prior to the hearing there will be a number of other ways to participate and provide feedback, including:

- Final language stakeholder meetings and webinars in spring 2013

- A one month comment period on the final language in spring 2013
- A prehearing comment period in summer 2013

We look forward to working with you to create a better CPDWR that can be more easily understood and read by all.

For more information please visit our rulemaking informational webpage at: [www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-WQ/CBON/1251596877171](http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-WQ/CBON/1251596877171)



Policy and planning unit staff:  
Front row: Julie Kreyche, Kaitlin Stabrava  
Back row: Alison Brinton, Melissa Swerdlow, Steve Schema

# Small Systems Training & Technical Assistance (SSTTA)

by Luanna Cruz, Grants and Loans Unit

In July, four \$25,000 small systems training and technical assistance grants (SSTTA) were awarded to small drinking water systems in Colorado. These grants were made possible with \$100,000 from set-aside funding from the 2012 drinking water capitalization grant. Small systems are defined as those systems serving a population 10,000 or less and a median household income (MHI) less than the \$56,456 state average.

A request for application was issued for the month of May and a mass email was sent to governmental entities, small districts and public and private not-for-profit small drinking water systems listed on the eligibility lists of the drinking water revolving fund intended use plan (IUP) for consideration of the grant. Nineteen grant applications were received for a total amount of \$475,000. Projects were prioritized and ranked based on the intended use plan eligibility category and points assignment as identified in regulation 52. Those receiving grants were the top five ranked projects. Grant amounts awarded were for the purpose of planning and design of future drinking water projects.

Congratulations to the following systems receiving SSTTA grants through the set-aside funding!

Project #	Elig Cat	Entity Name	Grant Amount
960238	1	Yampa, Town of	\$25,000
110018D	2	Timbers Water & Sanitation District	\$25,000
100036D	4	Elbert Water & Sanitation District	\$25,000
020015D	5	Williamsburg, Town of	\$12,500
120017D	5	Manzanola, City of	\$12,500

Since the inception of the SSTTA grant program, we have awarded a total of 41 grants.

Provided there is funding availability, our next request for application will be in May 2013.

For more information on the SSTTA grant program, please contact Louanna Cruz  
[Louanna.cruz@state.co.us](mailto:Louanna.cruz@state.co.us) or 303-692-3604.

## Drinking Water Policy No. 3

*(Continued from page 1)*

regulations, there are some important considerations on where to locate a well that will influence the classification.

Absent 50 day time of travel modeling, wells that are located within 500 feet of a surface water body or are perforated at less than fifty feet will be evaluated to determine GWUDI. Due to Colorado's geology and available water, the majority of new wells in recent years have been alluvial aquifer wells. Traditional vertical wells located in alluvial aquifers may be classified as GW or GWUDI depending on the site-specific details. Springs and infiltration galleries are typically considered GWUDI, unless geologically controlled.

In general, a water system should consider locating wells in an alluvial aquifer as deep and as far from a surface water body as practical, or at a distance that achieves a 50 day time-of-travel. When developing a well, water systems should collect as much information about the subsurface during the drilling process as possible, as this can assist the division in its classification. The division encourages water systems to contact the division before locating new water sources to be fully informed about the information the division will need to classify a water source as either GW or GWUDI.

For more information on drinking water policy no. 3, please contact Andrew Ross at [andrew.ross@state.co.us](mailto:andrew.ross@state.co.us) or Tyson Ingels at [tyson.ingels@state.co.us](mailto:tyson.ingels@state.co.us).

# Walter A. Weers Outstanding Achievement Award

by Jackie Whelan, Facility Operator Program

Sid Copeland was awarded the Walter A. Weers Outstanding Achievement Award at the water and wastewater facility operator certification board meeting on June 26. Sid has served the water industry for over 25 years. The past 20 years, he successfully led the operation of the city of Louisville's water treatment facilities and provided the community with high quality drinking water.

Sid felt the need to become involved in the certification process and made the decision to give back to his chosen profession through Colorado's network of certification volunteers. Early in his career, Sid became involved with the examination process by volunteering with the Colorado water distribution and wastewater collection systems certification council (certification council) as a proctor at exam sites. For many years Sid volunteered at every exam site, regardless of where it was in the state. For the last ten years, Sid has led the exam proctor program, successfully recruiting and coordinating the proctors at each exam site. In addition, Sid has served on the certification council's reciprocity committee for the past 11 years. Sid is dedicated to the education, advancement and recognition of water and wastewater operators in Colorado. Sid has given of his time and expertise by volunteering unselfishly for many years to build Colorado's certification program and exemplifies the qualities of the Walter A. Weers Outstanding Achievement Award.



Sid Copeland

The Walter A. Weers Outstanding Achievement Award honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Colorado water and wastewater facility operators certification program and to the water professionals operating Colorado facilities under this program. It is named after Dr. Walter A. Weers, who devoted a half-century of outstanding service to the advancement of the education and certification of professionals in the Colorado water and wastewater industry.

# Steve Gunderson Named President of Association of Clean Water Administrators

by Jacki Main, Safe Drinking Water Program



Congratulations to Steve Gunderson, director of the water quality control division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the newly elected president of the Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA). Steve is looking forward to working with ACWA partners, especially the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to ensure the state and interstate perspective is appropriately considered in the development of national policy related to the quality of the waters in our streams, lakes, reservoirs and costal areas.

ACWA is the independent, nonpartisan, national organization of state and interstate water program directors, responsible for the daily implementation of the Clean Water Act's water quality programs. For additional information about ACWA visit: [www.acwa-us.org](http://www.acwa-us.org)

## Coach's Corner



Drawn by Tiffany Jackson

# Coaching for Training Units

by Mike Bacon, Capacity Development Coach

This has been a good year for training. I hope many of you had the opportunity to acquire training units throughout the summer. In case you still require training units, more training opportunities are available. The capacity building unit coaches have a few trainings that will provide you not only training units, but coaching assistance as well. Our coaching for

training units program is presented by the capacity building unit coaches within the safe drinking water program at no charge to you. The following courses are available:

### Groundwater Monitoring Plan Basics

This course is offered to systems one-on-one or to a group of water system operators. The course will provide operators valuable information on how to complete the required monitoring plan. The two hour course can be presented at any time at your site. A total of 0.20 training units will be awarded upon completion of this course.

### Sanitary Survey Training

Have you had a sanitary survey? This course is intended to train the operator on the elements that make up a sanitary survey and what the operator should expect from a sanitary survey. The course will cover monitoring, reporting, system management and operation, water sources, treatment, finished water storage, pumps and more. A total of 0.25 training units will be awarded for completion of the course.

### GWUDI Training

If you are a ground water system who is potentially under the direct influence of surface water, this training is for you! Water quality monitoring requirements will be presented at this one hour training and 0.10 training units will be awarded upon completion.

### Operation and Maintenance Plan

Do you have an operation and maintenance plan? This is a new course that has been developed by the capacity building unit. The course can be given to a group of systems, or the trainer can present it at your system. The training will take about four hours. During this training, the operator will learn "how to" develop an operation and maintenance plan for their system. Up to 0.40 training units will be provided at the end of this training.

Our training staff is ready to assist you!

- by phone: 303-692-3665
- by mail: [CDPHEWQDWTtraining@state.co.us](mailto:CDPHEWQDWTtraining@state.co.us)
- on-line: [coaching request](#)

## Safety Tip

Whether driving a short distance or a long distance, it is a good idea not to text and drive at the same time! It is a law that we can all live with. Even if you don't text and drive, be aware of those that do! They could really put a dent in your day.

Safe journey!





# Simple Fixes: 24-mesh Screen

by Cameron Wilkins, Field Engineer

It is time for your system's next sanitary survey! During sanitary surveys, the field services section commonly observes violations and/or significant deficiencies which could easily be corrected prior to the sanitary survey. Your system could avoid some of the common violations and significant deficiencies by regularly visiting and inspecting your finished water storage tanks. Finished water storage tanks have multiple locations where contaminants can enter the water system and need to be properly protected.

Contaminants could enter an improperly protected tank through multiple pathways. Pathways for contamination often include: vents, overflows, access hatches and other unprotected openings. All openings need to be protected as described in the State of Colorado design criteria for potable water systems (design criteria). The design criteria states:

- All vents need to be screened with a 24-mesh non-corrodible screen;



- All overflows need to be protected with either 24-mesh non-corrodible screen or a flapper valve;
- Access hatches need to have a seal and be constructed in a manner to prevent contaminants from entering the tank; and
- Any other opening in the tank needs to be properly protected by being sealed, screened with 24-mesh non-corrodible screen or by other appropriate means to prevent contaminants from entering the tank.

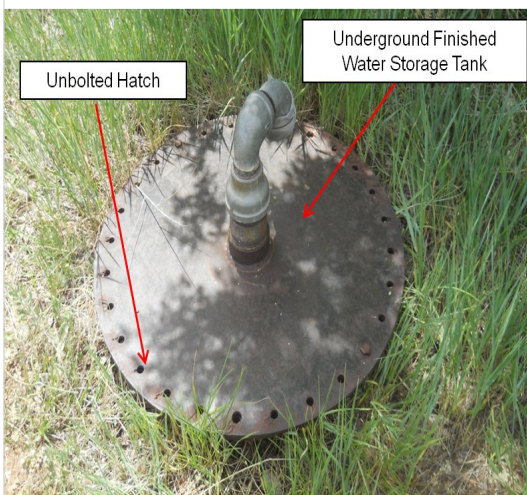
Not protecting your finished water storage tank as described in the design criteria could lead to a violation and/or significant deficiency. To avoid this, each tank should be inspected on a regular basis and prior to the sanitary survey by the system.

Remember, our common goal is for all public water systems to provide safe drinking water!

## What Do You See?

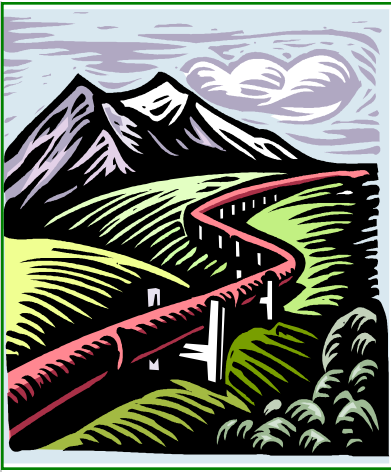
by Paul Kim, Engineering Section

**Deficiency:** *Lack of a properly sealed access hatch provides a direct pathway for the introduction of contamination into the water and poses an unacceptable risk to the health and welfare of the public served by the water system.*



The design criteria for public drinking water systems, appendix I, part 1.0.9 states that the roof and sidewalls of all structures must be of an impervious watertight material with no openings except properly constructed vents, manholes, overflows, risers, drains, pump mountings, control ports or piping for inflow and outflow. During the sanitary survey, it was identified the below grade 20,000 gallon finished water storage tank's access hatch did not have a seal between the two plates and was only secured by two bolts. The division expects the system to repair the access hatch in such a manner to prevent a direct pathway for the introduction of contaminants into the water delivered to consumers.

In addition, the unbolted hatch poses a security issue. All systems should take necessary precautions to prevent vandalism of water storage tanks.



# Coming Down the Pipe...

## Changes in Compliance Assurance Section

by Melissa (McClain) Swerdlow, Compliance Assurance Section

In late 2009, the compliance assurance section made a shift from rule managers to teams. The teams were divided by the type of water and type of population that the system serves (i.e. surface water or community groundwater). In November compliance staff will modify the current team structure to establish a subject matter expert for each rule of the regulations. Our goal is to provide expert advice and knowledge to help our public water systems protect public health by maintaining compliance with regulatory requirements. By increasing the level of detailed knowledge on an individual basis, we hope to better assist public water systems with specific regulatory questions or complicated situations.

Although contact information will remain the same, we are pleased to announce a couple of staffing changes within safe drinking water compliance assurance. Jennifer Miller recently joined compliance assurance as its section manager. Melissa (McClain) Swerdlow, who was formerly a compliance specialist, has joined the policy and planning unit. Additionally, Phil Stanwood will be taking on new responsibilities as a compliance specialist. Stay tuned for more detailed information regarding who will be the appropriate contact for rule-specific questions. If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, feel free to contact your current compliance specialist by calling 303-692-3556.

## Redesigned Website Launched in August

by Jacki Main, Safe Drinking Water Program

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment launched its improved, redesigned website in Aug. For the past two years, we've been working to reorganize our web content to be more easily accessed by topic, rather than by division or program. Our work moving the reorganized content to a new Colorado.gov platform is now done.

In late Aug, the launch of the new site occurred. Visitors to popular pages will be redirected to the equivalent pages on our new site. Visitors to all other pages will be redirected to the new department home page.

Our new web address will be [www.colorado.gov/cdphe](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe). As the new site has launched, you'll find the water quality control division at [www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wqcd](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wqcd).

We're hoping the new website will better serve our partners and the people of Colorado, and we look forward to your feedback on how we can make it even better. Contact us at [comments.wqcd@state.co.us](mailto:comments.wqcd@state.co.us).

Note: If your website has links to CDPHE pages, you will need to update them according to the new URLs.

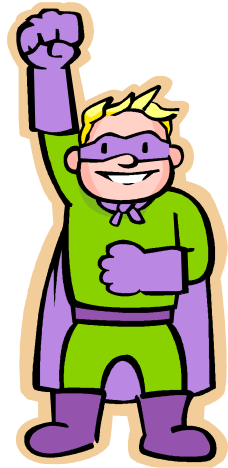
# Ask Aqua Man

Dear Aqua Man,

I heard that I am required to have a monitoring plan. Why do I have to fill one out and what information needs to be included?

Sincerely,

M.P. Werks



Dear Mr. Werks,

Aside from being a requirement of the regulations, a monitoring plan is an important document to have on hand at your facility. It includes all of the information about your sources, treatment details, distribution system details and regulatory requirements. By including this information, it provides the division with a rough picture of how your system operates. The monitoring plan ensures that you and the division are on the same page as far as expectations for compliance and operation.

The monitoring plan also assists with long-term planning. Although the division provides a monitoring schedule each year, the monitoring plan provides a more comprehensive and long term view of your sampling requirements. Knowing when you are required to sample will help ensure you are in compliance with the regulations. Having an understanding of when you will be required to sample is also beneficial from a financial standpoint. You will be able to budget appropriately over many years and will save money by not sampling more than necessary.

Monitoring plan templates are available on our [website](#) to help assist you with meeting this requirement. Each plan is designed to be system specific so that you only have to focus on the requirements related to your system. In the event that something changes, please be sure to update your plan and submit a revision to us within thirty days of the change. If you need assistance or have questions, feel free to give us a call at 303-692-3556.

Sincerely,

*Aqua Man*

## Improvements to the Compliance Assurance Webpage

by Serenity Valdez, Compliance Assurance Section

The drinking water compliance assurance unit has improved their webpage. When you visit [www.wqcdcompliance.com](http://www.wqcdcompliance.com), you will see that it has an improved look and feel. The link to the monitoring schedules now opens up to three options:

Get My Schedule!

Example schedule

Schedule information

When you choose the "Get My Schedule!" option, you will be taken to the list of available drinking water monitoring schedules. A new search feature was added to schedules webpage that allows you to search by public water system name or by public water system ID. The options to scroll or use the CTRL+F feature for searching remain as well. We welcome any comments or feedback at [comments.wqcd@state.co.us](mailto:comments.wqcd@state.co.us).

# Facility Operator Certification News

by Lori Moore, CWP, Facility Operator Program



## Exam Information

Certification examinations for all levels and categories are offered during three test cycles per year. Deadlines for applications are March 1, July 1 and Nov 1. For dates, locations and

applications contact the Operator Certification Program Office (OCPO) at 303-394-8994 or visit [www.ocpweb.net](http://www.ocpweb.net). Applications for renewal and reciprocity along with a list of approved training courses are also on the website. Be aware of weekends and holidays when submitting close to deadlines because late applications are not accepted! If you have any questions about examinations or electronic testing options contact OCPO.

## Water and Wastewater Facility-Operator Certification Board (WWFOCB) News

The Colorado Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Certification Board (WWFOCB) establishes the operator requirements for water and wastewater facilities and the certification of operators. The WWFOCB is also the board of appeal regarding a final decision made by either the division or OCPO. If you file an appeal with the WWFOCB, please be in attendance at the meeting.

The WWFOCB encourages public involvement and stakeholder input during regularly scheduled meetings at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in Denver. Attending WWFOCB meetings and participating in stakeholder meetings regarding regulation and policy changes provide opportunities for public water system owners, wastewater facility permittees and certified operators to participate in the regulatory process. Participation is the best way for your concerns to be heard. For more information visit [www.cdphe.state.co.us/op/ocb/index.html](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/op/ocb/index.html) or contact Nancy Horan at 303-692-3463.

## Renewals

The renewal of your certification is your responsibility. Please check the renewal date on each of your certifications! Renewal applications must be submitted, along with proof of TUs, fees and other documents before the expiration date. Please be aware of weekends and holidays, as of July 1, 2012 there is an additional \$50 fee for all late certificate renewals. For questions call OCPO at 303-394-8994 or visit [www.ocpweb.com](http://www.ocpweb.com).



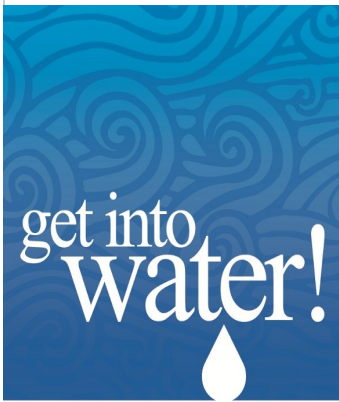
Facility operator certification staff:  
Lori Moore and Jackie Whelan

## Hey Operators!

Have some time saving helpful hints or tips to share with your fellow operators? Send those tips by mail: Aqua Talk, WQCD, 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver, CO 80247; or fax 303-782-0390 along with your name and the water system you represent. You might just get published!

# The Initial Project Closes with Many Successes and Future Plans

by Melanie Fahrenbruch, Get Into Water! Project Manager



Rocky Mountain Section American Water Works Association (RMSAWWA) and Rocky Mountain Water Environment Association (RMWEA) have completed the implementation phase of the initial Get Into Water! grant on June 30. The partnership of utilities, associations, educational

institutions and government has many accomplishments to boast about. In addition, there are future plans for sustaining the successful components of the program as well as building the new Northern Colorado Water Utility Science Program.

The Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association and the Rocky Mountain Water Environment Association have provided \$10,000 to sustain many of the successful components of the project including:

- Expansion of the programs to Wyoming and New Mexico

- Support for the RMSAWWA/RMWEA supervisory certificate program
- Funding for additional human resource/ operations forums
- Support for Boulder/Denver training programs and scholarships
- Revisions to the career development tools
- Support for the knowledge management subcommittee and activities

In May, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment awarded \$75,000 to the Larimer County Workforce Center to implement the water utility science program in northern Colorado. The region is working together to implement the new northern Colorado water utility science program (NoCO WUSP) for prospective entry level water and wastewater employees. The program launched in Sept.

#### The Get Into Water! Mission:

*The Front Range water and wastewater industry will sufficiently recruit, train and retain personnel to ensure mission-critical positions are filled with qualified, trained & technically skilled employees. This project will address Outreach & Recruitment; Training; Knowledge Retention; and Human Resource and Operations Staff Collaboration.*



# How are we doing?

by Jacki Main, Safe Drinking Water Program

*Aqua Talk* is designed to provide interesting, relevant and timely information to a variety of individuals responsible for providing safe drinking water to the public. How are we doing? Please take a few minutes to complete a brief [on-line survey](#), or put pen to paper and mail or fax this page to the address provided by November 16.

1. How often do you read something of interest to you in Aqua Talk?  
 each issue  
 sometimes  
 seldom  
 never
2. What do you like reading in Aqua Talk? (Check all that apply.)  
 cover (or lead story)  
 Drinking Water Program Manager Message  
 Coach's Corner  
 Coming Down the Pipe  
 Ask Aqua Man  
 What Do You See?  
 Facility Operator Program News  
 Other: Please list \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. If you could add something to Aqua Talk, it would be:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. If you could delete something from Aqua Talk, it would be:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Would you say Aqua Talk is a useful means to communicate industry-related information?  
 Yes       No
6. What would you suggest to make Aqua Talk a better communication tool?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. When I receive Aqua Talk, I generally:  
 read it in its entirety  
 skim the headlines and read items of interest  
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Water Quality Control Division  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, CO 80246  
303-782-0390

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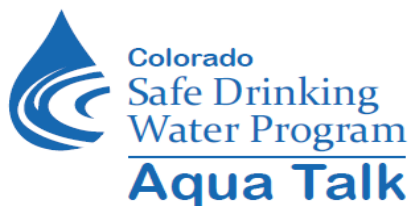
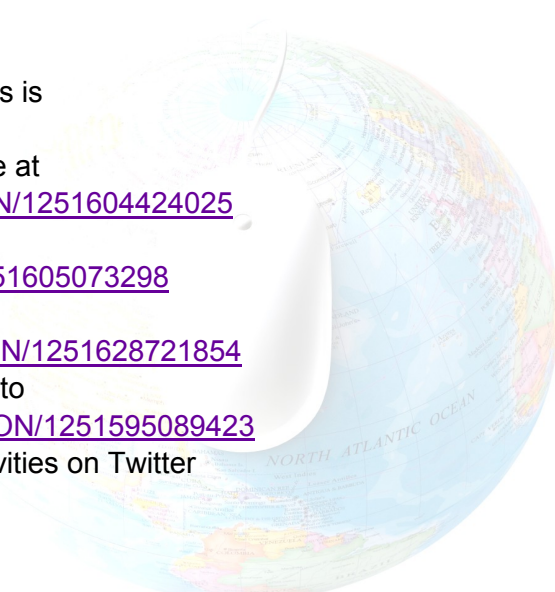
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## Aqua Talk Newsletter

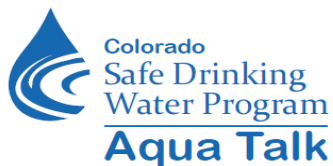
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We welcome comments, questions, story ideas, articles and photographs submitted for publication. Please address correspondence to Jacki Main, Aqua Talk Newsletter, Water Quality Control Division, 4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S., B2, Denver, CO 80246, 1530 or email [comments.wqcd@state.co.us](mailto:comments.wqcd@state.co.us). Enter "Safe Drinking Water Newsletter" as the subject. Past issues are available by contacting the editor or visiting the website at: [www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-WQ/CBON/1251605073298](http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-WQ/CBON/1251605073298)



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