

Clarifier

A Newsletter for and by Members of the Illinois Water Environment Association



PLANT PROFILE

Bloomington and Normal Water Reclamation District
Southeast Plant

See Page 8



IWEA was well represented at WEFTEC... especially the Laboratory Committee members (L to R): Mary Johnson, Keith Richard, Rebecca Rose, Donna Coolidge, and Debra Ness who helped at the Operations Challenge. Read more about it on page 5.

Photo by Keith Richard

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2018 Plant Operations Tour Draws Capacity Crowd

By Lynn Kohlhaas, Plant Operations Committee Chair

This year's Plant Operations Tour was held Wednesday, Aug. 29 at the Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District (UCSD) Northeast Treatment Plant. The tour was held to provide industry professionals with an overview of the treatment facility and the operational,



maintenance, and compliance challenges that the UCSD has recently faced.

Photo by UCSD

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President's Corner

By Kam Law, IWEA President



Summer has come and gone. So much has happened since the last issue of the Clarifier. Let's recap.

The annual Plant Operations Workshop and the Nutrient Removal and Recovery (NRR) Workshop were held Aug. 29 and Sept. 11, respectively. Both events had a great turnout. Applause to the

members of both committees who planned the workshop. Special thanks go to the Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District for their hospitality in hosting the Plant Operations Workshop, and all the speakers who traveled from afar to present in the NRR workshop.

A president's appreciation BBQ was also held on Sept. 15. The event is a small gesture showing appreciation to all the committee chairs and executive board members for their dedication throughout the year. Lynn Kohlhaas, committee chair for the Plant Operations Committee, opened up her "party porch" one last time before summer's end for the event. Thanks, Lynn.

On Oct. 13, a wind farm tour, organized by the Electrical Power, Energy, and Controls (EPEC) Committee, was held in Benton County, Indiana. Our tour guide, Harry Hoover, a retired teacher at the age of 86, presented videos of wind turbine installation and an overview of the wind farms in Benton County. His enthusiasm, passion, and knowledge in the green energy was clearly conveyed in the three-hour time frame.

But wait, there's more... The Collection Seminar will be held on Nov. 8, and the annual Innovative Technologies Dinner (hosted by the LIFT committee) has been scheduled for Dec. 5. Make sure you leave room to soak up all the knowledge from the expert speakers after you have soaked up all the turkey and stuffing over the holidays!

WEFTEC Highlights

WEFTEC 2018 is officially on the books. The Water Environment Federation (WEF) relaunched the "Water's Worth It" campaign to raise awareness of the importance of water... a valuable resource that we all too often take for granted especially in the Chicagoland area where water shortage is never a concern. Be sure to check out the new website: watersworthit.org for more information.



Dr. Kuldip Kumar (MWRDGC) and LIFT Committee Chair Nina Kshetry of Ensaras, Inc.

A few memorable events took place this year at WEFTEC. I would like to congratulate our very own Nina Kshetry, LIFT committee chair, and her team on taking second place in the first-ever LIFT Intelligent Water Systems Challenge. The final round of the competition took place during WEFTEC. The purpose of the Intelligent

Water Systems Challenge is to demonstrate the value of intelligent water systems to utilities and thereby foster the adoption of smart water technologies. The team consisted of representatives from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Ensaras, Inc. The challenge given was to develop intelligent advanced warning systems for odor detection at the Thornton Composite Reservoir. Congratulations again to the winning team.

Another "first-ever" took place at WEFTEC: Tom Kunetz of MWRDGC became the first IWEA member to be inducted as WEF President. With over 30 years of experience in the industry, Tom's professionalism, leadership, inquisitive mind and passion for what he does makes him an inspiring leader. As Uncle Ben from the Spiderman movie once said, "With great power comes great responsibility." We wish Tom a successful



Tom Kunetz, WEF President (2018-19) is the first IWEA member to assume the top leadership position in WEF.

year... but no pressure!

Last but not least, the IWEA Sewer Rats competed in the Operations Challenge and finished 12th out of 37 teams in their division with top-ten finishes in the Laboratory, Safety, and Maintenance events. The Sewer Rats consist of MWRDGC staff members Captain Ed Staudacher and team members Sandra Matual, Carlos Garibay, Quentin Farmer, Bill White and Dan Mikso. With Ed's leadership, the team worked hard to learn the ever-changing events and prepared to represent MWRDGC and IWEA at WEFTEC. Congratulations to all and we look forward to another successful year in 2019.

Photos by Kam Law

Continued From Page 1

The event was sold out, with approximately 40 people present. The morning sessions were preceded by donuts, coffee and



Photo by Kam Law

orange juice, and a bit of networking until the first presentation began. Lynn Kohlhaas, Plant Operations Committee Chair, welcomed everyone and introduced the first speaker. Wade

Lagle, UCSD Operations Supervisor, presented an overview of the plant and highlighted the modified bio-P removal being undertaken in their unique treatment train.

Then Wade went over the UCSD Filter Flyer, a company newsletter focused on employee recognition and providing information to the Board of Trustees. Bruce Butler, UCSD Director of Maintenance, then presented an overview of how purchasing and maintenance go hand-in-hand at UCSD, and the software that makes it all possible. Jackie Christensen, UCSD Director of Operations, outlined how UCSD created and implements their Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). She indicated that NPDES permit special condition requirements can be broken down into four main areas and how to apply those to individual facilities when creating a SWPPP using creative means of delineating tributary flow areas.

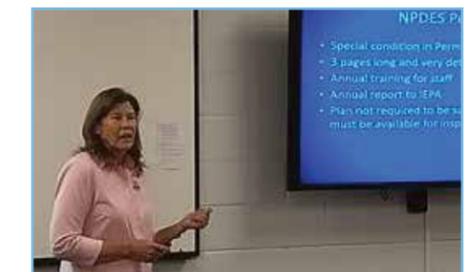
After a short break, Bruce Rabe, UCSD Lab Supervisor and Pretreatment Coordinator, shared his experience during a recent U.S. EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) industrial pretreatment inspection, including lessons learned, time lines, and responding to the EPA report. Rick Manner, UCSD Executive Director, then presented an



Bruce Butler, UCSD Director of Maintenance



Rick Manner, UCSD Executive Director



Jackie Christensen, UCSD Director of Operations

Photos by UCSD

entertaining update on the Illinois Nutrient Strategy and Permit Renewal. The final presentation of the morning was given by Mark Hughes, P.E., who is the Filtration Product Manager for Aqua-Aerobic Systems, Inc. Mark discussed the retrofit of sand filters at UCSD to cloth media disc filters.



Photo by Lynn Kohlhaas

After an excellent lunch from Black Dog Smoke and Ale House in Urbana, we toured the plant. Highlights of the tour included the nitrification towers, Archimedes screw pumps feeding the

secondary aeration tanks, the large footprint trickling filters, the recently replaced disc filters, University of Illinois test facility located in an empty sand-filter bay, and the creative floodproofing solutions for a treatment plant located in the floodplain.

The IWEA Plant Operations Committee would like to thank UCSD and its staff for welcoming and accommodating us for a day filled with knowledge sharing and information transfer.



Photo by Lynn Kohlhaas

Call for Exhibitors and Sponsors for IWPC 2019!

By Monica Gunderson, Marketing Committee Chair

2019 CALL FOR EXHIBITORS
February 11-13, 2019

IWPC 2019
TOGETHER FOR CLEAN WATER
Springfield, IL

CALL FOR EXHIBITORS & SPONSORS

Logos for IWEA (Illinois Water Environment Association) and IAWPCO (Illinois Association of Water Pollution Control Operators) are visible at the top left.

Exhibitor registration is now open for the IWPC 2019 (Illinois Wastewater Professionals Conference) Joint Annual Conference and Exposition, February 11-13, 2019 in Springfield, IL.

The IWEA and IAWPCO (Illinois Association of Water Pollution Control Operators) invite you to participate in IWPC 2019 by securing booth space and exhibiting your leading products and services at Illinois' water and wastewater event of the year.

BECOME AN EXHIBITOR! Early bird discount ends December 14!

Each 8' x 10' booth space includes:

- (1) Booth Staff Registration
- (1) Six Foot Table & (2) Side Chairs
- (1) 120v Electrical Outlet
- (1) Tuesday Lunch Ticket
- (2) Exhibitors Reception Drink Tickets
- (1) Wednesday Breakfast Ticket

Exhibit Hours

Tuesday, February 12 (9 am - 6 pm)
Wednesday, February 13 (8 am - 12 pm)

Register EARLY and SAVE!

\$525 before December 14, 2018 (\$650 after the 14th). There are a limited number of booth spaces so early registration is encouraged.

BECOME A IWPC 2019 SPONSOR

Promote your company's products or services before, during and after the conference with a sponsorship. Choose from a variety of sponsorship packages from \$25 to \$5,000 that offer unique promotional opportunities and guarantee your company's recognition throughout the event.

To register for booth space or a sponsorship, visit www.illinoiswpc.org. Complete the easy online registration and payment form and submit.



Laboratory Committee at WEFTEC 2018

By Keith Richard, Laboratory Committee Chair

The Laboratory Committee stayed very busy during WEFTEC 2018 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Several members of the committee served as judges again this year for the Laboratory event of the Operations Challenge.



Mary Johnson (right) judging the ammonia instrumental analysis

This year's Laboratory event involved performing sample dilutions, analyzing six separate samples for pH, alkalinity, and

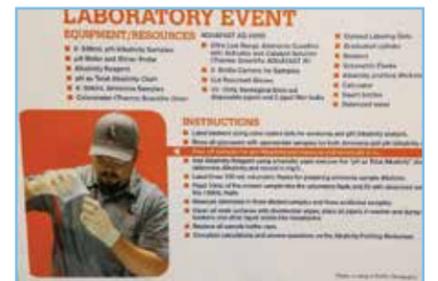
ammonia and calculating the final results. All of the steps had to be completed as quickly and accurately as possible under the watchful eyes of the judges.

A total of 44 teams from all around the world, including two teams from South America, competed in the challenge. The winners of the Lab event portion of the Operations Challenge were "Elevated Ops" from Rocky Mountain WEA in Division 1 and "Ocean State Alliance" from New England WEA in Division 2.

The competition was very intense but we all had a great time serving as judges. Thanks to everyone from the Laboratory Committee who helped with the event. We look forward to doing it all again next year in Chicago!



Rebecca Rose (left) judging the ammonia sample dilutions



Description of the Operations Challenge Laboratory Event

Photos by Keith Richard

Stop By and See Our 2019 IWPC Conference Exhibitors! (as of publication time)

Applied Technologies, Inc. (61)
AquaFlo Technologies Inc. (50)
Berg Johnson Associates (66)
Cady Aquastore(52)
CE Soling & Associates (21)
Crawford, Murphy, & Tilly, Inc. (54)
DN Tanks (40)
Eco Infrastructure Solutions (75)
Electric Pump, Inc. (5)
Energenecs(74)
Environmental Resources Training Center (52)
Equipment Sales (4)
Fehr Graham (9)
Flo-Systems, Inc. (49)

Flow Technics Inc. (33)
Greg Piper Sales, LLC (39)
HMG Engineers, Inc. (65)
Hobas Pipe USA (57)
Hydro-Kinetics Corp. (67)
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. (28)
Illinois Electric Works (78)
LAI, Ltd. (24 - 27)
LMK Technologies (790)
Metropolitan Industries (6)
Municipal Equipment Company (44)
MMG (63 - 64)
PDC Laboratories, Inc. (80)
Pedrollo Group (68)

Peterson and Matz, Inc. (72 - 73)
R.E. Pedrotti (56)
Ray Lindsey Company (58)
Ressler & Associates, Inc. (71)
Shive-Hattery (7)
Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (29)
Stewart Spreading (76)
Tnemec/Taylor Coating (62)
Trotter and Associates Inc (69)
VEGA Americas, Inc. (55)
Visu-Sewer(79)
Walter E Deuchler Assoc. Inc. (23)
Wilkens Anderson Company (51)



From the Shed

By Watershed Management Committee Members Mary Beth Falsey, Maggie Yarnold and Scott Tomkins and Watershed Management Committee Chair Lindsay Birt, Ph.D.

DuPage County MS4s: Linking and Leveraging Resources

DuPage County's regional Stormwater Management Department recently established a partnership with 40 municipalities and township highway departments to develop a countywide Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit (ILR40), the first of its kind in the State of Illinois.



DuPage County hosts required trainings for municipal staff and contractors as part of its countywide NPDES permit.

For several years, DuPage County and its municipalities have collaborated to meet the minimum control measures and monitoring required by the NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) program. This collaborative effort further reduces government redundancy by providing educational publications, public outreach, training opportunities for staff, training on good housekeeping practices, outfall monitoring on a countywide level, and one cohesive annual report for all partner agencies, which significantly minimizes the reporting burden. Each partner agency was issued a waiver for their individual NPDES MS4 (ILR40) permits. All participating municipalities and

township highway departments are now included under the umbrella of DuPage County's permit.

Show Me the Money! And Other Drivers that Motivate Watershed Groups in Illinois

Does your watershed group have secure funding and/or sponsors? This question might be one of the determining factors for stakeholder group longevity.

Having a group of active volunteers to provide manpower on projects, a strong advocate for the group to serve on a board, and consistent funding is key to building a sustainable group within a watershed.

Stakeholder-driven watershed groups are not directly political, so public and governmental entities are more willing to work with them and community members are more willing to get involved, according to Tori Trauscht, the founder of Indian Creek Watershed Project. This is a big advantage of stakeholder-driven watershed groups that gives them access to more resources.

Therefore, stakeholder watershed groups are extremely important to the health and protection of Illinois watersheds, and keeping an enthusiastic board of stakeholders to move projects forward is pivotal.

"Having a sustainable board where you're constantly trying to recruit new members [is important for group longevity] ... because the board members really drive the group," Trauscht said.

After contacting 38 watershed groups throughout Illinois, it became apparent that these groups 1) were not evenly dispersed throughout the state and 2) could be categorized

Photo by Mary Beth Falsey
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based on drivers that motivate these groups. Most of the groups are currently working in northern areas of the state with central and southern watersheds being underrepresented.

These groups were categorized as lake associations, outreach and education, policy and advocacy, recreation, wildlife and habitat, water quality and watershed-based planning. It remains unclear if groups driven by policy and advocacy are significantly different from landowner-driven groups. Groups can fit within multiple categories.

Around 53 percent of the groups examined specifically noted water quality improvement as a key goal, whereas only 24 percent mentioned watershed-based planning. This might be indicative of the lengthy and costly process to meet the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) nine elements of watershed planning, whereas guides for water quality improvement, such as the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy, are more easily accessible.

"You have to develop partnerships with power. If you develop a big plan and you have good partners with big pockets, that's key," Trauscht said. "And I think that's a big problem ... when you're a nonprofit you need to have large funding sources helping and grants available."

The Indian Creek Watershed Project was active as a nonprofit for 15 years and had \$4.5 million worth of grants before a lack of funding and volunteer/board fatigue took over the group. Trauscht said the group was meant to be a short-term group to see how much stakeholders could achieve.

"[Now] we'll be an educational resource, but we're retired from doing grants," Trauscht said. "It was too hard to be 50 percent publicly funded every year. It got really hard to get money, especially when grants became scarce."

Of the 40 groups which mentioned they focused on water quality, nearly 50 percent also focused on education and outreach. Education can be a catalyst for water quality improvement as more community members recognize how to decrease pollution. Education can also help increase watershed group impact within the watershed and the community and ultimately increase group size. For more information on active Illinois watershed groups, check out the geospatial web map tool coming soon (December 2018) on the IWEA website: www.iweasite.org/watershed.php

ILLINOIS WATERSHED TRIVIA!

WHAT GOAL IS THE MOST IMPORTANT FOR ACTIVE WATERSHED GROUPS IN ILLINOIS?
(Answer on page 15)



In Memoriam | Gerry Ryan

By Kam Law, IWEA President

On Oct. 12, 2018, we lost one of our own in IWEA. Gerry Ryan, EPEC Committee Chair, lost her battle with cancer. Gerry was one of the strongest women I have ever met. She was fearless and restless. She worked and fought until the end. Her can-do attitude will always be with us. Our deepest condolences to her family. To Gerry, Sláinte!

Plant Profile

By Caitlin Raasch and Josh Stevens; Submitted by Wade Lagle, Plant Operations Committee Member

Location
Bloomington and Normal Water Reclamation District Southeast Plant - Heyworth, Illinois

Receiving Stream
Little Kickapoo Creek

Executive Director
Randy Stein

Assistant Director
Tim Ervin

Director of Operations
Jake Callahan

Engineer
Duane Lindeman

Chief Operator
Jon Outlaw



The Bloomington and Normal Water Reclamation District (BNWRD) Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant was constructed from 2001 to 2005 and opened for full-service operation on June 1, 2005. It can process nearly 17 million gallons of wastewater per day.

This facility treats municipal wastewater from the north, east and southeast sections of the Bloomington and Normal Metropolitan Area as well as the Village of Downs and portions of the nearby Crestwicke Subdivision. The plant is a Platinum 12 NACWA Peak Performance Award winner and currently an IAWPCO Group 1 Plant of the Year nominee.

Preliminary Treatment

Wastewater is delivered to the headworks building by gravity through the district's eastside interceptor system. The facility has three 8.5 MGD Archimedes screws to lift raw sewage up to ground level for preliminary treatment. Afterwards, pumping, screening and grit removal is performed. Two mechanical screening units



remove solid materials, trash and debris from the waste stream. The solids removed from the waste stream are sent to an automated solids processing station, which includes conveying, washing, and compaction units. Grit

removal follows the screening process and is carried out in two grit traps. The settled grit from the traps is passed through a cyclone separator, a grit classifier and a grit washer.

Primary Treatment

The wastewater is then piped from the preliminary treatment facility to the influent pump station where three 125 HP pumps move the water uphill to the primary distribution box and then on to two primary clarifiers. The center feed primary clarifiers are 85 feet in diameter. Flow is directed outward and exits the clarifier under the scum baffles over the perimeter weir, where it flows by gravity to secondary treatment.

Secondary Treatment, Conventional Activated Sludge

The aeration system is designed to provide oxygen to the liquid in the aeration basins to suspend the solids and stimulate the growth of the microbes utilized in the secondary treatment system. Air is supplied to the basins by three, 300 HP high-speed turbine type

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blowers. In each aeration basin, air is fed to three independent aeration zones and distributed through fine bubble diffusers. Airflow is measured and locally indicated at each zone, and the airflow can be automatically adjusted by the PLC via a motor actuated butterfly valve.

Secondary Clarifiers

Two 115 ft. diameter and 15 ft. deep circular clarifiers settle out the biomass from the aeration basin effluent under quiescent conditions. Effluent from both clarifiers is discharged to a common secondary manhole for transfer to tertiary treatment. Sludge is transported through the rotating collection header to the center manifold. Return activated sludge (RAS) is continuously transferred to the anoxic and/or aeration basins to maintain a set concentration of mixed liquor suspended solids.

Tertiary Treatment and Disinfection

Tertiary treatment follows primary and secondary treatment. At the southeast plant, tertiary treatment includes low head traveling bridge filtration. The filtration system utilizes a three-part sand and anthracite media bed. Once filtered, the water is treated year-round by an ultraviolet disinfection system. This consists of a 4-bank array of 64 low pressure lamps.

Solids Processing

Two gravity belt thickeners (GBTs) and one belt filter press (BFP) are housed in the residuals building. The GBTs are used to thicken the waste-activated sludge generated by the secondary clarifiers. The polymer thickened sludge from the GBTs is piped into the primary anaerobic digester. The BFP is used to remove water from the sludge drawn from the secondary

digester. With the use of polymer, typical cake production is approximately 14 percent solids. Decant and wash water from the BFP is collected into a basin with provisions to slowly feed back to the head of the plant. The BFP system also contains an automated conveyor system that transports 'cake' sludge from the BFP directly to trucks in the adjacent garage bays and shuts down the BFP once the trucks are full. Biosolids are then transported to the BNWRD'S west plant for further air-drying (50-60 percent solids) in preparation for land application to fertilize crop fields.

Digesters

The plant utilizes anaerobic digestion to destroy organic solids in the sludge. The process is performed at 95 degrees Fahrenheit for a minimum of 15 days to insure sufficient volatile solids and pathogen reduction. This is performed in the heated primary digester, followed by an unheated secondary digester where the solids are stored until dewatering. Methane gas is collected from the digesting process and is used as fuel in the digester boiler and heat exchanger to maintain the required sludge temperature.

Wetlands

After the permitted outfall at the plant, a portion of the effluent is diverted to wetlands that have been designed to achieve further reduction in nutrients. Five wetland cells were constructed on adjacent land owned by the district. Monitoring of the wetland effluent has indicated about a 50 percent reduction in phosphorus and 90 percent reduction in nitrogen during the growing season. Additional research regarding aquatic vegetation in the wetlands is currently ongoing.

Photos courtesy of BNWRD Staff

Influent Design		
Daily Average Flow	7.5 MGD	
Daily Maximum Flow	16.9 MGD	
Discharge Limits	Monthly Avg (mg/L)	Daily Max (mg/L)
CBOD5	10	20
TSS	12	24
pH	6 to 9 standard units	
Ammonia (Apr-Oct)	1.6	9.4
Ammonia (Nov-Feb)	4	11.3
Ammonia (Mar)	2.1	10.9
Total Phosphorus	Monitor Only	
Total Nitrogen	Monitor Only	
Cyanide	Monitor Only	
Dissolved Oxygen (Mar-Jul)	Not less than 5.0 mg/L	
Dissolved Oxygen (Aug-Feb)	Not less than 4.0 mg/L	
Fecal Coliform	Daily max not to exceed 400 per 100mL	
Chlorine Residual	.05 (daily maximum)	

LIFT Innovative Technologies Dinner Planned for December

By Nina Kshetry, LIFT Committee Chair

The IWEA LIFT committee has planned an Innovative Technologies Dinner for Wednesday, Dec. 5. This year's speaker will be Andy Szekeress from Veolia whose presentation is entitled *Low Level Phosphorus Compliance - Advanced Tertiary Treatment*. The dinner event will take

place from 6-9 pm at the DOC Wine Bar in Lombard, IL. For more information or to register, please visit the IWEA website. For questions about the event, please email nina@ensaras.com.

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IWEA Hosts 2018 Nutrient Removal and Recovery Workshop

By Brett Garelli, Nutrient Removal and Recovery Committee Chair

A festive group of 125 members attended the annual Nutrient Removal and Recovery Workshop on Sept. 11 at the Medinah Shriners in Addison, IL.

The first keynote speaker was Edyta Stec-Uddin of Denver Metro Wastewater Reclamation District. She discussed current trends and technologies in nutrient removal.



The second keynote speaker was Dr. Kuldip Kumar of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC).

Dr. Kumar discussed the exciting area of nutrient treatment using algae.

Other presentations included a glimpse of academia from Dr. Roland Cusick from the University of Illinois, an informative update on Peoria's nutrient issues as well as an update on regulatory issues.

I wish to thank the members of the committee for all of their work over the past year. Thanks too to all the vendors who participated in this conference.

Photo by Kam Law

IWEA'S Wind Farm Tour

By Tom Powell, IWEA EPEC Committee

The Electrical Power Energy and Controls Committee hosted a tour of the Benton County Wind Farm on Saturday, Oct. 13. This wind farm in Indiana is visible from I-65, north of Lafayette.

The complex is located within Benton County and includes several phases of development. It generates approximately 1GW of electrical power from prevailing winds. Other complexes include Benton County, Fowler Ridge, Hoosier Wind, and Amazon Wind.

At the start of the tour, the guide shared photographs, videos, and personal recollections from construction of the initial turbines. He also provided some electrical demonstrations. Since the complex includes multiple developments with

multiple turbines, he also discussed the differences between turbines from different manufacturers.

The tour participants were able to walk up to a turbine, observe, and listen to the rotation.



Benton County Wind Farm

Photo by Tom Powell

Delegates' Corner

By Rebecca Rose, Delegate 2020

My first year as a delegate has flown by in the wink of an eye.

Over this past year, under the guidance of my fellow Delegate, Deb Ness Delegate 2019, we attended WEFMAX in North Carolina and just returned from WEFTEC 2018 in New Orleans. We have met so many fellow delegates from all over the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada at these two conferences.

WEFTEC 2018 started very early Saturday morning with 7 a.m. breakfast, lots of coffee, and table talk discussions with members of the WEF board and MAs (member associations) from other states. There were three questions we were asked to discuss:

- a. What are your MA's greatest needs?
- b. What do you think your MA does really well?
- c. In a dream world, what will your MA accomplish in the next five years?

This discussion gave us the opportunity to gain knowledge about what works and what doesn't at other Member Associations. We also shared ideas that work for IWEA and struggles that we still have. We were able to bring ideas back to Illinois and hopefully improve on what is already a great organization.

Both Deb and I are going to continue our work on the Operator Initiative Workgroup for the next year. Some of the topics the committee will be working on are:

- How to better promote the Operators Ingenuity Contest. A brochure was developed last year but a lot of MAs did not even know about the contest.
- Continue to develop and support the On-Demand Wastewater Library (OWWL) and develop OWWL sustainability strategy
- WEF Operator Challenge - encouraging each MA to host their own teams
- Complete survey of MAs to ascertain the number of certified operators within them, their workforce development initiatives, and whether or not they offer an Operator Ingenuity Award on an MA level.
- Draft operator-oriented articles for MA magazines
- Work with Operator Advisory Panel to develop and present WEFMAX session on WEF operator initiatives, including workforce development, a growing concern which will help ensure the industry has a diverse and talented workforce to design, maintain, manage and operate future water resource recovery facilities.

I am looking forward to the challenges of this next year. I know that with the great group of people that are on the committee, we will again succeed in completing our goals.

SAVE THE DATE!

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SEMINAR
FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019
CHICAGO MARRIOTT SOUTHWEST
BURR RIDGE, IL

Free Energy Saving Assessments

By Dominic Brose, Sustainability Committee Chair and Barbara Scapardine, Sustainability Committee Vice-Chair

Water resource recovery facility managers have a new tool for helping control energy costs across treatment processes. The Illinois EPA Office of Energy, the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC), and the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC) have teamed up to help facilities reduce the cost of water resource recovery with free energy use assessments.

The reports provided to the facility after the energy use assessment will have recommendations for energy efficiency improvements, information on upfront costs for upgrades or retrofits, estimates of how long the cost of an upgrade or retrofit would take to pay off with energy savings and any monetary savings that would result from such upgrades and retrofits. Allowing SEDAC and ISTC access to the facility and sharing the assessment information with the Illinois EPA are required to participate in the program.

The SEDAC and ISTC have already provided energy assessments for 40 water resource recovery facilities resulting in an average annual savings of \$39,000. There is also potential for future funding for energy efficiency improvements. Apply for a free assessment to see how much you can save or read about energy saving tips at www.smartenergy.illinois.edu/wastewater.



Photo by MWRDGC

Scholarship Windows are Opening!

By Paul Hurley, Scholarship and Charitable Giving Committee Chair

It is that time of year again, and IWEA will be holding its annual scholarship competitions. The application window for the following scholarships opened on November 1.

- **Clean Water Scholarship**, for college students interested in pursuing a career working with the water environment
 - \$1,000 scholarship for the winner
- **Public Service Scholarship**, for public service professionals attending the Illinois Professional Service Institute (IPSI)
 - \$695 scholarship for a session at IPSI for the winner
- **Environmental Career Scholarship**, for college bound high school seniors with an interest in science and the environment
 - \$500 scholarship for the winner
 - \$250 grant for the author of the winner's letter of recommendation

More details about the scholarships are available on the IWEA website.

Treasurer's Report

By Lou Storino, Treasurer

With the conclusion of fiscal year (FY) 2018 on June 30, 2018, the Treasurer has been working on the annual filings. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Federal Form 990-EZ Short Form Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax was completed for FY2018 and mailed to the IRS on Aug. 2, 2018. State of Illinois Form AG990 Illinois

Charitable Organization Annual report was completed for FY2018 and mailed to the Illinois Attorney General's office on Aug. 14, 2018. The IWEA Accounting Manual was updated and approved at the Sept. 14, 2018, executive board meeting.

Welcome New Members!

By Ted Denning, Membership Committee Chair

JULY

Michael Brown
Village of Lake Zurich

Kate Karaman

Tricia Stefanich

Peter Stoehr
Manhard Consulting

Mike Storm
Diehl Metering LLC

Louis Weller
Crawford Murphy & Tilly

AUGUST

Kerry Anthenat
Village of Naperville

Amanda Darling

Leon Downing
Black & Veatch

Darin Fowler
City of Wilmington

Joseph Marencik
Ecological Solutions LLC

Bill Zink
City of Mount Carroll

SEPTEMBER

Ahmed Bulbul
Stanley Consultants, Inc.

Laurelle Banta

Todd Bonk
Visu-Sewer

Darryl Carstensen
Walter E Deuchler Associates Inc.

Anders Hallsby

Huff & Huff Inc

Evan Larson

Robert Nunoo
IIT

Francis Pastors
Xylem Water Solutions USA, Inc.
-Sanitaire

Dongqu Qin
MWRDGC

Matt Westney
US Environmental Rental

William White
MWRDGC

OCTOBER (TO DATE)

Jeff Brooks
Eco Infrastructure Solutions

Scott DeSplinter
Crawford Murphy & Tilly

David Dodge
Adaptor Inc.



State News

NPDES Permits for Major Discharges

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) has started sending draft permits out to major dischargers with the long-awaited phosphorus reduction language in them. Several of these permits are now available for viewing on the Illinois EPA public notice website: www2.illinois.gov/epa/public-notice/Pages/default.aspx

Illinois Permit No. ILR10 General NPDES for Storm Water Discharges from Construction

The final version of the updated general permit for construction activities was issued with an effective date of Aug. 3, 2018. Construction projects with a land disturbance greater than one acre are required to submit for coverage under this permit. The new permit along with the related forms and instructions can be downloaded from: www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/forms/water-permits/storm-water/Pages/construction.aspx

Federal News

Congress Passes America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018

America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 has officially passed both chambers of Congress with the House approving the bill on Sept. 13 and the Senate on Oct. 10, 2018. Perhaps the real headline should be, "Bill Receives Strong Bipartisan Support in a Day and Age Where it Seems to be Lacking." In fact, the measure passed the Senate by a vote of 99-1.

This bill is the biennial reapproval of the Water Resource Development Act (WRDA). The biennial WRDA covers various aspects of water resource, environmental, navigational, and flood protection needs. This includes continued authorization for many of the programs which are of vital importance to our industry such as the State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs for both the Safe Drinking Water Drinking Water and Clean Water Acts.

Some notable provisions in the bill include:

- A renewal of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan program with language that allows SRF programs to receive loans directly with preferential terms
- The possible creation of a new financing taskforce to develop recommendations on increasing funding for stormwater infrastructure
- Reauthorization of the SRF programs
- Grant authorization for technical assistance to small, publicly-owned treatment works, grants for small economically disadvantaged drinking water systems and workforce development programs

The bill will go through the reconciliation process to deal with minor differences between the House and Senate versions before being sent to the president for signature.

Keep your eyes open for these upcoming events!

IWEA Calendar of Events		
Date	Meeting/Activity	Location
Nov. 8, 2018	Collections Seminar	Hyatt Lisle, Lisle, IL
Dec. 5, 2018	LIFT Innovative Technologies Dinner	DOC Wine Bar, Lombard, IL
Jan. 18, 2019	Government Affairs Conference	Chicago Marriott Southwest, Burr Ridge, IL
Feb. 11-13, 2019	Illinois Wastewater Professionals Conference	Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL

Please see www.iweasite.org to register for events.

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Illinois Water Environment Association Executive Board

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TRIVIA ANSWER!

Answer: Water quality improvements



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