

KRWA Sponsors Training on Math, Activated Sludge

The Kansas Rural Water Association has provide many training sessions for wastewater utilities in the last year. In fact more than 25 sessions have been provided with attendance totaling 693 persons. Those do not include other training where credits were given for operator renewal, such as electrical maintenance or safety training. The demand for training is high given that the vast majority of wastewater utilities utilize lagoons for treatment. KRWA also has been providing additional training for those utilities that use activated sludge for treatment.

On June 12 and 13, a total of 46 people attended training on activated sludge. The training was held in Junction City. The presenter was Don VanVeldhuizen from USABlueBook.



Don VanVeldhuizen exchanges information and answers questions from the class at the June 11 math training session.

Gurnee, Illinois. VanVeldhuizen has thirty years of experience in the water and wastewater industries. That work and his education provide him with the expertise to be a nationally-recognized technical adviser for numerous water and wastewater systems. He is certified in water treatment, distribution, and wastewater collections and treatment. He is a Certified Environmental Trainer (CET) with the National Environmental Training Association (NETA). KRWA appreciates his availability to conduct these expert level training sessions.

Utilities that were represented with attendance include the city of Great Bend, Fort Riley Utility Services, city of Abilene, Veolia Water, city of Wakefield, Geary RWD 4, Cloud County Community College, city of Peru, city of Junction City and the city of Emmett.

Those attending took home helpful and time-saving techniques to optimize their plant performance. Discussions included the advantages and disadvantages concerning food/microbe ratios (F/Ms), sludge retention times (SRTs), and mean cell residence times (MCRTs). The class also reviewed settleability, predominance, and respiration rates to ensure bacterial health. Attendees learned to evaluate process control tests in order to identify and possibly avoid preventable upsets in their system.



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Don VanVeldhuizen discusses options for phosphorus removal during the June 12 and 13 training sessions held at the Junction City Wastewater Plant. The plan is contract-operated by Veolia North America.

A tour of the Junction City wastewater treatment plant was appreciated by all who attended. Appreciation also goes to Veolia North America for sponsoring a barbecue lunch on June 13 for those attending the training.

On June 11, VanVeldhuizen provided a training session on math for water and wastewater utilities in nearby Grandview



Don VanVeldhuizen, training from USABlueBook, assists Virginia Benda of Fort Riley Utility Services with math questions during a break at the June 11 training session held at the community center in Grandview Plaza.

Plaza. Attendance totaled 27 at that training. Systems that were represented included the city of Newton, Pottawatomie RWD 1, Fort Riley Utility Services, city of Ogden, city of Bentley, Veolia Water, city of Milford, city of La Harpe, city of Westmoreland, city of Great Bend, Geary RWD 4, Nemaha RWD 4 and the city of Junction City.



KANSAS RURAL WATER

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HOME TRAINING > Schedule & Register

Today July 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
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| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

Don't be bashful in asking. Any request for a training session is held in confidence. KRWA will attempt to accommodate your request.



KRWA encourages you to visit www.krwa.net for training opportunities in your area!

NOTE -- This schedule shows the training sessions presently planned by KRWA. Additional sessions are regularly held throughout the year. If anyone has special interest in any session or topic not shown on the calendar, please call KRWA at 316.396.9700.

Search for training by entering a word in topic or city.

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|-----------------|---|-----------|-------------------------|
| July 9, 2019 | Design and Wells; Water and Water Protection (Great Bend) | No Charge | Details |
| July 9-10, 2019 | Troubleshooting Electrical Motors & Variable Speed Drives (Parsons) | No Charge | Details |
| July 16, 2019 | Water Distribution Workshop (Great Bend) | No Charge | Details |
| July 16, 2019 | Collection System Maintenance (Olathe) | | |
| July 18, 2019 | Pipe Fusion Workshop (Tonganoxie) | No Charge | Details |
| July 24, 2019 | Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation (Pittsburg) | | Details |
| July 25, 2019 | Confined Space Training (Pittsburg) | \$90.00 | Details |
| July 31 2019 | Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation (Kingman) | \$90.00 | Details |

Bits and Pieces . . .

Some Kansas City, Missouri Water Meters Tested Faulty but Were Installed Anyway

The Kansas City Star recently reported that Kansas City, Missouri’s auditor found that nearly one-fifth of new water meters tested last fiscal year by KC Water failed accuracy testing but were installed in individuals’ homes anyway. The audit, released recently, urged the city’s water department, KC Water, to stop installing faulty meters and test a random sample large enough to represent the accuracy of each shipment of meters. The audit also found the department needed a strategy for replacing aging meters, which can become less accurate over time, and that the department was not using the recommended form of testing.

In a meeting of the City Council’s Finance & Governance Committee, water director Terry Leeds reiterated that the manufacturer of the meters certifies them. He said some peer cities randomly test the new meters they get from manufacturers, but others don’t.

Leeds argued that deciding whether to spend money to test enough meters to ensure their accuracy is a business decision for KC Water.

“We agreed that we would do some sample testing,” Leeds said. “What we haven’t agreed with (is) that we would do a statistically accurate number of tests.”

Councilman Scott Wagner, who chairs the committee, said he was surprised “the attitude that we have related to the guarantees from the manufacturer of the meters.”

“I think it would make some sense for us to actually test them ourselves when we get them because clearly – based on what was said, once that meter is installed, that’s it,” Wagner said. “There’s no real warranty that goes with it.”

EPA Releases Draft PFAS Groundwater Cleanup Guidance

The EPA recently published draft guidance for responding to groundwater contamination from toxic PFAS chemicals. The guidance covers the two most-studied of the thousands of PFAS compounds: PFOA and PFOS. The chemicals have been used in many industrial manufacturing settings and at military bases, with predominant use in metal plating and fire-fighting foams and have been found to contribute to negative human health effects.

The EPA’s guidance sets contamination levels that would trigger additional investigation and establishes goals for groundwater cleanup. The cleanup goals are based on the EPA’s health advisory of 70 parts per trillion. The EPA “expects” that parties responsible for the contamination will address PFOA and PFOS levels above that. This applies in states that do not have their own cleanup standards, which can be more strict. Public comments will be accepted for 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.



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March 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 ✓ | 25 ✓ | 26 ✓ | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

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