

# KRWA helps Camp Kanza Boy Scouts provide clean safe water

**C**amp Kanza is a beautiful south-central Kansas Boy Scout camp that opened in 1963. The camp is located on 160 acres of wooded land in the Ninnescah River Valley less than a one-hour drive southwest of Hutchinson. The Quivira Council has two camps: Camp Kanza and Camp QSR near Sedan. The two camps serve approximately 20,000 scouts in 30 counties in south-central Kansas.

Scouting is a great experience for youth. It instills good moral values, builds character and helps develop leadership skills. All of this in turn, hopefully helps develop young men and women into leaders of tomorrow. I recall my experience in the Boy Scouts and its positive effects on me as a

*Jon Steele  
Tech Assistant*



youth. Scouting taught many values and skills that are still with me today. It is easy to remember the smell of the campfires, the long hikes, planning campouts, learning about the environment and how to be a good environmental custodian. Probably the single most important point that really stuck with me was, to always “Be Prepared.” That is a scouting motto. This is sound advice and something that is stressed today in the waterworks industry.

## It’s a water system!

My involvement with Camp Kanza started many years ago, when a request came from John Goetz of the south-central district

KDHE office. John asked KRWA to assist the camp with its water system. The camp’s water supply serves several buildings, Camp hydrants, a public pool, hand washing stations, a full-scale

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kitchen and dining hall that can serve several hundred. The Camp serves mostly scouts but also some church and school group events during the off-season. The official Camp Kanza season for the Boy Scouts runs from July through August when they are the only camp residents.

after a thorough inspection by KRWA to determine what was needed, a trip to a waterworks supplier for materials was made. Several hot days later, we had the entire well house replumbed with schedule 80 pipe complete with a meter and a liquid chlorination system and a sample tap. As luck



*Beautiful Camp Kanza, built in the early 60s, is located on 160 acres of wooded land in the Ninnescah River Valley southwest of Hutchinson. It is one of two camps in the Quivira Boy Scout Council.*



KRWA Circuit Rider Jon Steele mixes chlorine for injection into the well at Camp Kanza.



Camp Ranger Del Wyman checks chlorine residual after treatment. He is now a certified water system operator.

would have it, the underground well power cable failed so the camp ranger and I dug 150 feet of ditch by hand in order to install a new one – finishing off that project with a little exercise.

Camp Kanza had never had a certified water operator but that was about to change. Today, Camp Ranger Del Wyman is a certified operator and participates in many KRWA training sessions offered across the state. Recently he attended the chemical feed pump session in Burden and the annual conference in Wichita. The Camp has been described as a diamond in the rough. With Del's commitment to quality control, his complying with KDHE standards, plenty of hard work, dedication and commitment – his dreams are paying off. Today that "diamond" is shining brighter with those rough edges rapidly coming off. Quite a transformation!

In a recent training session for scouting officials held at the Camp, Del received four standing ovations during a speech given by the executive director for his past 2 1/2 years of service as Ranger at the camp. During that time, he has insisted on using services provided through KRWA training and on-site technical assistance. Each spring that scouting motto,

"Be Prepared," takes over as we clean the wells, the water tower and the distribution system as a part of a preventative maintenance program.

#### Spring startup

The system has a standpipe that is drained during the winter to prevent freezing when the demand is low. A pressure diaphragm bladder pressure tank is used

during this time. In the spring before the tower is filled, an inspection and cleaning of the standpipe interior is performed. The tank is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with 100 ppm chlorine solution before being put into service. The super chlorinated water is not wasted; instead it is used to wash down the pool in preparation for filling. The well and the back-up well are cleaned

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**KRWA helps Camp Kanza . . .**

and disinfected with a 1000 ppm chlorine solution, keeping bacteria in check. The well is then surged to create the washing and mixing effect and then the distribution system is pumped full of this super chlorinated water from the well as a chlorine burn out. This super chlorinated water is then allowed to sit in the well and distribution system for up to three days. If the chlorine is still strong at the end of the contact time then it is pumped to waste and to the swimming pool for cleaning purposes.

The entire process takes about a week, but it is well worth the effort as part of the yearly tower start-up procedure. The chlorination of the wells will also keep them in good working order, preventing bacteriological problems from occurring. Actually, all well operators should perform routine chlorine treatments on their wells as a part of routine maintenance program. In addition, well records should be kept with data such as static water level, pumping water level,

specific capacity, pump discharge pressure, pump shut off head, pumping rate, amperage and voltage readings.

The Boy Scout's Camp Kanza is a shining example of how a very small water system can improve performance and ensure

providing quality water to all users. KRWA is pleased to be involved with the project and stands 100% behind the Boy Scouts of America motto and encourages all water systems to "Be Prepared."



*Steele removes manway cover on the Camp Kanza standpipe in preparation for cleaning which is part of the yearly start-up procedure.*

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*If a scouting governing body or other operator has any questions about how KRWA might be of assistance, please call KRWA at 785/336-3760 or contact us through the KRWA web site: [www.krwa.net](http://www.krwa.net).*

*Any of the KRWA staff would be pleased to visit on-site or attend a board or council meeting.*

Call KRWA  
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Go to [www.krwa.net](http://www.krwa.net) KRWA's training calendar keeps changing. For the latest information and to pre-register for sessions, go to training then click on:



**KRWA**

## Calendar & Registration

check session(s) you wish to pre-register for

### Future training by KRWA including Operator Credits

July 19	Manhole rehab / Collection System Maintenance	Ellis	W W
July 20	Competent Person for Trenching & Excavation	Dodge City	W / WWW
July 21	Confined Space Entry	Dodge City	W / WWW
July 27	Introduction to GIS/GPS	Pittsburg	W / WWW
July 28	Introduction to GIS/GPS	Pratt	W / WWW
August 2	Wastewater Lagoon Basics	Utica	WWW
August 4-5	Motors & Drives	Salina	W / WWW
August 9	Chemical Pumps & Chlorination	Valley Center	W / WWW
August 11-12	Basic Electrical Maintenance & Troubleshooting	Ottawa	W / WWW
August 17	Competent Person for Trenching & Excavation	Iola	W / WWW
August 18	Confined Space Entry	Iola	W / WWW
August 23-24	Water and Wastewater Math	Marysville	W / WWW
September 8-9	Advanced Electrical Maintenance & Troubleshooting	Ottawa	W / WWW
September 14	Competent Person for Trenching & Excavation	Colby	W / WWW
September 15	Confined Space Entry	Colby	W / WWW
September 20	Competent Person for Trenching & Excavation	Holton	W / WWW
September 21	Confined Space Entry	Holton	W / WWW
September 26	Water Rate Review/ Asset Management	Salina	W
September 27	Water Rate Review/ Asset Management	El Dorado	W
September 28	Water Rate Review/ Asset Management	Lawrence	W
October 5	Competent Person for Trenching & Excavation	Wichita	W / WWW
October 6	Confined Space Entry	Wichita	W / WWW
October 10 - 11	Water and Wastewater Math	Newton	W / WWW
October 13-14	Basic Electrical Maintenance & Troubleshooting	Independence	W / WWW
October 24-28	Backflow / Cross Connection Control	Hays	W
November 3-4	Advanced Electrical Maintenance & Troubleshooting	Independence	W / WWW
November 14 - 18	Backflow / Cross Connection Control	Topeka	W / WWW
November 17-18	Motors & Drives	Chanute	W / WWW
December 1	Water Rate Review/ Asset Management	Pittsburg	W
December 5	Water Rate Review/ Asset Management	Garden City	W
December 6	Water Rate Review/ Asset Management	Hays	W
December 8-9	Motors & Drives	Winfield	W / WWW
December 12 - 16	Backflow / Cross Connection Control	New Century	W / WWW
January 9 - 13	Backflow / Cross Connection Control	Lawrence	W / WWW
March 28-30	2006 Annual Conference & Exhibition	Wichita	W / WWW

**Or use this form to "pre-register" for any of the above sessions.**

Session Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

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Send this form to KRWA, PO Box 226, Seneca, KS 66538 My phone number is \_\_\_\_\_  
or fax to KRWA at 785/336-2751 or go to the KRWA Web site listed above.