



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Supply News

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Kayla Lyon Named First Female Director of the Iowa DNR

DNR Press Release, 6/26/2019, Media Contact: Alex Murphy, 515-729-7533, Alex.murphy@dnr.iowa.gov

“DES MOINES, Iowa – On June 26, Governor Kim Reynolds appointed Kayla Lyon as the first female director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Lyon will take over as the eighth director of the agency on July 8 and replace Bruce Trautman who has served as acting director since May 2018.

“As my legislative liaison and lead policy advisor on agriculture and natural resources, Kayla oversaw DNR operations including regulatory permitting, conservation efforts, and wildlife issues,” said Gov. Reynolds. “She also played an instrumental role in the 2018 comprehensive water quality funding bill. As DNR Director, Kayla will serve a key role in helping our state continue to grow.”

“I am honored to lead the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and appreciate the governor for providing me a new opportunity to serve Iowans,” said Lyon. “In this role, I will continue the DNR’s mission to protect our natural resources, state parks, landscapes, and improve the quality of life in Iowa for generations to come.”

Prior to joining the Governor’s office, Kayla spent her career in government affairs working on agriculture, renewable fuels, water quality, and environmental policy while representing farmers and agribusiness.

Lyon is a native of Decorah and currently lives in Ames with her husband and two daughters.”

Perchlorate Proposed Rule

In the June 26, 2019 Federal Register, EPA has [proposed a rule for the regulation of perchlorate](#) as a contaminant in public drinking water systems. In the proposed rule, there are several options that are under consideration: maximum contaminant level of

0.018 mg/L, or 0.056 mg/L, or 0.090 mg/L, or a negative regulatory determination (which would mean no regulation). The public comment period lasts until August 26, 2019.

Annual WS Operation Fee Bill in the Mail

The annual Water Supply Operation Fee bills were mailed on Friday, June 28th. They are due September 1st. The fee is \$25.00 for transient noncommunity systems. For nontransient noncommunity systems and community systems, the fee is \$25.00 or 11.44 cents per capita per year, whichever is greater. The amount of fee collected statewide is capped at \$350,000, as it has been since 1995. The money is used to match federal grants which support the public water supply program.

Iowa Public Drinking Water Program Annual Compliance Report for 2018 Available

The State of Iowa Public Drinking Water Program Annual Compliance Report for 2018 is available on the [Annual Compliance Report webpage](#). Under the 1996 reauthorized Safe Drinking Water Act, the DNR is required to publish an annual report of the status of its public drinking water program and to submit the report to EPA by July 1st.

The report was compiled by the staff of the DNR, using data collected in 2018 from all active public water supplies in the state. The report contains a summary of the program, a description of the requirements that systems must meet, the year's violation statistics, and the list of the systems with each health-based standard or major monitoring or reporting violation incurred during the year.

The photographs in the report are from Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund projects, primarily those that were completed or inspected during the year. The maps depict the public water supply system universe in Iowa and the locations of the systems that incurred the violations of health-based standards and the major monitoring and reporting violations. The maps are also separately listed on the website.

Iowa had 1,838 active public water supply systems in 2018. Of those systems, 95.2% were in compliance with all health-based drinking water standards, and 82.1% were in compliance with all major monitoring and reporting requirements. There were no waterborne disease outbreaks or deaths attributed to the drinking water at any active public water supply in Iowa during the year.

What's Next for Stormwater Utilities: New Stormwater Workshop

"There are more than 1,600 of them in 40 states. In Iowa, at least 100 communities operate one. The earliest of them were formed in the 1990s and early 2000s as Iowa cities faced new federal and state requirements. Others are just now getting started as a funding source to solve ongoing problems.

They are stormwater utilities. This type of utility, operating like a water or wastewater, electric, or other system, collects fees to cover the costs of implementing a municipal stormwater management program. For most cities, that includes constructing and

maintaining storm sewers and flood control systems. For cities with MS4 (municipal separate storm sewer system) permits, additional requirements include staff to conduct public outreach and education, inspect construction sites, enforce post-construction ordinances, investigate illicit discharges, and implement good housekeeping methods.

Many cities are now going beyond the basics in approaching stormwater runoff by implementing and encouraging best management practices that decrease the amount of water flowing into storm sewer pipes and enhance water quality. Over the last 25 years since the first stormwater utilities were formed in Iowa, there has been a growing awareness about water management, flooding, land use, water quality, and recreation. Whether required to by permit or because of problems in the community, more and more Iowa cities are addressing stormwater issues.

To meet the need for continuing discussion and education about water problems and how stormwater utilities can be part of the solution, the “Next Steps for Stormwater Utilities” workshop has been developed by the Iowa Stormwater Education Partnership and the Iowa League of Cities. Registration is now open. The workshop will be held Thursday, August 1, 2019 at the Johnston, Iowa Public Library.

Seating is limited! [Register today](#).

For more information contact Patti Cale-Finnegan, patticf59@gmail.com or 515-490-4684.”

Iowa DNR WS Staff Speaking Engagements

Iowa DNR staff in the water supply program areas are scheduled to speak at the following events. The date, sponsor and event, location, subject, and contact for more information are listed.

- July 8-9, DMACC WET Program Ankeny Annual Water Conference, Ankeny “DNR WS Rules Update/Affidavit Operations.” [Information and registration](#)
- August 27-28, IA-AWWA Fall Short Course, DMACC-FFA Center, Ankeny “DNR WS Rules Update; Manganese Protocol.” Information and registration not yet available.
- September 17-18, IRWA – Okoboji, “MO River Flooding & Drinking Water Experience; Manganese testing; DNR WS Update.” Information and registration not yet available.
- October 15-16, IRWA – Dubuque, “MO River Flooding & Drinking Water Experience; Manganese testing; DNR WS Update.” Information and registration not yet available.
- October 22-24, AWWA Annual, Ames, “The Good, the Bad, and the Really Ugly; Manganese testing; DNR WS Update.” Information and registration not yet available.

For other professional development opportunities, see the “Training Calendar” at programs.iowadnr.gov/opcertweb/.

