



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Supply News

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Routine Inspection of Water Storage Tanks Recommended

The Iowa DNR recommends routine inspection of water storage tanks, including towers to help maintain good water quality in the distribution system and extend the life of the tank. Inspection is recommended at least every three to five years as recommended by AWWA and USEPA, or more often if local conditions warrant. Inspection, cleaning, and maintenance can be accomplished by draining and entering the tank or by using certified commercial divers or remotely operated vehicles (ROV). Any of these methods are acceptable to the department and there are not specific Iowa rules governing the methods for cleaning or inspecting water storage tanks.

The department does have rules for disinfection and sampling following cleaning, inspection, and maintenance of storage tanks. These are detailed in AWWA Standard C652-11. It is the water system's responsibility to ensure the contractor is meeting the requirements of this standard and that the water being served to its customers is safe. The department is working on detailed guidance and another article will be issued when it is completed.

Please note that inspection of tanks used to meet contact time requirements (CT tanks), may require additional measurements and surveillance to ensure the systems meets their CT and turbidity requirements. The system is encouraged to consult with the Field Office prior to inspection of a CT tank.

If you have questions about the procedure, please consult with your DNR Field Office.

The Shape of Water Towers – An Engineering History

From WaterOperator.org, 8/7/2018

“See how many design and engineering phases [water tower construction](#) has gone through since the late 1800s.” The Stanton, Iowa coffee pot tower with rosemaling is mentioned in the article.

CDC Taking Comment on Operational Control Range for Fluoridation

From ASDWA Weekly Update, July 20, 2018

“In a [Federal Register Notice](#) on July 13, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced a proposed operational control range around the optimal fluoride concentration in community water systems that adjust fluoride. The proposed operational control range is 0.6 mg/L to 1.0 mg/L. This will help guide operators of water systems as they work to achieve the optimal fluoridation target level of 0.7 mg/L that was set in 2015. For operational criteria, CDC is proposing that the monthly average fluoride level is maintained within the proposed operational control range, and 80% of daily measurements of fluoride are maintained within the proposed operational control range.

CDC is requesting comment on the proposed control range and operational criteria. Comments can be submitted until October 11, 2018. Comments can be submitted through www.regulations.gov using Docket number CDC–2018–0064 or directly to CDC at Division of Oral Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Buford Highway, MS S107-8, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, Attn: Docket Number: CDC-2018-0064.

Additional details on the proposal are included in the [Federal Register Notice](#).”

Schilling Named Iowa State Geologist

University of Iowa’s Office of Strategic Communication, 7/30/2018

“Iowa Geological Survey and IIHR–Hydroscience and Engineering research engineer Keith Schilling has been officially named Iowa’s State Geologist.

Schilling, whose expertise is in hydrogeology, had served as acting State Geologist for about a year before his appointment was officially approved by the Board of Regents. Schilling has three decades of experience as a geologist in Iowa and also serves as an

adjunct assistant professor in the UI Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. He holds a master's degree from Iowa State University and a PhD from the University of Iowa.

“The Iowa Geological Survey is doing important work that serves Iowans in many ways,” Schilling said. “I’m proud to be selected for this position and to lead a program that has such a long and storied history in the state. It’s an honor and a privilege that I take very seriously.”

Since 2014, the Iowa Geological Survey has been a part of IIHR at the UI. The Iowa Geological Survey provides Iowans with expertise in subsurface geology and groundwater resources. It also executes bedrock mapping statewide, maintains a repository of geologic samples and data, conducts geologic research, and organizes a wide range of outreach and educational activities.”

Updated USGS Groundwater Quality Mapper Now Available

USGS News Release, August 6, 2018

“The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Water Quality Program has updated its interactive web tool that maps decadal changes in groundwater quality across the nation. The web tool, [Decadal Change in Groundwater Quality](#), now includes more groundwater well networks and data analyzed over a longer time span. In the update, groundwater quality data were added for an additional 218 wells in 6 well networks {across the nation}, increasing the number of wells to 1,718 and the number of well networks to 73. Additionally, data for 14 well networks resampled during 2012–14 were incorporated, allowing the user to visualize changes across three roughly decadal sampling events for those networks since the 1990s.

Users of the web tool can easily visualize changes in both inorganic and organic constituent concentrations in groundwater, including chloride, nitrate, several pesticides, and some drinking-water disinfection byproducts. The website also includes a description of the methods used to evaluate changes in groundwater quality and a link to the complete set of data. For additional information on the groundwater-quality web tool, or for data and methods used, contact Bruce Lindsey (blindsey@usgs.gov).

RFP Now Open for Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program

ASDWA Update, August 7, 2018

“The 2019 Request for Proposals (RFP) is now open for the Healthy Watersheds Consortium (HWC) Grant Program. The HWC is a partnership between the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, EPA, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Up to \$1.2 million is available for projects that accelerate strategic protection of healthy, freshwater ecosystems and their watersheds (including drinking water watersheds) across the nation. The primary focus for proposals should be on the protection and stewardship of land in the watershed, rather than just water quality improvements. The due date for proposals is February 4, 2019. For more information, view the [Request for Proposals](#) for eligibility criteria; visit the [HWC Grant Program website](#); and [register for the informational webinar session](#) on Wednesday, October 24, at 1:00 pm (CDT).”

IDNR 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.

- August 28-29, 2018, AWWA-IA Section Fall Short Course, Ankeny. “IDNR WS Update; Discussion of Events at Creston/SIRWA Panel; Nitrification in Distribution Systems.” [Brochure and registration](#).
- September 11–12, 2018, IRWA Fall Conference, Okoboji. “IDNR WS Update.” [Brochure and registration](#) (agenda is at the bottom of the page)
- September 19, 2018, American Membrane Technology Association (AMTA), North Liberty. “Membrane Applications in Iowa and Regulatory Considerations.” [Brochure and registration](#). Space limited to 50 attendees.
- September 27, 2018, SHL Laboratory Symposium, Coralville. “IDNR Rules; Roundtable on Ammonia and Nitrite.” [Brochure and registration](#).
- October 10, 2018. IA-AWWA Region 3 Workshop, Western Iowa Tech., Cherokee. “IDNR WS Update.” Brochure and registration available at a later date. Contact Brad Puetz, Sioux City Water Treatment Plant at 712-279-6130.
- October 11, 2018. IA-AWWA Region 2 Workshop, NIACC Muse-Norris, Mason City. “IDNR WS Update.” [Brochure and registration](#).
- October 23-24, 2018. IRWA Fall Conference, Dubuque. “IDNR WS Update.” [Brochure and registration](#) (agenda is at the bottom of the page)

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