



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# Water Supply News

## Environmental Services

- [Capacity Development Program's "2020 Report to the Governor" Available](#)
- [Reminder: Asset Management Webinar for Iowa Small Water Systems: September 30 and October 1](#)
- [FY 2021 Second Quarter IUP Update Approved](#)
- [SRF to implement a new "SRF Notice of Funding Eligibility" Letter](#)
- [EPA's Water Supply Workbooks for Children](#)
- [Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities](#)
- [A note on Iowa DNR and COVID-19](#)

## Capacity Development Program's "2020 Report to the Governor" Available

One of the provisions of the reauthorized 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required the state develop and implement a capacity development (also called viability assessment) plan to ensure that public water supplies provide safe drinking water to their public at a reasonable cost for the foreseeable future.

Iowa DNR's Drinking Water Capacity Development program is designed to helping water supply personnel continually develop and improve their ability or "capacity" to serve their customers. There are three main elements of water system capacity, also known as "TMF."

- *Technical*: Adequate amounts of water, well maintained infrastructure, current technology, and qualified and knowledgeable staff to operate the system.
- *Managerial*: An effective organization and governance, accountability, properly certified operators, and good relationships and communications between boards, councils, management and staff.
- *Financial*: Enough revenue to cover current costs and future needs, fiscal controls, and credit worthiness.

Every three years in September, DNR issues a "Report to the Governor" that describes the capacity development program and activities the accomplishments, challenges, and ongoing activities. This report has been developed for this three-year period, and is available at the [Viability Assessment/Capacity Development website](#).

## Reminder: Asset Management Webinar for Iowa Small Water Systems: September 30 and October 1

*From Wichita State University Environmental Finance Center, 9/1/2020. The EFC is sponsored by EPA, and this training is for Iowa systems.*

**Description:** In this free two-part online training series, you will learn about how asset management can benefit your system.

**Dates: Wednesday, September 30, 2020:** Part One: *"Introduction to Asset Management"*

**Thursday, October 1, 2020:** Part Two: *"Optimizing Asset Life for Sustained Operations"*

**Time:** 11:00am-12:30pm CDT

[Register Online](#)

**Fee:** No charge for this two-part webinar

**CEU:** Approved for 3 hours of water operator credit by DNR

## **FY 2021 Second Quarter IUP Update Approved**

The Iowa Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) approved the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Intended Use Plans (IUP) updates for second quarter of fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021). The Commission took the action on September 15, 2020 during their teleconference meeting.

[Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#)

[Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#)

For more information, please contact Theresa Enright, SRF Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 515-725-0498 or [theresa.enright@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:theresa.enright@dnr.iowa.gov).

## **SRF to implement a new "SRF Notice of Funding Eligibility" Letter**

The "SRF Letter of Concurrence of Award" has been updated with the intent to provide our customers with a clear understanding of the purpose of the letter and to better communicate the next steps in the SRF funding process. One significant change is the terminology being used in the letter. Since SRF is not actually concurring with an applicant's specific contract award, this language has been eliminated and the letter focuses on identifying the SRF eligible costs within the awarded bid.

The revised form is referred to as the "SRF Notice of Funding Eligibility" and implementation of the form began on 9-15-2020.

Questions regarding this letter may be directed to Amy Seyffer at [amy.seyffer@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:amy.seyffer@dnr.iowa.gov) or 515-725-8202.

## **EPA's Water Supply Workbooks for Children**

*From EPA's Water Security Division for Water Preparedness Month, September 2020*

It is never too early to learn about preparedness.

Children from kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade can learn about their drinking water with the 15-page (.pdf) [Thirstin's Wacky Water Adventure Activity Book](#).

To inform children in the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades about the important services water operators provide, use the 16-page (.pdf) [Water Operators: Delivering Safe Water Every Day Activity Book](#).

## Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities

To find continuing education opportunities, please view the “Training Calendar” at [programs.iowadnr.gov/opcertweb/](http://programs.iowadnr.gov/opcertweb/) Training events where Iowa DNR staff will make presentations are listed below. See the listing on the appropriate date on the Training Calendar for registration instructions. Look at the calendar often, as there are new opportunities posted throughout the week.

- October 8, 2020, IA-AWWA Region 2 Water and Wastewater Operator Conference, Mason City (both virtual and in-person). “IDNR WS Rules Update.” Registration through NIACC: 1-888-GO-NIACC, ext. 4358.
- October 13-15, 2020, IA-AWWA Virtual Fall Conference, “Iowa DNR Water Supply Rules Update.” See the [website](#) for the brochure and registration information. This year’s conference is free.
- October 26-27, IRWA Fall Water Conference, Dubuque. “IDNR Water Supply Rules Update.” See the [website](#) for the brochure and registration information.
- November 17, IAMU Water Operators Conference – Distribution, virtual. “IDNR Water Supply Rules Update.” See the [website](#) for registration information.

## A note on Iowa DNR and COVID-19

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is working with state and local officials to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and has transitioned employees to work remotely. DNR offices are closed to the public during this time and only available by appointment.

In another effort to further reduce the spread of COVID-19, the DNR is encouraging the use of the online services for submitting applications, payments and other daily tasks and interaction with DNR staff.

- [Full list of DNR's online services](#)
- [Current information on DNR services, facilities and events impacted by COVID-19](#)
- [Technical information for regulated businesses in regards to COVID-19](#)

We thank you for your patience and flexibility during this time. If you need to contact DNR staff you can reach them by email or phone or by calling 515-725-8200.