



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Supply News

Environmental Services

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Water Supply, Wastewater, Sludge, and Operator Certification Rule Changes are Effective

Updates to several portions of the departments' water supply rules, the wastewater rules, the sludge/biosolids rules, and the operator certification rules became effective on March 16, 2022. These changes are described in more detail below.

Water Supply Rule Changes (Chapters 9, 40, 43, 49): Several changes were made to cleanup and modify the water supply rules. The updated versions of the water supply rules can be viewed using the following links: [Chapter 9](#) - [Chapter 40](#) - [Chapter 43](#) - [Chapter 49](#) The changes are summarized below.

- Chapter 9 - The change to Chapter 9 aligned the rules with 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2475, which amended Iowa Code section 455B.183(2) to allow local public works departments to retain a professional engineer in lieu of directly employing an engineer. The department has been enforcing the law since its passage.
- Chapter 43, water mains - The changes to the water main separation distance rules in Chapter 43 eased certain aspects of the requirements and captured siting and construction alternatives developed from variances directly into the rules. Specifically, the changes put more emphasis on water main construction than on distance requirements and distinguish between sanitary and storm sewers. [Water Main and Sewer Separation Requirements FAQ](#)
- Chapters 40, 43, and 49, separation distances - Changes were made to clarify the well separation distances. Sources of contamination are now named consistently across the rules, and the separation distances are more uniform.

Wastewater Cleanup Rule Changes (Chapters 60-64): The Chapters included in the wastewater cleanup rule were 60, 62, 63, and 64. The updated wastewater rules can be viewed on the [NPDES Rules](#) webpage. The changes are summarized below.

- Chapter 60 - add and update definitions, remove old forms, and add language on electronic form submittal.
- Chapter 62 - update date reference for Federal effluent and pretreatment standards in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and add a reference to new federal dental effluent limitation guidelines.
- Chapter 63 - add CFR reference for analytical testing methods; clarify alternative test procedure and method modification requirements; update the rule-referenced Supporting Document for Permit Monitoring Frequency Determination; update WET testing guidelines; add electronic reporting language; rescind land application monitoring table; rescind table for preservation techniques, containers and holding times and replace it with a reference to the table in the CFR, and move language on monitoring well sampling procedures.
- Chapter 64 - simplify and clarify general permit language; modify language the operation permit period; update public notice and public hearing language; update and revise disadvantaged community eligibility requirements; add specific fee amounts from Iowa Code 455B.197; and add new language on the Nutrient Reduction Exchange (NRE).

Sludge Rule Changes (Chapter 67): The updates to the sludge/biosolids rules cleaned up and modified the rules for readability and to align with governing federal law. Use this link to view the updated [Chapter 67](#) rules.

Operator Certification Rule Changes (Chapter 81): The changes to Chapter 81 added a new wastewater classification grade that will benefit very small communities and simplified and refined the rules by clarifying definitions, better specifying certain operator requirements, and removing references to an obsolete classification grade. Use this link to view the updated [Chapter 81](#) rules.

FY 2022 Intended Use Plan Q4 Updates 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) fourth quarter update for fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022). The Commission took the action on March 15, 2022 during their 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.

Resources on Cybersecurity

The American Water Works Association-Iowa Section reminds organizations that now is the time to prepare for cyber threats and strongly encourage all organizations to review and monitor the [Shields Up webpage](#) provided by the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). Here you will find guidance on hardening

systems, specific recommendations for leadership, a checklist for ransomware response, timely updates, and more.

As a reminder, CISA also offers:

- **Pro Bono Services** – CISA recently launched a [new catalog of free cybersecurity services](#) from CISA, the open-source community, and private sector partners in the Joint Cyber Defense Collaborative. The catalog is designed to help under-resourced organizations improve their security posture.
- **Mis-, dis-, Malinformation (MDM)** – CISA released a CISA Insights titled, [Preparing for and Mitigating Foreign Influence Operations Targeting Critical Infrastructure](#), which provides critical infrastructure owners and operators with guidance on how to identify and mitigate the risks of influence operations using MDM narratives from steering public opinion and impacting National Critical Functions and critical infrastructure.

Organizations are encouraged to remain vigilant and lower the threshold for reporting. If you believe that your jurisdiction, or a critical infrastructure partner, has experienced a intrusion, please report incidents and anomalous activity to CISA (Central@cisa.gov; 1-888-282-0870) and/or the FBI's 24/7 CyWatch at (855) 292-3937 or CyWatch@fbi.gov.

There are several additional resources available to inform, educate, and prevent a cyber attack from happening at a facility including:

[EPA Water Sector Cybersecurity Brief for States](#)

[15 Cybersecurity Fundamentals for Water and Wastewater Utilities](#)

[Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency \(CISA\) Assessment Services](#)

[AWWA Resources on Cybersecurity](#)

[EPA Cybersecurity Incident Action Checklist](#)

No-Cost Workshop: Asset Management for Iowa Small Systems

Join experts from the Environmental Finance Center at Wichita State University for a no-cost workshop on Asset Management for Iowa Small Systems. The same training is offered on two separate days. Please register for the date and location that works best for you.

Description: In our asset management workshops, you will learn about how asset management can benefit your system. Not sure where to begin? We will provide you with the tools you need to get started and will walk you through the process.

With limited revenues, aging infrastructure, and regulatory obligations to meet, a comprehensive approach to managing your system is vital. You may have problems related to unknown meter, valve, or hydrant locations. You may not be sure of which

asset(s) to replace given limited funds. Asset Management can help you solve these problems, and more.

Asset Management for Iowa Small Systems

June 7, 2022 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM CDT | Coralville, IA

Holiday Inn Express & Suites (970 25th Ave, Coralville, IA 52241)

Approved for 5 hours of CEUs.

[Register Now](#)

Asset Management for Iowa Small Systems

June 8, 2022 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM CDT | Atlantic, IA

Cass County Community Center (805 W 10th St, Atlantic, IA 50022)

Approved for 5 hours of CEUs.

[Register Now](#)

Trainers: Jeff Severin, Program Manager; and John Colclazier, Program Manager, Environmental Finance Center at Wichita State University

Questions? Contact John Colclazier, john.colclazier@wichita.edu

Surface Water Treatment Optimization Workshop

This full-day training, included in your Full Two-Day Registration or Tuesday-Only Registration, is ideal for surface water treatment operators, and would be beneficial to management and maintenance staff along with operators who are working toward IDNR Grade 3 or Grade 4 Water Treatment Certification.

Due to the workshop structure featuring a mix of presentations and small group activities, attendees must pre-register for and commit to attending the the full day of sessions.

Spring Short Course Registration Now Open!

April 25-26, 2022

FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny, IA

Early Bird Registration Discount Ends April 15



Join us April 25-26 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny for two days of **operator-focused** continuing education and networking with the opportunity to earn up to **1.0 CEU approved for IDNR Water Treatment and Distribution certifications.**

Monday's General Sessions, also approved for **0.5 IDNR Wastewater Treatment CEUs**, will cover a number of timely updates and critical topics for all water industry professionals, plus a **dedicated Maintenance Track** will begin after the lunch break.

Tuesday's program empowers attendees to further customize their own learning with Maintenance, Water Treatment, and Distribution sessions to choose from each hour, or the option to participate in the included full-day [Surface Water Treatment Optimization Workshop](#) (pre-registration is required).

Each day's registration includes a light continental breakfast as well as lunch.

Visit the [event webpage](#) for more information including the program and IDNR CEU approval details, or [register](#) today.

Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities

Online and virtual training opportunities are being created and offered through community colleges, state industry associations, national industry associations, EPA, and other state industry partners. All operators should continue to monitor their emails and the Training Calendar on the [Iowa DNR Operator Certification Database](#). Look at the calendar often, as there are new opportunities posted throughout the week.

Upcoming Conferences include:

- **IGWA Spring 2022 Conference** - April 29, 2022, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, virtual webinar. [Event Website](#)
- **IAWEA Region 2 Spring Meeting** - April 14, 2022 at the NIACC Muse-Norris Conference Center in Mason City. [Event Website](#)
- **IAWEA Region 3 Spring Conference** - April 14, 2022 at the Prairie Winds Event Center in Orange City. [Event website](#)
- **IA-AWWA 2022 Spring Short Course** - April 25-26, 2022 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny. [Event Website](#)
- **IAWEA Region 6 Conference** - May 4, 2022 at the Terry Trueblood Park Lodge in Iowa City. [Event Website](#)
- **IA-AWWA Region 5 Annual Meeting** - May 10, 2022 at the DMACC Newton Campus in Newton. [Event Website](#)
- **IAWEA 2022 Annual Conference** - June 8-9, 2022 at the River Center in Davenport. [Event Website](#)

Please contact Laurie Sharp at (515) 725-0284 with any questions concerning operator certification training.