



NEW MEXICO WATER UTILITIES NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED FOR THE OPERATORS OF NEW MEXICO

SPRING 2007

LIQUID WASTE BILLS OFFERED AT 2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

*Link Summers, President, POWRA NM
(Professional Onsite Wastewater Reuse Association of New Mexico)*

In an effort to provide a comprehensive solution to New Mexico's liquid waste problems, POWRA has worked to bring 4 bills before the current legislative session. Special thanks go to Representative Jim Trujillo who is our sponsor in the House, and Senator Carlos Cisneros, our sponsor in the Senate.

HB 859 is the Cesspool Elimination Assistance Fund – Illegal since 1973, NMED acknowledges that there are still tens of thousands of cesspools in the state and that they are a clear threat to ground water (reference: <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/fod/LiquidWaste/onsite%20sewage%20management%20in%20NM.pdf>).

Many of the people who own these systems lack the resources to replace them. This bill appropriates \$4 million to replace these systems with legal, permitted systems. The funds would be available as grants to anyone in New Mexico who has a cesspool at their personal residence and whose income is less than 250% of the amount established under Federal Poverty Guidelines.

SB 920 and HB 1130 are the Liquid Waste Revolving Loan Fund. They would establish a \$5 million revolving loan fund for repair and replacement of liquid waste systems other than cesspools. These low interest loans would be available to anyone in New Mexico who has a failing liquid waste system other than a cesspool at their personal residence and whose income is less than 250% of the amount established under Federal Poverty Guidelines. These loans are long term, low interest and are subordinated to other loans on the property.

HB 802 and SB 919 are the Advanced Treatment Liquid Waste Tax Credit bills. Any person who installs an advanced

liquid waste system, regardless of income would receive a \$1,500 tax credit to help offset the cost of owning and maintaining these more expensive systems.

HB 858 and SB 921 address the Liquid Waste Fund Purposes. Here is some background on the Liquid Waste Fund: In 1996 Governor Gary Johnson granted the authority to issue liquid waste permits exclusively to NMED but he opposed any from of fee. So from 1996 to 2000 Liquid Waste Permits were issued with no fee. In 2000 Governor Johnson changed his mind and the current fee structure for Liquid Waste Permits was put in place. In order to get support for that legislation, the Liquid Waste Fund was established to receive all the money generated by the permit fees. The fund was placed under the control of NMED and had no legislative oversight. The industry and interested parties were told that the fund would be audited annually and its uses would be fully disclosed. POWRA NM was told that the fund was "earmarked" for education and field personnel only. The final version of the law as passed uses the fund for "administration". For years POWRA NM asked for the audit and has never received any response.

Bills HB 858 and SB 921 require a full accounting for the fund on an annual basis and require NMED to submit an annual budget for legislative approval of the fund's use. The bills limit use of the fund to 12% for administration and auditing (other programs in the state, like some in MFA and others are limited to 5% for administration), 25% for certification, 13% for public outreach programs, and at least 50% for field personnel only. The fund receives over \$800,000 annually at the current time. This proposed bill would provide the public with full disclosure of NMED's use of the funds.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NMWWA 51ST ANNUAL SCHOOL AWARDS BANQUET



Armando Arredondo received the “Max Summerlot Award for Wastewater” on behalf of the City of Clovis.



NMWWA officers
(left to right - center page)
Albert Barela, Caroline Martinez,
Cynthia Arnold, Eric Lopez,
LuAnn Bustamante, Rick Griego,
Cindy Huntsman, Mario Gonzales

President, Cynthia Arnold presented “Cynthia Hiers-Robinson Instructor Awards” to Terry Mount and Bart Starr (not pictured).

See page 7 for a full list of awards



Cindy Huntsman received the “John Clark Award”.

Nicole Mangin received the “Caroline Martinez Outstanding Achievement Award”.





CERTIFICATION NEWS

*Dennis Quintana,
Certification Office
NMED SWQB Facility Operations Section*



**New Mexico
Water & Wastewater
Association**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Cynthia Arnold

The Facility Operations Team is working on a new automated project (database) that will list employer and employees for water and wastewater facilities. We will need your help to make this happen.

On the examination application form (part E. Experience) ; located on the right hand side of the page, second box down are the words (** System ID or Discharge Permit # Required:); please enter either your Public Water System # (PWS #) [for water] or your Discharge Permit # (DP#) [for wastewater]. If you do not know the number(s) associated with your system, you can look it/them up on our web-site @ <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/SWQB/FOT/index.html> . The links may be found at the bottom of the page under "other useful links". If you have trouble finding your system Permit ID # please call Dennis Quintana @ (505) 827-0154 for assistance.

Remember that applications for testing can be rejected if the PWS or DP numbers are not entered on your application.

Continued from page 6

ON-GOING TRAINING

MEC TECH SERVICES

SERVICES: On-site training, technical support, on-site laboratory services

CONTACT: Nicole Mangin, 505-896-8018

www.mectechservices.com e-mail:
nicole@mectechservices.com

RAGSDALE & ASSOCIATES

SERVICES: on-site training, plant start-ups, O&M trouble shooting, technical assistance

CONTACT: Fred Ragsdale, 505-293-4658;

fredragsdale@comcast.net

WATER OPS

SERVICES: on-site training, technical assistance, project management, maintenance management consulting

CONTACT: Kit Roush, 505-881-4825; krroush@comcast.net

DONA ANA COMMUNITY COLLEGE WATER TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

DATES: Ongoing classes each semester

LOCATION: Las Cruces, 3400 South Espina St.

CONTACT: Terry Mount, 505-527-7584 or
<http://dabcc.nmsu.edu/>



ROCKY MOUNTAIN WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION (RMWEA)

DATES: Over 40 wastewater & water training courses

LOCATION: anywhere with an internet connection

CONTACT: www.rmwea.org & click on Online Training

SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE WATER TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

DATES: Ongoing classes each semester

LOCATION: Santa Fe, SFCC 6401 Richards Ave. &
anywhere with an internet connection

CONTACT: Al Reed 505-428-1314 or www.sfccnm.edu



2007 NEW MEXICO TRAINING CALENDAR 2007

MARCH

RAGSDALE AND ASSOCIATES & MEC TECH SERVICES WORKSHOPS —

■ BASIC WATER CERTIFICATION

TOPICS: Levels 1&2 basic water

DATE: March 13-15, Tuesday - Thursday

■ ADVANCED WATER CERTIFICATION

TOPICS: Levels 3&4 advanced water

DATE: March 13-15, Tuesday - Thursday

REGISTRATION: \$250 for each three-day workshop. **Advanced registration is required, class size is limited.**

CREDITS: 21 hours for three days

TIMES: 8-5, each day

LOCATION: Albuquerque, UNM Continuing Education
Bldg.; University & Indian School

CONTACT: Nicole Mangin, MEC TECH Services, 505-459-6832

NMRWA 29TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TOPICS: Provides water and wastewater professionals the opportunity of learn about new trends, services, and industry products while networking with their peers.

DATES: March 19-21, Monday to Wednesday

TIMES: 8 to 5 each day

LOCATION: Albuquerque, Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town,
800 Rio Grande Blvd.

REGISTRATION: \$150 for members, \$250 for non-members -
Advance registration (\$170 or \$270 after March 1);
single day registration \$75 for members, \$95 for non-
members; 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CREDITS: 18 hours

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMED EXAM: March 22, 8 to 2:30. Submit your test application by February 21st at the latest.

APRIL

NMWWA NORTHWEST SECTION -

JOHN ALLISON MEMORIAL WORKSHOP

TOPICS: Levels 1 – 2, Basic water & wastewater

DATE: April 16-19, Monday to Thursday

TIMES: 8 to 5 each day

LOCATION: Farmington, San Juan College, 4601 College Blvd.

REGISTRATION: \$140, members; \$180, non-members

Advanced registration is requested

CREDITS: 26 hours

CONTACT: Cindy Huntsman, 505-334-8684

NMED EXAM: April 20, 8 to 2:30.

Submit your test application by March 21st at the latest.

NMRWA TRAINING – OPERATOR CERTIFICATION FUNDAMENTALS & MOCK EXAM

DATE: April 3-5, Tuesday - Thursday

LOCATION: Chamita, Water Association Building

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING —

■ DISTRIBUTION

DATE: April 10, Tuesday

■ BASIC/INTERMEDIATE WATER MATH

DATE: April 11, Wednesday

LOCATION: Cimmaron, Philmont Boy Scout Ranch,
Conference Bldg.

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: April 12-13, Thursday & Friday

LOCATION: Las Vegas, Luna Community College

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

MAY

NMRWA TRAINING – OPERATOR CERTIFICATION FUNDAMENTALS & MOCK EXAM

DATE: May 2-4 Wednesday - Friday

LOCATION: Bluewater Lake, Utilities Office

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: May 9-10, Wednesday & Thursday

LOCATION: Deming, Mimbres Valley Special Events Center

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NEWSLETTER DIRECTORY OF CONTACTS

NMSU WUTAP (NM State University - Water Utilities Technical Assistance Prog.)

Nancy Gott, **Editor** 505-984-0676

P.O. Box 4192

Santa Fe, NM 87502 FAX 505-982-3137

wutap@vcimail.com

NM Environment Department, Certification & Training Office, NM Utility Operator Certification Advisory Board

Mike Coffman 505-827-0108

P.O. Box 26110

Santa Fe, NM 87502 FAX 505-827-0160

www.nmenv.state.nm.us.swqb/FOT/index.html

2007 NEW MEXICO TRAINING CALENDAR 2007

NMWWA NORTHERN SCHOOL

TOPICS: This general water & wastewater operations school is for both basic and advanced, Levels 1-4.

DATES: May 21-24, Mon. to Thurs.

TIMES: 8 to 5 each day

LOCATION: Taos, Convention Center, 120 Civic Plaza

REGISTRATION: \$200 for members, \$250 for non-members.

Advance registration is required for all classes.

CONTACT: NMWWA, Caroline Martinez, 505-753-8840,
FAX 505-753-9810.

CREDITS: 26 hours

NMED EXAM: May 25, 8 to 2:30. Submit your test application by April 25th at the latest.

JUNE

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: June 5-6, Tuesday & Wednesday

LOCATION: Portales, ENMU Campus Union

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMWWA SOUTHWEST SECTION -

JAKE HANDS MEMORIAL WORKSHOP

TOPICS: Levels 1 & 2, Basic Water & Wastewater

DATE: June 20-21, Wednesday & Thursday

TIMES: 8 to 5, both days

LOCATION: Ruidoso, Inn of the Mt. Gods,
287 Carrizozo Canyon

REGISTRATION: \$80, members; \$100, non-members.

Advanced registration is requested.

CREDITS: 13 hours

CONTACT: Martin Lopez, 505-571-3628

NMED EXAM: June 22, 8 to 2:30.

Submit your test application by May 23rd at the latest.

JULY

NMWWA WEST CENTRAL SECTION WORKSHOP

TOPICS: Levels 1 & 2, Basic Water & Wastewater

DATE: July 11-12, Wednesday & Thursday

TIMES: 8 to 5, each day

LOCATION: Gallup, UNM Gallup, 200 College Dr.

REGISTRATION: \$80, members; \$100, non-members.

Advanced registration is requested.

CREDITS: 13 hours

CONTACT: Pat Sanchez, 505-863-1211

NMED EXAM: July 13, 8 to 2:30

Submit your test application by June 13th at the latest.

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: July 11-12, Wednesday & Thursday

LOCATION: Red River, Conference Center

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING – ACTIVATED SLUDGE PROCESS CONTROL - LEVELS 3 & 4

DATE: July 23-24, Monday & Tuesday

LOCATION: Hatch, Community Center

REGISTRATION: \$25; 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING – OPERATOR CERTIFICATION FUNDAMENTALS & MOCK EXAM

DATE: July 24-26, Tuesday - Thursday

LOCATION: Silver City, Hall Annex

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING – ACTIVATED SLUDGE PROCESS CONTROL - LEVELS 3 & 4

DATE: July 26-27, Thursday & Friday

LOCATION: Isleta, Fun Center

REGISTRATION: \$25; 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

AUGUST

NMWWA SOUTHEAST SECTION WORKSHOP

TOPICS: Levels 1 & 2, Basic Water & Wastewater

DATE: August 8-9, Wednesday & Thursday

TIMES: 8 to 5, both days

LOCATION: Roswell, ENMU Occupational Training Center,
#20 West Mathis

REGISTRATION: \$80, members; \$100, non-members.

Advanced registration is requested.

CREDITS: 13 hours

CONTACT: Mark Earnest, 505-910-2372

NMED EXAM: August 10, 8 to 2:30.

Submit your test application by July 11th at the latest.

NMRWA TRAINING – OPERATOR CERTIFICATION FUNDAMENTALS & MOCK EXAM

DATE: August 7-9, Tuesday - Thursday

LOCATION: Santa Fe, Municipal League Office

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: August 29-30, Wednesday & Thursday

LOCATION: Las Cruces, Dona Ana County Govt. Center

REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893

CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

2007 NEW MEXICO TRAINING CALENDAR 2007

SEPTEMBER

NMRWA TRAINING – OPERATOR CERTIFICATION FUNDAMENTALS & MOCK EXAM

DATE: September 4-6, Tuesday - Thursday
LOCATION: Tucumcari, Convention Center Front Annex
REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893
CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMWWA CENTRAL SCHOOL

TOPICS: This general water & wastewater operations school is for both basic and advanced, Levels 1-4.

DATES: September 10-13,
Monday - Thursday
TIMES: 8 to 5 each day
LOCATION: Albuquerque,
UNM Continuing
Education Bldg., 1634
University Blvd., NE

REGISTRATION: \$200 for members,
\$250 for non-members. *Advanced registration is required*

CREDITS: 26 hours
CONTACT: Caroline Martinez, 505-753-8840,
FAX 505-753-9810.

NMED EXAM: September 14, 8 to 2:30.
Submit your test application by August 15th at the latest.

OCTOBER

NMWWA NORTHEAST SECTION WORKSHOP

TOPICS: Levels 1 – 2, Basic water & wastewater
DATE: October 10-11, Wednesday & Thursday
TIMES: 8 to 5 each day
LOCATION: Espanola, National Guard Armory,
705 Industrial Park
REGISTRATION: \$80, members; \$100, non-members
Advanced registration is requested

CREDITS: 13 hours
CONTACT: Jaime Rodriguez, 505-662-8269
NMED EXAM: October 12, 8 to 2:30.
Submit your test application by Sept. 12th at the latest.

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: October 11-12, Thursday & Friday
LOCATION: Alamogordo, Civi Center
REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893
CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NOVEMBER

NMWWA CENTRAL SECTION WORKSHOP

TOPICS: Levels 1 & 2, Basic Water & Wastewater
DATE: November 14-15, Wednesday & Thursday
TIMES: 8 to 5, both days
LOCATION: Albuquerque, UNM Continuing Education
Bldg. 1634 University Blvd., NE

REGISTRATION:
\$80, members;
\$100, non-members.
Advanced registration is requested.
CREDITS: 13 hours
CONTACT: John Fitzgerald,
505-277-2465
NMED EXAM: November 16, 8 to 2:30 Submit your test application by Oct. 17th at the latest.

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: November 15-16, Thursday & Friday
LOCATION: Bloomfield, Cultural Center
REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893
CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

DECEMBER

NMRWA TRAINING – SMALL WATER O&M

DATE: December 6-7, Thursday & Friday
LOCATION: Pecos River Conference Center
REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893
CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

NMRWA TRAINING – OPERATOR CERTIFICATION FUNDAMENTALS & MOCK EXAM

DATE: December 11-13, Tuesday - Thursday
LOCATION: Philmont Scout Ranch, Conference Bldg.
REGISTRATION: 505-884-1031, 800-819-9893
CONTACT: NM Rural Water Assoc., www.nmrwa.org

ON-GOING TRAINING

NM MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION AWWA/WEA

DATES: 4th Thursday of each month
TIMES: 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
LOCATION: Albuquerque, Furr's Family Dining,
6100 Central Ave. SE
CONTACT: Joel Rife, 505-243-3200

NEW MEXICO WATER & WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION 2007 NORTHERN SHORT SCHOOL - PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

NORTHERN SHORT SCHOOL
May 21-24, 2007
Taos Convention Center
121 Civic Plaza
Taos, NM

Payment in full must accompany this registration form or it will NOT be processed. Please call 753-8840 for payment arrangements before you mail application.

NAME: _____ **SSN# OR ID#** _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

EMPLOYED BY: _____ **EMPLOYER PHONE #:** _____

NMWWA Member: **YES** **NO** **ARE YOU CURRENTLY CERTIFIED:** **YES** **NO**

PLEASE NOTE: Pre-registration is *required* and on a "first come - first served" basis. There will be *NO* registration at the door. You must specify which *category* you will attend. Registration confirmation will *NOT* be sent. Call (505)753-8840 to confirm registration. Fax #753-9810. Refunds apply *ONLY* if cancellation instructions are received one week before the specified school and there will be a \$25 processing fee for all cancellations. Classes are from 8:00 – 5:00. *Please bring your study guide if you have one.*

REGISTRATION FEES:

Member Fee: \$200 _____

Non-Member Fee: \$250 _____

NMWWA State & Section Dues (if not yet paid):

Active \$35 _____

Corporate \$33 _____

Associate \$30 _____

Student \$25 _____

TOTAL \$ _____

CLASSES:

You **MUST** mark the *category* of classes that you will be attending in order for this form to be complete. You may attend one or two categories of classes. 26 credits each category:

<u>ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>	
50 people	Basic Water (I - II)	_____
50 people	Basic Wastewater (I-II)	_____
50 people	Advanced Water(III-IV)	_____
50 people	Adv. Wastewater (III-IV)	_____

Make check payable to:
 N.M. Water & Wastewater Association

Make your motel reservations **before May 10**. Be sure to tell them you're with NMWWA to get these rates.

Mall form & check to:
 Caroline Martinez, Executive Manager
 P.O. Box 819
 Española, NM 87532

Days Inn.....	1333 Paseo Del Pueblo Sur		
505-758-2230	\$60 single	\$68 double	
Comfort Suites.....	1500 Paseo Del Pueblo		
505-751-1558	\$63 single	\$63 double	
Budget Host.....	Paseo Del Pueblo, Hwy 68		
505-758-2524	\$39 single	\$45 double	

Pre-Registration Deadline: May 15, 2007

2007 NMWWA ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

John Clark Award: Cindy Huntsman
 Caroline Martinez Outstanding Achievement Award:
 Nicole Mangin
 Cynthia Hiers-Robinson Outstanding Instructor Awards:
 Terry Mount, Bart Starr
 The Max Summerlot Award for Wastewater: City of Clovis
 Good Housekeeping Awards:
 Cannon AFB - Activated Sludge
 West Mesa Industrial Park - Lagoons
 City of Roswell - Ground Water
 Dona Ana MDWCA – Ground Water
 Charles Caldwell Award for the highest increase in membership for
 2006: Southeast Section.

Outstanding Operator of the Year awards:
 Edward Salazar, OMI Grants Frank Trujillo, City of Artesia
 Steven Paul, Town of Bernalillo John Eckley, City of Bloomfield
 David Tafoya, OMI Grants
 Section President's Awards:
 NE - San Jose MDWCA NW - City of Bloomfield Water
 SE - City of Lovington Wastewater SW - Dona Ana MDWCA
 WC - City of Gallup Wastewater CT – UNM Ford Utility Water
 President's Award – LuAnn Bustamante
 Lifetime Members:
 Mike Mendoza Michael Sanchez
 Darrell Benjamin Betty Behrend
 Ruben Salcido, Sr.

OPERATOR SPOTLIGHT - MARK EARNEST

Southeast Section

Mark Earnest was hired in August 1986 with the City of Roswell Water Maintenance and Transmission Department as a Water/Sewer Maintainer I. Increasing responsibilities & experience have brought him to his current title of Equipment Operator II (Supervisor). He recently received the Roswell Length of Service Awards 20 year pin for continued years of service.

Mark has been an avid member of the NMWWA SE Section. In 1993 and 1994 he was the Secretary Treasurer and in 2002 & 2003, President of the Section. He is currently President of the SE Section and is looking forward to serving for the remainder of 2007 and maybe into 2008, depending on member's voting outcome.

Mark is a Level IV Water and Level II Wastewater Operator. His duties require him to supervise crews on the maintenance and construction sites of city projects and private developments



to insure that Public Works Specifications are followed and remain at the highest quality possible.

Enough about Mark, remember without all members, staff and everyone involved within the association in all aspects this spotlight would not be possible and there would be no New Mexico Water & Wastewater Association. All operators deserve recognition.

NMWWA MONTHLY SECTION MEETINGS

•Southeast Section

⊕ 1st Wednesday, rotating

☎ Mark Earnest, 505-910-2372

•Southwest Section

⊕ 3rd Wednesday, rotating

☎ Martin Lozez, 505-571-3628

•West Central Section

⊕ 4th Wednesday, Gallup

☎ Ray Espinoza, 505-870-7626

•Central Section

⊕ 2nd Tuesday, rotating

☎ John Fitzgerald, 505-277-2464

•Northeast Section

⊕ 2nd Monday, rotating

☎ Jaime Rodriguez, 505-662-8269

•Northwest Section

⊕ 1st Thursday, rotating

☎ Eric Hall, 505-334-8684