



Drinking Water Academy Bulletin



A message from DWPD's Director

The Drinking Water Academy Marks its Second Anniversary

Dear Readers,

Founded in November 1998 to address the growing need for training to meet the requirements of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments, the Drinking Water Academy (DWA) is marking its second anniversary. The second year brought a significant expansion of the DWA's activities. Four introductory courses were completed and the DWA delivered introductory training in six locations. The DWA initiated development of five new courses in FY 2000, three of which were piloted during the year.

Capacity development for small systems is a major theme of the Amendments and also a major emphasis for the DWA. The DWA developed and piloted courses on financial aspects of capacity development, capacity development and rate-making, and capacity development and sanitary surveys.

The DWA continued its support for sanitary survey training, which was delivered 10 times, including three times in Alaska (see related article on page 2). We began to update the Learner's Guide, which accompanies the training, in order to incorporate rules promulgated since it was originally issued. The DWA is also developing a video on sampling, which will be one in a series of videos used to support training in how to conduct sanitary surveys.

We are pleased that the DWA Web site has greatly expanded access to our training materials. The Web site had nearly 30,000 hits during the year as a result of a major expansion. All four introductory courses are now included in the Electronic Workshop in PowerPoint and pdf formats. *Introduction to the Safe Drinking Water Act* is online in a simple, Web-based format. Regulatory training developed during the year is also on the Web. The DWA also started development of an interactive version of *Introduction to EPA's Drinking Water Source Protection Programs*.

The DWA worked to strengthen its partnerships with organizations such as the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, the Ground Water Protection Council, the National Rural Water Association, and the Rural Community Assistance Program. Working through these organizations, we can ensure that the training offered by the Drinking Water Academy meets the needs of their constituencies. We can also ensure that these constituencies are aware of DWA training opportunities.

Looking into FY 2001, the DWA will expand its catalog of new courses to an even dozen: four introductory courses; five capacity development courses; and three advanced courses. We will also initiate development of additional advanced courses for the source water, underground injection control, and public water system supervision programs. In addition, there will be training courses for new regulations.

Sanitary survey training remains a high priority for FY 2001. The DWA will continue to support training deliveries and will complete the revision of the Learner's Guide and other materials used in training.

I would like to extend my thanks to the members of the DWA work group for their dedicated efforts to provide direction to the DWA and to spread the word to drinking water staff nationwide. And I urge you, the readers, to take advantage of the opportunities for training and information sharing that the DWA provides.

Sincerely,

William R. Diamond, Director
Drinking Water Protection Division
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

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Alaska Training/Technical Assistance Center Partners with the DWA

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation recently recognized the Alaska Training/Technical Assistance Center program as the State's Sanitary Survey Training Center.

The Alaska Training/Technical Assistance Center (ATTAC) at the University of Alaska at Sitka recognized a problem with the State's sanitary survey program: lack of consistency and continuity in training. ATTAC looked to EPA for assistance, and the Drinking Water Academy answered the call. The DWA partnered with ATTAC to improve its training program and develop a Statewide center for sanitary survey training. ATTAC's goal is to create training continuity and assist the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) in meeting sanitary survey training needs throughout the State and to be recognized as a DWA sanitary survey training center.

The existing sanitary training course was tailored to address specific issues and problems encountered in Alaska. Since May 2000, ATTAC has presented five sanitary survey training courses in various locations throughout the State. Two additional training sessions are scheduled for February and March, 2001; ATTAC will present six more trainings within the next 18 months. After completing the training course, students may apply to ADEC to become recognized as third-party sanitary surveyors.

ATTAC used EPA's existing sanitary survey training materials as a basis for developing a new course at the University (ENVT 250). It is being offered for the first time during the Spring 2001 semester. The course is part of the Environmental Technology Program at the University of Alaska


DWA Presents Tailored Training in Idaho

In July 2000, the DWA presented training tailored specifically for the State of Idaho. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) wanted a training course suitable for IDEQ staff and local health department staff who conduct sanitary surveys. The DWA listened to their needs and modified existing training materials to provide a 1-day review of existing SDWA regulations and 2 days of sanitary survey training.

The instructor provided even more tailoring by asking the students their specific interests and concerns and emphasizing them during the training.

The DWA's flexible approach to training was much appreciated by the State and its students.






at Sitka, which prepares students for entry-level positions as technicians in a variety of environmental occupations with an emphasis on water and wastewater operations.


ADEC recently recognized the ATTAC program as the Sanitary Survey Training Center for the State of Alaska. ATTAC also created an advisory committee consisting of ATTAC and ADEC staff and open to participants in the sanitary survey training courses. The purpose of the committee is to provide direction for future training as well as feedback so that the course can be updated and improved on a regular basis. The committee held its first meeting on December 12, 2000. For further information, contact Lee Michalsky, University of Alaska at Sitka, (907) 747-7755. 

EPA, GWPC Preparing Source Water Contamination Prevention Measures Training Module

EPA is working with the Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC) to develop a training module on prevention measures for selected potential source water contaminant sources. The module will be in a format consistent with the training modules produced by the DWA and will be available on the DWA and GWPC's Web sites. The module is expected to be available in the spring of 2001.

Once completed, the module will be piloted by the DWA in a training session for EPA, State agency personnel and association representatives. Additional training sessions are planned throughout 2001 for the staff of organizations that provide environmental training and technical assistance on water protection efforts to water suppliers and communities. These organizations include the:

-  American Water Works Association
-  National Rural Water Association
-  National Association of Counties
-  International City/County Management Association
-  National Center for Small Communities

Contact Steve Ainsworth at (202) 260-7769 for more information. 


DWA Makes Available "Troubleshooting Guide for Small Ground Water Systems with Hypochlorination"

The DWA has reproduced and is making available copies of the compact disc (CD) "Troubleshooting Guide for Small Ground Water Systems with Hypochlorination."

The Guide enables individuals to apply a systematic troubleshooting process to solving or correcting operational problems at small ground water systems that use hypochlorination for disinfection. It also enables the troubleshooter to assess an operational problem to the point where it can be easily corrected or determined that it requires a technical specialist such as an electrician or a well specialist. The Guide encourages users to contact their state, county or local

drinking water office for information, technical assistance, and advice when responding to a water system problem.


The document was developed under an EPA grant by the University of Florida Center for Training, Research and Education for Environmental Occupations. It is available in CD format at no cost while supplies last.

To request a copy of the Guide, contact EPA's Water Resources Center at (202) 260-7786 or by e-mail at center.water-resource@epa.gov. Additional information is available from Ken Hay (EPA Headquarters) at (202) 260-5552. 

DWA Prepares Training, Web Site in Spanish

The DWA is translating two of its introductory courses into Spanish. *Introduction to the Public Water System Supervision Program* and *Introduction to EPA's Drinking Water Source Protection Programs* will be presented April 17-19, 2001, in San Juan, PR.


The DWA also is having portions of its Web site translated into Spanish. The goal is to have the Spanish portion of the Web site available to the public by late spring.

More information about these projects is available from Norma Ortega (EPA Region 2) at (212) 637-4234 (e-mail: Ortega.norma@epa.gov), and from Mario Salazar (EPA Headquarters) at (202) 260-2363 (e-mail: Salazar.Mario@epa.gov.) 

Regulatory Training For RCAP Trainers

EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water provided two days of regulatory training to a select group of Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) trainers in Leesburg, Virginia on November 7 and 8, 2000. The training focused on providing an understanding of several new rules and their requirements. EPA's Rule Implementation Managers and Rulemaking Managers trained the participants on rules addressing arsenic, radon, lead and copper, ground water, stage 1 disinfectants and disinfection byproducts, long-term enhanced surface water treatment, and public notification.

When the training was completed, the RCAP trainers divided into "rule groups" to begin developing training presentations for the rest of RCAP's field-based staff. The DWA will provide existing training materials to assist the rule groups in developing presentations for their colleagues.

The newly trained RCAP field personnel will work with small communities to assist them in better understanding the regulations. 

Drinking Water Academy Contacts

Contact	Location	Telephone	E-mail
MaryJo Feuerbach	EPA Region 1	(617) 918-1578	feuerbach.maryjo@epa.gov
Norma Ortega	EPA Region 2	(212) 637-4234	ortega.norma@epa.gov
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Training Course Schedule

Course Title	Audience	Date Scheduled	Location	Contact
Sanitary Survey Training	Hawaii State drinking water staff	December 2000	Honolulu, HI	Bill Davis EPA Region 6 (214) 665-7536 davis.williamh@epa.gov
SDWIS/FED Data Retrieval Training: Beginner/Pivot Tables	EPA and State drinking water staff	Jan 23-25, 2001	Falls Church, VA	Abraham Siegel EPA Headquarters (202) 260-2804 siegel.abraham@epa.gov
Sanitary Survey Training	Alaska State drinking water staff	Feb. 3-6, 2001 Mar. 6-9, 2001	Sitka, AK Bethel, AK	Lee Michalsky University of Alaska (907) 747-7755
Sanitary Survey Training	EPA Region 5 Federal, State and Tribal drinking water staff	Feb. 13-16, 2001	Keshena, WI	Bill Davis EPA Region 6 (214) 665-7536 davis.williamh@epa.gov
Introduction to the Public Water System Supervision Program	New Hampshire State drinking water staff	Feb. 22, 2001	Boston, MA	Jackie LeClair EPA Region 1 (617) 918-1549 leclair.jackie@epa.gov
Source Water Treatment/ Total Coliform Rule	EPA and State drinking water staff	Feb. 27-28, 2001	Chicago, IL	Miguel Deltoral EPA Region 5 (312) 886-5253 deltoral.miguel@epa.gov
Sanitary Survey Training	EPA and State drinking water staff	April 2000* May 2000*	Boston, MA	Jackie LeClair EPA Region 1 (617) 918-1549 leclair.jackie@epa.gov
Introduction to the Safe Drinking Water Act	Puerto Rico drinking water staff	Apr. 17-19, 2001	San Juan, PR	Norma Ortega EPA Region 2 (212) 637-4234 ortega.norma@epa.gov
Sanitary Survey Training	New Mexico State drinking water staff	Apr. 23-27, 2001	Albuquerque, NM	Bill Davis EPA Region 6 (214) 665-7536 davis.williamh@epa.gov
Drinking Water Treatment Troubleshooter's Training	EPA Region 4 Federal and State drinking water staff	Spring 2001*	Kentucky	David Parker EPA Region 4 (404) 562-9490 parker.david@epa.gov
	EPA Region 3 Federal and State drinking water staff	April 2001	Region 3 location TBD*	
SDWIS/FED Data Entry Training	EPA and State drinking water staff	June 12-14, 2001	Boston, MA	Abraham Siegel EPA Headquarters (202) 260-2804 siegel.abraham@epa.gov
SDWS/FED Data Entry Trouble Shooting Training	EPA and State drinking water staff	July 17-19, 2001	Atlanta, GA	Abraham Siegel EPA Headquarters (202) 260-2804 siegel.abraham@epa.gov

Notes:

*Final dates and locations will be posted on the DWA Web site as soon as they are available (www.epa.gov/safewater/dwa/calendar.html)
**Tentatively scheduled

The following courses may be presented as requested: All introductory courses; Comprehensive Performance Evaluations (Introduction); Comprehensive Performance Evaluations (Progressive); Sanitary Survey Training; Consumer Confidence Rule; Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. See the course catalog on the DWA Web site for more information (www.epa.gov/safewater/dwa/course.html).