



Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research

www.usc.edu/dept/fccchr/

Based at the University of Southern California, the Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research provides information via their Web site. Their "Introduction to Cross Connection Control" (click on Backflow Introduction under Topics) provides an excellent overview of topics such as back-siphonage, backpressure, and backflow prevention techniques.



American Backflow Prevention Association

www.abpa.org

The American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) is devoted to protecting drinking water from contamination through cross-connections and is committed to advancing all aspects of backflow prevention for the continued protection of all water users.

The ABPA Web site has information about cross connections and backflow prevention, as well as details about certification, training, and organizational meetings. The *ABPA Certification Committee Operations & Procedure Manual* may also be downloaded from the site.



U.S. Drought Portal

www.drought.gov/portal/server.pt

The U.S. Drought Portal, launched on November 1, 2007, was created to provide comprehensive information on emerging and ongoing droughts and to enhance the nation's drought preparedness. The Drought Portal is part of the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS), which was enacted into law in 2006. The project is part of

the National Drought Policy Commission, established under the National Drought Policy Act of 1998 to ensure collaboration between different government agencies on drought-related issues

The U.S. Drought Portal is part of the interactive system designed to:

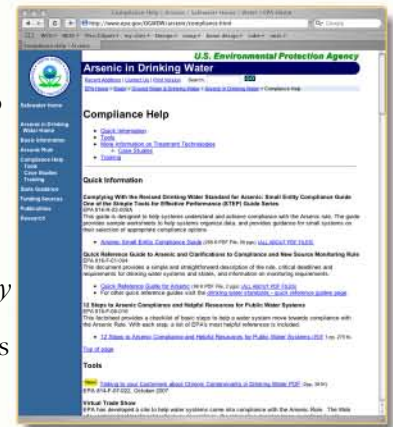
- provide early warning about emerging and anticipated droughts;
- assimilate data about droughts and models;
- provide information about risks and impacts of droughts to different agencies and stakeholders;
- provide information about past droughts for comparison and to understand current conditions;
- explain how to plan for and manage the impacts of droughts; and
- establish a forum for different stakeholders to discuss drought-related issues.

EPA Has Arsenic Help

www.epa.gov/OGWDW/arsenic/compliance.html

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set up a comprehensive Web site to help drinking water systems become and stay compliant with the new arsenic rulings. Factsheets and guidebooks produced by the EPA are listed here, free for the reader to download in pdf format.

Special training workshops and videos on the various arsenic treatment removal technologies can be ordered here. Of particular interest are the *Arsenic Treatment Technology Evaluation Handbook for Small Systems* and *Point-of-Use or Point-of-Entry Treatment Opinions for Small Drinking Water Systems* that are available for free download. Fifteen case studies from across the country highlighting the ways systems have dealt with their arsenic removal challenges are also available.



EPA Develops Financing Comparison Tool

www.epa.gov/owm/cwfinance/cwsrf/fact.htm

The Financing Alternatives Comparison Tool (FACT) is designed to conduct a comparison of financing options to be used by non-financial people. Funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, FACT shows a project being financed by multiple funding sources and allows the user to include customized or unique costs. The site provides a summary about how to use FACT, as well as more detailed help.



EFC at Boise State Has Watershed Tools

efc.boisestate.edu

Creating a watershed restoration plan and implementing the plan are different, yet related processes. The Environmental Finance Center at Boise State University has worked with watershed groups and the Environmental Protection Agency to design tools that help with the planning to implementation process. Three specific tools: (1) Plan2Fund, (2) Plan2Fund OPT (Objective Prioritization Tools), and (3) the Directory of Watershed Resources are useful for creating comprehensive plans and multiple-year budgets, determining priority projects, and finding funding for implementation.

Plan2Fund converts your comprehensive plan into a multi-year funding report that shows the levels of resources needed to accomplish goals, objectives and tasks. The *Objective Prioritization Tools* can be used to determine which of the objectives in your implementation plan are the most important. This helps groups focus on fund-raising for top priorities. The *Directory of Watershed Resources* is a searchable database of resources available for environmental projects – a one-stop shop for finding the resources to implement your top priorities.

These tools can be accessed at no charge by registering at the Environmental Finance Center Web site.

