



News Release

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Editors: A photograph of the keynote speaker, Robert Glennon, is available at <http://sd.water.usgs.gov/public/newsroom.html>

Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference April 23 at Civic Center in Rapid City

The 7th annual Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference will be held on Thursday, April 23, at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City. The conference is open to the public and features topics dealing with water in western South Dakota and includes a special session on remote sensing.

One keynote speaker and four technical sessions will allow hydrologists, geologists, engineers, geographers, students, and other interested individuals to meet and exchange ideas, discuss mutual problems, and present the results of studies. The annual conference typically draws more than 250 attendees.

The conference will kick off at 8:00 a.m. with a session on science management issues that includes topics of record precipitation in 2008, the Sanford Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory at Lead, SD, effects of onsite wastewater disposal systems, the new Landsat mission, and the geology of Jewel Cave.

The keynote luncheon speaker will be Robert Glennon from the Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona, where he specializes in water law. Robert Glennon is a nationally recognized expert on western water law and the author of two books "Water Follies: Groundwater Pumping and the Fate of America's Fresh Waters," and the newly released "Unquenchable: America's Water Crisis and What to Do About It," which is also the title of his luncheon presentation. A book signing will be available following his presentation.

The four technical sessions include presentations about surface-water issues, remote sensing, ground-water issues, uranium and mining issues, floods, biological issues, and a variety of other water-related topics. Additional details regarding the preliminary program are available from the conference Web site at <http://sd.water.usgs.gov/WSDconf/>.

Professional registration fees are \$85 and professional development hours will be coordinated through the South Dakota Engineering Society for technical sessions attended. Students and the general public can attend the sessions for free; optional luncheon for students and general public is \$20. All attendees, including students and the general public, are asked to register before April 20 by visiting the above conference Web site or by contacting Janet Carter at 605-394-3215 or jmcarter@usgs.gov for more information.

The conference is sponsored by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources, South Dakota Engineering Society, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, and West Dakota Water Development District.

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

Additional information about the USGS water-resources studies in South Dakota can be obtained by visiting the USGS South Dakota Water Science Center home page at <http://sd.water.usgs.gov/>.

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