



Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

113

Partners in PA

66 Phase I & II Plants
47 Awarded Phase III

Volume 5 • Issue 4

Have you ever wondered why PA DEP strongly supports optimization of surface water treatment plants through the Filter Plant Performance and Partnership for Safe Water Programs?

Optimization programs such as these are important to Pennsylvanians and the state's surface water suppliers for the following reasons:

- **Population Impact:** Over 8.4 million people and numerous tourists receive some or all of their drinking water from the Commonwealth's filter plants.
- **Disease Prevention:** A treatment breakdown at a filter plant presents a widespread acute health threat from a waterborne disease outbreak. A disease outbreak can have a devastating impact on a community. Disease prevention saves millions of dollars in expenses that businesses, homeowners, local government and state government would incur in response to an outbreak.
- **Economy and Essential Services:** Filter plants serve drinking water to large metropolitan areas and small rural communities and thus are a vital part of local infrastructure; they represent an essential service to many businesses; and they provide basic fire protection for homeowners and businesses.
- **Technical Assistance:** Filter plants involve some of the most complex regulations and treatment processes. Optimization programs, such as the PFSW and FPPE helps suppliers in overcoming numerous on-going compliance challenges.

PADEP has developed a new website which contains detailed information about the Filter Plant Performance Evaluation process. All Partnership members should find this website interesting as it provides useful information concerning optimization of surface water filtration plants. To access the FPPE web site:

- Visit DEP's main web site at **www.dep.state.pa.us**
- Type "**dep filtration**" (without the quotes) into the Keyword box located in the upper part of the page and hit the "Go" button
- Select the link called "**Filter Plant Performance Evaluation**"

IMPORTANT:

You SHOULD be Using the Revised SDWA-5 Form to Report Turbidity to PADEP! In late September of 2004, DEP mailed all water suppliers a copy of the revised SDWA-5 form. If you are not using the revised form, contact your local PADEP office immediately!



Mark Your Calendars...

All Partners are invited!

PA-AWWA's 57th Annual Conference and Exhibition

May 3-5, 2005

Valley Forge
Convention Center
Valley Forge, PA

For more Information, visit our
website: www.paawwa.org

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are planning to advance to Phase IV of the Partnership program, we strongly suggest you contact DEP before completing the Phase IV application.

Call Phil Consonery at 717-772-4018 to obtain details about Pennsylvania's Phase IV program.

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**Pennsylvania
Section**

 American Water Works Association

Congratulations to Ed Chescattie!



CONGRATULATIONS are extended to Ed Chescattie, Water Treatment Plant Program Specialist with PA DEP. He co-authored an Opflow article on filter bed expansion and recently authored an Opflow article providing tips on completing the Partnership Phase III Self-Assessment.

You can view his article on the Partnership for Safe Water website, www.dep.state.pa.us

- Type "dep filtration" (without the quotes) into the Keyword box, hit "go" button
- Select the link called "Partnership for Safe Water"
- Select - Operators center

Ed is available to provide assistance in reviewing Phase III self-assessment at 717-772-4018 or E-mail: echescatti@state.pa.us

Partnership for Safe Water Phase III Testimonials:

The Oakmont Water Authority takes pride in the fact that their treatment plant is much more optimized, since finishing the self-assessment in Phase III. The time invested working on the self-assessment, helped operators to better understand any weakness, and all involved realize that the turbidities throughout the plant must be kept under the prescribed limits settled <2.0 and filter effluent <0.1 NTU. By achieving Phase III status, Oakmont's customers will know that Oakmont Water Authority is committed to producing the safest and highest quality water possible.

Dennis L. Kreider, *Water Quality Analyst* • Oakmont Water Authority

By completing Phase III of the PFSW program the City of Lancaster Conestoga WTP has absolutely improved overall facility operation. Turbidity performance is irrefutable proof of improved operations. The self-assessment phase promoted better communications that resulted in improvements in all phases of operations. Using the self-assessment guidelines, we discovered our operators had developed individual procedures that were not documented. By discussing the different approaches, the operators were able to identify and adopt the best methods.

The importance of formal procedures is now emphasized and updated on a regular schedule. Yes, an in-house self-assessment is worth the effort in numerous ways. Having all sections and staffing levels participating in the assessment provided a compressive evaluation of the system. With the partnership's clearly defined performance goals, each section was able to focus on their interaction towards that goal. The degree of interdependence was not realized until the assessment was completed. We found the procedure to be a valuable training tool for our operators, supervisor, and support staff.

Douglas Beck, *Lancaster Project Engineer*
City of Lancaster Conestoga WTP

Education Workshop

Last chance to gain valuable filter optimization information.

FINAL "Optimization Filter Performance Workshop"

Approved for 6.5 PA Contact Hours

LOCATIONS/TIME

Time: Registration - 8:30 a.m.
Program - 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

East: April 7, 2005
City of Allentown Bureau of Water Resources Water Filtration Plant
1300 Martin Luther King Drive
Allentown, PA 18102
610-437-7641

Central: April 14, 2005
City of Harrisburg Bureau of Water
100 Pine Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17103
717-238-8725

West: April 21, 2005
Brackenridge Borough
1000 Brackenridge Avenue
Brackenridge, PA 15014
724-224-0800

Seating is limited due to the constraints of in-plants demonstrations. Be sure to register early to guarantee your space at the program.

Registration Fee: \$70.00 (Includes Lunch)
Partnership for Safe Water Member:
\$15.00 processing fee (one per utility)

As a member of the Partnership for Safe Water program, your plant will be eligible for one complimentary registration — all you are responsible for is a \$15 processing fee to hold your space. Since seating is limited in each location, registration will be accepted on a first come-first served basis.

Registration deadline is March 29, 2005

Questions?

Contact Diane Cox @ 717-774-9970 or dianecox@paawwa.org

LIMITED SEATING...REGISTER ASAP!

Update Your Partnership Information

Send any changes to your Partnership contact information to Debby Qualls at dqualls@awwa.org. If we don't have the correct information you may miss out on upcoming program improvements. Be sure to include current e-mail address if available.