



Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

Volume 10 • Issue 1

106

Partners in PA

57 Phase I & II Plants
49 Awarded Phase III



The SPOTLIGHT is on: Aqua Pennsylvania joins Partnership for Safe Drinking Water



Don Hershey (right), Executive Director of PA-AWWA, congratulates Karl Kyriss, Aqua's Regional President, Mid-Atlantic Operations, on Aqua PA's involvement in the Partnership for Safe Water program.



Several Aqua Pa water systems are participating in the Partnership for Safe Water program. Shown are Aqua's (left to right) Bud Weir, Marc Lucca, Preston Luitweiler, Curt Steffy, Nancy Roncetti (DEP), Diane Cox (PA-AWWA), Darian Boyer, Fran Ward, Donna Whalen, Kevin Anderson (DEP), Colleen Arnold and Peter Orsine.

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. (Aqua) officials were joined by representatives of the Pennsylvania Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as they signed the Partnership for Safe Water—a voluntary cooperative effort between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the AWWA and other drinking water organizations, representing more than 200 surface water utilities throughout the United States.

The ceremony took place at the company's Crum Creek Water Treatment Plant in Springfield, Delaware County, where Aqua President Karl Kyriss was presented with eight certificates acknowledging the company's membership...one for each of Aqua's southeastern Pennsylvania surface water treatment plants, which provide water to approximately 1.2 million residents. Two additional plants, the Roaring Creek Treatment Plant in Elysburg (Shamokin area) and the Shenango Treatment Plant in Sharon, are also enrolled in the Partnership.

"We are pleased to join the Partnership for Safe Water," said Kyriss. "The parameters of the program are in line with the best practices Aqua employs relative to water quality. We've invested tens of millions of dollars in our treatment facilities and consistently strive to outperform regulatory standards. Our in-house state-certified laboratory tests for many more constituents than what is required by regulations, which is consistent with the spirit of the Partnership."

"Aqua has a great reputation in the industry for water quality," said AWWA Pennsylvania Section Executive Director Don Hershey who spoke at the ceremony. "We are looking forward to their membership in the program. With a customer base of 1.4 million people, Aqua brings a significant scope to the program, which includes a total of 5.8 million people in Pennsylvania."

CONTACT INFO

All correspondence is now being sent by email. This includes newsletters, annual reports and special notices to members. Please provide an email address to Deb Qualls at the phone number or email address listed below. If you do not have a current email address or prefer not to receive Partnership correspondence by email, please let her know. You can also receive current information on the program by visiting the website at www.partnershipforsafewater.org.

Please don't hesitate to contact Deb at 303-347-6169 or email dqualls@awwa.org if you have question or need additional information.

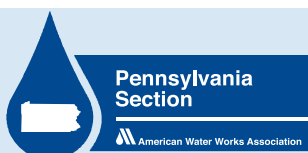
UPCOMING TRAINING

Watch for scheduling of the "Optimizing Filter Performance" Training

Course ID# 484

Approved PA DEP Contact Hours: 6.5. For both water and wastewater operators

Form more details, call Diane Cox @ 717-774-8870 or e-mail: dianecox@paawwa.org



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Partnership for Safe Water Testimonials

"On behalf of the staffs of Easton Suburban Water Authority & Miller Environmental, Inc., I would like to express my sincere thanks for your efforts in making the Partnership for Safe Water Phase III presentation ceremony a complete success. Your coordination of the days activities was seamless and very professionally done. Working with you again was a distinct pleasure. The entire staff is very proud of the accomplishment, and the recognition given to them by PA-AWWA & the Partnership for Safe water. It is wonderful that a program like this exists to showcase the efforts of the staff and that they realize their hard work does not go unnoticed. Hopefully our paths will cross again next year in Pittsburgh!"

*John Bartol – Capitol Improvement Program Manager
Easton Water Treatment Plant – Miller Environmental, Inc.*

I wanted to personally extend my appreciation for your Partnership for Safe Water coordination efforts. Everyone involved, ESWA, Miller and PA DEP were very pleased. Thanks again for taking care of all the details. Will see you in Pittsburgh at the 61st Annual Conference.

Roy White – Easton Suburban Water Authority

Easton Suburban Water Authority Operators Celebrate

Easton Suburban WTP operators successfully completed the Partnership for Safe Water Phase III – 20 Contact Hour Quiz and proudly display their certificates.

Pictured L – R: Chris Dickson, Marlon Worthy, Joseph McDonald and Robert Piro.



MAWC Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County

Westmoreland County Facility Completes Next Phase of Drinking Water Safety Program

The Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County's Indian Creek Water Filtration Plant recently completed the third phase of the Partnership for Safe Water Program, a voluntary effort to provide safe drinking water. Presently, the water system provides drinking water service to approximately 181,919 people. The Indian Creek water filtration plant is one of only a handful of water plants to complete this phase of the partnership in Pennsylvania.

The Partnership for Safe Water is made up of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Pennsylvania Section American Water Works Association (PA-AWWA), and other drinking water organizations. Its goal is to implement preventative measures that are based on optimizing treatment plant performance.

Phase III entails a detailed, peer-reviewed report that summarizes the rigorous self-assessment portion of the program. This phase is specifically geared toward identifying weaknesses in plant operation, design and administration that could lead to a breakthrough of waterborne disease-causing organisms into the finished water that is distributed to consumers. Correcting these weaknesses helps prevent waterborne disease outbreaks from pathogenic organisms like Cryptosporidium and Giardia. By completing this phase of the program, the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County management staff and operators are working to provide an additional measure of protection to drinking water consumers. Good job!



Partnership for Safe Water Program Representative Wanted

The Pennsylvania Section of the American Water Works Association (PA-AWWA) is seeking a representative for the Partnership for Safe Water program (PFSW). The PFSW focuses on optimizing the operation of water filtration plants and is supported by both the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Section. The representative will visit surface water filtration plants in the western portions of the Commonwealth.

The representative's primary objective will be to provide technical assistance and training (e.g. report writing and computer software) to systems working through the Partnership's Phase III Self-Assessment process.

A secondary objective would be to educate the owners/operators of the benefits of membership in the Partnership, with a goal of enrolling additional filter plants in the program. This is a compensated and part-time position. If you have a strong background in optimizing surface water treatment plant operations, are knowledgeable and supportive of the PFSW, are proficient with Word, Excel, and the Internet, have good people skills and a desire to see the Partnership Program flourish, please contact Diane Cox at 717-774-8870 or dianecox@paawwa.org.

PA-AWWA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Use the Phase III Report Template

A template is now available for preparing a Phase III completion report. This tool was developed by our Regional Partners at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and provided to the Partnership for our members use. Those with "writers block" should find this very helpful. The template is posted for download on the Partnership website: www.partnershipforsafewater.org