ISSUE 16

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AQUA PROFESSIONALS, INC.

LRWA's 31st Annual Training and Technical Conference

July 18th—July 21st
Lake Charles Civic Center
Lake Charles, LA

Training:
32 Hour Certification Classes
24 Hour Technical Training
Cross Connections Surveyors Training
General Backflow Testers Renewal Course
Exhibitors Booths
Meetings
Awards

Social Events:
3rd Annual Toilet Races (Monday, July 18th) 5pm - 6pm
Las Vegas Nite with Bingo (Tuesday, July 19th) 6:30pm—9pm
Carnival (no rides) (Wednesday, July 20th) 5pm—8 pm

Remember - as the summer months heat up, keep these safety tips in mind to avoid heat stroke:

Drink cool water. Anyone working in a hot environment should drink cool water in small amounts frequently--one cup every 20 minutes. Employers should make water available. Avoid alcohol, coffee, tea and caffeinated soft drinks, which cause dehydration.

Dress appropriately. Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing and change clothing if it gets completely saturated. Use sunscreen and wear a hat when working outdoors. Avoid getting sunburn.

Work in ventilated areas. All workplaces should have good general ventilation as well as spot cooling in work areas of high heat production. Good airflow increases evaporation of sweat, which cools the skin.

Know the signs and take prompt action. Knowing how to spot the signs of heat stroke, which can be fatal, you could save a life. Get emergency medical attention immediately if someone has one or more of the following symptoms: mental confusion or loss of consciousness, flushed face, hot, dry skin or has stopped sweating.

Check with your doctor. Certain medical conditions such as heart conditions and diabetes, and some medications can increase the risk of injury from heat exposure. People with medical conditions or those who take medications should ask their doctors before working in hot environments.

Watch out for other hazards. Use common sense and monitor other environmental hazards that often accompany hot weather, such as smog and ozone.

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LRWA TRAINING CALENDAR

July	
18-22	Lake Charles Civic Center, Lake Charles
August	
9-10	Opelousas
23-24	Ruston
September	
12-15	Shreveport

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"EXPERIENCE THE SERVICE"

Safety is the Safe Way to Success

C & L celebrating another year of accident free work time
















HURRICANE IMPACTS WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITIES

A hurricane is a severe tropical cyclone with sustained winds of 74 miles per hour or greater. Hurricanes and Tropical Storms have the potential to cause a great deal of damage to drinking water and wastewater utilities due to heavy rainfall and inland flooding, coastal storm surge, and high winds. Typical impacts that may lead to service interruptions include but are not limited to:

- Pipe breaks due to washouts, up-rooted trees, etc., which could results in sewage spills or low water pressure throughout the service area
- Loss of power and communication infrastructure due to high winds
- Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) due to flooding
- Restricted access to facilities and collection and distribution system assets due to debris and flood waters
- Loss of water quality testing capability during the storm due to restricted facility and laboratory access and damage to utility equipment
- Actions to Prepare for Hurricane Season

Planning

- Review and update your utility's emergency response plan (ERP), and ensure all emergency contacts are current.
- Conduct briefings, training and exercises to ensure utility staff is aware of all preparedness, response and recovery procedures.
- Identify priority water customers (e.g., hospitals), obtain their contact information, map their locations and develop a plan to restore those customers first.
- Develop an emergency drinking water supply plan and establish contacts (potentially through your local emergency management agency or mutual aid network) to discuss procedures, which may include bulk water hauling, mobile treatment units or temporary supply lines, as well as stor age and distribution.
- Conduct a hazard vulnerability analysis in which you review historical records to understand the past frequency and intensity of hurricanes and how your utility may have been impacted. Consider taking actions to mitigate hurricane impacts to the utility, including those provided in the "Actions to Recover from a Hurricane: Mitigations" section.
- Complete pre-disaster activities to help apply for federal disaster funding (e.g., contact state/local officials with connections to funding, set up a system to document damages and costs, take photographs of the facility for comparison to post-damage photographs.

Coordination

- Join your state's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN) or other local mutual aid network.
- Coordinate with WARN members and other neighboring utilities to discuss:
  - Outlining response activities, roles and responsibilities and mutual aid procedures (e.g., how to request and offer assistance).
  - Conducting joint tabletop or full-scale exercises.
  - Obtaining resources and assistance, such as equipment, personnel, technical support or water.
  - Establishing interconnections between systems and agreements with necessary approvals to activate this alternate sources.
- Equipment, pumping rates and demand on the water sources need to be considered and addressed in the design and operations.
  - Establishing communication protocols and equipment to reduce misunderstandings during the incident.
- Coordinate with other key response partners, such as your local EMA, to discuss:
  - How restoring system operations may have higher priority than establishing an alternative water resource.
  - Potential points of distribution for the delivery of emergency water supply (e.g., bottled water) to the public, as well as who is responsible for distributing the water.
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  - Understand how the local and utility emergency operations center (EOC) will be activated and what your utility may be called on to do, as well as how local emergency responders and the local EOC can support your utility during a response.
  - Ensure credentials to allow access will be valid during an incident by checking with local law enforcement.
  - Sign up for mobile and/or email alerts from your local EMA, if available.

Communication with Customers

- Develop outreach materials to provide your customers with information they will need during a hurricane (e.g., clarification about water advisories, instructions for private well and septic system maintenance and information about hurricane mitigation).
- Review public information protocols with local EMA and public health agencies. These protocols should include developing water advisory messages (e.g., boil water, warnings that service disruptions are likely) and distributing them to customers using appropriate mechanisms, such as reverse 911 calling. Keep in mind that the notice may need to be delivered prior to the storm to be effective.

Facility and Service Area

- Inventory and order extra equipment and supplies, as needed:
  - Motors
  - Fuses
  - Chemicals (ensure at least a two week supply)
  - Cellular phones or other wireless communications device
  - Emergency Supplies

Tarps/tape/rope	Cots/blankets
First aid kits	Foul weather gear
Plywood	Flashlights/flares
Bottled Water	Batteries
Non-perishable food	Sandbags (often, sand must be ordered as well).

- Ensure communications equipment (e.g., radios, satellite phones) works and is fully charged.
- Develop a GIS map of all system components and prepare a list of coordinates for each facility.
- Document pumping requirements and storage capabilities, as well as critical treatment components and parameters.

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Storing and Handling Chlorine Cylinders

Most plant operators store 150 pound cylinders or ton containers.
Large plants sometimes use rail cars. The Chemical Safety Board (CSB) has published a Safety Bulletin on the dangers of a major chlorine release during unloading. This was instigated after the CSB investigated two accidents, including a 2002 accident that resulted in the release of 48,000 pounds of chlorine.
Always secure cylinders and ton containers to protect them from falling, rolling or being dropped.
Both cylinders and ton containers have fusible metal plugs that will melt when the temperature gets between 158 and 165 degrees F to relieve pressure. These pressure relief valves keep the containers from rupturing during a fire.
Chlorine may be stored indoors or outdoors, though shading from sunlight is recommended for outdoor storage. Storage areas should be away from HVAC intakes, as chlorine gas could be distributed throughout a building in case of a leak.
Separate the chlorine storage area from incompatible materials, especially ammonia, sulfur dioxide, and hydrocarbons like fuels and oils.
The chlorine storage area should have a well-maintained chlorine gas detector installed, complete with alarm and call-out capability if a leak occurs when the plant is unmanned.

Unloading Chlorine

All employees receiving chlorine cylinders and containers must be properly trained.
Always use proper equipment to unload cylinders and ton containers. Chain cylinders to a hand truck, or move with a forklift if already secured in a storage rack.

- Make sure the protective valve housing is on securely.
- Never lift a chlorine cylinder by its protective valve housing.
- Use a properly rated hoist or forklift to relocate ton containers. When using a hoist, remember that the total weight of the ton containers is nearly 2 tons. A one-ton hoist is not sufficient for lifting a ton container.
- The hoist and cables must be in good operating condition. Have a professional inspect the hoist each year and repair or replace it when necessary.
- Never stand under a hoisted container. Stand to either side.
- Once the containers or cylinders are unloaded, secure them properly at the site. Always store cylinders in an upright position. Store ton containers with the two valves lined up vertically.

Ask Us About Chlorine Safety & Handling Classes
Provides 2 Hours Toward Certification

Meet our new employee

Donna Boudreaux

Donna is our new Sales Representative who will be assisting the Sales Team with pulling samples, including TTHMs and OEL report preparation, planning meetings, setting up Chlorine Safety Classes, providing customers with testing results, tracking sales data and preparing quotes.

Boudreaux and Thibodaux- The puzzle

Boudreaux and Thibodaux were sitting in a Houston Bar. They ordered 2 beer and chug-a-lugged. Then they jump up and gave a high five and shouted, "**26!**"
Then Boudreaux and Thibodaux ordered 2 more beer and chug-a-lugged. Then they jump up and gave a high five and shouted, "**26!**"
The bartender thought about this and couldn't stand it. "I get the part about a high five, but I do not get the part about 26."
Boudreaux and Thibodaux said, "That is easy. We can explain."
So they go out in the parking lot to their old truck, get a child's puzzle, and walk back into the bar.
Boudreaux and Thibodaux said, "Look-a here on this box. It says right here on the side. Two to five years. And we put it together in 26 days. "