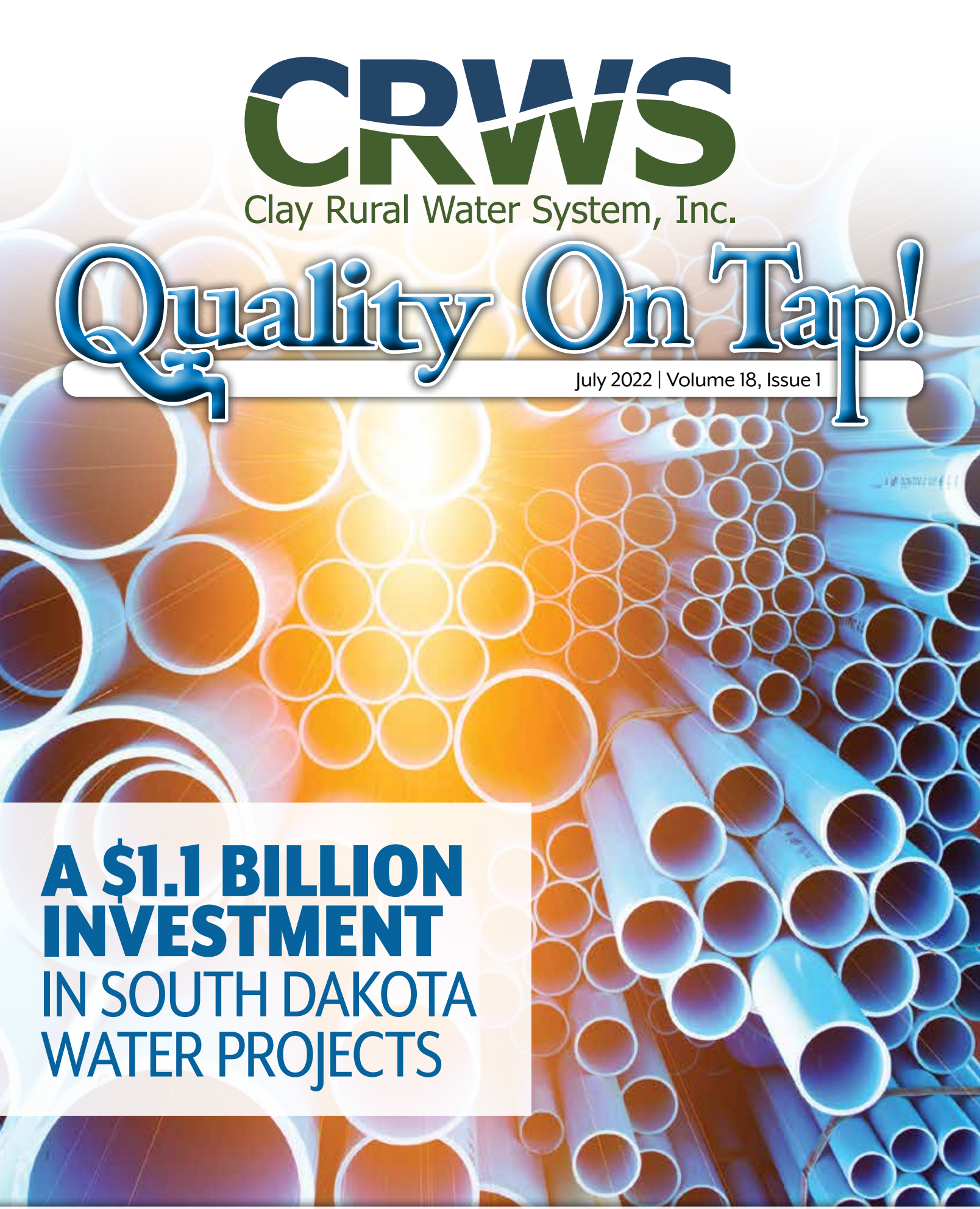
CRWS

Clay Rural Water System, Inc.

Quality On Tap!

July 2022 | Volume 18, Issue 1



A $1.1 BILLION INVESTMENT IN SOUTH DAKOTA WATER PROJECTS

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS | CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

FROM THE MANAGER

Steve Muilenburg
Manager, Clay Rural Water System, Inc.

In our July issue of last year, you heard me gripe about the high prices of materials along with increased demand and availability shortages of many products. Well, I can assure you, that one year later things have not improved. I think we can all agree that prices on everything have become worse.

I do not enjoy reiterating what you as consumers already know, but I will pass along a few positive facts for you. While we enjoyed some low interest rates over the past few years, CRWS did capitalize on the opportunity to consolidate some loans for an interest cost savings of $1,000,000 and reduce the loan term lengths by half on some of the notes. This process alone was a 6-month long battle as state and federal agencies do not like to let go of high interest notes. We have been working hard to streamline other parts of the system to help keep customers' costs to a minimum. We will work hard to take advantage of every opportunity that we can. One major undertaking was the upcoming projects that CRWS has had in the works for a few years now. We have been working hard to take advantage of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding that has been getting so much attention lately. We were able to secure a 30% ARPA grant and an extra 5% state grant for the first phase of our new treatment plant and distribution system. Below you will see a snip from the state news release of what CRWS received. Also is a link to the full news release of what was awarded to other systems across the state. I will assure you that even as inflation creeps up, we will find ways to get the most value out of every dollar. These projects will be ongoing over the next few years, and you will be hearing a lot more about them as we move forward with the process.

Also please take the time to read the entries from our scholarship winners. These entries are judged blindly by our committee each year. This year we had 16 entries to be judged. As each entry is gratifying to read these three seemed to catch the hearts of our board. I am personally humbled by their appreciation for what they do have today and the sorrow for what others do not.

Clay Rural Water System received a $10,736,050 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan, a $825,850 Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program grant, and a $4,955,100 ARPA grant to address increased water demand, outdated and undersized water mains, and storage facility limitations. The project includes new water storage reservoirs, booster station replacement, and water main improvements. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years. https://news.sd.gov/newsitem.aspx?id=30109

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Clay Rural Water System, Inc.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Clay Rural Water System is to provide high quality water service to the consumers of the corporation at the lowest possible cost consistent with sound business practice.

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Clay Rural Water SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Clay Rural Water System Board of Directors has announced that Bodhi Brady, Isaiah Richards, and Lacey Mockler are recipients of the water systems annual scholarship program – the Jack and Arlene DeVany Scholarship Program.

Bodhi Brady will graduate from Vermillion High School in 2022 and plans to attend SDSU to pursue an advanced degree in pharmaceutical sciences or pathology. He is the son of Nate and Kris Brady.

Isaiah Richards will graduate from Beresford High School this spring and has plans to attend USD to double major in Business Administration and Sports Media/Marketing. Isaiah is the son of Brendyn and Coralie Richards.

Lacey Mockler, the daughter of Travis & Jill Mockler of Centerville, will graduate from Beresford High School in May of 2022. She plans to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Horticulture at either SDSU or Texas A&M in College Station, TX.

The Clay Rural Water System scholarship is named in honor of the water systems long-time attorney, the late Jack DeVany and his wife Arlene, a long-time educator. This is the 30th year of the program.

As part of each application, each student was asked to submit an essay entitled, "What Rural Water Means to Me." Following are the essays of the three recipients.

What Rural Water Means to Me | Lacey Mockler

I was almost two years old when my parents bought a farm south of Centerville, SD. The house had sat empty for more than 20 years. My parents knew the property was going to need a lot of work. However, one of their main concerns was alleviated when they realized there was already rural water plumbed to the house. My parents were planning on raising livestock, so they needed to make sure there was a consistent, quality water supply for both our family and the animals. Although this century farm luckily already had the modern convenience of rural water, my parents found a non-functioning well in the farm site and a rainwater-fed cistern attached to the house, which evidenced how the previous residents secured their water supply. I feel extremely fortunate that we have the convenience of quality water on tap from our rural water system to make everyday life much easier and safer.

I have a relative whose house currently runs off well water and I have witnessed the challenges they face with hard water. The minerals in the well water corrode and stain every appliance, faucet, and pipe in their home. My relative must add softener salt to their system religiously to keep the water manageable. Well water also does not contain fluoride, which is presently added to the water in our rural water system to help prevent cavities. The benefit of having quality water cannot be overstated in terms of comfort, health, and household maintenance.

Another advantage to having rural water on the farm is that it helps livestock perform better. By having livestock on rural water instead of well water, their rate of gain and overall health improves. Additionally, having rural water available on the farm eliminates the reliance on stock dams, creeks, and wells during drought years when these sources could become questionable.

You do not have to watch the national or even global news for long before hearing about various cities or regions that either cannot get enough water or are experiencing water quality issues. The town of Flint, Michigan experienced lead and bacteria leaching from pipes into their water back in 2014. Currently the city of Laredo, Texas is mandating the boiling of household water due to low chlorine levels caused by leaking pipes and low water pressure. Millions of people around the globe are having similar or more extreme problems every day. By maintaining infrastructure and consistently providing a safe water source, our local water system is keeping our residents safe and protecting the viability of our local economy.

I am grateful for the consistent, quality service provided by Clay Rural Water. From providing an ample water supply to our livestock, to making sure we have fresh clean water to drink and use every day, my family could not function efficiently without this service.

What Rural Water Means to Me | Isaiah Richards

For five years, from 2014 to 2019, the city of Flint, Michigan suffered from a public health crisis. This hazardous dilemma for their community was easily avoidable, during a budget crisis for the city they switched their water source from the treated Detroit Sewerage department taking water from Lake Huron and the Detroit River to the local Flint River. People in the community complained of the poor quality of the new water, it tasted horrible, smelled odd, and was cloudy in appearance. Lead poisoning in residents began to occur as well from the corrosion inhibitors that was not added to the Flint River water. People were getting sick from the poor-quality water, and twelve died from Legionnaire's disease that was caused by the poor-quality water.

Not having quality drinking water that you can trust can be and has been a concerning problem to many. I spoke with my grandmother that grew up in the house in Hub City that I now grow up in. She told me stories of the old water cistern that was located behind our house, how the rainwater and deliveries of water filled it, and how her and her siblings would have to get in the cistern to clean the walls and remove debris. She mentioned that many times they would clean out dirt, bugs, and other debris and water quality would go down considerably the longer the water was in the tank. She also told stories of the well that was put in for a few years after the old cistern was considered "beyond its years." The water was very hard and cloudy, had a funny smell, and tasted odd. My grandmother went on to tell me that when word hit the area that Rural Water would be making its way through townships in the area that many 'old timers' were a bit skeptical of this 'newfangled' approach. Many families thought that paying for water in such a manner shouldn't happen, but frankly as she stated, "many families were afraid of change of things they just didn't understand or comprehend". She told me stories of her and her siblings lobbying her parents and grandparents (who lived next door) of the better quality of water that each of them had experienced in Vermillion as students at USD.

The siblings were able to "win" their parents and grandparents over. Soon after having Clay Rural Water install rural piped water to Hub City they all saw the significant benefits. My great-grandmother (Pearl Inberg) was able to continue to be the well-known cook that all admired, by using good, clean, contaminant free water in cooking. My great-grandfather, Bill Inberg, that ran the Hub City Garage for 50 years, was able to use rural water that didn't contain the high iron content of water that caused a significant amount of mineral buildup and seemingly caused corrosion to the tools and things he was tasked with fixing, which the well water provided before.

When speaking with my parents and grandparents on the issue of the essay, "What Rural Water Means to Me," I come to realize it is not only what it means to me, but also what it has meant to my family in the past and those who have grown up in the area that I now live. My parents have added trees, bushes, vegetable, and flower gardens during my years of growing up, many of these might have not been possible if we had to rely on old water cisterns or questionable well water. I have grown up knowing I can take a shower whenever I needed, wash a load of clothes in the washer without worrying of rust-colored stains on my white socks, or being able to grab a glass of clear refreshing water. I feel I am extremely fortunate to have access to clean, dependable water that has been provided for residents in our area for the last 50 years. Having high quality water is essential for families like mine, and farmers in the area as they feed and water their livestock. Thank you to Clay Rural Water System, Inc. for giving all of us the benefits of clean, dependable water!

What Rural Water Means to Me | Bodhi Brady

My family's lifestyle of country living has only improved with the availability of rural water. Easy access to this water has allowed our family to enjoy the peace and quiet that comes from country living. Rural water lets me enjoy the simple and ever-rewarding aspects of the countryside, sipping ice-cold tap water while watching the ever-beautiful South Dakotan landscape.

Rural water provides two integral things in my life: simplicity and enriching experiences. Compared to the old days of windmill wells and pumps, all it takes is the simple push of a faucet handle. This easy process is only possible thanks to the work put towards the extensive rural piping, granting families the freedom of water access. Immediate access to fresh running water is revolutionary, energized in my day-to-day life. These benefits are a result of the trouble-free water system I enjoy.

Water works at the core of my daily and most memorable experiences. Some of my favorite memories involve simply laying out in the sun or chopping wood with a glass of tap water in hand. During the scorching summers, I can delight in the water that comes from my hydrant, washing our amazing golden retriever and hydrating the impressive seven-foot-tall tomato plants we grow.

I believe that in our modern day of advanced technology, it can be easy to underestimate the value of clean running water. However, the value of this water grows on me the more that I grow. I'll forever be grateful for the water I use each day and commend the Clay Rural Water System for providing for me and my family.

A $1.1 BILLION INVESTMENT IN SOUTH DAKOTA WATER PROJECTS

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) announced the Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved $430,651,683 in grants and loans for rural water systems throughout South Dakota. These awards are part of more than $1.1 billion in statewide awards approved by the board.

The $430,651,683 total includes $152,265,282 in grants and $278,386,401 in low-interest loans to be administered by the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

"I am pleased to announce this financial assistance is available," said DANR Secretary Hunter Roberts. "These grants and loans will result in upgraded drinking water systems which is good for the users and the environment.

The grants and loans were awarded from DANR's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program, and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to the following:

Aurora-Brule Rural Water System received a $4,144,734 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $1,855,266 ARPA grant to address water pressure and reliability issues within the system by installing 10 miles of new parallel water main, a new water storage reservoir, a booster station, multiple loops within the system, and making other line improvements. These funds and local cash will cover the cost of the project. The loan terms are 1.875 percent for 30 years.

Bear Butte Valley Water, Inc. received a $1,115,500 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $5,202,000 ARPA grant to make improvements to its water system.

Improvements include installation of 20 miles of water mainline to 24 new services connections to meet rural, residential, and livestock drinking water demands; construction of a new well with a higher capacity pump to provide a second water source; and miscellaneous site piping and appurtenances to address system deficiencies in the Blucksberg Service area. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

BDM Rural Water System received a $8,006,917 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan with $507,867 in principal forgiveness and a $3,530,083 ARPA grant to construct a new water diversion system and treatment system for additional water supplies. In addition, 18 miles of pipe will be added to expand the system, lines will be looped for redundancy and pressure stabilization, and 382 water meters will be replaced. The loan terms are 1.875 percent for 30 years.

Big Sioux Community Water System received a $17,788,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan to replace water mains and construct 35.5 miles of parallel water lines in various sizes. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years

Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System received a $5,607,560 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $2,703,240 ARPA grant to install 22 miles of 12-inch water main to meet the growing demands of rural customers including livestock and dairy operations; reduce the amount of water loss due to existing glued-joint pipe; and to interconnect the system's two primary water sources. In addition, six miles of 6-inch watermain will be installed to the Lake Cochrane service area to improve low pressures around the lake during periods of peak water use. This funding, local cash, and other funds will cover the cost of this project. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Clark Rural Water System received a $5,068,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $2,172,000 ARPA grant to address low pressures on the upstream side of Henry Booster Pump Station and the Crocker Ground Storage Reservoir by installing 13.5 miles of 10-inch and 7 miles of 8-inch parallel main line. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Clay Rural Water System received a $10,736,050 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan, a $825,850 Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program grant, and a $4,955,100 ARPA grant to address increased water demand, outdated and undersized water mains, and storage facility limitations. The project includes new water storage reservoirs, booster station replacement, and water main improvements. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Davison Rural Water System received a $810,385 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $439,615 ARPA grant to address water supply and system pressure issues. In addition, the project will increase accuracy and efficiencies by upgrading from self-reading meters to automatic meter read technology. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years. This funding and local cash will cover the project costs.

Grant-Roberts Rural Water System received a $4,360,400 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $2,433,600 ARPA grant to install approximately 24 miles of pipeline and other miscellaneous apparatus to add capacity so each reservoir can be filled during high water use periods. In addition, pipeline looping and parallels will be completed to distribute water to existing and new customers as well as improve the reliability of the water system. This project will include a connection to provide bulk water service to the residents of Corona. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Hanson Rural Water System received a $2,356,165 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $1,273,835 ARPA grant to address water supply and pressure issues within the system by paralleling and looping existing mains to meet current demands. In addition, the project will upgrade metering methodology by moving from self-reading meters to automatic meter read technology to increase accuracy. The loan terms are 1.625 percent for 30 years. This funding package along with local funds will complete the cost of the project.

Joint Wellfield Inc. received a $6,592,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $2,868,000 ARPA grant to construct a new gravity filtration water treatment plant to increase the treatment capacity of the system and drill two new wells. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years. These funds along with local cash will cover the cost of the project. This project is a joint effort between the Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System and the Kingbrook Rural Water System.

Kingbrook Rural Water System received a $22,850,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $9,900,000 grant to install an elevated tank near Arlington, a booster pump station near Bryant, and relocate and resize pipeline segments along Highway 25 north of DeSmet. In addition, Kingbrook has several existing facilities that are operating beyond its firm capacity and need to be replaced or improved. These include the Badger Pump Station, DeSmet Water Treatment Plant, Chester Water Treatment Plant, Oakwood Pump Station, and the Orland Pump Station. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years. These funds along with local cash will cover the cost of the project.

Lewis & Clark Regional Water System received a $13,136,100 ARPA grant to expand its water system and increase capacity. This grant will greatly benefit rate payers, as the project has a direct impact on the water rates paid by its customers.

Lincoln County Rural Water System received a $2,653,700 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $1,137,300 ARPA grant to install 16.5 miles of new pipeline to serve the growing developments surrounding the City of Sioux Falls and City of Harrisburg without negatively impacting existing customers. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Mid-Dakota Rural Water System received a $29,467,750 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan, a $2,000,000 Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program grant, and a $13,867,250 ARPA grant to install a new water meter system, construct parallel pipe, and make improvements to the water treatment system including a new backwash recovery system and additional membrane capacity. The loan terms are 1.875 percent for 30 years.

Minnehaha Community Rural Water System received a $44,349,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan to install new water main to keep up with increasing demands in the area. Improvements include installation of approximately 7.3 miles of 20-inch diameter water main, 19 miles of 16-inch diameter water main, a new control valve station, a 1.5 million gallon water tower, and a new reservoir and booster station. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Perkins County Rural Water System received a $4,589,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $2,471,000 ARPA grant to add two elevated storage tanks in their Central and Lemmon service areas to provide adequate storage on high-capacity days and add a ground storage tank at the main booster station. Transmission and distribution lines will also be upgraded to accommodate increased pressure and handle peak demands. The loan terms are 1.625 percent for 30 years.

Randall Community Water District received a $6,325,375 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $2,710,875 ARPA grant to update waterlines to accommodate growth and maintain pressure to existing customers in Cedar Grove Waterline North area, Lakeview Colony Waterline North area, and Carda Tank Waterline South area. The loan terms are 1.875 percent for 30 years.

Shared Resources Inc. received a $69,983,400 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $38,276,600 ARPA grant for a joint effort between Minnehaha Community Water Corporation and the Big Sioux Community Water System. The project includes a treatment plant, well field, distribution pipeline, and two storage tanks. Shared Resources will treat and deliver the water to the two systems, which will then distribute water to their existing customer base. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Sioux Rural Water Systems received a $3,202,650 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $1,778,350 ARPA grant to construct a new elevated tank and pipeline to address inadequate storage in the existing system. A pipeline will be installed in two locations to improve service pressure to existing customers and provide adequate delivery to the proposed elevated tank. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years. These funds and local cash will support the project.

South Lincoln Rural Water System received a $10,384,082 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $5,677,918 ARPA grant to meet increasing demands on its existing service area and construct new water system facilities. The new facilities include an elevated tank south of Canton, a pump station north of Canton, and a new water treatment plant south of Worthing. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years. These funds and local cash will support the project.

Southern Black Hills Water System received a $540,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $3,060,000 ARPA grant to install a new well, booster pump station, storage, a new chlorination system, a SCADA system, and water main to connect the Paramount Point and Spring Creek Acres Service areas. The loan terms are 2.125 percent for 30 years.

Tri-County/Mni' Waste Water Company received a $1,238,302 ARPA grant to make improvements to the raw water line, which will stabilize a landslide threatening the entire system's water source. This grant and other funds will cover the cost of these improvements. Mni' Waste Water Company also received a $6,448,598 ARPA grant to replace an undersized pipeline along Highway 63 causing high friction loss and low pressure issues. In addition, new treated water pipeline, water tower, valves, pumps, and air releases will be installed.

Tripp County Water Users District received a $9,250,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and

a $4,050,000 ARPA grant to replace two storage tanks, parallel and loop lines to increase water pressure, and expand their well field to address supply issues. The terms of the loan are 0.0 percent for 30 years.

TM Rural Water District received a $5,913,600 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $2,534,400 ARPA grant to address deficiencies in its distribution system due to increasing demands attributed to drought and new customers. Improvements includes installation of 4 miles of parallel 12-inch watermain. The loan terms are 1.625 percent for 30 years.

WEB Water Development Association received a $6,520,000 ARPA grant to upgrade its raw water intake pipe size from 30-inch to 48-inch in anticipation of a much larger drinking water regionalization project. This funding along with other funds will support the project.

West River/Lyman Jones Rural Water System received a $2,800,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and a $1,200,000 ARPA grant to install 8-inch, 6-inch, and 4-inch PVC water main pipes to replace existing undersized main services in Mellette, Haakon, and Lyman counties. In addition, a ground storage tank will be replaced in Pennington County. The terms of the loan are 1.625 percent for 30 years.

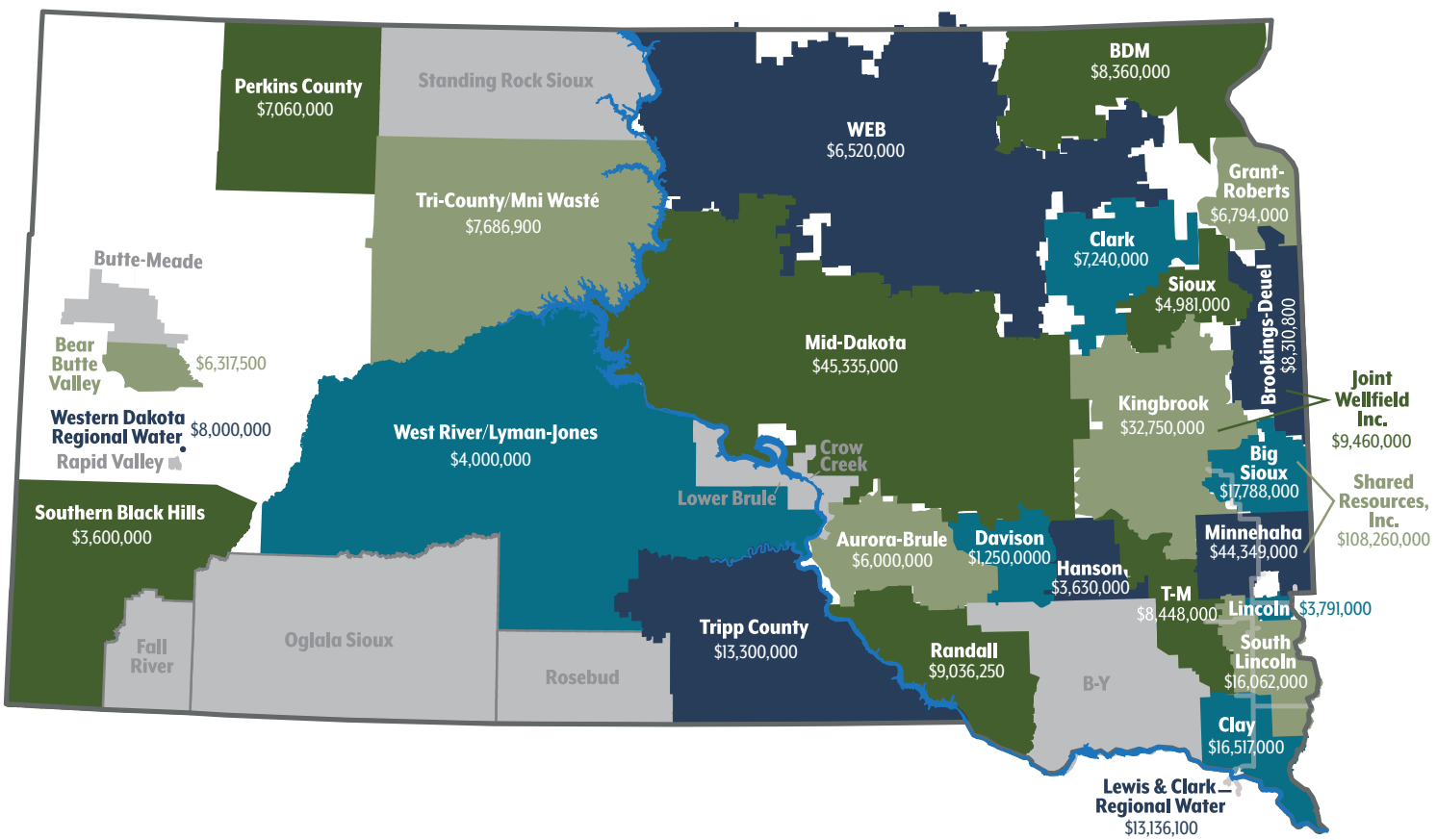
Western Dakota Regional Water System received a $8,000,000 ARPA grant to hire an engineering firm to complete a facility plan and preliminary design for a drinking water expansion project from the Missouri River to Western South Dakota. The study is necessary to address source water capacity and resiliency in the event of a long-term drought for the region.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides grants for eligible water, wastewater, storm water, and non-point source projects. The state of South Dakota is making a historic investment in infrastructure by dedicating $600 million of American Rescue Plan Act funding for local water and wastewater infrastructure grants.

The Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program, funded in part by revenues from the Petroleum Release Compensation Tank Inspection fee and the sale of lotto tickets, provides grants and loans for water, wastewater, and watershed projects.

The State of South Dakota and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fund the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, which provides low-interest loans for public drinking water system projects. The program is funded through a combination of federal appropriations, loan repayments, and bonds.

FUNDING ALLOCATIONS



WESTERN DAKOTA REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM

Access to a reliable and plentiful source of high quality drinking water is critically important from a public health and safety standpoint, especially in western South Dakota, which has a more arid climate and limited water supplies. This is compounded by population and industrial growth.

The Western Dakota Regional Water System (WDRWS) will serve western South Dakota where the population and water needs are both expected to more than double in the next century. Due to the area's growing population and the unpredictable nature of future drought projections, the WDRWS is needed to ensure reliable ongoing access to drinking water in western South Dakota.

An example of the need for supplemental water supplies is southwestern South Dakota, which has historically heavily relied on groundwater from the Minnelusa and Madison aquifers and surface water from Rapid Creek and Cleghorn Springs as a drinking water supply. These drinking water sources have been adequate. However, as the regional population grows and is combined with drought, the demand for water will exceed the current supply.

To determine the future water needs for the area, the West Dakota Water Development District (WDWDD) commissioned the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSMT) in 2017 to complete the Missouri River Water Allotment Study for Future Use Water Permit 1443-2.

The WDRWS and its engineering team will expand upon these efforts to understand the needs of those who live in western South Dakota and to dive even deeper into water service for this region.

WDRWS was provided an $8 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and will use that financial support to develop:

1. more detailed regional water needs assessments;
2. concept designs for a fully regional system; and
3. financial analysis of the regional concepts, Tribal

PROGRESS TO DATE

DECEMBER 2019
- West Dakota Water Development District (WDWDD) receives South Dakota Mines Report

MARCH 2020
- WDWDD asks Banner Associates to start West River discussion to gauge interest

DECEMBER 2020
- WDWDD receives report to proceed with:
  - Governance
  - Technical Evaluation
  - Funding

JANUARY 2021
- WDWDD commissions Water Use Study
- Asks for a new non-profit to be convened

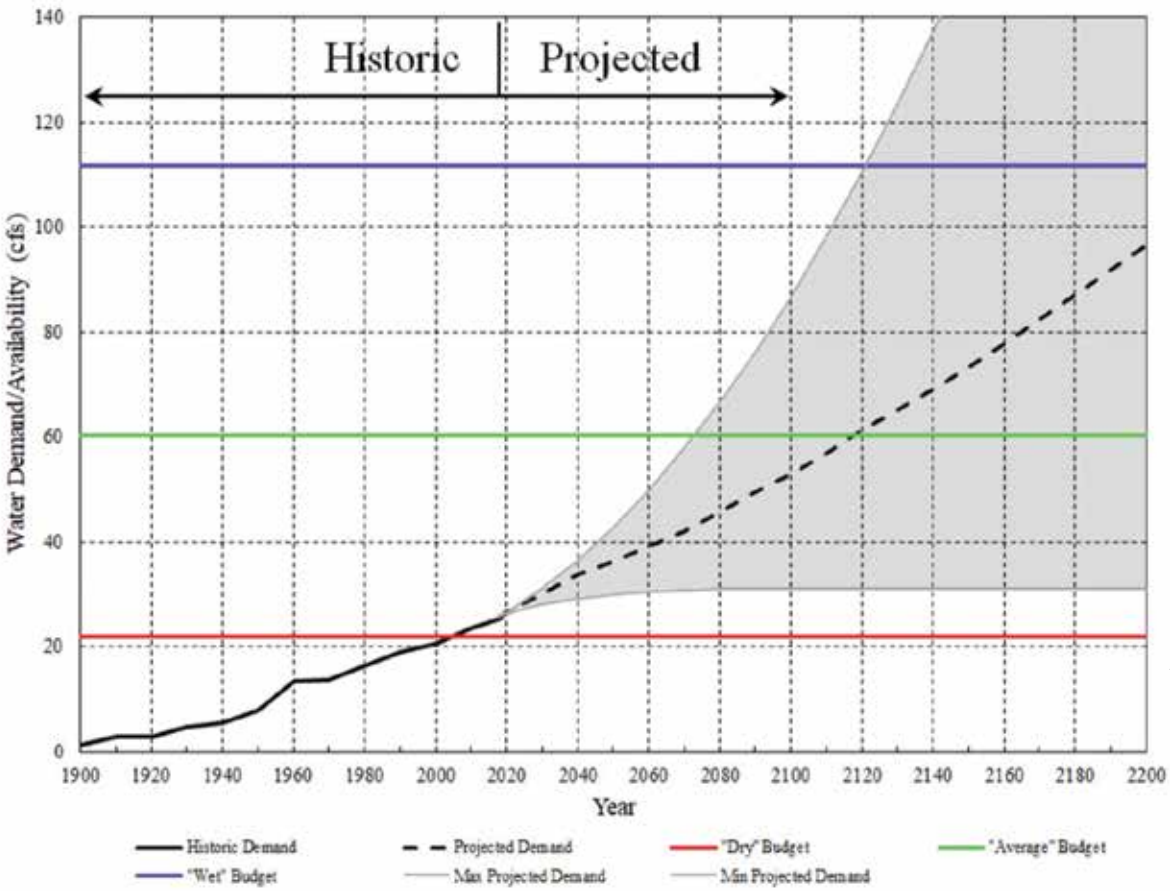
SEPTEMBER 2021
- Western Dakota Regional Water System (WDRWS) Non-Profit is formed

consultation, and completion of National Environmental Act compliance.

The outcome of these efforts will be used to help secure federal authorization and for the construction of the project.

For more information on the Western Dakota Regional Water System, please contact Cheryl Chapman, Ph.D., PE, Executive Director, WDRWS via email at info@WDRWS.org, or call 605-519-7333.

"As population in the area increases, the need to ensure water security will grow even greater. Therefore, local entities with a stake in our water security should pool their resources to ensure that they are proactive in securing future sources of water, one of which could involve from the Missouri River." *(Source: 2019 SDSMT Study)*



INITIAL QUESTIONS

1. Who's interested in participating in the project?
2. How much water do they need?
3. When do they need the Water?
4. How much will this cost the end users?

Credit: South Dakota School of Mines & Technology (2019)

Ensuring long-term water security for western South Dakota will be a challenging feat. However, the ARPA grant secured by the WDRWS Board of Directors and staff provides a unique opportunity to overcome the most challenging part of providing long-term reliable water service to the region. We are taking the first step by seeking answers to some initial questions shown above.

The funding already secured for this project will help answer these questions and so much more! However, it will be essential for the project to have broad support and participation from water systems across the region.

OCTOBER 2021
- Water Use Study Completed

NOVEMBER 2021
- Named on the State Water Plan

DECEMBER 2021
- Water Summit
- WDRWS First Annual Membership Meeting

JANUARY 2022
- Submits Drinking Water Facilities Funding Application
- WDRWS interviews 3 engineering teams for a competitive selection

FEBRUARY 2022
- WDRWS Selects AE_2S and its teaming partners KLJ and Black & Veatch

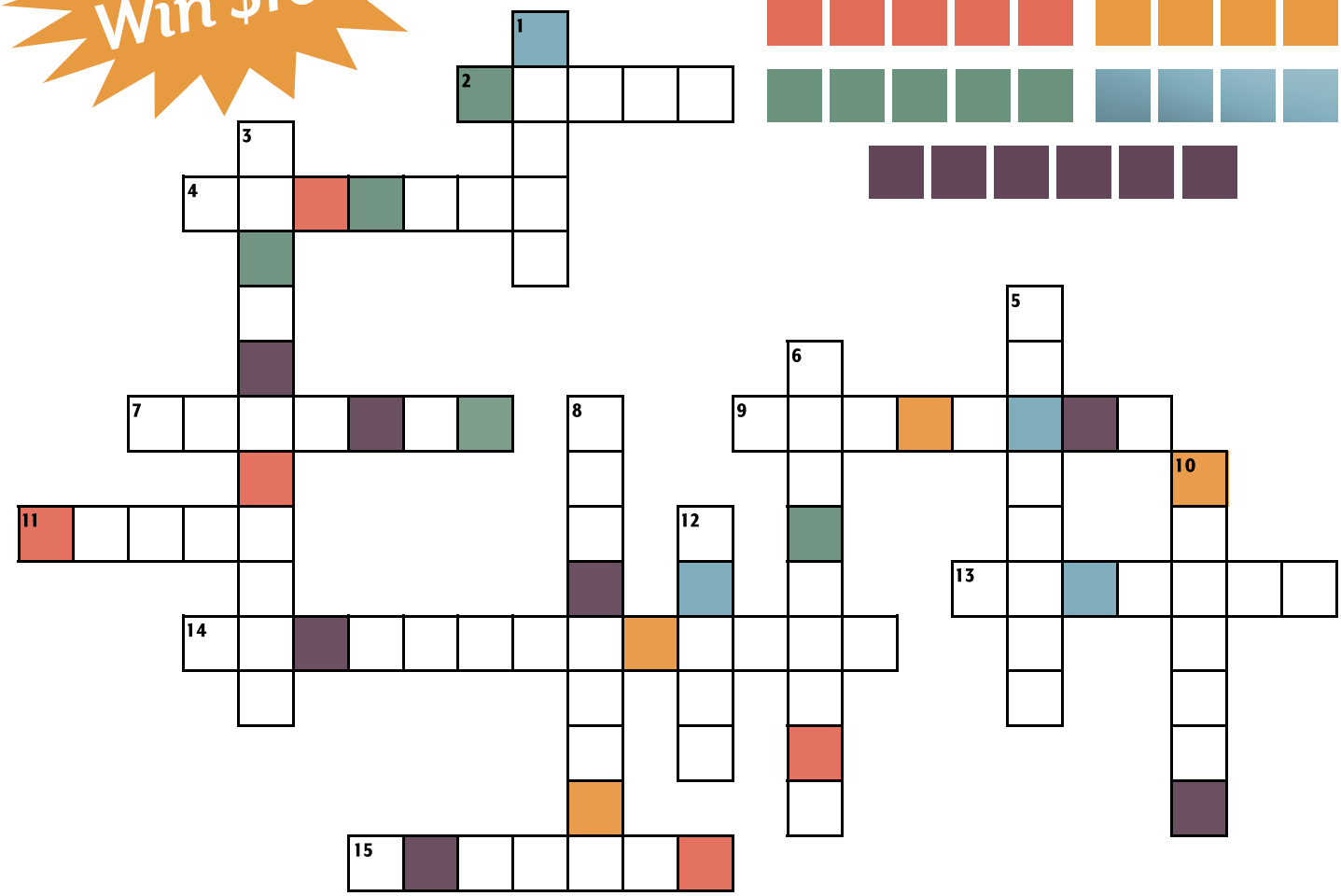
APRIL 2022
- WDRWS receives $8M. 100% grant from SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

WEATHER

Enter to Win $100

SCRAMBLE ANSWER



ACROSS

2. Sun blocker
4. A line of intense, widespread, and fast-moving storms that moves across a great distance and is characterized by damaging winds.
7. Transport to Oz
9. Damp air
11. Frozen dew
13. Severe weather is happening in your area
14. Aptly contains the letters R-A-I-N
15. Prolonged dry spell

DOWN

1. Overflow
3. Measured in degrees
5. Major snowstorm
6. A meteorological phenomenon in which rain falls while the sun is shining
8. Comes in a flash
10. Rainy day delight
12. Means severe weather is possible, but not yet happening

RULES: Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or **enter online at www.sdarws.com/crossword.html** with the correct phrase by July 15, 2022 to be entered into the $100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Greg Anderson with Kingbrook RWS who had the correct phrase of "Weed it and Reap" for April 2022.

Quarterly Calendar

JUNE 28

Monthly Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

JULY 4

Office closed in Observance of Independence Day

JULY 26

Monthly Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

AUGUST 23

Monthly Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 5

Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day

SEPTEMBER 27

Monthly Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

LEAK REWARD

Members who report a water leak on one of the system pipelines will receive a $50 leak reward. With over 1,350 miles of pipeline in the distribution system, members can play a key role in assisting system personnel in locating water leaks.

EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

Tom Hollingsworth
35 years

Andy Ganschow
8 years

Leanne Brown
7 years

Do We Have Your Number?

Changed phone numbers lately? Dropped your landline? If so, please make sure and let the water system office know. We periodically need to call members for water outages, scheduled maintenance, etc., and quite often we find we do not have a current phone number.

You can reach us at **605-267-2088** or via email at **office@clayruralwater.com**.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Three winners will be drawn from all that answer these trivia questions correctly and will each receive a $10 water credit. Last issue winners were: Barb Danielson, Crista Johnson, and Craig Nelson.

1. **Which summertime smell is said to elicit happy memories in humans?**
   a. Grilled Food b. Peonies c. Fresh cut grass d. Lemonade
2. **Who is the public service mascot that was first inducted to the US on August 9, 1944?**
   a. Smokey Bear the Fire prevention bear
   b. McGruff the Crime Dog
   c. Woodsy the Owl US Forest Service
   d. Miss Chiquita Banana
3. **During the first fourth of July celebration, what was the color of fireworks used?**
   a. Red b. Orange c. Yellow d. Blue

PAYMENT OPTIONS

We offer a variety of ways to pay your water bill:

1) check or money order,
2) automatic bank deduction or
3) online – www.clayruralwater.com – click on the Online Payment tab.

Call our office for more details on any of these options at 605-267-2088.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Clay Rural Water System, Inc.
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Secretary's Award

The Clay Rural Water System has supplied nineteen consecutive years of safe drinking water to the public it serves and has been awarded the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence by the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Clay Rural Water System, Inc. serves more than 4,550 customers an average of 575,000 gallons of water per day out of the Wakonda plant and we serve more than 1,377 customers an average of 176,000 gallons of water per day out of the South Union plant. Our water is groundwater that we produce from local wells. The state has performed an assessment of our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Clay Rural Water System public water supply system is medium while the Clay RWS/South Union water supply system is low.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call 605-267-2088 and ask for Steve Muilenburg.

Additional Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- ***Microbial contaminants***, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- ***Inorganic contaminants***, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- ***Pesticides and herbicides***, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- ***Organic chemical contaminants***, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- ***Radioactive contaminants***, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the Environment Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Clay Rural Water System public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://*www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

Detected Contaminants

The tables on page 15 list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2021 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2021. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

2021 Clay Rural Water Quality Test Results

Wakonda Source (EPA ID 0626)

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0.0	0	09/15/21	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	3	0	09/15/21	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Barium	0.006		11/15/21	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	0.9		11/15/21	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	0.78	0.52 - 0.78	07/07/21	4	<4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids (RAA)	1.19		08/11/21	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.

South Union Source (EPA ID 2185)

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0.4	0	08/14/19	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	2	0	08/14/19	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Fluoride	0.77	0.50 - 0.77	09/07/21	4	<4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids (RAA)	1.57		08/10/21	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Total trihalomethanes (RAA)	11.4		08/10/21	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Rob Ganschow with the Clay Rural Water System public water system at (605)267-2088.

Lewis & Clark Regional Water System (EPA ID 2288)

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0.0	0		AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	0	0		AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Arsenic	4		10/07/19	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	0.015		10/07/19	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	0.5		10/07/19	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	0.77	0.52 - 0.77	10/12/21	4	<4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Mercury (Inorganic)	0.13		10/07/19	2	2	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	0.4		11/09/21	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Jim Auen with the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System public water system at (605)624-8700.

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS USED IN TABLES

Action Level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For Lead and Copper, 90% of the samples must be below the AL.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Running Annual Average (RAA) – Compliance is calculated using the running annual average of samples from designated monitoring locations.

UNITS

ppm – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

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WATER MATTERS

The Cost of Pipe

As described elsewhere in this issue of *Quality on Tap!*, public water suppliers (PWS) all across the State of South Dakota are benefitting from access to $600,000,000 provided by the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The amount of money being made available is unprecedented, and it will provide once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for the various PWS's that are successful in obtaining ARPA funds.

At the same time, this opportunity will present some very real challenges, as PWS's scramble to get project designs completed, obtain the necessary materials (pipe, pumps, etc.) and line up contractors to do the actual work. Further complicating things is a hard deadline of December 31, 2026, for the expenditure of the ARPA funds.

Unfortunately, inflation and supply chain issues will mean that the available grant and loan dollars won't go as far as they could a year or two ago. ARPA funding is largely available right away, but the sudden influx of support does not mean that engineers, suppliers and contractors can increase their capabilities on a similar time line. Project planners need to prepare for cost increases and shortages related to labor and materials and adjust bid expectations accordingly.

PVC & Pipe Weekly reported in the April 29, 2022 edition that demand for PVC pipe remains strong enough that some pipe makers are allocating pipe to customers due to a large backlog of orders. In addition, some ductile iron pipe distributers report orders are 40 months out, so some customers are switching to PVC pipe which will likely increase the shortage. Along with supply chain issues, the cost of PVC pipe has increased steadily, rising over fifty percent (50%) in the past two years.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOUR LOCAL PWS? If plans and designs were in place and simply waiting for funding, odds are good that the ARPA funds will allow early implementation of a project that was going forward anyway, albeit with a little more grant assistance than might have been expected. If planning began with the advent of ARPA funding, things could be a little trickier, as available resources, whatever they might be, are likely to have been swept up by the early starters.

No matter what type of project is being implemented with ARPA funding, cost increases and supply chain issues are a reality that need to be budgeted for in the next few years. Although no one has a (working) crystal ball that tells us when things might get back to normal, careful thought and decision making on the front end can minimize drastic impacts to project budgets for the duration of the ARPA funding opportunities. Compared to no available funds, these are problems that most people are happy to have!

BACK PAGE CONTENT PROVIDED BY:

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