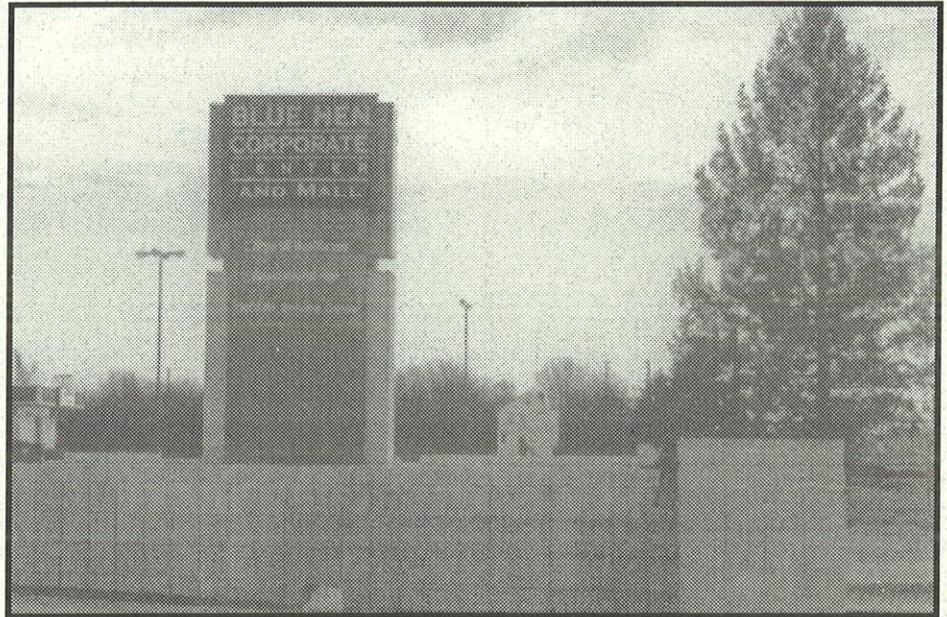


Welcome To The Delaware Office of Drinking Water's First Newsletter

Welcome to the first issue of "Tap Talk," a quarterly newsletter published by the Delaware Division of Public Health Office of Drinking Water. The Office of Drinking Water (ODW) is part of the Division of Public Health and is responsible for administering the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. The Act regulates approximately 600 public water systems in Delaware, each providing drinking water to at least 25 people daily for 60 days or more per year. Safe public drinking water is assured through monitoring, sanitary surveys, technical assistance, plan review, laboratory inspections, operator certification, capacity development, and the State Revolving Loan Fund Program.

Meet the people who work to serve and protect Delaware's drinking water:

- Anita Beckel**, Program Manager for Public Water Supply Supervision Program;
- Barbara Blaier**, Program Manager for Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Program;
- Kimberly Boggarty**, EHS, Regulatory Data Management;
- Flo Brooks**, Env. Control



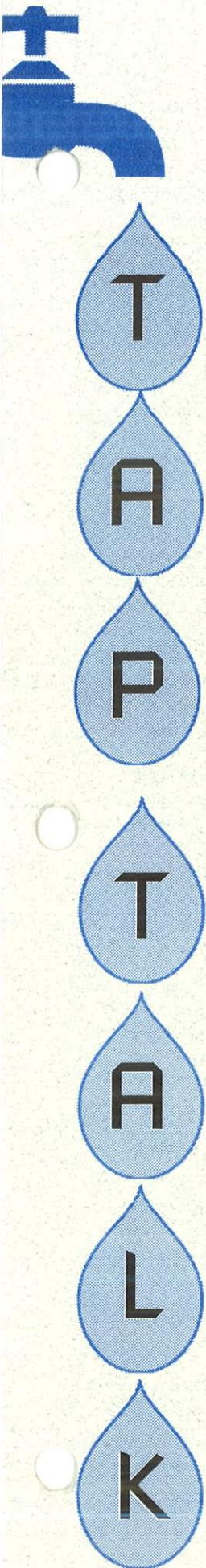
- Tech for West Kent and West Sussex Counties;
- Scott Butler**, EHS, Sanitary Surveys for East Kent and East Sussex Counties;
- James Craig**, EHS, Sanitary Surveys for West Kent and West Sussex Counties;
- Alexis Curtis**, EHS, Sanitary Surveys for Northern Kent and New Castle Counties;
- Stephanie Dukes**, Env. Control for Northern Kent and New Castle Counties;
- Edward Hallock**, Program Administrator;
- Mike Joyce**, Environmental Engineer and Technical Assistance;
- Frank Paquette**, Fiscal Management Analyst;
- Terry Pinder**, Senior Secretary;
- Jimmy Porter**, Env. Control East Kent and East Sussex Counties;
- Patty Robinson**, Typist;
- Donna Stulir**, Program

Manager for Capacity Development;

Nancy Zimmerman, Senior Secretary.

As many of you are aware, the Office of Drinking Water moved to a new location in December 1999. The new home is located at the Blue Hen Corporate Center, Suite 203, 655 Bay Road, Dover, Delaware. Our telephone number remained the same (302) 739-5410, but our fax number has changed to (302) 739-8388. It was a long trip, but everyone made it!

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The Administrator's Corner



I would like to welcome everyone to the inaugural edition of Tap Talk, the newsletter for all public water systems in Dela-

ware. As many of you already know, the Office of Drinking Water has gone through many changes over the last year. We have hired new staff, lost some of our staff and moved to a new location. The responsibilities of the Office of Drinking Water have increased as well. We now have a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, Capacity Development and, yes, an Operator Certification Program. Many of you should have received your letter of approval, and some of you may even have your license by the time you read this. What a long strange trip it has been.

Well, back to the newsletter. This newsletter is the next step in our efforts to keep operators of public water supplies informed about what is happening on the state and federal levels. When congress reauthorized the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1996, legislators made it clear that there should be a strong public right-to-know component to the Act. Community water systems see this in the new requirement for producing an annual water quality report, also known as a consumer confidence report. The Division of Public Health feels that water system operators also should have as much information as possible so they can keep their customers informed. Therefore, we have initiated this newsletter. In the near future, we will be creating a web page for the drinking water program. It is my intention to have as much information as possible on this web page. If you have any ideas of what you would like to see, please let my office know.

Edward Hallock

Delaware's Drinking Water Program

The Office of Drinking Water (ODW) is part of the Division of Public Health and is responsible for administering the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. The Act regulates approximately 600 public water systems in Delaware, each providing drinking water to at least 25 people daily for 60 days or more per year.

Safe public drinking water is assured through the following methods:

Monitoring: The water quality of the approximately 600 public water systems throughout the state is protected by sampling and analyses for more than 80 potential contaminants. The monitoring schedule is in accordance with state and federal regulations governing drinking water.

Sanitary Surveys: Sanitary surveys are performed for all public water systems. The survey provides an evaluation of the water system's source, treatment and storage facilities. The purpose of each sanitary survey is to disclose potential defects, which may lead to a compromise in the quality of water.

Technical Assistance: Our staff provides technical assistance and support through investigating various components of each water system, including the operation and maintenance of equipment to determine potential problems and to offer recommendations to assure compliance.

Plan Review: An environmental engineer reviews plans for new water systems or

changes to existing systems. This process assures owners and users of public drinking water systems that the system is mechanically safe and can deliver water in the safest and most efficient way possible.

Laboratory Inspections: Laboratories that provide drinking water analyses are inspected every three years and must complete proficiency tests at least annually. ODW and the Division of Public Health's Laboratory staff analyze the results of these tests to determine whether certification should be maintained for a particular contaminant.

Operator Certification: Regulations have been adopted that will require operators of all public water systems to be certified. This will provide additional protection to consumers.

Capacity Development Program: This is a program utilized to assess a water system's technical, managerial and financial capabilities to meet drinking water standards. Assessments are required when a water system owner 1) applies for a State Revolving Fund Loan; or 2) applies for a certificate to construct or operate a new water system. After October 1, 2000, assessments will be required for all existing water systems.

State Revolving Fund Loan Program: This is a low interest loan program designed to assist eligible water systems to finance the costs of the infrastructure needed to achieve or maintain compliance with the State Drinking Water Act requirements and to protect public health.

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: A New Financing Option

Many owners of public water systems find it difficult to obtain affordable financing for infrastructure improvements, which would enable systems to comply with national primary drinking water standards and protect public health. Recognizing this fact, Congress established the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) as part of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments. The goal of the program is to provide states with a financing mechanism for ensuring safe drinking water to the public. States can use federal capitalization grant money awarded to them to set up an infrastructure funding account from which assistance is made available to operators of public water systems.

Loans made under the program can have interest rates between 0 percent and market rate and repayment terms of up to 20 years. Loan repayments to the state will provide a continuing source of infrastructure financing into the next century. The program also places an emphasis on small and disadvantaged communities and on programs that emphasize prevention as a tool for ensuring safe drinking water.

Apply for this new loan program through the Office of Drinking Water by contacting Barbara Blaier.

Association of State Drinking Water Administrators * Regulatory Update

Schedule	Status
<p>Arsenic Interim MCL published December 1975. 1986 SDWA converted the interim MCL to a national primary drinking water regulation. New SDWA deadline requiring proposal by January 1, 2000, and final rule by January 1, 2001.</p>	<p>EPA Contact: Irene Dooley (202) 206-9531 The National Academy of Sciences final report on the National Research Council review of EPA's arsenic risk assessment is available for purchase at www.nap.edu/catalog/6444.html. A draft of the proposed rule is expected to go to OMB this November.</p>
<p>Ground Water Rule Draft preamble released January 15, 1999. A formal proposal is now expected in early 2000 with a final rule in November 2000 (or later). The rule would become effective three years after promulgation.</p>	<p>EPA Contact: Erin Flanagan (202) 260-5545 Comment period on Draft Preamble closed February 19, 1999. EPA is now preparing a final proposal for OMB review and publication.</p>
<p>Public Notification Proposed rule revisions were published in the Federal Register on May 13, 1999. The comment period ended on July 12, 1999. A draft PN Handbook was released for public comment with proposed rule. Final rule and handbook are expected in December 1999.</p>	<p>EPA Contact: Carl Reeverts (202) 260-7273 EPA held four public meetings in May and June to take comment on the proposed rule and draft handbook. EPA internal workgroup meetings to develop the final began in late August.</p>
<p>Radon Regulation for radon proposed in July 1991. A final rule is due in August 2000.</p>	<p>EPA Contact: Sylvia Malm (202) 260-0417 Proposed rule with new MCL, AMCL and MMM guidelines published in Federal Register on November 2, 1999 (64 FR 59246). Comments on the proposal are due to EPA by January 3, 2000.</p>
<p>Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Final rule was published in the Federal Register on September 17, 1999 (64 FR 50556). The effective date when monitoring will begin is January 1, 2001.</p>	<p>EPA Contact: Chuck Job (202) 260-7084 ASDWA and EPA drafting Memorandum of Agreement template for states and Regions to use when negotiating state-by-state MOAs.</p>

Systems on Bacteriological Public Notice for Oct.-Dec. 1999

<u>SYSTEM</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>DATE ISSUED</u>	<u>REMOVED</u>	<u>DATE REMOVED</u>
Ed's Mobile Home Park	COMM	9/7/99	YES	10/6/99
DE Stare Fair, Inc.	COMM	9/23/99	YES	10/28/99
Milford Christian School	NTNC	9/22/99	YES	11/1/99
Mason Dixon Court	TNC	9/30/99	NO	-
Pine Ridge M.H.P.	COMM	10/4/99	YES	10/19/99
Dover Water Dept.	COMM	10/14/99	NO	-
Country Acres M.H.P.	COMM	10/7/99	YES	10/21/99
Dover Indoor Tennis	TNC	10/4/99	NO	-
Greenwood Water Dept.	COMM	10/6/99	YES	10/21/99
Polytech High School	TNC	10/1/99	NO	-
Rising Sun Plaza	TNC	10/4/99	NO	-
U.L. Harman	TNC	10/8/99	NO	-
Woods Edge Mobile Home Park	COMM	10/5/99	YES	10/19/99
NVF Co.	NTNC	10/15/99	YES	1/4/00
Reichold Chemical	NTNC	10/26/99	NO	-
Market Place at Odessa	NTNC	10/27/99	NO	-
Kimothy's Place	TNC	11/1/99	YES	1/5/00
Sail inn	TNC	11/5/99	YES	1/4/00
Middletown Moose	MISC	12/28/99	NO	-
Hy-Point Dairy Farms	NTNC	12/28/99	NO	-
Brenford Place	MISC	10/15/99	YES	1/18/00



Training and Education Calendar

April-June 2000



DATE	TOPICS	LOCATION	CONTACT	To register call...
Apr. 6	Wastewater Microbiology	Owens Campus	DTCC	DRWA DE Rural Water Association (302) 398-9633
Apr. 12	Introduction to Cross Connection Control	Owens Campu	DTCC	
Apr. 14	Chlorination Technology	Stanton Campus	DTCC	DTCC ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE Owens Campus (302) 855-1617
Apr. 19	Ten Little Known Water/Wastewater Operators Secrets	Owens Campus	DTCC	
Apr. 26-27	How to Prepare Your Water System for a Sanitary Survey	Stanton Campus	DTCC	Terry Campus (302) 741-2897
Apr. 28	Electrical Troubleshooting for Operators	Owens Campus	DTCC	
May 2	Energy Conservation for Water/Wastewater Systems	Terry Campus	DTCC	Stanton Campus (302) 453-3003
May 3	Well System Operation & Maintenance	Stanton Campus	DTCC	
May 5	Electrical Blueprint Reading for Operators	Owens Campus	DTCC	
May 10	Computers for Operators	Owens Campus	DTCC	
May 15-16	Disinfection Operations for Water & Wastewater Systems	Owens Campus	DTCC	
May 17-18	Hydraulics Workshop for Operators	Owens Campus	DTCC	
May 23	The Microlife	Owens Campus	DTCC	
May 24	Microscopy	Owens Campus	DTCC	
May 26	Math Review for Wastewater Operators	Terry Campus	DTCC	



Spout It Out!

Tap Talk is published by the Delaware Division of Public Health Office of Drinking Water. The purpose is to provide information on subjects of interest to water system owners, water works operators and others interested in drinking water. Comments, questions, and/or subjects you would like to see addressed are welcome. Please write us at Tap Talk, DPH/Office of Drinking Water, Blue Hen Corporate Center, Suite 203, 655 Bay Road Dover, DE 19901. For more information, call (302) 739-5410.



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