

# Water Works



Quality Water for  
Southwest North Dakota

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY AND THE SOUTHWEST PIPELINE PROJECT

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## From Mary Massad, Manager/CEO



Mary Massad,  
Manager/CEO

### Happy Spring!

With warmer temperatures comes the promise of re-growth and another year of construction for the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP).

Construction season will be starting soon and there is a lot going on! The SWPP currently has 19 contracts under construction, and more are planned. Construction of the supplemental intake continued throughout the winter and the contractor is preparing to begin horizontal micro-tunneling under Lake Sakakawea. The boring machine is being set up onsite. The main transmission pipeline reaching from the OMND Water Treatment Plant (WTP) to northwest of Killdeer is undergoing pressure testing and disinfection. Rural construction in the East and West Center Service Areas will soon begin again. Especially exciting news was the award of the North Dunn and Halliday Service Area contract. This contract continues construction in the OMND Phase of the Project. Each construction contract enables the Project to bring award-winning, quality water to rural customers as well as increase the capacity to meet the growth throughout the southwest region of the state.

As SWA works toward the ultimate goal of quality water to those who have been waiting, there are several influential factors, especially, adequate funding. As always, funding determines construction of the SWPP. Funding for water projects is determined by the State Water Commission (SWC) and the SWC's North Dakota Legislature agency funding bill.

The Resources Trust Fund (RTF) is the portion of the SWC's budget which funds water projects throughout the state. The RTF is comprised of 20 percent of the oil extraction tax collected by the state. As oil prices continue to decrease, and the oil extraction tax triggers take effect, the revenue streaming into this fund also decreases. The funding secured through the North Dakota Legislature, in SB 2020, will influence the SWPP's rate of construction over the 2015-2017 biennium.

SWA works collaboratively with the SWC, the Project owner, and the North Dakota Water Coalition to solicit support to obtain the necessary funding to build the Project. On March 19, 2015, SWA testified before the House Appropriations Environment and Education subcommittee in support of SB 2020, and outlined the importance of funding water development projects statewide. The Legislature will decide on SB 2020 and determine the amount of RTF revenue to be distributed by the SWC in the upcoming biennium. As the Legislature deliberates on SB 2020, and looks to the upcoming biennium, SWA remains hopeful the SWPP will receive the needed funding to continue construction.

Another very critical factor in allowing construction to continue are easements. Easements provide permission from landowners for installation of pipeline and related appurtenances. Construction will not happen without fully-executed easements. So if you have received an easement, please sign it in front of a notary and return it to SWA. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office.

## Water & Livestock



Livestock producers face a variety of year-round challenges establishing a consistent water supply to their herds. The colder months provide numerous obstacles, but when the weather warms up, assuring their horses, cattle and other livestock have access to quality water is equally demanding. The hydration requirements of each type of animal differs from season to season.

In a recent article prepared by NDSU Extension Agent, Jackie Buckley, she points out a 1,000 pound horse requires a minimum of 10-12 gallons of water each day. During the winter months, water temperature should range between 45-65 degrees to maximize consumption.

Water intake for cattle is often reduced during the winter months when there is extreme cold and wind. Cows will generally resume hydration when the weather warms up. With that in mind, it is very important cattle have proper access to quality water not just in the winter, but especially when the weather turns warmer. At 50 degrees, a cow may consume about five to seven gallons per day, but the amount increases by 0.4 gallons per day for every one-degree increase in air temperature. At 95 degrees, the same cow will drink an average of twenty-four gallons per day.

The amount of feed ingested by a cow is directly related to its water intake. For every pound of dry feed, nearly one gallon of water is required.

For more information, contact us at [swa@swwater.com](mailto:swa@swwater.com).





## Reclamation



Each spring when the snow melts and the ground thaws, changes to the landscape have a way of revealing themselves. Beyond the control of the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) contractors are the

often powerful effects of Mother Nature. Heavy snow, rain, or both combined with run off and fluctuating temperatures can cause trench settlement. Settlement can happen over time or immediately after construction. If you observe this scenario in an area where water pipelines have been installed, please contact SWA as soon as possible.

Southwest Water Authority (SWA) is working to coordinate control of noxious weeds along recently installed pipelines. Spraying takes place according to the specifications as not all weeds can be controlled at the same time. Seeding depends on the time of year and weather conditions. Quite often, issues

are not discovered until the landowners are seeding their crops and would rather SWA not address the issue. When you've discovered areas in need of either weed control or seeding, please let us know. SWA works with landowners to coordinate these efforts.

The window to properly address seeding and weed control is relatively short. It must be coordinated during a period when many other projects are also being executed, not only by SWA, but individual landowners as well. Weather conditions dictate the timing of what can and cannot be done. It is the intention of SWA to proceed on these issues while also realizing that timing plays a vital role in when to move forward.

Efforts to correct reclamation concerns can only take place if SWA staff is aware of where the issues are located. If this spring has revealed reclamation issues caused by construction and installation of the SWPP, please contact Misti Conzemius at [mconzemius@swwater.com](mailto:mconzemius@swwater.com) or contact the SWA Dickinson office at 701.225.0241.

What do you know  
about H<sub>2</sub>O?



**Drinking  
Water  
Week** MAY 3-9, 2015



### 2015 Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors Meetings

The public is always welcome to attend our monthly Board of Directors meetings. Contact our office if you have questions. Call 701-225-0241 or email [swa@swwater.com](mailto:swa@swwater.com). All meetings generally begin at 9:00 a.m. MT and are held at the SWA O&M Center Office, Dickinson, ND (unless otherwise noted).

Monday, May 4  
Monday, June 1  
Monday, July 6  
Monday, August 3  
Tuesday, September 8

Monday, October 5  
Monday, November 2  
Tuesday, December 8\*  
*\*ND Association of Rural  
Electric Cooperatives Building*

**Our Vision:**  
People and Business  
Succeeding with  
Quality Water

**Our Mission:**  
Quality Water for  
Southwest  
North Dakota

**Water Works** is the  
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SWA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status or disability in employment or the provision of services.



## Water Taste Awards

Water quality is consistently a priority at Southwest Water Authority (SWA). Our water was recently recognized and awarded as, not only the best tasting in North Dakota, but also ranked number four internationally. This is the third consecutive year SWA has placed in the top 10 internationally.

The State Water Commission, along with Bartlett & West, share our vision of "Quality Water for southwest North Dakota". SWA greatly appreciates their ongoing support in making this dream a reality for the citizens of our state.



Back Row left to right: Kathy Seifert; Waylon Erdmann & Bryan Ziegler, Bartlett & West; James Odermann, SWA; Jim Lennington, Bartlett & West; Mike Kemnitz, Missouri West Water System

Front Row left to right: From SWA - Rick Seifert, George Saxowsky, Mary Massad, Glenn Eckelberg

## SWA Board of Directors



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## Dakota Ready Mix & Concrete Award

Congratulations to Bartlett & West, Engineering America and the State Water Commission on the design, supply and construction of the Zap Potable Water Tank Project. The Dakota Ready Mix and Concrete Products Association recently honored the project as a 3-Star winner in the Innovation Category.

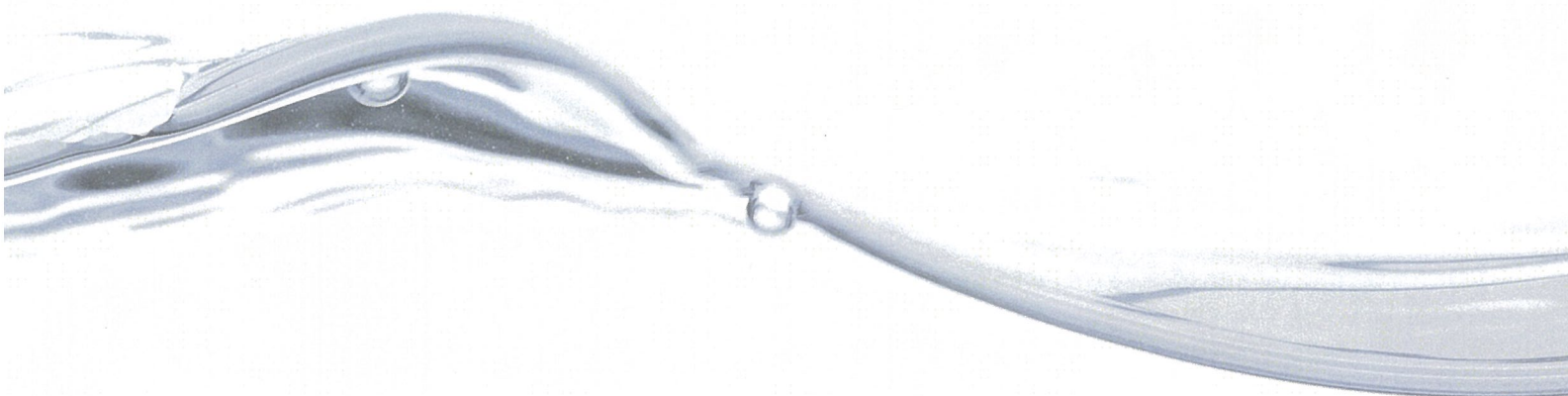


Southwest Water Authority Supports April as National Safe Digging Month

**ALWAYS CALL  
BEFORE YOU DIG**







## Water Can Run, but Don't Let it Hide

Are you ready to chase down leaks? Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons of water annually nationwide. An undetected or unrepaired water leak can mean thousands of gallons of water waste each month in a single household. For example:

- 1/32" drip can waste 6,166 gallons per month.
- 1/16" trickle can waste 24,666 gallons per month.
- 1/8" stream can waste 98,666 gallons per month.
- 1/4" stream can waste 393,833 gallons per month.



If you suspect a leak, the easiest way to confirm it is to check the reading on your meter by taking the following steps:

1. Make sure all faucets and water-using appliances, inside and out, are turned off. Leave the master valve open.
2. Check the reading on your meter. Your water meter is located in the basement or in some of the older homes it may be located outside in a meter pit. There is a small dial, which moves clockwise.
3. If there is no water being used inside or outside the home and the meter continues to move or "creep" it is often indicative of a leak or drip somewhere in your home's water system.