

## From Mary Massad, Manager/CEO



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The Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) continues to acquire more rural customers, some of whom signed on decades ago and continue to wait until funding allows the SWPP to come to their areas.

There is still a growing demand for quality water in southwest ND, despite the apparent slowdown of the local economy and the energy industry. Construction remains a hot topic for us.

In that effort, construction began in January on the SWPP's supplemental water treatment plant in Dickinson. Once finished, the treatment plant will add six million gallons of water per day (MGD) to the existing water treatment capacity to provide a total of 18 MGD.

Since most of the current construction for the new treatment plant is underground, if you drive by the Finished Water Pump Station on Broadway Street in Dickinson, you will only see mounds of dirt. This supplemental water treatment plant is projected to be completed by the end of 2017.

As construction goes into full swing, if you have been contacted by SWA for an easement, please know they are vitally important. We cannot put pipe in the ground without properly signed, notarized easements from property owners along the pipeline.

As we see the grass turn green, if you notice any trench settlement or related issues, please be sure to give us a call. We are happy to come out or have the contractor repair any damage caused by the SWPP's construction.

We have also been busy with construction projects in Oliver, Mercer and North Dunn counties. Construction started in March on Contract 7-9G Halliday and Dunn Center Service Area and Contract 7-9E West Center Service Area.

With easements, the oil industry continuing, and winter weather, our biggest challenge remains continuing the necessary funding for the SWPP to not only meet future demands for quality water, but to meet today's needs.

The projected upward trend of peak water usage in the region served by the SWPP could reach beyond the pipeline project's overall capacity in the coming years.

One thing is for certain, we know quality water is our most precious resource and we remain privileged to provide this valuable resource to the people and businesses of southwest North Dakota.

Reclamation: see page 3

### Six great reasons to provide easement permission

1. Quality of life
2. Increases value to your land and property
3. Future needs cost less today to install a waterline
4. Improves economic value for community as a whole
5. Good citizenship to help neighbors minimize costs
6. For your children, grandchildren, and future generations

Collaborations often result in great accomplishments. If you have been approached by Southwest Water Authority, or their representatives, to provide easements, your consent provides direct as well as indirect, long-term advantages for the continued development of the Southwest Pipeline Project. The time to sign-up is before construction begins in your area. What will be realized now, and in the future, will benefit residents and businesses for generations to come.



## Spring is in the Air

Since we live in an area that has a colder climate in the winter, spring brings a special excitement to us all as we begin enjoying the warmer weather and seeing our landscapes come to life. It's part of what makes living in the rural southwest so amazing.

It is also the time of year when construction of the Southwest Pipeline Project goes into full swing. That's why the granting of easements and signing up for quality water becomes so important this time of year. If you have any questions, please contact our office.



## Ray Bieber Awarded the 2016 Clark Cronquist Waterline Award



Ray Bieber, Southwest Water Authority (SWA) Board member representing Hettinger County was honored with the 2016 Clark Cronquist Waterline Award at the 30th Annual North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association EXPO in Fargo on February 17, 2016. For 24 years Ray has been instrumental in defining the very mission of the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) and SWA. Considered a forefather of SWA and the SWPP, Ray has been passionate about the development of rural water and bringing safe, reliable drinking water to the citizens of southwest North Dakota. The Clark Cronquist Waterline Award is given to someone who through their distinctive leadership and perseverance has gone above and beyond in the promotion, development, or enhancement of rural water on a state or national level. Ray has remained steadfast in communicating the importance of protecting North Dakota's water resources for the livelihood and enjoyment of its residents. Mary Massad, Manager/CEO of SWA, states "Ray truly is a water pioneer and visionary, and his years of service to the water industry and the undeniable results of his efforts have earned him the Clark Cronquist Waterline Award. Congratulations Ray!"



### Continuing Our Mission

Southwest Water Authority (SWA) places water quality as its number one priority. To ensure the safety of the water and distribution system of the Southwest Pipeline Project, SWA continues to run more than 100 water sample tests each and every month to meet and exceed North Dakota's drinking water standards.

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

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

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Visit our website...from job postings to the latest pipeline and water news, it's all online!

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## Refreshing Student Program



A student at Bismarck State College (BSC), Elizabeth (Liz) Johnson just completed a nine-month program to become a water and wastewater technician. And, like all the students in the program, she had to complete an 80 hour job shadowing (internship) requirement at a water or wastewater treatment facility. Being from southwest ND, we were pleased Liz chose to complete this requirement with SWA. Her internship allowed her to observe the daily operations of the water treatment plant (WTP) in Dickinson.

“I really enjoyed my internship with SWA because it brought to life what I had been reading and learning about,” Liz said. “It was interesting to see the reverse-osmosis microfiltration plant in Zap, and the basin and filtering treatment plant in Dickinson. The plants were both so clean and well maintained.” “It is exciting to be part of making water safe to drink for the good of the community,” Liz said. “After the great experience at SWA, I’m even more passionate than ever about becoming a water operator.”

BSC has 12 programs related to water and energy as part of the nationally-recognized National Energy Center of Excellence (NECE). One of the newest programs offered through the NECE features online courses for students seeking careers as water/wastewater operators. The program was created by BSC in partnership with organizations such as Southwest Water Authority (SWA) to fulfill a growing need for trained operators. For more information about the BSC training program visit: [BismarckState.edu](http://BismarckState.edu).

### Getting Connected

If you are a new customer and wish to connect to the pipeline, please give SWA at least a 72-hour notification. This gives SWA’s staff time to schedule the hookup with one of the operators. SWA’s operator will also need the “Verification of Rural Water Service” form completed at the time of hook up. You can schedule a hookup by calling our office at 225-0241 or toll free at 1-888-425-0241.

For your safety and that of your neighbors, remember you cannot hookup to the Pipeline until you receive official notification from the Southwest Water Authority office. It is very important that neither you nor your plumber, or any other non-SWA employee, turn the water on. If the water is turned on without notification from our office, there is a \$500 fine the first time, \$1,500 the second time and the third, which is the final time, there is a permanent disconnection of service to the property.

### Reclamation

It is again the time of year when trench settlement shows up from recent pipeline installation. Spring is also when SWA coordinates the control of noxious weeds. 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. If you discover areas in need of weed control, seeding, or other reclamation issues, please contact us at 701.225.0241 or [SWA@swwater.com](mailto:SWA@swwater.com).







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