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Water Works



Official Publication of Southwest Water Authority and the Southwest Pipeline Project

Greetings from Southwest Water Authority!



Jen Murray, Manager/CEO

Spring is here and with it, a renewed sense of ambition as we set our sights on another year of bringing you award-winning water and educating our future generations about the importance of water. As SWA prepares for another construction season, we also want to ensure another summer of dedication to protecting our source water, Lake Sakakawea.

Western North Dakota is a beautiful place, with water providing beautiful imagery within many scenic places. We're pleased to share with you the winners of our Southwest Water employee photography contest. These images serve as a beautiful reminder of all the ways water presents itself in our daily life.

Water, as our most precious resource, was also the central topic of the 23rd annual Make a Splash Water Festival which promoted awareness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of North Dakota water resources to area fifth graders. This year's event not only celebrated the spirit of water stewardship but also highlighted key achievements and advancements within the water industry.

One achievement we're pleased to announce is that Southwest Water Authority received prestigious accolades at the 34th Annual Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting. This recognition is a testament to SWA's unwavering commitment to quality and innovation in water management. The event, which attracts participants from around the globe, showcases the finest waters from diverse regions, validating SWA's position as a leader in the industry.

With warmer weather now here, construction has resumed on the Strategic Hydraulic Improvements, vital projects aimed at enhancing water infrastructure. The installation of booster stations is a critical component of this initiative. Boosters play a pivotal role in ensuring consistent water pressure throughout the distribution network, enabling reliable service for existing and future customers. These improvements will pave the way for over 120 new connections to the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP), expanding access to clean water for our growing region.



EVERY SURFACE. EVERY TIME.

The water source for all of southwest North Dakota is Lake Sakakawea. Protecting the Lake against Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) is not only crucial for maintaining the health of the aquatic ecosystem, but also for protecting the water intake infrastructure for the SWPP. Effective prevention measures such as the ND Game and Fish "Clean, Drain, Dry" campaign are essential to mitigate the spread of ANS and protect the integrity of the Lake for future generations.

With each achievement and milestone, we reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding this precious resource for future generations. Together, we continue to make waves in water management and protection and community empowerment.

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Sponsored by the American Water Works Association, Drinking Water Week helps us think about the significant role that safe drinking water plays in our daily lives. It also makes us realize the importance of being aware of whether our water is safe or not.

MAKING WAVES

SWA Makes a Splash with Kids

The 23rd Annual "Make a Splash" Water Festival was held April 11 and 12 at the West River Ice Center in Dickinson. There were 13 schools from seven towns with a total of 577 fifth graders participating.

SWA had nine educational stations with nine presenters. Topics included water conservation, water pollution prevention, watershed water movement, and more, delivered in a fun and engaging way.

Project Water Education Today (WET) facilitators were coordinated by Tina Iken-Harding, North Dakota Department of Water Resources. The Dickinson High School Science Club provided volunteers for the educational sessions. North Dakota Department of Water Resources, Ducks Unlimited, Stark County Water Resource District, Stark and Billings Agriculture Extension Agency, and Stark and Billings Soil Conservation District also helped make this educational event a resounding success.



THE CURRENT

Photography Contest Winners Revealed

After many fine entries and some serious judging, the top three photos from our Southwest Water Employee Photography Contest were chosen.

Entries were judged on appropriate representation of North Dakota's water, photographic creativity and quality. Photos had to have been taken within the last year and were original photos with water appearing in some form.

Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to the winners!



1st Place — Kali Mackey, Signup & Easement Assistant
2nd Place — Dylan Schutt, OMND Water Treatment Plant Operator
3rd Place — Perry Grammond, Assistant Water Treatment Manager

IN THE PIPE

SWA Gives It a Boost



We're getting ready for the future with strategic hydraulic improvements throughout the Southwest Pipeline Project. This summer, several booster stations will be installed which will allow additional customers to connect without compromising water pressure for existing customers.

These booster stations are primarily designed to bring water pressure back up to a normal operating level during peak flows. As a water system grows, pressure during these peak flows would fall as a result of additional services being connected to the water system, but not on our watch. Our boosters, along with several other improvements, will help replenish the pressure that would be lost without them. The water must flow, and we'll make sure it does.

WE KNOW HYDRO

"Now that's what I call high-quality H₂O."



We already had plenty to be proud of, and now we have more! At the 34th Annual Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting Contest held earlier this year, Southwest Water Authority took fourth place for best-tasting tap water in the municipal water category. Judges sampled water sourced from 20 states, three Canadian provinces and 14 foreign countries, and rated them based on appearance, aroma, taste, mouthfeel and aftertaste. We knew we were world-class, but now the rest of the world knows it too.

Our quality water has been recognized at the state level as well. A blind taste test was held at this year's North Dakota Rural Water System Expo, and we were judged as having one of the top three best-tasting waters in the state.

1,000 gallons of water costs \$6.47

— SO —

1 gallon costs \$0.006

THAT'S JUST SIX TENTHS OF A PENNY!



OUR VISION

People and Business Succeeding with Quality Water

OUR MISSION

Quality Water for Southwest North Dakota

Visit our website to learn about everything from job postings to the latest pipeline and water news.

swwater.com

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HAPPY
Mother's Day

MAY 12, 2024

Southwest Water Authority celebrates all mothers this Mother's Day. We appreciate all that you do.

"All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

—Abraham Lincoln