

**July/August  
2009**



### Looking Ahead

July 8  
9:00 a.m.  
Lower Ark Basin  
Advisory Committee  
McPherson

July 8  
6:30 p.m.  
Walnut Basin Advisory  
Committee  
Winfield

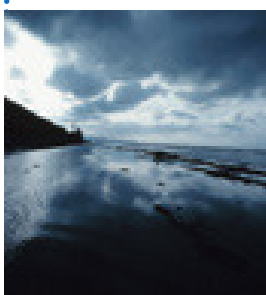
July 14  
6:00 p.m.  
GMD 2  
Halstead

July 20  
8:00 a.m.  
Water Resources  
Committee  
WSU Metroplex

August 13-14  
Kansas Water Authority  
Meeting  
Salina

## EPA releases 2010 National Water Program Guidance

The EPA recently released the FY 2010 National Water Program Guidance, which describes the work to be done in FY 2010 to reach the public health and water quality goals proposed in the EPA 2009-2014 Strategic Plan. The 55 page report includes a list of priorities for the EPA, states, and tribes to give special attention including: Supporting sustainable water infrastructure; improving water security and preparedness; restoring, improving, and protecting wetlands; improving water and wetlands monitoring; restoring water quality on a watershed basis; and improving achievement of drinking water standards. The entire document is online at [www.epa.gov/ocfo/npmguidance/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/npmguidance/index.htm)



## 2009 REAP Regional Water Conference a Success!

The 2nd annual REAP Regional Water Conference was held at the Grand Prairie Hotel and Convention Center in Hutchinson on Thursday, May 28th. Nearly 100 state and local representatives attended the conference, which featured a keynote presentation by Kathy Nguyen of Cobb County, Georgia. Ms. Nguyen's humorous and insightful presentation on the Atlanta drought of 2006 was well received and provided a solid foundation for the rest of the conference presentations. Following



## 2009 Kansas Environmental Conference August 18-20

The annual Kansas Environmental Conference will be August 18-20 at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita. Sponsored by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the EPA, Region 7, the conference features a keynote presentation by Chad Pregracke. Mr. Pregracke is the founder and president of the nonprofit organization Living Lands and Waters which conducts programs such as community river cleanups, big river educational workshops, the MillionTrees Project, Riverbottom Forest Restoration and Adopt-a-River-Mile. Concurrent sessions include topics such as air monitoring, stormwater compliance, pharmaceutical discharging and remediation. The first fifty interested registrants will also get a tour of the Equus Beds Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project (ASR). A full conference agenda and registration information is available online at [www.kdheks.gov/sbcs/nvironment\\_conf.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/sbcs/nvironment_conf.html)

the conference, interested individuals toured Hutchinson's new Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment facility. Overall, conference surveys showed a positive response to the speakers and session topics selected for the 2009 conference, as well as useful suggestions for future conferences. Powerpoint presentations from each session are now available at [www.reap-ks.org](http://www.reap-ks.org). Sincere thanks to our conference sponsors, speakers, and attendees for making this year's event a success!

## Clean Water Neighbor Grant Opportunities

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Division of Environment is offering the Clean Water Neighbor Program, which is funded by the EPA. The program's intent is to promote state and local partnerships while encouraging citizens to take steps to protect our precious water resources. Local project facilitators can apply for funds to implement projects that demonstrate effective



nonpoint source pollution control practices and inform individuals and organizations of water quality problems caused by nonpoint pollutant sources. Grants can be as large as \$20,000, and require local support of 40% of the awarded grant amount, which can be comprised of in-kind services. Eligibility requirements and an application can be found online at [www.kdheks.gov/nps/cwn.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/nps/cwn.htm)

## KDHE Helps Create Jobs by Funding Stormwater Projects across Kansas

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has announced that 15 new projects have been selected for funding to improve Kansas' stormwater infrastructure. Utilizing funding from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009, the projects are in addition to the 12 ARRA funded wastewater

collection and treatment projects announced earlier in the year. Cities, counties and development organizations in Kansas submitted 62 stormwater proposals for funding consideration, and the final 15 were selected based on the green components included in the project, readiness to proceed, anticipated water quality benefits

and other factors. In South-Central Kansas, \$1.9 million was granted to the City of Wichita to replace a 60,000 sq/ft roof with a vegetated green roof to complement a porous pavement parking lot funded by the city. More information about the projects can be found online by clicking on the June 3 article at [www.kdheks.gov/news/](http://www.kdheks.gov/news/)

## "From Dust Bowl to Mud Bowl"– National Interdisciplinary Conference in KC

The Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri will be the site of the 2009 Soil and Water Conservation Society's Regional Sedimentation Conference, *From Dust Bowl to Mud Bowl: Sedimentation, Conservation Measures, and the Future of Reservoirs* on September 14–16. The conference will be a combination of presentations, scientific papers, breakout sessions

and poster presentations. Representatives from Kansas State University, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the University of California, Miami of Ohio, the University of Arkansas and the USDA's Agricultural Research Service will present a variety of concurrent sessions. The early registration deadline is July 31st, with a discount for members of the

Soil and Conservation Society. A complete conference agenda, online registration and other information is available online at [www.swcs.org/en/conferences](http://www.swcs.org/en/conferences)

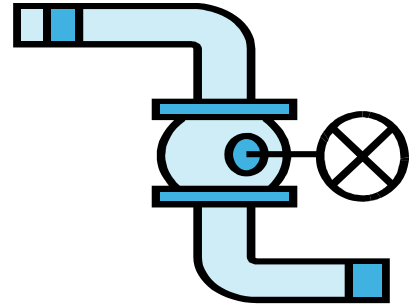


## Regional Water Rate Survey Yields Interesting, Useful Results

At the request of the Water Resources Committee, staff recently conducted a residential water rate survey of REAP member communities. The resulting data provided beneficial insight into not only the variance of rates for city water service but also the variety of ways in which municipalities calculate their rates. The spreadsheet of water rates will soon be available on-line at

[www.reap-ks.org](http://www.reap-ks.org). Next, a similar survey regarding sewer rates will be created to offer another set of useful information to consider when communities are discussing sewer rates increases. Once averages for both water and sewer are established for the region, staff will compile a state and national comparison to see the competitiveness of the region's rates. WRC staff would like to thank the REAP

communities for being so helpful in helping gather this data. Staff intends to update both water and sewer rates on an annual basis.



## Kansas Water Authority Meeting includes REAP and Reservoir Roadmap

The Kansas Water Authority (KWA) recently met in the Historic Train Depot in El Dorado, Kansas on June 11 and 12. Angela Buzard, REAP Water Resources Committee Executive Officer was asked to provide a presentation which discussed the Committee's regional concerns related to water quantity and quality issues. Highlights of the committee's current and future projects were also provided. The committee looks forward to being engaged in the activities of the KWA in moving forward. The Water Authority was also presented with



a new approach by the Water Office titled the "Reservoir Roadmap" which is a three step process the Water Authority will be undertaking to fulfill the Legislature's request for a report on actions necessary to insure an adequate water supply for areas currently or potentially served by federal, state, or municipal reservoirs by January 2010. The Water Authority also discussed budget considerations moving forward under these tough economic times. Presentations from the meeting as well as a full agenda can be found at the following link [www.kwo.org](http://www.kwo.org)

## What is the REAP Water Resources Committee?

In 2007, the Water Resources Committee was formed as a subset committee of REAP with the purpose of serving as a regional conduit of information and education regarding water quality and quantity issues in the South Central Kansas Region. The Committee is currently comprised of 25 cities and counties. The WRC also serves as a regional voice on behalf of the members before federal, state and regional agencies. Interested communities are encouraged to attend our meetings and contact the Committee's Executive Officer, Angela Buzard, at the information below to learn more about the Committee.



**WaterWise**  
c/o REAP Water Resources Committee  
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Feedback and topic suggestions are welcome!  
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