



WaterWise

From the REAP Water Resources Committee

July/August
2010



Looking Ahead

July 12
8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
REAP & WRC Meeting
WSU Metroplex

July 13
GMD No. 2 Meeting
Halstead

July 14
Basics of National Flood
Insurance Program
Arkansas City

July 28
9:30 a.m.
KS-OK Arkansas River
Commission Meeting
Arkansas City

August 4-5
Kansas Water Congress
Summer Conference
Great Bend

August 5-6
KS Water Authority
Paola

Water Challenges Foster a Need to Plan for the Future

A recent article in The Economist magazine provides readers with a broad outlook on the water challenges faced by communities throughout the world. With a drastic increase in the world's population and food production, water has become a valued, in-demand resource. In response to these challenges some states, such as Texas, have started to think ahead and plan for the future use, allocation, and conservation of water. By involving legislators, citizens, municipalities, and members of the "water and environmental community," states can begin to create water plans that help them identify future supplies, conserve current supplies, and bring all affected parties to the table. To access the full Economist article visit www.economist.com.



Clean Water Enforcement Web Tools Announced by EPA

The EPA recently announced its launching of a new set of web tools, data, and interactive maps to alert the public of serious violations of the Clean Water Act in their communities.



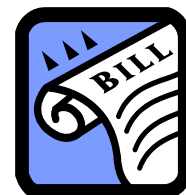
These tools are part of the EPA's Clean Water Action Plan to work with states, ensuring that facilities comply with clean water standards.

The website provides interactive information from the EPA's 2008 Annual Non-Compliance Report, which applies to nearly 40,000 permitted Clean Water Act dischargers. The site also provides state summaries, which include violations and state enforcement responses. This tool allows site visitors to compare their state's compliance rates and enforcement actions with others throughout the country. More information can be found at www.yosemite.epa.gov/.

2010 Legislative Session Wrap Up

Three water related bills, of importance to cities, were passed by the Kansas Legislature and signed into law by Governor Parkinson during the 2010 legislative session. Senate Bill 316 permits those holding eligible groundwater rights to claim due and sufficient cause for nonuse, protecting them from being deemed as abandoned by the Division of Water Resources. House Concurrent Resolution 5013 calls the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil

Works to cooperate with the State of Kansas to extend the productive lives of the state's Reservoirs. Many of the state's reservoirs are approaching or passed their halfway point. House Bill 2283 evolves the process of transferring water service territory and will be discussed in more detail on the next page. For more detailed information on these bills visit www.kslegislature.org.



Cities Must Notify RWDS of Annexation Effective July 1st

During the 2010 legislative session, Governor Parkinson signed into law House Bill 2283, which provides the most significant changes to laws affecting the annexation of rural water district (RWD) territory since RWDs were first authorized in 1957. **Effective July 1, 2010**, cities will be required to notify RWDS of their plans to annex RWD land 60 days prior to the effective date of their annexation ordinance. The bill also requires a city to provide RWDS with a description of the land to be

annexed and the city's plan for the provision of water service to the annexed territory. The bill also requires mediation for entities that cannot reach agreement on reasonable value. If mediation is not successful, an appraisal process commences to determine reasonable value. For territory releases from RWDS, the new law adds additional factors for consideration as well as specific written findings are required of the Board. In conjunction with HB 2283, the REAP Water Resources

Committee (WRC) drafted a set of guidelines for water service annexations. The goal of both HB 2283 and the guidelines is to improve communication between cities and RWD, make decisions based on the best interest of the customer, and to avoid costly legal battles. For more information on guidelines visit www.reap-ks.org.



Kansas Water Office Launches New Quarterly Publication

The Kansas Water Office launched the 2010 Summer Edition of The WaterFront, the office's new quarterly newsletter. Targeted for members of the Kansas Water Authority (KWA) and Basin Advisory Committees (BAC), The WaterFront also provides a wealth of information to the general public and local government representatives on state

water issues. The Summer 2010 issue includes: A message from KWO Director Tracy Streeter, legislative actions on budget and policy issues, a profile of Kansas Water Authority Chairman, Steve Irsik, a calendar of upcoming events, and more. Mr. Streeter explains there were several reasons for developing The WaterFront,

including the increased complexity of state water issues and the need to communicate local perspectives to legislators and stakeholders. For the complete issue visit www.kwo.org.



Upcoming Statewide Conferences

The Kansas Water Environment Association and Kansas Section of American Water Works will hold their second annual joint conference August 31 through September 2. The conference will be held at the

Capital Plaza Hotel in Topeka, Kansas. This year's conference will feature an expanded program, more exhibitors/equipment, and greater networking opportunities. For more information please visit www.kwea.net.



The conference will take place at the Wichita Airport Hilton and includes a diverse range of session topics. For more information please visit www.ekafm.org.



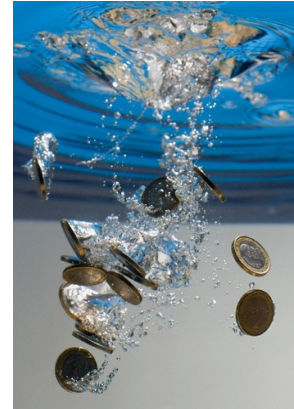
In addition, the Kansas Association for Floodplain Management will also be hosting their seventh annual conference over September 1 and 2.

2010 REAP Regional Water Conference a Success!

The 3rd Annual REAP Regional Water Conference was held at the El Dorado Civic Center on Thursday May 27th. Almost 100 state and local government representatives were in attendance. Conference attendees enjoyed a variety of conference sessions, and opportunities for regional networking along with a variety of local vendors. The day included a keynote presentation by Gary Rowe, Associate Chief of the USGS National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program on the impacts of urbanization on water quality. Sessions focused on water

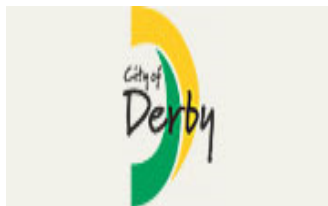
availability and funding, the recently finished *Guidelines for the Transfer of Water Service Between Cities and Rural Water Districts* (RWD Guidelines), and included a lunch discussion on legislative perspectives on water issues. The day concluded with a tour of El Dorado's Wetlands and Water Reclamation Facility, which proved to be an informative experience highlighting the innovative use of wetlands for natural filtration of wastewater. Overall, conference surveys showed a positive response to the speakers and session topics selected, as well as

useful suggestions for future events. Session presentations are now available at www.reap-ks.org/water.html. Sincere thanks to our conference sponsors, speakers, and attendees for making this year's event a success!



EPA Awards Grant to City of Derby for Sewer Improvements

The Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Administrator, Karl Brooks, announced on June 2nd the City of Derby would be awarded a \$970,000



grant for sewer Improvements. Mr. Brooks stated these infrastructure funds will help the city provided

adequate wastewater service for both current and future homes. With an improved wastewater system the City of Derby will also be better equipped to protect community health and the environment. The funds will be used to construct approximately 7,050 feet of 36-inch sewer pipe and 17 manholes. For the full story visit: www.yosemite.epa.gov/opa/

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 forum and informational resource for water quality and quantity issues in South Central Kansas. The Committee is currently comprised of 26 cities and counties. The WRC also serves as a regional voice on behalf of the members before federal, state and regional agencies. Interested communities can 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
Hugo Wall School
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box 155
Wichita, KS 67260

Feedback and topic suggestions are welcome!

Please contact Angela Buzard
Phone: (316) 978-3401
E-mail: angela.buzard@wichita.edu
Website: www.reap-ks.org