

MINNESOTA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER v.3 n.2 WINTER 1985

A phone rings in a small office tucked away behind mountains of barrels and refuse.

"Hello, Hydro-Data, Made-While-U-Wait, may I help you?"

"Yea, we have some, eh, industrial by-products which we like to, eh, store in a temporary location for a long time. We've been told that you process this type of stuff and can handle our problem."

"Yep, we do, money up-front, no questions asked and you'll never see your problem again; however, I'll require you to transport your product to our processing plant."

"Ok, no problem on the transportation; but, how far and do you really have enough space for all of our, eh, by-products."

"Our facility is located just east of Minnesota, and don't worry about room, there's over 54,000 square miles of space over there."

"I understand you, say, isn't there some recent legal stuff going on over there that could be a problem? We don't want to have this stuff come back to haunt us later."

"No problem, I just talked to my friend Mr. Ground Water and he told me that nothing new has happened over there since the Vikings tried to win a Super Bowl."

"Is your friend reliable?"

"Sure, Mr. Ground Water is always up on just about everything."

Well, Mr. GW will want to attend the next MGWA meeting and get more up-to-date when he hears about the implementation of Wisconsin's ground water law and what impacts it will have on waste disposal in that vast "54,000 square mile facility". If you too have not heard Wisconsin's Act 410 was signed into law by Gov. Earl in May 1984, and will become effective on May 11, 1985. There are many parts to the law such as ground water standards, compensation for contaminated private wells, ground water monitoring, laboratory certification, and an environmental repair fund. Act 410 requires the Wisconsin DNR to determine ground water quality standards and preventive action limits; procedures for determining if a standard has been exceeded; application of standards; and the Department's response if a standard is exceeded. As I understand the process, the rule has past the first set of public hearings. As in all rules, once they are finalized, they are set and difficult to change. I recommend that you attend the winter meeting (details inside on page 2) and learn about this legislation and how the Wisconsin staff will be finalizing the development and implementation of this law. See you at the meeting.

I would like to welcome new directors to the MGWA. Jerry Rick was elected to the position of Vice-President; Jim Start is the new Secretary, and Kevin Powers is our new editor. Kevin is currently re-vamping the format of the newsletter and welcomes any suggestions you might have. Jim Eulberg has volunteered to write a column on legislative activities and Jeanette Leete has also agreed to assist with the organization and printing of the newsletter. Next time we will hear about Ms. Ground Water.

MGWA WINTER MEETING - MARCH 6, 1985

Mr. Kevin Kessler
 Water Quality Planning Division
 Wisconsin Dept. Natural Resources

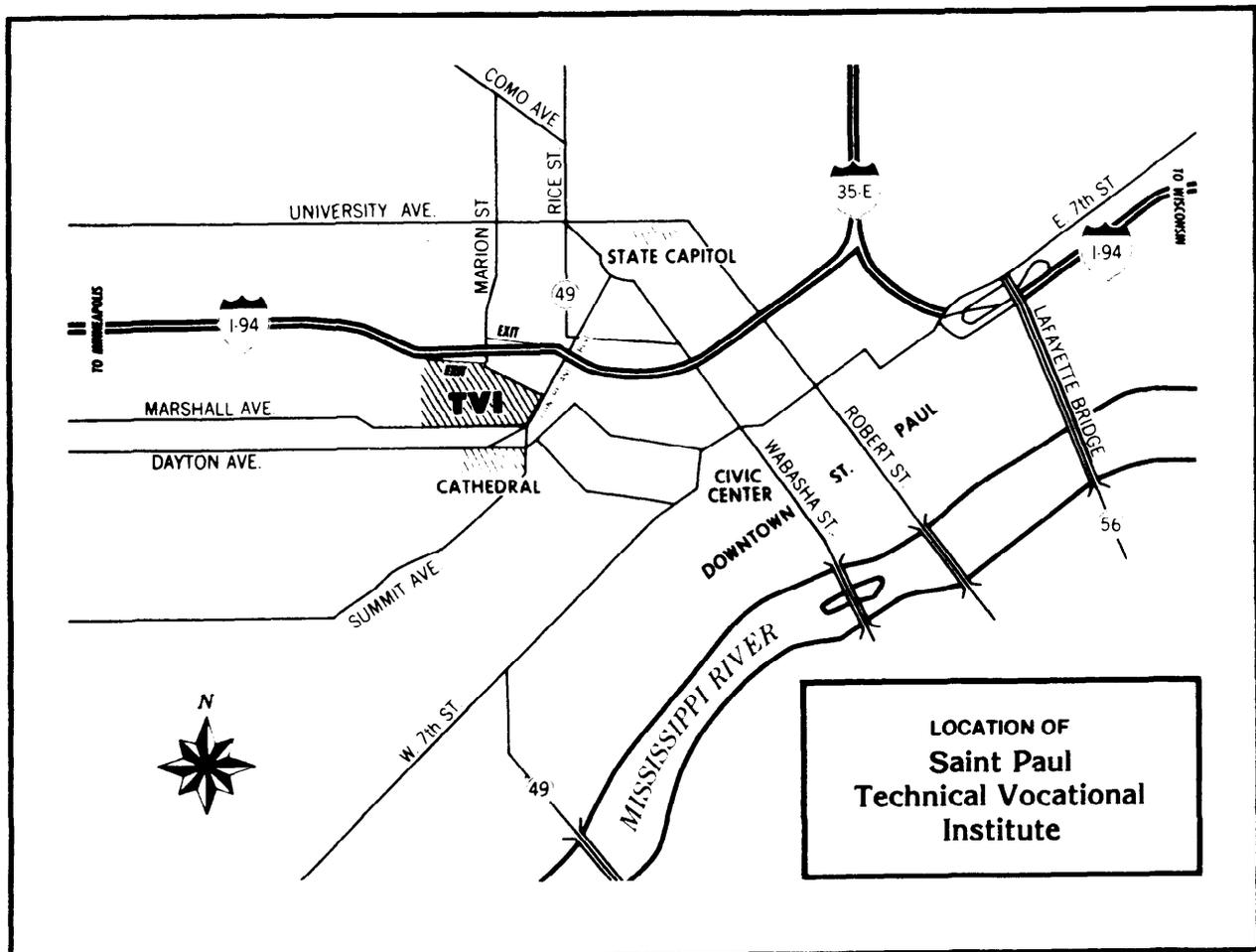
"Implementation of Wisconsin's Ground Water Law"

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: St. Paul Technical Vocational Institute Auditorium

Mr. Kessler will be discussing the development and implementation of ground water quality standards required as part of the recent legislation in Wisconsin.

Parking at the VoTech is available on the north and west sides of the building. Some street parking is available, please watch for tow away zones. The auditorium is on the south central part of building, enter on the south side.



WATER WELL CONFERENCE

If you think a water well is little more than a hole in the ground...If you always wanted to know the difference between a spudder and a top drive...and if the Well Construction Code has been an enigma...

Here's your opportunity to attend a conference on the design, installation, and inspection of water wells. A one-day course, sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Health, will provide basic information on the nature and occurrence of groundwater, well and water system equipment and installation, and methods of assuring a safe water supply.

The conference will be held at the North Hennepin Community College, General Instruction ("G") Building, Brooklyn Park, on Wednesday, March 20, 1985. The conference fee is \$15.00 per person. Registration must be received by Tuesday, March 12, 1985. The fee includes the one-day conference, lunch, and a copy of a water well reference manual prepared for the course.

For further information, please contact Gunilla Montgomery at (612) 623-5326.

Association of Women Geoscientists
Organizational Meeting

March 8, 1985 - 12:30

Green Mill Pizza
Grand Ave., St. Paul

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Jim Eulberg

Ground water legislation typically does not get headlines in the news, but every session bills are introduced and some are passed with little public note. I will attempt to keep you informed about those bills that concern ground water and its quality.

The session has just begun, and things usually start slowly. The bills that concern ground water almost always start in an Agriculture and Natural Resources subcommittee and go on from there. Already introduced this session by Sen. DeCraemer (DFL-Ghent) is a bill to recodify the existing drainage law (MN St. Chapters 105-106).

Sen. Merriam (DFL-Coon Rapids) has introduced a bill to alter Minnesota's existing superfund law. The changes are being made in an attempt to address some of the insurance industries concerns without removing the teeth of the current law.

A statewide water management plan is to be introduced by Sen. Peterson (DFL-Wyoming). This bill will probably require each county outside the seven county metro area to have surface and ground water plans that fit the guidelines of the State Water Resources Board. (The seven county metro area already has an existing law governing their compliance.)

ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN
MGWA TODAY!

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

by Tom Clark

Concern over leaking underground storage tanks - LUST is the amusing acronym - is being spurred by two factors: the growing incidence of failures as the nation's inventory of underground tanks, mostly steel, grows older and more susceptible to corrosion, and the staggering scope of the potential problem. Contamination of ground water by leaking active and abandoned underground storage sites has become a problem of increasing urgency in Minnesota as well. Cities known to be affected by tank leaks are Adrian, Askov, Paynesville, Wadena, Watertown, and Willmar. The Emergency Response Team of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) estimates that it responds to approximately 100 leaks yearly. There are an estimated 4,000 underground gasoline storage areas in Minnesota.

An MPCA study identified 193 reported underground spills or leaks between 1979 and 1981 with a known loss of 142,300 gallons of product. In 75 percent of these cases, the amount of product loss was unknown. A loss of only one gallon of gasoline per day can contaminate the water supply of 50,000 people.

Studies in Michigan and Illinois indicate that 25 to 50 percent of all underground tanks may be leaking. If this is true for Minnesota, there are an estimated 1,000 to 2,000 underground gasoline storage tanks which may currently be leaking.

Leakage from underground tanks is potentially far more damaging than that from above ground storage for two reasons. First there is no containment structure as with many above ground tanks and second, the

volume of liquid which can be lost from an underground storage tank is not limited to the volume of the tank. If the leak is small enough and the turnover of the liquid in the tank is rapid enough, the leak may continue unnoticed for a long time until it manifests itself in contaminated wells, basements, or surface waters. A large volume of product may be released which may contaminate a large area prior to being noticed.

The newly enacted amendments to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) address the problem of leaking underground tanks by establishing a framework and timetable for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct a tank inventory and develop regulatory standards.

The MPCA is developing LUST legislation which is specific to Minnesota to clarify certain parts of the federal law as they may apply to Minnesota as well as to provide a clear mandate to the MPCA in the following areas: 1) to conduct an inventory of active, abandoned and new tanks; and 2) to develop rules to address leaking tanks and to prescribe design, installation, inspection, and monitoring requirements for underground tanks. On January 9, 1985, the Legislative Committee of the MPCA Board adopted a resolution urging the Minnesota Legislature to pass legislation clarifying MPCA's authority to conduct an inventory of underground tanks and to develop rules to establish safeguards necessary to protect human health and the environment. MPCA staff are preparing a final draft to be submitted to the Legislature for consideration by the 1985 Legislative Session, now in progress.

UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL WATER WELL ASSOCIATION (NWWA)

The NWWA's Ground Water Technology Division recently polled its membership regarding a name change. By a large majority (1849-296), members voted to change the name to the Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers to better reflect the activities and objectives of this professional group. The group originated as part of NWWA 22 years ago when it was called the Technical Division. In 1978, it became the Ground Water Technology Division. With over 4000 members, the new association now represents the largest group of ground water professionals in the country.

In addition to the name change, the board of directors of the association recently voted to support development of a certification program for ground water professionals at the national level (see discussion by Kelton D. Barr in the Spring, 1983 Minnesota Ground Water Association Newsletter, V. 2, no. 3, pp. 1-3). Although details of the program have yet to be worked out, the board anticipates that applicants will be required to submit a dossier of evidence of professionalism including reports, publications, bibliographies, resumes, and transcripts. No test will be administered. Each applicant's dossier will be reviewed by a five-person certification committee which will meet quarterly.

The board intends to complete a certification plan for presentation to the full membership for comment during the spring of 1985. A final

revised plan is to be completed during the summer and approved officially for implementation at NWWA's annual meeting in Baltimore, September 9-11, 1985. The title proposed for those achieving certification is "Certified Ground Water Professional". MGWA members with comments or questions on the certification program may wish to contact the chairman of the new Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers' board of directors: Mr. Donald Keech, Michigan Department of Health, 3500 N. Logan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48909.

A final note regarding NWWA activities for 1985 which may affect MGWA members: a NWWA short course, "Ground Water Modeling Without Advanced Mathematics" has tentatively been scheduled for July 29 - August 1, 1985 in Minneapolis. The registration fee for NWWA members is \$550. More information may be obtained from NWWA.

GROUND WATER CONFERENCE - MORRIS

A conference addressing groundwater issues in West Central Minnesota will be held on the University of Minnesota, Morris campus in the Science and Mathematics Building on March 28, 1985. Speakers will address both general and specific aspects of ground water occurrence and flow, ground water resources, ground water contamination, and water use and supply. Previous conferences held in Brainerd and Thief River Falls were very well attended and received. For additional information, contact Tom Mahoney, Continuing Education and Extension, University of Minnesota, Morris, (612)589-2211, ex. 6402

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Gretchen Sabel, Treasurer
MN Pollution Control Agency
(612) 296-7318

Tom Clark, Membership
MN Pollution Control Agency
(612) 296-7791

1985 MGWA NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE**Spring newsletter**

April 12-Deadline.
(Material to Kevin Powers)
April 19-Content ready to print.
April 26-Dispatched by mail.
May 3-Received by members.

Summer Newsletter

July 12-Deadline.
July 19-Content ready to print.
July 26-Dispatched by mail.
August 2-Received by members.

Fall Newsletter

October 11-Deadline.
October 18-Content ready to print.
October 25-Dispatched by mail.
November 1-Received by members.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The MGWA invites all members to send in abstracts describing current research or ongoing projects. You are also invited to send in any comments, thoughts, or miscellaneous ramblings in any way related to ground water and Minnesota.

This material will be published in the Spring newsletter and must be submitted by April 12, 1985.

This is your newsletter so we want to hear from you!

Material for the MGWA Newsletter can be mailed to:

MGWA
PO Box 3362
St. Paul, MN 55165

or to:

Kevin Powers
Leggette, Brashears &
Graham, Inc.
2780 Snelling Ave. N.
St. Paul, MN 55113
612-636-1375

KARST CONFERENCE

A three state conference on karst ground water problems will be held April 16 and 17, 1985 at the Midway Moter Lodge in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. For a brochure and information contact Loni Kemp, The Minnesota Project, Southeast Office, Box 4, Preston, MN 559655 or call (507) 765-2700.

The event is co-sponsored by the Iowa Geological Survey, Iowa Ground Water Assoc., Iowa State University Coop Extension, Minnesota Environmental Education Board, Iowa Soil Conservation Service, Southern Minnesota Rivers Basin, Wisconsin DNR, Wisconsin Environmental Decade, and MGWA.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

At Johnson Screen, Al Smith is now with the Technical Services Group in the Water Well Screen Dept. and Tom Davis is the new MN Field Representative.

A local chapter of the Association for Women Geoscientists is being organized by Pat Blumgren (296-0436) and Jane Willard (920-0655). This organization is open to both men and women. For additional info contact Pat or Jane.

Mike Burke has been made a Vice-President and Principal of Leggette, Brashears & Graham, Inc. Kristin Kennedy has joined the firm as a Hydrogeologic Technician.

Steve Vanderboom, Pres. Pace Laboratories, will present a talk "Techniques for Ground-Water Monitoring" at the Waste Engineers Conference 2/25/85; Bill O'Conner, also with Pace Labs, will present a talk "Hazardous Waste Compliance Approach" at the Occupational Safety and Health Meeting 2/13/85.

Derric Iles and Jim Prieur have joined Soil Exploration Co. as Project Managers.

Terry Swor has been appointed a Vice-President of Twin City Testing.

Bay West, Inc. have moved into new offices at 800 N. Grotto in St. Paul. Jim Ortman and Tim Lindgren have joined the firm as Hazardous Materials Specialists.

Are you working on an interesting project? Welcoming a new person to the ground water community? Have you been promoted (or demoted)? Drop a line to the editor for use in this column and keep your peers informed.

WISCONSIN GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION MEETING

February 21 - 9:00 to 4:00
Stevens Point, Wisconsin
Century Building

\$5.00 for members
\$15.00 for non-members

WGWA
P.O. Box 263
Antigo, WI 54409

Congratulations to new officers:
Jim DuBois - President
Bob Brobst - Vice President

NOTICE

An envelope containing several checks was lost in transfer in the month of December. If you sent a check in December, please contact Gretchen Sabel at (612) 296-7318 to make sure that your check is not among the missing.

NEW MGWA MEMBERS 4th QUARTER 1984

Jim Bakke, Soil Exploration Co., St. Paul; Todd Christenson, Soil Exploration Co., St. Paul; R.J. Corbett, R.J. Corbett & Assoc., Minneapolis; Dr. S.C. Csallany, Environmental Hydrology Corp., St. Paul; James E. Eulberg, Engineer, Ham Lake; Craig O. Evans, Student, Minneapolis; Derric Iles, Soil Exploration Co., St. Paul; Michael L. Lustig, Patzig Testing Labs, Des Moines, IA; Suzanne Maeder, MN Land Management Information Center, St. Paul; Jonathan Nedved, W. St. Paul; Robert C. Nielsen, Student, Wirona; Mike Westerheim, Soil Exploration Co., St. Paul; Dave Williams, Hydrogeologist, St. Cloud.

MGWA FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1984

Cash on hand, Dec.31,1983 (Minnesota Federal Savings)		\$2019
Deposits		\$4904
membership dues	\$2020	
seminar/field trip fees	\$2180	
seminar sponsors and exhibits	\$455	
advertising in newsletter	\$160	
interest	\$90	
Withdrawals		\$5930
newsletter printing	\$839	
other printing	\$454	
meetings	\$3755	
mediation talk	\$100	
expert witness seminar	\$237	
ATES talk	\$73	
August seminar	\$2803	
October field trip	\$490	
Dec.joint meeting	\$43	
durable goods	\$444	
(pamphlets,tapes,signs,bulletin board,envelopes,pictures)		
postage	\$436	
Cash on hand, Dec.31,1984		\$993

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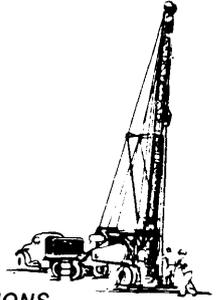
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