



BDM
RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Quality On Tap!

October 2021 | Volume 17, Issue 2



**EFFORTS TO CONSERVE
& IMPROVE WATER
RESOURCES IN THE CITY
OF SIOUX FALLS**

**WHO'S WATERING THE NEXT CROP
OF RURAL WATER LEADERS?**

DANR RECONIZES BDM FOR DRINKING WATER COMPLIANCE

FROM THE MANAGER

Rodney Kappes
Manager, BDM Rural Water System, Inc.



GREETINGS FROM THE TEAM AT BDM:

The weather has sure been a challenge for many over the last several months. The amount of water BDM sold in May was a record for May, with 44.5 million gallons sold. For June, not only was it a record for June, but also an all-time monthly record of over 50 million gallons sold. Depending on how water demand fluctuates over the rest of the year, BDM could more than likely see a record amount of water sold for the year.

The system performed very well during this period due to all the investment and upgrades completed to the system over the past several years. Without these upgrades, BDM would not have been able to meet this demand spike. For the system to handle these types of peak demands and the growth we expect over the next several years will require additional investment in capacity. We are in the early stages with the board and engineering team on future investment needed in plant capacity, pipeline infrastructure, more reservoir capacity, and possible redundancy in critical aspects of the system. Depending on the options available, we expect to start implementing some of these projects in the next one-to-five-year period.

One of the items I discussed in my last column was the issue of not being able to order any new PVC pipe. It appears we can now order some pipe; however, the supplier has no idea when it will be available, and the price on a particular size of pipe would be 230% of pre-Texas freeze pricing. We have also seen pricing increases of 10-20% on other system parts. We expect pricing to continue to come down some over time; however, how much is uncertain. These price increases can be absorbed into BDM's financials to a point. The pipe issue will continue to affect new and existing customer hook-up requests.

Our change out of 2G to 4G meters is going well. We had 980 to change out and have 136 left to change out before December 2022. If you get a call from an operator to change out your meter, this is more than likely the reason for the change out. If the meter is in the house, someone will need to be present for the operator to enter the residence. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this process.

The operators Darin, Jim, Ryan, and Jared, have done an exceptional job dealing with any system issues that have occurred during this peak usage. There are times on weekends or during the night where a system component fails, and they are alerted to the issue. They go into action to resolve the issue without any customer interruptions most times. If you happen to cross paths with one of them in the field, a comment of appreciation would be well deserved.

We thank you for your business, and please be careful during the upcoming harvest season. God Bless.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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BDM MEMBERSHIP CORNER



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BDM's 42nd Annual Meeting

Monday, March 28th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm

*Director positions in
Districts 3, 4, and 6 are up for election.*

BILLING PACKETS

Billing packets will be mailed in December to all customers not signed up for Auto-Pay.

If you haven't received yours by the end of December, please call Shannon at 605-448-5417.

The BDM Rural Water System offices will be closed:

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 11TH
NATIVE AMERICAN DAY**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH
VETERANS DAY**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH
THANKSGIVING DAY**

As always, if you have an emergency, please call the office at 605-448-5417 or toll free at 1-800-448-9236. You will then receive a message with the telephone number of the employee on call. Please call that person for assistance in an emergency only.

BE A LEAK SEEKER!

With over 2,300 miles of pipeline, occasional leaks are going to happen in the BDM system. Not only are leaks an inconvenience for our members, they are a costly expense to your water system. If you see a possible BDM leak, please call the office to report it right away. The first caller to report a verified leak will receive a \$30.00 credit on their next water bill.

BDM RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INC. RATE SCHEDULE (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020)

General User Rates:

Debt Service monthly payment: \$35.00 per hookup per month for member-read meters, \$36.00 for cellular meters
\$6.70 per thousand gallons for the first 2,000 gallons used per month
\$5.70 per thousand gallons for the next 5,000 gallons used per month
\$4.70 per thousand gallons for the next 8,000 gallons used per month
\$3.70 per thousand gallons for over 15,000 gallons used per month
Add \$1.00 to the Monthly Totals Below if Hookup has a Cellular Meter

Gallons Used Per Month	Monthly Total	Gallons Used Per Month	Monthly Total
1,000	41.70	25,000	151.50
2,000	48.40	30,000	170.00
3,000	54.10	35,000	188.50
4,000	59.80	40,000	207.00
5,000	65.50	45,000	225.50
6,000	71.20	50,000	244.00
7,000	76.90	55,000	262.50
8,000	81.60	60,000	281.00
9,000	86.30	65,000	299.50
10,000	91.00	70,000	318.00
11,000	95.70	75,000	336.50
12,000	100.40	80,000	355.00
13,000	105.10	85,000	373.50
14,000	109.80	90,000	392.00
15,000	114.50	95,000	410.50
16,000	118.20	100,000	429.00
17,000	121.90	125,000	521.50
18,000	125.60	150,000	614.00
19,000	129.30	175,000	706.50
20,000	133.00	200,000	799.00

ALL USERS:

No water is included in the debt service payment. All water used is in addition to the monthly debt service payment. Payments are due by the 10th of the month. A \$10.00 fee applies to all payments received after that date. Service is subject to disconnection if payment is not received by the 15th.

AFTER HOURS & WEEKENDS WATER EMERGENCIES:

Please call the BDM Office at 605-448-5417 or 1-800-448-9236 & a message will direct you to the employee on call.



SOURCE WATER CONTAMINATION

Can you help the kids sort out all of the pollutants and contaminants before they get into the water supply? (It's really a game!) Here's how to play:

DIRECTIONS:

1. First cover each item with a penny
2. Take turns with a friend removing two pennies at a time. If you uncover two things that are the same (like two plastic bottles), keep the pennies and take another turn. If you uncover two different things, cover them back up and let your friend have a turn. Whoever has the most pennies when the scene is cleared wins the game!

What is Source Water Contamination?

Water systems provide communities with safe water that is critical for healthy living. That water is sourced from one of two areas: Surface water or groundwater. Surface water is more easily contaminated but can generally recover from pollution incidents much easier and more quickly.

The threat of contamination comes from both nature and human activities. Natural contaminants can come in many forms, such as floods, saltwater intrusion, or fire. Human threats result from a variety of activities.

Water systems work with landowners, local and state governments to reduce the risk of contamination to their source water. Water Systems, in conjunction with other professionals, identify priority areas for protection. Once the protection area is identified, they take measures to reduce the risk of contamination. Often these efforts are community-based and are a combination of zoning regulations and education.





WHO'S WATERING THE NEXT CROP OF RURAL COOPERATIVE LEADERS?

October is “National Cooperative Month,” and you have reason to celebrate because many services you rely on every day like water and electricity are provided by your local rural cooperatives.

Rural co-ops are powering South Dakota communities by keeping the lights on and the water flowing! But is anyone watering the next crop of rural cooperative leaders?

A new program launched by the Billie Sutton Leadership Institute seeks to grow a new generation of rural leaders and encourage involvement in local cooperatives including rural water systems providing essential services to South Dakota communities.

Rural POWER is a year-long leadership development program that is building a pipeline of rural leaders ready to step up and take on leadership positions in rural cooperatives. The program will help keep the water running in small-town South Dakota for generations to come by investing in leaders ready to serve others and give back to their communities and the rural cooperatives powering our future.

Rural POWER participants engage in educational leadership training opportunities emphasizing community building and serving their neighbors while learning from cooperative leaders in the state like South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Executive Director Kurt Pfeifle.

Leadership Institute founder Billie Sutton explained, “There is a clear and urgent need to grow the next generation of rural cooperative leaders dedicated to providing crucial services to their communities and the people who live in

them. That’s the need *Rural POWER* is working to fill by exposing emerging leaders to opportunities for service in rural cooperatives.”

Institute Executive Director Suzie Jones Pranger said, “The mission of the Billie Sutton Leadership Institute has always been preparing the next generation of leaders to build a stronger South Dakota in communities both big and small. The new *Rural POWER* program will help ensure the next generation of rural South Dakotans are considering the possibilities of serving their friends and neighbors on rural cooperative boards.”

Jones Pranger recounts her own family’s connection to their local cooperatives: “Growing up on my family farm near Burke I knew our power and water came from local cooperatives, and I knew my family had a legacy of service to our neighbors through my grandfather’s position on the electrical cooperative board. But what I never considered growing up is the need for the next generation to become active in co-ops to continue to power our rural communities and the South Dakota way of life.”

“We’re working to water a new crop of rural cooperative leaders.” Sutton said. “The *Rural POWER* initiative is people focused, community minded, and about re-imagining rural South Dakota through servant leadership. *Rural POWER* leaders will gain the knowledge and enthusiasm to re-energize their communities.”

Learn more about the *Rural POWER* program at suttonleadership.org. Applications for next year’s cohort open in Spring 2022.



Water Conservation in the Cattle Yard

This past summer brought weeks of continuous high heat and humidity with no rain for relief. Understandably so, many cattle producers turned to sprinkling their cattle to keep them cool. Unfortunately many producers turned to “lawn sprinkling heads” better designed to water the lawn than to efficiently cool their livestock. The end result were water systems straining under the record water demands and wet, muddy cattle-yards.

Although South Dakota generally suffers less than the southern states in terms of temperature, humidity and lack of a breeze; with our lack of shade trees it can be difficult for cattle to avoid heat stress and find a cool place to find relief from the sun.

Rather than rely on the inefficiency of lawn sprinklers, there are other more effective products available designed specifically to keep livestock cool without wasting precious water: evaporative cooling and high pressure fogging systems.

Evaporative Cooling Systems

Evaporative cooling involves a sprinkler system that wets the cattle, and also contains a fan to blow air across the animals’ bodies to evaporate the water and cool the cattle. Such a system works very well but the amount of water sprinkled should be minimized to avoid waste as well as create foot problems for the cattle.

Sprinkling without fans, or just fans without sprinklers will not result in an effective evaporative cooling system, especially in the hottest, most humid part of summer. In order to do the system justice, some design considerations should be made. A 15-minute adjustable timer and an electrical solenoid valve

should be integrated into the system to control the length of the sprinkling cycles, as should a thermostat to shut the system on and off dependent on ambient temperatures.

Cattle should be sprinkled from 30 seconds to around three minutes – enough to soak the cows to the skin, but not enough to run off. Fans should run continuously during the sprinkling cycles. Time between the sprinkling cycles should be adjusted to match the cooling needs and avoid “over watering” the area.

High Pressure Fogging Systems

Research has demonstrated that a high-pressure fogger system of at least 200psi is comparable to the cooling effectiveness of a fan and sprinkler system. A high-pressure fogger is essentially a fogger nozzle connected to the front of a fan – cooling the air instead of wetting the cow. Water is applied to the air where it vaporizes, absorbing the heat and cooling the air. This cooler air is then blown across the cattle to cool them.

The components in such a fogging system include a high-pressure pump and pressure regulators capable of 200psi. The foggers should be hooked to a thermostat, run continuously, and have the ability to automatically shut off when the ambient temperature drops below 78 degrees F. Each fan/fogger nozzle will require a water supply of at least 12 gallons per hour. This method of cooling will generally use less water than the evaporative cooling system.

For more information on cooling your cattle while conserving your water in times of peak demand, contact your county extension agent or local conservation district.

A Brief Look at Water Projects of the Minnehaha Conservation District

By Alina Krone-Hedman, Urban Conservation Education Coordinator

When people think of the Minnehaha Conservation District (MCD), most individuals tend to think of the work we do with trees. However, on top of that vital conservation service, there is a broad spectrum of projects we are involved in, with many having a focus around water.

Most notably, MCD works diligently every year with an amazing committee and volunteers to put on the Sioux Empire Water Festival for local fourth grade students. Typically, this event is held over a two-day period every spring at the University of Sioux Falls. During these busy days, we work to provide a wide-range of water activities and classroom presentations to over 2,000 youth. With the unique situation this past year, we embraced the challenge of not being able to meet in person through supplying our festival virtually. This required some creativity, but resulted in a variety of quality presentations and hundreds (over 700 views between our 17 presentations) of classrooms participating in the learning opportunity. Moving forward for this coming year, we are looking into our options to provide the best educational experience possible.

Other areas we are working in involve planting native grasses, with over 725 acres planted this year. One of the types of the plantings that make up a significant part of that number are riparian plantings, as MCD regularly does work in riparian areas in partnership with the Big Sioux River Project (BSRP). Having native plantings near waterways helps improve water quality through slowing runoff coming in, allowing the settling and uptake of a variety of pollutants. These plantings are often done near cropland and can also assist in erosion control.

Within the last year, MCD has also been venturing into new venues to educate individuals on green infrastructure, or practices that mimic natural processes to reduce stormwater. Several webinar series were given on subjects like rain gardens, alternatives to traditional gardens that direct water to a yard depression traditionally filled with native plantings. Both series were advertised through print media and online, with the first happening throughout February and March, and second done this past July. These subjects were chosen as a result of a survey conducted earlier in the year where people discussed a barrier they had in wanting to try one of these practices was needing information of where to begin. It is hoped to continue having regular webinar series throughout the year, along with providing in-person workshops around these subjects in the future.

MCD, as another way to continue its part in conservation, also works with the city of Sioux Falls through the Urban Conservation Education Coordinator position. Through this work, MCD is assisting in several ongoing projects, including the Central Sioux Falls Green Infrastructure Improvements Project and the Sustainability Master Plan (SMP). With the position being newly developed in 2020, it is exciting to see what other possibilities are to come.

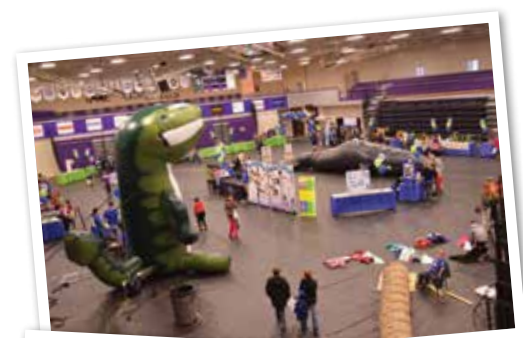


Exhibit Hall at the Sioux Empire Water Festival held at the University of Sioux Falls



Poster from MCD July webinar series.



Mary Lou Lacey of NRCS gives her virtual presentation on why trees love water.

EFFORTS TO CONSERVE AND IMPROVE WATER RESOURCES IN THE CITY OF SIOUX FALLS

By Holly Meier, City of Sioux Falls Sustainability Coordinator

In the City of Sioux Falls, water is top of mind for many this year. With below normal rainfall and above normal temperatures, the Big Sioux River has a drastically reduced flow of water compared to recent years. The severe drought affecting not only Sioux Falls but much of the state sheds a brighter light on the importance of water conservation. And this is something the City has been working on for years and continues to prioritize.

Leading the conservation effort is the Water Purification Department, which has been treating and distributing about 43 million gallons of water per day to the almost 200,000 residents of Sioux Falls. Since 2003, the department estimates it has reduced water use by 5 billion gallons through its Water Conservation Program that provides rebates on low-flow toilets and high-efficiency washing machines (latter now ended). Other efforts include partnering with community groups to provide rain barrel making workshops to the public. Rain barrels help people utilize rain water for their plants and yard and thereby reduce the amount of water they draw from the tap for these purposes. These types of measures are especially important in a drought year to help ease water demand.

The City of Sioux Falls has dedicated programs to improve water quality as well. The City has two Environmental Analysts whose focus is to provide proper oversight of the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) Permit. Among their list of duties is monitoring water quality along the Big Sioux River to better understand the impact of City drainage and checking all outfalls from the City system into

the Big Sioux during periods of dry weather to catch any illicit discharges.

The City is also a partner on the Big Sioux River Project (BSRP), a multijurisdictional collaboration aimed at restoring and protecting the Big Sioux. The City's main role to date involves providing financial assistance to the BSRP in their

efforts to push producers to join the Riparian Area Management (RAM) and Seasonal Riparian Area Management (SRAM) programs. This provides the opportunity for the City to invest in water quality improvements upstream in the Big Sioux River watershed. It also demonstrates one example of the City working to tackle the issue of water quality in the most holistic way possible.

An upcoming and exciting water quality initiative for the City involves green infrastructure, which is an approach to water management that utilizes nature-based solutions to capture rain where it falls and cut down on the amount of flooding and polluted runoff that can reach the Big Sioux River. Green infrastructure provides numerous environmental, economic, and health benefits that traditional gray

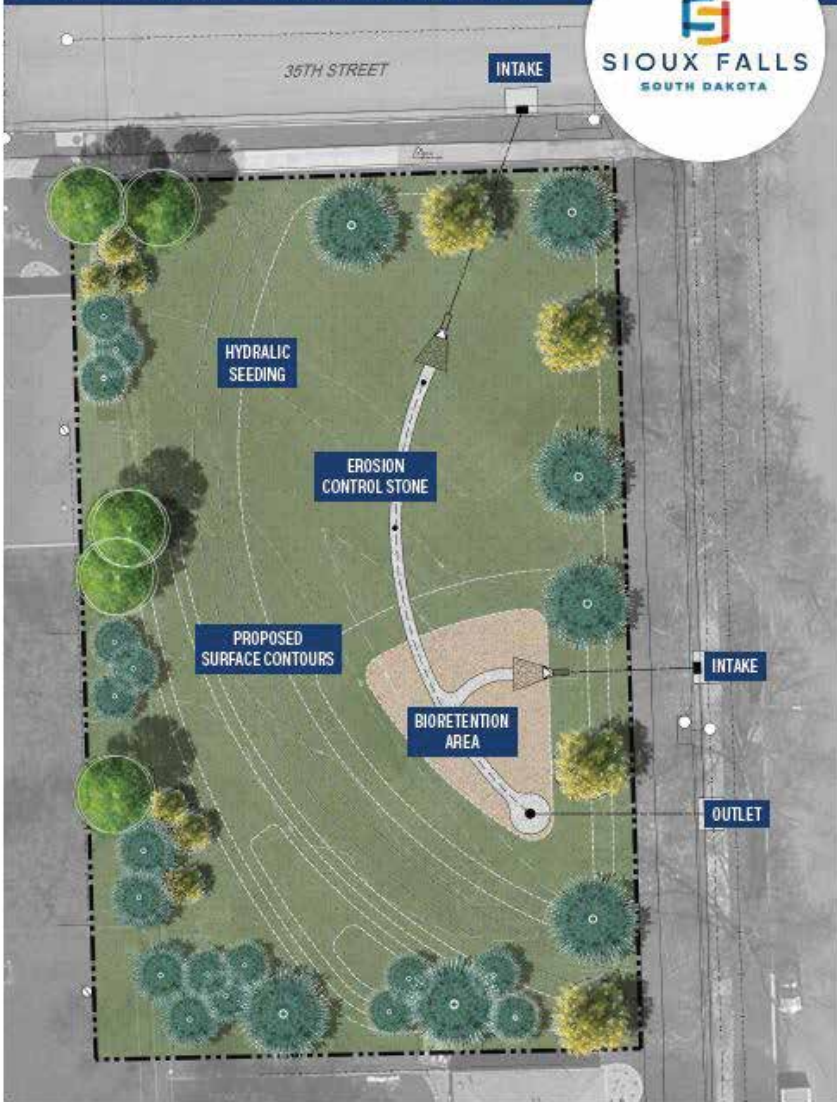
infrastructure (e.g., storm drains, concrete, and pipes) usually does not. Benefits include recharging groundwater, supporting wildlife and pollinator habitat, providing opportunity for recreation and education, supporting mental and physical health, and promoting community identity and a sense of place.

The Central Sioux Falls Green Infrastructure Improvements project will be the City's largest green infrastructure project to date. The project is designed to improve drainage and stormwater management, stormwater quality, and site



Rain barrel made in one of the Sioux Falls workshops

35TH + DULUTH CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN



aesthetics, and will serve as a place to educate the public on green infrastructure benefits and opportunities. The City has engaged with the community on this project, finalized design, and groundbreaking on the project will be this fall. The City aims to continue implementing more green infrastructure practices on City-owned property and demonstrate their benefits to the community with the ultimate goal of broader community-wide adoption.

In order to reach water quality and conservation goals, community education and engagement is imperative. One of the most highly visible programs from the City is the annual Downtown Storm Inlet Art Project. Local artists' paintings on the downtown storm drains draw attention to the storm drainage system and educate the public that stormwater runoff in Sioux Falls goes into the Big Sioux River with little to no treatment. This helps strengthen the "only rain to drain" message so as a community we can further protect our river.

Finally, the City has also engaged the public in the development of its Sustainability Master Plan (SMP) that is currently underway. In this process, we have heard the concern about and importance of the Big Sioux River and water resources to the community. The SMP will be finalized in 2022 and will include new strategies that will build upon the City's dedicated efforts to improve and protect our water resources.

The conceptual site plan for one of the properties in the Central Sioux Falls Green Infrastructure Improvements project.



Stormwater inlet painted in 2021



RANDALL COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

On January 17, 1972, an organizational meeting of the twenty-one member Steering Committee was held in Lake Andes. Randall Community Water District (RCWD) became the new water district for Charles Mix County. Initial funds were given in the form of a loan from the State Planning Agency.

A motion was passed at the December 19, 1972 meeting to begin the Randall Community Water District project. The district boundaries were to include all of Charles Mix County, a portion of Douglas County south of Highway 44, and parts of Aurora, Bon Homme, Brule and Hutchinson Counties as needed upon signup. The engineering firms of Bartlett & West, and Foster Van Gundy and Associates were hired to complete the design of the Randall Community Water District project.

A resolution was passed on April 4, 1974 with the purpose of forming a rural water district to provide and distribute water

to rural homes, pastures, and cities in Charles Mix and surrounding counties. The project was divided into three phases. Water for the first phase was purchased from the city of Lake Andes. Once operational, Phase I of the project served 148 rural customers.

The government site of the former radar station near Pickstown was obtained to build storage with adequate elevation to insure proper water pressure, and a site near the city of Pickstown was secured for a pumping facility for Phase II of the RCWD project. Phase II would supply water to the southern portion of Charles Mix County and portions of surrounding counties.

June 1975 brought approval to negotiate for the purchase of land south of Platte as the location of the Phase III Treatment plant. This plant would serve Platte and the surrounding areas in northern Charles Mix, Douglas, Aurora and Brule Counties. The total original cost of RCWD was \$9,350,000.

RANDALL COMMUNITY WATER DISTRICT

A resolution was signed in October to obtain water from Lake Francis Case and enter into an agreement with the US Department of the Army Corps of Engineers to purchase water for the purpose of treatment and distribution to its customers.

Over the years Randall has grown from 148 to 2,865 rural customers, including 15 bulk users. The water system now has two intake structures, two water treatment plants and fifteen storage facilities (tanks). Water sales for 2020 totaled 1 billion gallons.

As the need for potable water has expanded, so has the district. In an effort to maintain its service to all customers, lines have been extended to the north to serve Davison and Aurora-Brule Rural Water Systems. Three new transmission tanks have been constructed and both treatment plants have been upgraded; the most current upgrade was completed on the Platte Treatment Plant which now utilizes a state-of-the-art membrane filtering system.

Providing quality, affordable drinking water to rural customers and communities remains the goal of the Board of Directors and staff of Randall Community Water District.



DIRECTORS:

David Meyerink – Chairman
Scott Holbeck – Vice-Chairman
Christopher Slaba – Secretary
John Carda – Treasurer
Tom Travis – Director
Joel Lau – Director
Trent Beltman – Director
Vance Qualm – Director
Mike Kuhlman – Director
Eric DeWaard – Director

STAFF:

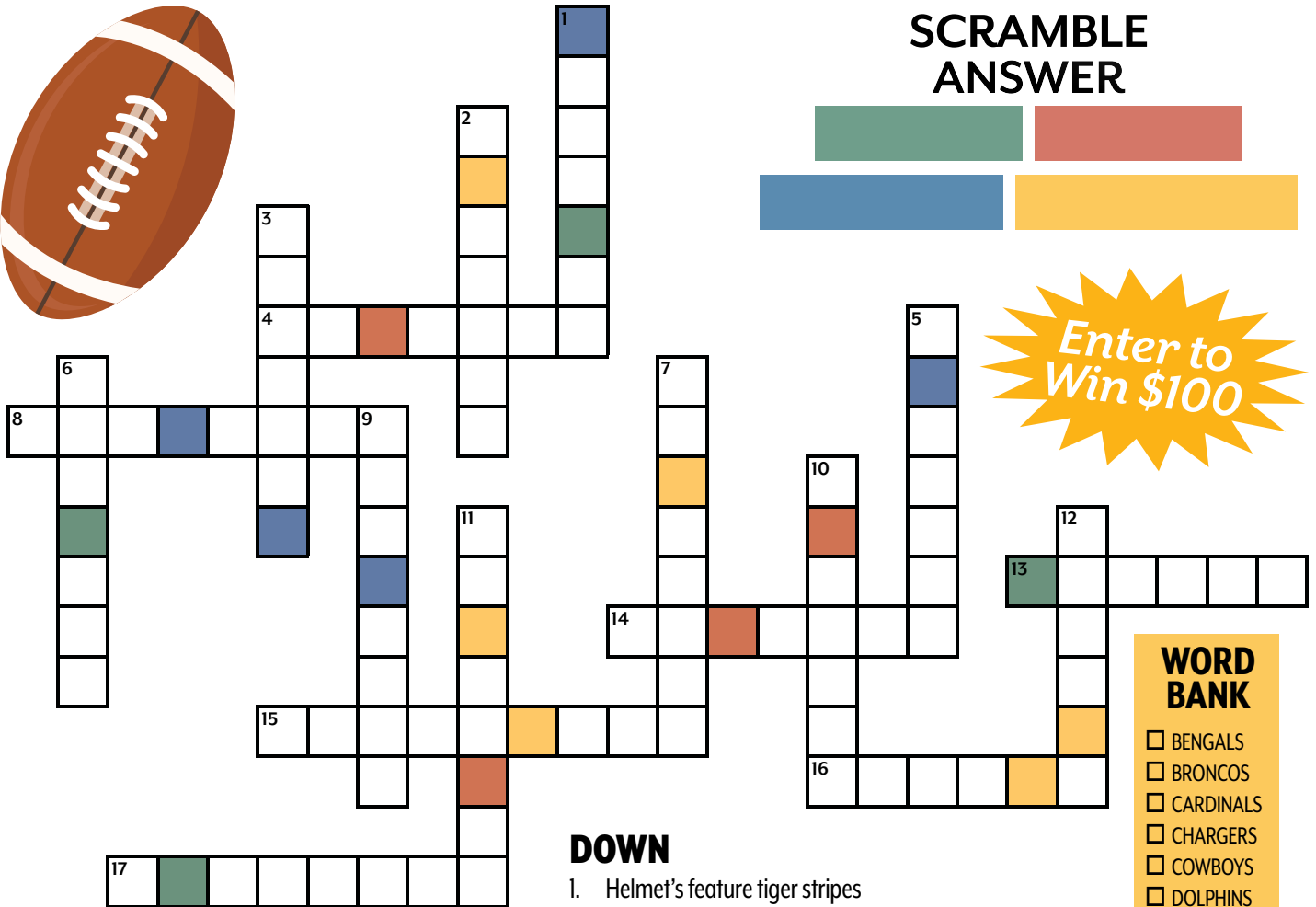
Scott Pick – General Manager
Megan Bergin – Chief Financial Officer
Mollie Petrik – Billing Specialist
Becca Qualm – Accounting Assistant
Mason Wright – Distribution Manager
Ricky Bergin – Plant Manager
Jordan Kocer – Electrician-Scada Sup't-Plant Operator
Robert Durham – Plant Operator
Clayton Lau – Scada Operator
Tyler Swanson – Plant Operator
Jason Wright – Plant Operator
Corey DeBey – Distribution Operator
Jeff Podzimek – Distribution Operator
Grant Petrik – Distribution Operator
Jared Swanson – Distribution Operator
Trent Wright – Distribution Operator
Jay Kafka – 811 Line Location Operator

STATISTICS:

Hookups – 2,865
Miles of Pipeline – 3,100
Water Source – Missouri River
Counties Served – Charles Mix and portions of Aurora, Bon Homme, Brule, Douglas, Hutchinson
Towns Served Individual – Dante, Harrison, New Holland, Ravinia
Towns Served Bulk – Armour, Aurora-Brule RWS, Corsica, Davison RWS, Delmont, Fort Randall Casino, Geddes, Greenwood, Lake Andes, Marty, North Wagner Housing, Pickstown, Platte, Wagner, YST Truck Plaza

RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

NFL FOOTBALL TEAMS



SCRAMBLE ANSWER



ACROSS

4. Wealthiest team in the NFL
8. Logo loosely represents the outline of NC and SC.
13. One of two NFL teams to have a marching band – the largest in the NFL
14. Stadium resembles a ship
15. Named for the color of their jerseys
16. Logo features a fleur-de-lis
17. Unofficial mascot is “Boltman”

DOWN

1. Helmet’s feature tiger stripes
2. This Atlanta team is for the birds
3. Major pro team with the smallest home city
5. Named for an animal not native to the team’s home state
6. Moved from California to Nevada
7. Featured in the movie “Ace Ventura, Pet Detective.”
9. Fans like to wave “the terrible towel”
10. Stadium is a mile high
11. Have the longest winning streak in NFL football history
12. Team color is “midnight green.”

WORD BANK

- BENGALS
- BRONCOS
- CARDINALS
- CHARGERS
- COWBOYS
- DOLPHINS
- EAGLES
- FALCONS
- JAGUARS
- PACKERS
- PANTHERS
- PATRIOTS
- RAIDERS
- RAVENS
- SAINTS
- STEELERS
- VIKINGS

RULES: Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or enter online at www.sdarws.com/crossword.html with the correct phrase by October 10, 2021 to be entered into the \$100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Mary Rockino with Kingbrook Rural Water who had the correct phrase of "A CHAMPION IS MADE OF HEART" for July 2021.



COMMON CUSTOMER QUESTIONS

Q: Why is my water milky or have bubbles?

A: When there is a water leak and repair is made to the leak site, air gets into the line and causes the cloudiness and bubbles. If you notice cloudiness in your water, we recommend calling your water provider to see if they had a break in your area. In most cases if the customer runs some water and lets it sit, the water will clear up. There are some cases your provider may need to come and flush the line to remove the air and restore your water back to normal.

Q: Why is my pressure lower than normal?

A: We recommend checking faucets, valves and toilets to make sure nothing is leaking or running. Also check outside hydrants and around the yard to make sure no water is coming up from the ground. If you live on a farm, consider how many livestock tanks are being filled at the same time, especially on a hot day.

Do you have a water softener? If so, put it in the bypass mode and see if your pressure improves. If it does improve, then call to have your water softener serviced.

Q: Is there a way to turn my water pressure up or down?

A: Yes, there is a pressure regulating valve in your meter pit. Your water provider can adjust the pressure to your home from there.

Q: Why is my water cloudy?

A: This is from air being pushed through the line. This occasionally happens after fixing a leak and the water being turned off. Your water is still safe to drink.

Q: How can I check my toilet to see if it is leaking?

A. If you cannot hear or see any water running in your toilet, simply place 15-30 drops of food coloring into the toilet tank – enough to visibly change the color of the water, and then wait 30 minutes. After 30 minutes, check the color of the water in your toilet bowl. If any dye has made it into your toilet bowl, then there's a leak at the flapper or a crack in the overflow tube, and a fix is required.

BDM RURAL WATER SYSTEM RECOGNIZED BY DANR FOR DRINKING WATER COMPLIANCE

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) announced today that the Brown-Day-Marshall RWS public water system and the system's operations specialists have been awarded a Drinking Water Certificate of Achievement Award.

"We cannot live without access to safe and reliable drinking water," said DANR Secretary Hunter Roberts, "This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of South Dakota's drinking water system operators and their efforts to ensure their customers have access to clean drinking water."

BDM's operations specialists, pictured at right, are Jared Marzolf, Jim Hagen, Darin Roehr, and Ryan Vrchota.

To qualify for the Drinking Water Certification of Achievement Award, public water systems and their system operations specialists had to meet all of the compliance monitoring and reporting requirements, drinking water standards, and certification requirements for 2020.



BDM has a new look! If you see our System Operators out and about, you may notice that three of our blue pickups that have been such a familiar sight throughout BDM territory have been replaced by white service body trucks. The new trucks will allow the operators to organize their equipment much more efficiently, saving them time and hassle, and will protect tools and spare parts from the bumps of the road. Give them a wave if you meet one!

2021 BDM SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



**ASHLIE
MAUCH**

**CARTER
SCHAUNAMAN**



**MADISYN
NELSON**

**NOAH
OLSON**



ASHLIE MAUCH

Ashlie graduated from Wyndmere High School in 2021 and is attending North Dakota State University majoring in Agribusiness.

She is the daughter of Craig Mauch and Juli Mauch of Barney, ND.

CARTER SCHAUNAMAN

Carter is a 2021 graduate of Sisseton High School. He will be attending either NDSCS or a tech school for Architectural Drafting or Construction Management.

He is the son of Jake and Stephanie Schaunaman of Browns Valley, MN.

MADISYN NELSON

Madisyn is a 2019 graduate of Langford Area High School. She is currently majoring in Business Administration and Accounting at the University of Sioux Falls.

Madisyn is the daughter of Matt and Michelle Nelson of Langford.

NOAH OLSON

Noah graduated from Britton-Hecla High School in 2021. He is majoring in Building Trades Technology at Lake Area Technical College.

Jeff and Renee Olson of Veblen are Noah's parents.

Congratulations to our scholarship winners!



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WATER MATTERS

What If?



You often hear folks talk about “hoping for the best, but planning for the worst.” This old adage can be applied to a broad range of activities and issues and provides the foundation for pretty much all forms of insurance (medical, life, property, crop, etc.). Nobody wants bad things to happen, but it doesn’t hurt to be prepared.

So, how does this apply to water? If you receive this publication, you are likely provided water

from a public water supply (PWS), be it a rural water system or a municipality. A common goal of all PWSs is to deliver a quality product to their customers consistently and reliably. By and large, this goal is met on a day-to-day basis, and if there are unexpected interruptions to service, they are of short duration and limited extent.

But what would happen if your PWS was unable to provide service for an extended period of time? Are you prepared to get along with being able to turn on the tap for water? For most domestic users, bottled water might suffice for drinking and cooking, but getting enough water for general sanitation (bathing and cleaning) might be more challenging. These may require going to locations where water service has not been disrupted.



Another water supply ‘hiccup’ could come from the PWS not being able to meet increasing demand. The amount of water that can be distributed and delivered is limited by the pumps, pipes, and tanks that make up the system. Often as not, the system was built with the largest capacity the PWS could afford, but once that level of service is met, upgrades and/or expansion are the only way to deliver more water. If a customer suddenly might desire more water, say during

a period of drought, there are no guarantees that the PWS will be able to deliver. The same applies to regions within a PWS coverage area where new customers may wish to gain service. Just because someone wants water at a particular location doesn’t mean that it will be available.

If your home, farm, or business are dependent on water, and we all pretty much are, having a plan for “What If...?” isn’t a bad idea. Consider what you might do if your primary supply was not available for a day or two. As noted earlier, your PWS strives to provide dependable service, but sometimes bad things happen. Are you prepared?

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 WATER
 DEVELOPMENT
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