



Upcoming Events

November 6

Advanced SWPPP & Inspections Workshop

More information:

kqibbons@iamu.org

November 18 — 20

Water/Wastewater Operators Training Workshop

Holiday Inn Northwest, Des Moines

Register/more information:

<http://www.iamu.org/calendar/>

(Click on "November")

Early registration deadline for Water Operator Workshop

◆ The early registration discount deadline for the IAMU Water and Wastewater Operators Training Workshop is November 3.



The November 18 – 20 workshop at the Holiday Inn Northwest will bring together water and wastewater operators from around

the state for the latest information on a wide variety of subjects.

A workshop brochure and registration form has been distributed. Registration may also be done on the IAMU website, <http://www.iamu.org/calendar/index.asp> (click on "November" on the workshop calendar). Registration for the entire workshop or for individual days is available. 1.2 CEUs toward certification can be obtained by attending the full workshop.

FTC grants six-month delay in enforcing Red Flags rule



◆ The Federal Trade Commission will suspend enforcement of the new "Red Flags Rule" until May 1, 2009, to give creditors and financial institutions additional time in which to develop and implement written identity theft prevention programs.

The Red Flags Rule was developed pursuant to the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions (FACT) Act of 2003. Under the Rule, financial institutions and creditors with covered accounts must have identity theft prevention programs to identify, detect, and respond to patterns, practices, or specific activities that could indicate identity theft. Municipal utilities are considered creditors due to their customer accounts, and are included in the Rule. IAMU recently completed a series of workshops around the state to bring members up to speed on preparing to implement plans for the Rule.

The Commission staff launched outreach efforts last year to explain the Rule to the many different types of entities that are covered by the Rule. The agency published a general alert on what the Rule requires, and, in particular, an explanation of what types of entities are covered by the Rule: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/business/alerts/alt050.shtm>.

During the course of these efforts, Commission staff learned that some industries and entities within the FTC's jurisdiction were uncertain about their coverage under the Rule. These entities indicated that they were not aware that they were engaged in activities that would cause them to fall under the FACT Act's definition of creditor or financial institution. Many entities also noted that, because they generally are not required to comply with FTC rules in other contexts, they had not followed or even been aware of the rulemaking, and therefore learned of the Rule's requirements too late to be able to come into compliance by November 1, 2008. The Commission's delay of enforcement will enable these entities sufficient time to establish and implement appropriate identity theft prevention programs, in compliance with the Rule. To view the official announcement about the new May 1 enforcement deadline, click here: <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2008/10/redflags.shtm>

Study: Dead heat with McCain, Obama energy plans



◆ Data just obtained for a full study soon to be released reports that 61% of registered voters say the U.S. presidential candidates' energy plans would affect their voting decision somewhat to very much. The question was part of the Shelton Group's fourth annual Energy Pulse study. When Energy Pulse asked respondents which candidate's plan they thought was best, a statistical "dead heat" resulted, with 41.6% preferring Sen. John McCain's plan and 38.5% preferring Sen. Barack Obama's.

The Energy Pulse study, conducted annually for the past four years by the Shelton Group, a Knoxville, TN-based advertising agency, tabulates Americans' opinions on a wide range of energy-related topics. The Shelton Group also produces Eco Pulse, an annual green consumer research study. Each Energy Pulse Study has continued to reveal that a majority of Americans blame the U.S government for high home energy costs, while only a small fraction blame utilities. Consumers taking part in the 2008 Study reported a much higher increase in home utility costs compared to the previous three years. Twenty-two percent reported their bills had gone up more than 30%.

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