



Upcoming Events

May 1, 2009

Competent Person Workshop

Register/more information:

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

(click "May 2009")

May 5 — 6, 2009

Gas Plastic Pipe Joining & OQ Workshop

Register/more information:

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

(click "May 2009")

May 19 —22, 2009

Electric Overhead Workshop

Register/more information:

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

(click "May 2009")

May 27 — 28, 2009

Water Distribution/Leak Detection Workshops

Register/more information:

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

(click "May 2009")



◆ Access back issues of the *IAMU Informer* and the *Informer Story Index* on the IAMU web site's [Informer page](#). It may be necessary to download the latest version of Adobe Reader (Adobe Reader 9.1) to view the IAMU *Informer*. Download it [here](#).

Efficiency measures do well in legislative marathon

◆ In what can only be characterized as a marathon ending, the 2009 legislative session adjourned on Sunday morning, April 26 after two consecutive "all-nighters." For most of the session there was talk of ending early, and much work was done to get to that point; but in the end, adjournment was about one week ahead of the scheduled 110th day of the session.



A highlight of the session for municipal utilities are many opportunities for increased funding of alternative energy and energy efficiency projects, through state bonding, the Power Fund and federal stimulus dollars.

In two different bonding bills, a total of \$10 million was appropriated to the Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Fund through the Iowa Energy Center and an amendment was added to allow municipal utilities to have access to those moneys. A comprehensive wind energy tax credit bill was passed, which includes a provision to assist those participants of the IAMWind Farm by extending chapter 476C tax credits for an additional 12 months and makes changes to chapter 476B tax credits to make them more usable.

Look for a more detailed legislative session summary in next week's *IAMU Informer*.

The Iowa Legislature web site can be accessed [here](#).

Swine flu is wake-up call for municipal preparedness



◆ With worldwide cases multiplying and the World Health Organization raising its alert level to "4" on its 1 – 6 scale, public concern over a possible swine influenza pandemic is growing.

Governor Culver held a press conference Monday where he outlined concerns and preparedness efforts in Iowa. Although no cases of swine flu have been reported in Iowa, officials participating in yesterday's conference said it is not a matter of if our state will see cases of swine flu, but when.

IAMU would like to remind members that as part of the federal National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza, issued by President Bush November 1, 2005, cities and businesses in the U.S. are urged to have pandemic influenza response plans in place, for residents, customers and employees. Significant federal funding was received by the state for help in implementing these plans.

Regardless of how serious the current swine flu influenza outbreak turns out to be, it is important that all cities develop pandemic flu response plans in the event of any future incidents. A number of government resources are available to assist:

For the federal pandemic preparedness web site click [here](#). For federal planning & response activities, click [here](#). For specific State of Iowa information, click [here](#). For the Centers for Disease Control swine flu information page click [here](#).

The *IAMU Informer* is an electronic publication of the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities.

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