



Upcoming Events

August 24, 2009
Smart Grid Course presented by Skip Collier [Register/more information: Here](#)

Sept. 1 — 2, 2009
Midwest Regional Gas Workshop [Register/more information: Here](#)

September 9-10, 2009
Water Distribution & Leak Detection/Line Locating Workshops [Register/more information: Here](#)



IAMU hosted a group of energy officials from Turkmenistan visiting Iowa to gather ideas for

alternative energy that can be used in their home country. IAMU's Eric Stoll and Joel Logan assisted in giving the group a tour of the association's facilities.

“Red Flags” date now Nov. 1; more education needed

◆ The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has once again pushed back the enforcement deadline of the “Red Flags” Rule for identity theft protection. The new deadline has been set for November 1, 2009. In addition, the FTC has announced it will redouble its efforts to educate small businesses and other entities about compliance, as it is reportedly many small businesses that are unsure about how the compliance rules apply to them. The enforcement deadline delay is designed to give those affected entities more time to develop plans. The Rule officially went into effect January 1, 2008, but a grace period for enforcement has been in place since.



The Red Flags Rule is an anti-fraud regulation, requiring “creditors” and “financial institutions” with covered accounts to implement programs to identify, detect, and respond to the warning signs, or “red flags,” that could indicate identity theft. The financial regulatory agencies, including the FTC, developed the Rule, which was mandated by the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 (FACTA). FACTA’s definition of “creditor” includes any entity that regularly extends or renews credit – or arranges for others to do so – and includes all entities that regularly permit deferred payments for goods or services.

Municipal utilities are considered “creditors” due to their customer accounts, and are therefore included in the rule. Any IAMU members still in need of establishing a plan should contact IAMU to obtain a Needs Assessment Form to help them identify areas of their systems where customer personal information could be vulnerable. IAMU also offers a template to help in establishing a plan. Contact Sandy Longfellow at slongfellow@iamu.org or 800-810-4268.

More information about the ‘Red Flags’ Rule can be found on the Federal Trade Commission web site. Click [here](#). A news release pertaining to the most recent postponement of the enforcement deadline can be found [here](#).

Building Operator program: Good community-builder



◆ Municipalities and municipal utilities are reminded that they can offer rebates to local business representatives to attend classes offering energy efficiency advice through the Building Operator Certification (BOC) program.

The BOC training is being offered this fall in Davenport and Cedar Rapids. BOC training is a professional certification program specifically designed for building operations and maintenance staff in Iowa facilities. It covers preventative maintenance strategies and energy efficiency techniques for all building systems including HVAC systems, electrical systems, indoor air quality monitoring and more. Operators applying the concepts and tools taught in BOC are proven to reduce the energy consumption in their facilities and increase their value to employers. BOC training is brought to you by the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance with the assistance of other sponsors.

Since 2007, more than 120 Iowa operators have graduated and joined the network of over 6,000 certified operators in the U.S. Visit www.boccentral.org or call James Pena at 312-784-7277 for full schedules and more program information.

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Editor: John Burnett 515-289-1999 jburnett@iamu.org

To add an *Informer* subscriber: contact Sandy Longfellow at: slongfellow@iamu.org*

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Representatives of the Iowa Storm Water Education Program (ISWEP) receive the group's Environmental Excellence Award from Governor Culver. Pictured are (left — right): Kathleen Gibbons, ISWEP/IAMU; Governor Culver; Pat Sauer, ISWEP/IAMU; Jennifer Welch, Polk Soil & Water Conservation; Karen Hansen, ISWEP Coordinator; and Tracy Warner, municipal engineer.

Skip Collier brings Smart Grid Course August 24

◆ Learn about the timely subject of smart grids from one of the electric industry's foremost instructors, Skip Collier. Mr. Collier will present a Smart Grid Workshop at IAMU August 24.

An overview of what makes up a smart grid, including the economics of the system and technical aspects, will all be discussed as part of the one-day workshop.

A Smart Grid Workshop brochure has been distributed. Mail or fax the enclosed registration form to IAMU, or register electronically by clicking [here](#). You can also access the workshop brochure and electronic registration page under "Hot News" on the front page of the IAMU web site, www.iamu.org.

National Guard suspends Job Connection program

◆ The Iowa National Guard has indefinitely suspended its Job Connection program due to budget cuts.

Iowa Workforce Development will continue services to members of the Iowa National Guard. Contact Jeffrey Johnson at 515-281-9692 or jeffrey.johnson@iwd.iowa.gov.

ISWEP, IAMU members get environmental awards



◆ The Iowa Storm Water Education Program (ISWEP), based at the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, has received a Governor's Iowa Environmental Excellence Award. In a ceremony July 29, Governor Culver presented the award in the category of Special Recognition in Environmental Education to ISWEP representatives, including IAMU's Pat Sauer and Kathleen Gibbons.



ISWEP is a statewide service that promotes awareness-building and behavioral change related to water quality and stream and lake protection and improvement. Program staff develop Iowa-specific educational resources and package them in kits that are then distributed to educational institutions, communities, soil and water conservation districts or storm water consultants.

IAMU member Muscatine Power & Water (MP&W) was awarded in the category of Special Recognition in Waste Management. The utility has been able to give away or sell its coal combustion products to be reused for blasting grit, roofing shingles, cement and concrete manufacturing or winter roadway traction improvement. Because of this, 86% of the products generated are utilized beneficially, saving approximately 60,000 cubic yards of landfill space each year.



Officials from Muscatine Power & Water (top) and the City of North Liberty receive their respective awards from Governor Culver.

The City of North Liberty, also an IAMU member, was awarded in the category of Special Recognition in Water Quality. The city worked in partnership with engineering firms to plan and develop an innovative wastewater treatment facility that utilizes Membrane Bioreactor technology to produce a high quality effluent.

Crisson, Erickson, Higbee join IAMU Conference list



◆ IAMU's Annual Conference, "Embracing Change, Supporting Tradition," will feature three respected industry leaders as special guest speakers during the October 7-9 event.

Mark Crisson, President/CEO of the American Public Power Association (APPA) will make a first-time visit to an IAMU event. Mr. Crisson served nearly 30 years as Tacoma Power (Wash.) superintendent, as well as CEO/director of utilities. In 1997, Tacoma Power spearheaded the Click! Network, which has become the nation's largest municipally-owned telecommunications system. Crisson served six years as an APPA elected board member and four years as an officer. He also served on the U.S. Secretary of Energy's Electricity Advisory Board. He is a past chair of the Large Public Power Council.



The American Public Gas Association (APGA) will be represented by **John Erickson**, Vice President of Operations. Mr. Erickson joined APGA in August, 2004, responsible for the APGA Operations Committee and its Safety and Education subcommittees. He is a liaison with the federal Office of Pipeline Safety and the National Transportation Safety Board as well as state pipeline safety associations. He monitors federal regulatory activity affecting public gas engineering and operations, prepares analyses on key issues and advocates APGA's positions with key government agencies.



Safety consultant and noted business/motivational speaker **Gary Higbee**, President of Higbee & Associates of Johnston, Iowa, will bring more than 40 years of experience and a sense of humor to the conference. Gary has become an internationally known speaker on safety, health, environmental and business issues. He has published many articles including "Frustrations in Safety" and "Breaking the Cycles of Risky Behavior." He has received rave reviews following appearances at previous IAMU events.

Mark Crisson, APPA (top); John Erickson, APGA (middle); Gary Higbee, Higbee & Associates will be among speakers at IAMU's Annual Conference.

The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Des Moines – Airport/Conference Center. Detailed information will be available soon. Hotel reservations may be made by calling 515-287-2400 (mention the IAMU conference).