



Upcoming Events

August 25 & 26
Water Distribution/Leak Detection Workshops
Register/More information: [Here](#)

September 1-2
IAMU/APGA Natural Gas Operators Qualification Workshop
Register/More information: [Here](#)

September 8
Clerks Conference, Ramada Tropics Resort, Des Moines
Register/More information: [Here](#)

September 9
Small Utility GIS Workshop
Note: Workshop is full

September 14 — 17
Underground Electric Workshop
Register/More information: [Here](#)

September 22 — 23
Water Seminar & Product Show
Register/More information: [Here](#)

September 29
“Golfin’ for Safety”
Register/More information: [Here](#)

New IAMU Electric Services Coordinator is announced



◆ IAMU is proud to introduce **Thomas Erickson**, the association’s new Electric Services Coordinator.

Tom is a native Midwesterner and a 28-year veteran of the electric utility industry. His most recent experience has been as an instructor at Texas State Technical College. With his experience and technical background Tom will be a valuable contributor to IAMU’s Electric Safety & Training Department, and will be a strong asset and advocate for IAMU’s member electric utilities. His first day on the job is scheduled for September 13.

Watch for more information coming soon.

“Golfin’ for Safety” fundraiser Sept. 29; join the fun!



◆ Golf for a good cause! The inaugural IAMU “Golfin’ for Safety” event will hit the links September 29, 2010 with proceeds used to support training on IAMU’s Safety & Training Field. Lifesaving electric, gas, water and Job Training & Safety activities will benefit from this 18-hole best shot event at the Terrace Hills Golf Course in Altoona (for web site, click [here](#)).



All employees of IAMU member utilities are invited to golf for a fee of \$50 per person, with foursomes encouraged (individuals or pairs are also encouraged to register, and may be placed with others at the event). Each golfing registration includes two drink tickets. **IAMU associate members can show their support by registering as hole sponsors at \$200 per hole** (each sponsorship includes signage on the course, recognition in supporting materials, one complimentary golfing registration and two drink tickets). Additional company representative may golf at \$50 each.

An IAMU meeting will be held at 9:15 a.m. prior to the 10 a.m. shotgun start to golfing. Food and a raffle will take place afterward (food will also be available for purchase at the Club House during play).

A flyer and registration form have been emailed. The same information is also available on the IAMU web site, www.iamu.org (look for the “Golfin’ for Safety” links on the home page). Questions? Contact IAMU at 800-810-4268.



Training On Demand: Free online classes for members



Training on Demand

◆ A new exclusive service will give IAMU member utilities access to a substantial array of individualized online training classes, free of charge.

“Training on Demand” offers more than 60 online classes in such topics as business communication skills, customer service, workplace safety, energy supply, rate setting, human resources, sales, coaching employees, electric transmission and grid management, oral communication skills, personal computer and internet safety, and much more.

While not a substitute for IAMU Job Training & Safety classes, and although no Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are currently being offered, Training on Demand will allow utility employees to work independently, or under the guidance of supervisors, to improve their skills and expand their abilities to better serve their utility and customers.



The program will be accessed via the IAMU web site. Components include easy log-in, substantial interactivity for students, end-of-session tests and quizzes, in-progress learning (when courses cannot be completed in one sitting), course completion records and certificates, a transcript feature and more. Users will also have the option of printing hard copy pages of courses if that is their preference or if their computer is needed for other tasks.

Detailed instructions for registering and first-time login for IAMU’s Training on Demand will be emailed August 19. For questions, comments, or concerns regarding Training on Demand, contact Sandy Longfellow at IAMU, slongfellow@iamu.org or 800-810-4268.

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

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APPA speaks out against pole attachment proposals

APPA ♦ The American Public Power Association (APPA) has spoken out against parts of a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proceeding on pole attachments.

The FCC is considering proposals to limit the fees that telecommunications providers pay to public power systems for pole attachments. One proposal would prohibit public power systems from recovering the capital cost of poles.

To view the APPA comments, click [here](#).

New IAMU water Seminar & Product Show in September

♦ IAMU's Water Services Department announces its inaugural Seminar and Product Show September 22 – 23, 2010 at the IAMU Training & Office Complex.



This new event will feature rotating group sessions with presenters from a number of different businesses. 0.6 CEUs will be available for all attendees.

A brochure and registration form has been distributed; or register online with the IAMU web site; click [here](#).

IUB Fall Meetings coming; online registration is open

♦ The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) 2010 Fall Meetings are scheduled for the month of September at numerous locations statewide. Several timely topics, including disconnections and bill payment, will be presented. All municipal attendees will receive curriculum credits. For more information and to register, go to the IUB web site [here](#).



“Can-do” spirit leads impressive Ames water recovery



♦ Applause, congratulations and even a few tears filled the room at Ames City Hall Sunday afternoon August 15, as officials there announced the return of a normal water supply after the most severe flood disaster the community has ever faced.

Record flooding combined with broken water mains to create a two-pronged nightmare for Ames Water Pollution and Control Director John Dunn and his staff. After extreme flooding on the Skunk River and Squaw Creek resulted in several broken mains, emergency measures were implemented, including urging residents to curb water use and issuing a “boil order” for possibly contaminated tap water.

Original projections by officials called for repairs to be completed and safe drinking water restored perhaps by Tuesday, August 17. But with a lauded team effort on the part of officials – combined with a break from Mother Nature when predicted heavy rain Friday, August 13 did not fall – normal water service was restored to the community of more than 52,000 late Sunday afternoon; just as many Iowa State University students were moving into town. Ames is also the home of several IAMU staff members.

During a news conference, Dunn, nearly overcome with emotion while thanking his staff, said it was a dedicated team effort with a significant “can-do” attitude that brought a quick end to a difficult situation. He said no assignment was turned down, extra hours were put in without complaint, and jobs were tackled by whoever was available. Dunn reported more than 170 water samples were taken throughout the system prior to declaring the city’s water safe for consumption. “We also know that restoring safe drinking water is only a start,” said Dunn, in recognition of the fact that the City of Ames still has much work to do in ongoing recovery from the worst flooding it has ever seen, with flooding worse than what was registered in 1993, when previous records were set.

IAMU salutes all City of Ames officials involved in the community’s recovery efforts for a job well done. Numerous video postings of the Ames flooding can be found [here](#). Aerial photos of the flooding from the Des Moines Register can be found [here](#).



Record flooding in Ames saw several sections of the city under water, including the Iowa State Center area (where many locations, including Hilton Coliseum, were inundated) and the South Duff Ave. area. Serious road damage was also left behind in some spots. Thanks to IAMU staff member Justin Vogt for contributing many of the above photos.

SHRIMP software for gas utilities is now available



♦ IAMU gas utility members are reminded that the long-awaited SHRIMP (Simple, Handy, Risk-based, Integrity Management Plan) computer software is now available. It is designed to help gas utilities write a DIMP (Distribution Integrity Management Program) plan, which is required as of August 2, 2011. IAMU’s Gas Safety & Training staff members Rudy and Rod Parcel and IAMU Program Director Dave Hraha served on the national committee that helped develop the SHRIMP software.

The IAMU/PGA Natural Gas Operators’ Qualification Workshop September 1&2 will include a two-hour class on how to use the SHRIMP software. Register for the workshop [here](#). More information on SHRIMP can be found [here](#). To register and access SHRIMP, click [here](#).

Customer contribution report due at IUB by Sept. 30



♦ The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) reminds all natural gas and electric utilities in the state that they are required to file a report of all customer contribution fund activity for the previous fiscal year (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010).

IAMU’s regulatory calendars for gas (click [here](#)) and electric (click [here](#)) utilities has been updated to include the report forms. The report is to be filed electronically with the IUB on or before September 30, 2010 at <http://efs.iowa.gov/>. Your company number can be found at this site through the Company Search. Any questions about completing the report should be directed to 877-565-4451 (ask for extension 14603). If you encounter problems with the electronic filing process, call the EFS Help Desk at 515-281-5563.



◆ IAMU's Whole Town Energy Audit program has reached a milestone, with the "audit" phase nearly completed; 16 of 17 audits have been performed (several energy events at participating cities have yet to be held).

An interim meeting for half of the participants was held at IAMU August 16; the remaining cities will gather August 20. The meetings include shared reviews and reports, group discussion and forms to be submitted to the Office of Energy Independence.



Whole Town Energy Audit participants share information at a meeting this week.



Recent Whole Town Energy Audits and related events have taken IAMU staff to (top to bottom) Auburn, Breda and Glidden.

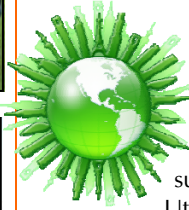


IAMU's Training & Office Complex recently hosted the Common Ground Iowa (CGI) Excavation Safety Summit, an event which brought together many utility and other industry professionals for presentations and demonstrations touting best practices for safety in the field.

Whole Town Energy Audits roll on; meetings are held

Lighting and motor classes coming: Good info for utils

◆ Two upcoming energy efficiency classes will be of great value to IAMU members.



"Lighting Technology 2010" is a seminar presented by the Iowa Energy Center September 14 at the Center's Energy Resource Station at the Des Moines Area Community College Ankeny campus. Stan Walerczyk of consulting firm Lighting Wizards will be the featured speaker. A 21-year lighting professional, he will discuss such topics as industrial and exterior lighting updates; interior lighting; and LED lighting. Utility program managers and facility managers are among those encouraged to attend.



More information and a registration link can be found [here](#).

The **Motor Systems Management Workshop** is set for October 11, 12 and 14, 2010 in three different Iowa locations. This one-day course is hosted by the Partnership for Industrial Energy Efficiency and is designed for engineers and managers of facilities that use motors, including local governments, water/wastewater facilities and more. Motors use more than half of all electricity. This course will present ways to improve efficiency, increase life, enhance maintenance and reduce greenhouse gases. It will be taught by Gil McCoy, an Energy Systems Engineer at Washington State University.

More information and a registration link can be found [here](#).

IDNR/SDWA Iowa water report now available online



◆ The annual report of the status of drinking water in the State of Iowa for 2009 (under the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act) is now available electronically [here](#).

The report was compiled by the staff of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Water Supply Engineering and Operations Sections, using data collected in 2009 from all active public water supplies in the state. The report includes explanations of the monitoring required of supplies in the state, as well as the results of those sampling efforts. The report is similar to past years' reports in format, including maps of the PWS universe, health-based standards violations, and monitoring violations as requested by the Environmental Protection Commission in 2008.

For more information contact Diane Moles, IDNR Water Supply Engineering Section, Diane.Moles@dnr.iowa.gov, or 515-725-0281.

IDNR Director Rich Leopold resigns for federal position



◆ Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Director Rich Leopold has announced his resignation from the agency to take a position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Leopold will become the Midwest assistant regional director for science applications with the federal agency at its office in Ft. Snelling, MN. Leopold, who has been a guest speaker at IAMU events, held the IDNR position since January, 2007.

GET IN THE SWING!

Support IAMU safety training Sept. 29 with this brand new event! See Page 1 for more detail or visit the IAMU web site [here](#) (look for the links on the home page).

