



Upcoming Events

March 3 & 4, 2010

Advanced H2O Workshops (Treatment March 3, Distribution March 4). NOTE: Both workshops are full.

March 15 — 18, 2010

Gas Pipeline Welder Qualification Workshops (Des Moines Area Comm. College, Ankeny, March 15 —17; Iowa Lakes Comm. College, Emmetsburg, March 15 —18). Register/more information: [Here](#)

Overwhelming response; appliance rebate fund gone



◆ Due to an overwhelming response from Iowans all federal funding allocated to the State of Iowa for the Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program has been exhausted. The program-specific contractor web site and toll free number was overloaded Monday.

The website and toll-free number experienced system backlogs, however, all \$2,775,150 in approved federal stimulus funds were allocated to those Iowans who registered during the day. After Iowa's funding was exhausted, the contractor continued to take registrations for approximately 4,500 Iowans and placed them on a waiting list.

Consumers on a waiting list must purchase the qualified appliance and mail in their paperwork as soon as possible to be eligible if others default on their rebate coupon. The order in which paperwork is received by the contractor is the order in which customers will be awarded. For more information, click [here](#).



“Municipal Utilities 2030” offers prominent speakers



◆ A number of influential speakers are now confirmed for Part One of IAMU's “Municipal Utilities 2030” conference April 7-8. The event is designed to promote a healthy future for Iowa's municipal utilities. Part II is planned to be included in the IAMU Annual Conference in October.

The upcoming meeting will commence the afternoon of April 7, with presentations and a banquet. Among topics and speakers currently planned are: A look at the demographic future of Iowa's utilities with **Terry Besser, Professor of Sociology, Iowa State University**; a panel of utility managers discussing demographic implications; a look at future financing for municipal infrastructure with **R. Mark Cory of the Ahlers & Cooney law firm** and **Jon Burmeister of Public Financial Management**; a discussion of telecom's future with **Jim Baller of the Baller & Herbst law firm**; and a presentation on future lighting strategies with **Curt Klaassen of the Iowa Energy Center** (invited), followed by a tour of the Des Moines Area Community College Energy Resource Station and outdoor lighting displays.

Planned topics and speakers for April 8 include: Iowa's climate in 2030 with **Prof. Gene Takle of Iowa State University's Dept. of Atmospheric Science**; a geologist's look at carbon sequestration with **William Shefchik, geologist with the Burns & McDonnell engineering firm**; Iowa's future water supply with **Robert Libra of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources**; planning for the Smart Grid and dynamic pricing with **consulting engineer Paul Reising**; a panel discussing municipal-side renewables, including fuel cell development with **Robert Remick of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory**; and the transmission grid and energy sources in 2030 with **Dr. James McCalley of Iowa State University's Engineering and Policy Leadership Institute**.



The event will take place at the Courtyard by Marriott in Ankeny. Watch your email and the IAMU web site for a final agenda and registration information coming soon.

AEDs now available to IAMU members at special price

◆ IAMU members can now purchase life-saving Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) for their utility and community at a special discounted price.



The Cardiac Science Powerheart G3 Plus AED can be purchased through associate member Altec Supply for a special IAMU member price of \$1,250 each. This price is in effect now through Friday, May 28, 2010. The Powerheart G3 Plus is the premiere AED in the Cardiac Science line. It is the only AED currently on the market that features a fully-automated routine “self-check” of all major components and battery charging. It also features thorough, automated verbal and text-prompted visual instructions for ease of use in nearly all emergency situations. More information about the Powerheart G3 Plus AED (including a demonstration video) can be found [here](#); or contact Scott Barnes, Cardiac Science Territory Manager, at 800-426-0337, ext. 3316 or sbarnes@cardiacscience.com.



The durable Powerheart G3 AED comes with a case and accessories and is ideal for deployment as a public access AED in community buildings or in city/utility vehicles. IAMU members are reminded that some communities may qualify for the acquisition of AEDs through the Rural and Community Access to Emergency Devices (RAED) grant program (click [here](#)), announced in the January 12, 2010 edition of IAMU *Informer* (see the *Informer* archive page of the IAMU web site [here](#)).

To order the Powerheart G3 AED at the special IAMU rate, contact Troy Cappel at Altec Supply, 515-480-2202 or troy.cappel@altec.com (be sure to mention you are an IAMU member).

Culver to proclaim March is Flood Awareness Month



◆ Several state agencies in Iowa have kicked off a month-long public information campaign designating March as Flood Awareness Month.

Flood awareness is particularly important since Iowa is still recovering from the floods and storms of 2008. This spring also holds the potential for more severe flooding in the state. On Thursday, Governor Culver will sign a proclamation declaring March Flood Awareness Month.

The Rebuild Iowa Office, the Iowa Insurance Division, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division will share flood-related information and safety tips with the media and the public throughout the month of March.



Iowans can find out more by visiting the Rebuild Iowa Office's web site at www.rio.iowa.gov. Iowans can learn more about flood safety at www.bereadyiowa.org.

New IAMU Regulatory Update available online

◆ A new Regulatory Update has been posted on the IAMU web site, www.iamu.org.



The updates feature detailed summaries of both state and federal regulatory items pertinent to IAMU, with electronic links to dockets. To access the update, click [here](#).

Informer Online
www.iamu.org
Click on the "Informer" tab



Severe flooding possible; are your utilities prepared?



◆ The National Weather Service (NWS) has officially warned Iowa residents of the potential for severe flooding in the state this spring. IAMU urges all utility members with facilities in flood-prone areas that if they have not already done so, to plan now for the possibility of a flooding emergency that could impact operation. Flooding threats to other areas of communities that can be impacted should also be addressed. If advance discussions with your county emergency management office have not occurred, they should be planned now.

Jeff Zogg of the National Weather Service Des Moines office spoke about the spring flooding threat at the recent IAMU Superintendent & Foreman's Meeting. He said a combination of factors that have occurred this winter (greatly above normal snowfall, current snow depth, snow water equivalent, ice jams, soil moisture and more) are expected to result in potentially significant flooding. The highest risk is reported to be in the Des Moines, Raccoon and Iowa River basins, and especially across the northwest half of the state, where the largest snow pack exists; however, even smaller creeks and streams can be subject to severe flooding; and officials are cautioning that even areas with no snow cover at all can still experience flooding. NWS predicts the most likely time period for flooding will be from mid-March – late April, although variations in the time frame are possible, depending on temperature and weather conditions.

Local NWS officials are releasing Spring Flood and Water Resources Outlooks and posting them, along with other flooding information, on the agency's web site: www.weather.gov/desmoines. The second Outlook is currently posted, with the third Outlook scheduled for March 5. For utilities with facilities adjacent to rivers, the local National Weather Services offices will have river information on their respective web pages (click on "Hydrology" on the home page).

General information regarding flooding and flooding preparedness can also be found at www.floodsmart.gov.

Obama disaster declaration will assist Iowa counties



◆ Governor Chet Culver has confirmed that President Obama has authorized a Presidential Disaster Declaration for 21 Iowa counties impacted by the severe winter storm beginning Dec. 23, 2009.

The declaration provides assistance to state and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations (including rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities) for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. Counties included in the declaration are: Adair, Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Cherokee, Clay, Crawford, Emmet, Franklin, Fremont, Guthrie, Harrison, Ida, Monona, Page, Pottawattamie, Sac, Shelby, Sioux and Woodbury.

In addition, the declaration provides for snow removal assistance (reimbursement of costs for 48 hours of continuous operations for emergency snow removal) for the following counties: Cherokee, Clay, Emmet, Fremont, Harrison, Ida, Page, Pottawattamie, Sioux and Woodbury. Public assistance program funds are available to public entities and select nonprofit agencies to rebuild damaged infrastructure that may include roads, bridges, culverts, and other public facilities, or to cover costs of emergency work during the storms.



The declaration includes funding to conduct hazard mitigation activities for the entire state. Culver has also requested a disaster declaration for counties impacted by an ice storm beginning Jan. 19, 2010. That request is still pending.

Fix A Leak Week: Share it with your water customers

◆ The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has deemed March 15–21 "Fix A Leak Week" to remind Americans to check plumbing and irrigation systems for leaks. American homes can waste an average of more than 10,000 gallons of water each year due to running toilets, dripping faucets and other leaks – which also increases water bills.



Water utilities are encouraged to help spread the word about Fix A Leak Week. Promotional materials and other information is available on the EPA's WaterSense web site [here](#).