



Upcoming Events

October 27
ArcView GIS & GPS Workshop
Register/More information: [Here](#)

November 16—18
16th Annual Water and Wastewater Operator's Training Workshop, Holiday Inn Northwest, Des Moines
Register/more information: [Here](#)

EPA aims to bolster water infrastructure with new policy

◆ The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced a **Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure Sustainability Policy (CWDWISP)** with the goal of increasing the sustainability of water and wastewater infrastructure in the



U.S. Communities across the country are facing challenges in making costly upgrades and repairs to their aging water infrastructure, which include sewer systems and treatment facilities. Making this infrastructure last longer while increasing its cost-effectiveness is essential to protecting human health and the environment, and maintaining safe drinking water and clean water bodies.

The policy emphasizes the need to build on existing efforts to promote sustainable water infrastructure, and focuses on working with states and water systems to employ comprehensive planning processes that result in projects that are cost effective over their life cycle, resource efficient, and consistent with community sustainability goals. It represents a collaborative effort between EPA and its federal, state, and local partners. EPA will promote sustainable systems through the Attributes of Effectively Managed Utilities. Click [here](#).



◆ **IAMU's Whole Town Audit (WTA) program has successfully completed its initial phase of conducting energy audits and community events in the 17 participating IAMU member cities.** Phase two now begins, with preparation of final reports based on the audits for the individual businesses and municipal buildings. Return trips to the participating communities have been scheduled, where the final reports will be presented and discussed in meetings open to the public.

IAMU Gas Services: A model of service and training

This is the third in a series of IAMU Informer articles that highlight IAMU's member programs and services, recent achievements and future planning. This edition's focus: Gas Services.



◆ The IAMU Gas Services Department provides training, support and a range of direct services to Iowa's 51 municipal gas utilities. The department is staffed by Rudy and Rod Parcel, a father and son team with unparalleled qualifications and experience. Rudy, as department coordinator, works closely with the Gas Safety and Training

Committee and with Program Director Dave Hraha and Member Services Assistant Chris Pham.

Mutual Aid: As with electric utilities, mutual aid is just one more way that municipal utilities work together to remain efficient service providers. When emergencies hit gas utilities, the first responders are often one or both members of IAMU's father-son crew.

Regulatory Compliance and Training: IAMU has been a national leader in developing programs for safe and effective operation of small gas systems. IAMU's Operation and Maintenance Plan has been recommended by the U.S. Office of Pipeline Safety as a model for small system operators. The association has also been a leader in establishing standards, such as our gas pipeline welding procedures. IAMU staff worked closely with state and federal officials in



developing an Operator Qualification (OQ) Program that ensures municipal gas employees are qualified to perform every applicable procedure in compliance with federal regulations. Staff also supports APGA's Security and Integrity Foundation, which develops software to assist gas utilities in compliance with new requirements of the Office of Pipeline Safety Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP).

Design, Construction, and Maintenance Services: The department provides an unprecedented level of support to members, including design, fabrication, and installation of regulator stations, installation of odorant injection systems, pipeline extensions, large service connections, leak investigations, corrosion surveys, valve maintenance inspections and other system inspection and maintenance services.



Recent Accomplishments and Plans: The interiors of IAMU's Safe City training structures have been improved to allow carbon monoxide to be concentrated at measurable levels for training purposes. Gas appliances have been added for more realistic emergency response training. New regulator stations have been installed in several utilities. The department recently began training Iowa Department of Transportation employees on propane safety procedures. Gas personnel are working closely with other departments on plans for installation of a confined space training facility on IAMU's Safety & Training Field. For more information about IAMU's Gas Services Department, click [here](#).



Rudy (left) and Rod Parcel form a team that's always at the ready for IAMU gas members.

