

# the Water Tap

Environmental Health  
Programs

Issue 31

September 1997

## An interview with Gregg Grunenfelder

### New Director Takes Helm of State Drinking Water Program

Gregg Grunenfelder became the new director for the state Drinking Water Program as of July 1, and has already been immersed in many drinking water issues. Gregg is the former director of Thurston County Environmental Health, where he managed multiple environmental health programs for eight years. His grandparents originally immigrated from Switzerland and settled in southern Thurston County. He now lives in Olympia with his wife Catherine and two daughters in the house where he grew up.

The fact that he is a deeply-rooted Olympian doesn't mean that Gregg stays in the area. After graduating from Washington State University with his degree in bacteriology and public health, he served two years in the Peace Corps, where he traveled to Malaysia as a health educator to help build health education into Malaysian primary school curricula. In 1981, while with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), he served as a public health sanitarian in a Cambodian refugee camp on the Thailand border, where he oversaw virtually all sanitation programs for 63,000 refugees. A more difficult tour took him to Zaire, Africa in 1994 as part of a team of sanitarians for the IRC to help at a Rwanda refugee camp of 200,000 that was being established. The death rate at their time of arrival was about 350 a day from various communicable diseases common to situations lacking potable drinking water and proper sanitary waste disposal. He was the lead administrator for the IRC health center's hospital complex. After three months of work in conjunction with other agencies, the death rate dropped to 10 per day thanks to the public health sanitation programs that had been put into place. Gregg said this result highlights the true value of the work we do and the difference it can make.

Gregg may be seen running around the DOH complex and down Airdustrial Way on his lunch hours. This is more than a casual past time. Gregg has been running marathons for a long time. Last year he and his wife ran the original marathon from the town of Marathon to Athens Greece. Whenever possible, Gregg and Catherine try and combine running with trips and vacations as they have done in Paris and Washington, D.C. In late August, Gregg was part of a twelve-person team that ran the Mt. Hood to Seaside relay in Oregon, which took 27 hours.

When asked what the toughest thing about the job was so far, Gregg said it was being immersed in the major undertaking of the new program plan for the division that was developed before his arrival. Having missed all the discussions, it was difficult to catch up on directions already set in motion, decide whether to continue in the same direction and what to implement next. He said a lot of issues have been clarified, however, and we're moving forward with the plan.

Gregg participates on a workgroup that supports the Joint Natural Resource Cabinet (JNRC) established by the Governor to make water and natural resources a high priority, and to enable the state to take an active role in restoring healthy salmon, steelhead, and trout populations. Two main focuses of the cabinet group currently are to develop a workplan and to involve outside stakeholders in the process. We'll be hearing more on the JNRC in future issues of the Water Tap.

When asked about his goals for the Drinking Water Program, Gregg said that communication to others will be a high priority. With his local health background he understands fully the impact of new regulations as they are passed on and wants to focus on that impact. He wants to communicate new federal requirements with water system purveyors and the public in a way that will ensure they understand what is driving the program and what their responsibilities are. Data management will also be a high priority focused on making it more useable for DOH staff and more accessible by

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others. Gregg said so far he enjoys the work a lot and that it's a real pleasure to be with the Drinking Water Program. We'll be hearing more from Gregg in future "Letters from the Director" articles in the Water Tap.

## Water Supply Advisory Committee Makes Progress in Advancing its Recommendations

by Skip Richards, WSAC Chair

During the 1997 Legislative session, the Water Supply Advisory Committee (WSAC) made progress in advancing its 1996 recommendations (as outlined in the March, 1997 issue of the Water Tap) through the passage of E2SHB 1969. The bill, first introduced in Representative Gary Chandler's House Committee on Agriculture and Ecology, enabled prompt set-up of the State Revolving Loan Fund, which was crucial to the Drinking Water Program, particularly for implementing the new programs of the reauthorized federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Former WSAC Chair Judy Turpin of the Washington Environmental Council joined state PUD association representative John Kounts, Dave Clark, former Director of the Drinking Water Program, and myself (current WSAC Chair) in testifying in favor of E2SHB 1969.

One of the biggest remaining challenges facing the WSAC is crafting a financing package to fully fund all of its recommendations. Most importantly, the Drinking Water Program needs stable long-term funding sources for its core functions. Before a funding package can be put before the Legislature, it must be acceptable to DOH, agreeable to stakeholders in the WSAC, and approved by the Office of Financial Management (OFM). The financing package recommended by the WSAC, was derived after finding acceptable trade-offs among affected WSAC stakeholders, and included--as a linked pair--an increase in utility Operating Permit Fees and a set aside of the state Public Utility Tax. Due to concerns about budget impacts on the General Fund, however, OFM declined to support the Committee's full funding package, and it was not included in E2SHB 1969.

At its October meeting, the WSAC will focus intensively on seeking new directions on the funding issue, and has invited DOH Secretary Bruce Miyahara and Assistant Secretary Eric Slagle to participate.

Other tasks the WSAC is undertaking this year include:

- Assisting the Department in its comprehensive revision of the regulations governing Group A Public Water Systems;
- Encouraging the appropriate agencies or groups, including DOH, the Governor's newly-formed Joint Natural Resources Cabinet, and the Land Use Study Commission, to effectively address the difficult issues at the interface between land use planning, water resource planning and public health;
- Discussing small system issues, including compliance improvement, technical assistance enhancement, source protection, and terms and conditions of service provision; and
- Working with the Washington Association of Realtors to improve the information provided to potential home buyers regarding the type and status of their drinking water system.

## Legislative Update

Earlier this year, the Governor signed a number of bills passed by the Legislature during its 1997 session that may affect water utilities. Two of those bills--SHB 1592 (tax exemption) and SHB 1118 (water rights claims)--are described in separate articles in this issue of Water Tap. Some of the other bills that may affect water systems are the following:

**2SHB 2054:** This is the major water resources planning bill. The Department of Ecology is in the process of statewide workshops to discuss implementation of regional water resource planning under this bill. The Legislature appropriated \$5 million to implement the bill, which will include grants to local governments to develop locally-based plans. These plans could have a major impact on how or where water systems obtain their future supplies of water.

**SSB 5505:** This bill requires Ecology to provide assistance to water right applicants to obtain or develop an adequate and appropriate supply of water. The Legislature provided Ecology with \$225,000 to do this. Ecology may not implement this bill until it develops its pending comprehensive water rights administrative rule. It should ultimately help water systems with a need for new sources obtain new water rights.

**SSB 5785:** This bill allows Ecology to consolidate water rights from existing wells that are exempt from the water rights permitting process. Ecology was provided \$140,000 to do this. Ecology may not implement the legislation until it adopts its new administrative rules.

**ESHB 2013:** This bill allows additional wells to be drilled under an existing water right without having to shut down and decommission an existing well, and under certain conditions without applying to Ecology for an amendment to the water right. This should help water systems that would like to install new wells in the same aquifer without having to apply for new rights or a water right amendment. It is not clear when Ecology will begin implementation.

**SHB 1272:** This bill authorizes creation of county water conservancy districts, which would process water rights transfers and exchanges at the county level, unless Ecology disapproved them within 45 days. Ecology plans to incorporate this legislation into their water right processing administrative rule.

For further information on these or other bills, contact Tom Jaenicke at (360) 753-7432.

### ***EPA Drinking Water Needs Survey Fact:***

According to the EPA Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey, Washington State water systems currently need \$2.3 billion for capital improvements. \$269 million of that is for compliance with the Surface Water Treatment Rule.

## **ESHB 1592 Creates Tax Exemptions**

This year, the Washington State Legislature passed, and Governor Locke signed, ESHB 1592. This bill entitles certain water-sewer districts and very small water systems owned or operated by approved Satellite Management



Agencies to receive exemptions from the Department of Revenue for the State Utility Tax, 82.16 RCW and the State Business and Occupation Tax, 82.04 RCW. The legislation became law July 27, 1997 and expires after six years (July 1, 2003).

Systems eligible for tax exemptions must meet the criteria in one of two categories:

(1) A water district established under Title 57 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) that:

- serves under 1500 connections,
- has average residential water rates exceeding 125% of a statewide average monthly residential water rate (i.e., \$22.97 inside jurisdiction and \$29.70 outside jurisdiction), and
- submits proof to the Department of Health that at least 90% of the value of the exemption(s) shall be expended to repair, equip, maintain and upgrade the water system.

*Or*

(2) A water system owned or operated by an approved Satellite Management Agency pursuant to RCW 70.116.134 that:

- serves under 200 connections,
- has average residential water rates exceeding 125% of a statewide average monthly residential water rate (i.e., \$22.97 inside jurisdiction and \$29.70 outside jurisdiction), and
- submits proof to the Department of Health that at least 90% of the value of the exemption(s) shall be expended to repair, equip, maintain and upgrade the water system.

If a system charges both an inside and outside jurisdiction rate, both rates must exceed the 125 percent values for the system to be eligible.

The certification form and a fact sheet on the tax exemption process has been mailed to all water districts and approved SMAs.

For questions about the tax exemption law and to receive the certification form, call the Department of Revenue at:

(800) 647-7706 (General Information)  
(360) 786-6100 (General Information)  
(360) 753-3217 (for Alternate Language Format)

For questions about the required Department of Health certification and to receive the certification form, call (360) 664-8099.

## **L&I Clarifies Plumbing Statute's Application to Backflow Assembly Tester Work**

The Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) has provided clarification to DOH on how a state plumbing statute (RCW 18.106) relates to backflow prevention assembly work performed by DOH-certified backflow assembly testers (BATs) who are not certified plumbers. L&I is responsible for administering the certification and compliance requirements of the plumbing statute. This issue was recently raised when a DOH certified BAT was fined by L&I for doing unauthorized plumbing work.

Under the statute, plumbing is defined as, "the craft involved in installing, altering, repairing and renovating potable water systems... *within* buildings." Based on the clarification provided by L&I, routine cleaning and flushing of backflow prevention assemblies within buildings is *not* considered "repair" work and does not require plumber certification. Therefore, BATs who are not certified plumbers may perform such work within buildings and not be in violation of the plumbing statute.

However, for backflow prevention assemblies located *within* buildings, L&I requires plumber certification for:

- Replacement of internal components, such as O-rings, gaskets, springs, discs, and seats (considered repair and renovation);
- Replacement of assembly shutoff valves;
- Replacement of defective backflow prevention assemblies (considered installation and possibly alteration and renovation depending on the work performed); and
- New installations of assemblies.

BATs who are not certified plumbers and perform such backflow prevention assembly "repair" and/or "installation" work within buildings are violating the plumbing statute.

L&I may take enforcement action and impose monetary penalties against violators of the plumbing statute. L&I does not take a BAT's experience level into account when enforcing the provisions of the plumbing statute (i.e. selective enforcement). It should also be noted that the plumbing statute only applies to work performed *within* buildings.

For further information about the plumbing statute and how it applies to work performed by BATs, contact Kevin Morris, Chief, Contractor Compliance/Plumber Certification, Department of Labor and Industries, at (360) 902-5578.



American Water Works Association (AWWA)  
Small System Operational Support Hotline  
1 (800) 366-0107

## **DOH Gears up GWI Implementation Program**

Another new acronym is coming your way as DOH gears up for implementation of the GWI determination program. What is

“GWI” you say? GWI refers to “Ground Water sources under the direct Influence of surface water.” The federal Surface Water Treatment Rule, which was enacted in 1989, requires states to determine which public water system ground water sources may have surface water intruding into them. A GWI source is potentially at risk of contamination by such intrusion because of disease causing organisms such as Giardia lamblia and Cryptosporidium that live in surface water sources.

Washington has adopted a four-step process to make GWI determinations. The first step has been completed by DOH. This involved a data base query and listing of “potential GWI sources” based on type of source and construction features. All springs, infiltration galleries, and Ranney wells have been placed on this list. All shallow wells with a depth of less than 50 feet, or a screened interval at less than 50 feet from the ground surface, that are located within 200 horizontal feet of surface water are also included on the potential GWI list.

The second step will require water system purveyors to monitor simple ground water and nearby surface water quality conditions to determine if a correlation can be made between the two sources. Springs will be monitored independently in most cases. This step will produce a monitoring report that will provide information necessary to determine if there is a hydraulic connection between the ground and surface water. If a hydraulic connection is established, the water system would proceed to the third step of the process, which in most cases would involve monitoring the ground water for biological indicators of surface water using the microscopic particulate analysis (MPA). If DOH labels a source as a GWI after this step, the appropriate treatment technology or watershed control/monitoring plan would be designed and implemented as the fourth step of the process. Options at this point may include filtration, avoidance of filtration, or a “limited alternative to filtration.”

Further details and technical assistance regarding the implementation of the GWI determination program will be provided by DOH at four workshops this month throughout the state (see box). By the time you receive this copy of the Water Tap, you should already have received the announcement for these workshops if you have any sources labeled as potential GWIs. Contact Jim Skalski at (360) 664-8734 for workshop information and registration.



## WAC Workshops Move Rulemaking Process Along

## New Filing Period for Claims to Vested Water Rights

In late July, approximately 300 people attended workshops in Yakima, Tumwater, Edmonds and Spokane, to discuss proposed revisions to the State Board of Health’s regulations for Group A Public Water Systems (chapter 246-290 WAC). The workshops described the proposed WAC changes, outlined current rulemaking and regulatory reform requirements, and allowed attendees the opportunity to share their concerns and suggestions.

Some of the topics that received the most attention in the discussions included:

- Requirements to disinfect after loss of pressure (section 451)
- Water system planning requirements, especially financial viability provisions (section 100)
- Cross-connection control provisions (section 490)
- Reliability requirement to maintain positive pressure at all times (section 420); and
- Water demand provisions (section 221)

DOH staff are compiling and responding to written comments and comments received at the workshops (deadline for comments was August 31). The next step in the rulemaking process is to adjust the proposed changes based on comments received. Staff will then begin cost/benefit, “least burdensome,” and other analyses now required of significant rule proposals under regulatory reform laws.

If you would like a copy of the comment/response document or have other questions about the process, contact Tom Jaenicke at (360) 753-7432, Fax: (360) 586-5529. Email: THJ0303@hub.doh.wa.gov

<b>GWI DETERMINATION WORKSHOPS</b> (12:30 pm.-5:00 p.m.)
<i>Sept. 18, 1997 SPOKANE</i> DSHS Gateway Bldg., Suite 201, 901 East 2nd
<i>Sept. 19, 1997 WENATCHEE</i> WSDOT Maintenance/admin. Bldg, Conference Rm., 2830 Euclid Ave.
<i>Sept. 24, 1997 LACEY</i> Attorney General’s Office, Conference Center, 4224 6th Ave. SE - Building 1
<i>Sept. 25, 1997 EVERETT</i> DSHS Bldg A, Rm. 103, 840 North Broadway

The 1997 Legislature opened a new Water Rights Claims filing period. From September 1, 1997, until June 30, 1998, eligible

water users not covered by a water certificate, permit, or existing claim may file a claim for a right to use water. About 165,000 Statements of Claim are currently recorded on the Water Right Claims Registry, which was first opened during 1969-1974.

You are eligible to file with the Department of Ecology during the 1997 opening if you, or a previous property owner:

- began diverting and using surface water before June 7, 1917, AND continue to do so, AND have not previously filed a claim or other water right document, or
- began withdrawing and using ground water before June 7, 1945, AND continue to do so, AND have not previously filed a claim or other water right document, or
- used water which is riparian to the natural water course AND you can show the lands upon which water is used were taken out of federal ownership prior to 1917 AND the water was put to beneficial use before 1932, AND you have not previously filed a claim.

*The 1997 legislation specifically exempts some water users from filing.* You are not eligible to file a claim during the 1997 opening if you or a previous property owner:

- are exempt from the ground water permit requirement (an “exempt well” under RCW 90.44.050). An example of this

would be a single or group domestic use of under 5,000 gallons of ground water a day (there is no exemption for surface water); or

- began using water after June 7, 1917 for surface water, or after June 7, 1945 for ground water, or
- use water under an existing water right permit, certificate, or previously filed Statement of Claim, or
- are subject to a general adjudication during this time period, such as the Yakima River Basin (for a list of general adjudications presently filed in this state, call the Ecology contact person listed below); or
- are in an area where a ground water management plan has been adopted by rule, which establishes an acreage expansion program (this currently applies to those ground water users within the Odessa Subarea); or
- are served by a water company, district, or utility that is operating under an existing state-issued permit, certificate, or previously filed statement of claim. If these water servers need to file a claim, it will be filed on behalf of all their customers.

To obtain a packet of information on filing claims, call 1-800-468-0261 and leave a message containing your name and complete mailing address. If you are eligible, your form must be filed with the Ecology office in Olympia no later than June 30, 1998. There is a nonrefundable \$2.00 filing fee (checks or money orders only). For more information, contact Candy Pittman at (360) 407-6738.

## Training Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone number</u>
Sept. 16	AWWA South Sound Subsection Short School	Olympia	Dee Ann Meachan	(360) 491-9250
Sept. 18	GWI Determination Workshop	Spokane	Jim Skalski	(360) 664-8734
Sept. 19	GWI Determination Workshop	Wenatchee	Jim Skalski	(360) 664-8734
Sept. 24	GWI Determination Workshop	Lacey	Jim Skalski	(360) 664-8734
Sept. 25	GWI Determination Workshop	Everett	Jim Skalski	(360) 664-8734
Sept. 30	WA State Drinking Water Priorities	Lynnwood	WETRC	1-800-562-0858
Oct. 2	WA State Drinking Water Priorities	Richland	WETRC	1-800-562-0858
Nov. 13	AWWA Teleconf. “The Educated Consumer - Communicating with & Involving the Public in Drinking Water Issues”	Olympia/ Everett/Pasco Spokane/Clarkston	Judy Grycko	(503) 246-5845
Nov. 20	AWWA South Sound Subsection - Clayvalve Workshop, Tour of Correctional Facilities Water Treatment Plant	Shelton	Dee Ann Meachan	(360) 491-9250

## Regional Issues Southwest Region’s Surface Water Systems

This is the last article in a three-part series on surface water systems in Washington, and features the DOH Southwest

Region. Surface water systems in DOH Eastern and Northwest regions were featured in the March and June issues of the

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Water Tap. Because surface water sources may be vulnerable to microbiological contamination, DOH has made their protection a priority.

Surface water systems in the Southwest Region have made dramatic progress in achieving compliance with the federal and state Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR). In 1993 when the SWTR went into effect, there were approximately 125 treatment technique violations and 80 monitoring violations by systems in each quarter. Currently there are fewer than 10 treatment technique violations and fewer than 15 monitoring violations, per quarter. The number of systems originally under various levels of enforcement for the SWTR has been reduced from 35 in 1993 to nine today.

The *Town of Cathlamet* is nearing the end of a long battle to replace its surface water treatment plant. The town awarded a bid earlier this year to begin the first phase of a treatment plant and distribution system upgrade. Phase II of this project is expected to be bid for construction by the end of this year. The town has been trying to update its treatment plant for the past ten years. Water right and funding issues have been the primary road blocks to improving drinking water quality and service reliability for approximately 2000 residents utilizing the Cathlamet and Puget Island water systems.

The *City of Aberdeen's* surface water filtration project is at the top of the list for potential Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) recipients. March storms this year damaged its watershed and created an urgent need to implement filtration soon. It is anticipated the City will receive a \$1 million dollar PWTF loan later this year for preconstruction activities and a \$7 million dollar loan next year for construction. The construction loan is subject to legislative approval. The City would like to have the project completed by early 1999.

The majority of the Neilton Community obtains drinking water service from two public water supplies; *the Neilton Cooperative Water Company* and *Meadowland Water Service*. Both systems serve a similar number of customers and have similar sources of supply. The similarities of the water systems also extend to non-compliance with state and federal drinking water regulations. Grays Harbor County hired an engineering consultant, with a grant from the US Forest Service, to evaluate compliance options for the two water systems. The consultant met with community representatives and county and state officials to discuss options and costs, and then prepared a draft report. In general, the lowest cost project will include filtration for both sources of supply, an intertie between the two distribution systems, some pipe replacement and intake modification. Project completion is anticipated by the end of 1998. The schedule is dependent on acquisition of funding and resolution of ownership/management issues. The

systems are currently pilot testing several alternate technologies for surface water treatment.

*Naselle Water Company* completed construction of a new slow sand filter and distribution upgrades earlier this year in order to comply with the SWTR. This project enables the water system to serve additional properties in the area for the first time in over five years. It also enables service to be provided to the Naselle Youth Camp, which was also out of compliance with SWTR.

*Tretteviks RV Park* recently completed construction of a slow sand filtration system and is currently going through start-up testing. The project should be complete by the 1998 tourist season.

*Port Townsend* is working with and has an agreement with the US Forest Service on watershed protection. The City expects to complete contact time enhancement projects by the end of 1998.

For questions on surface water systems in the Southwest Region, call (360) 664-0768 and ask for the engineer assigned to the particular county where the system is located.

## **Corrosion Control Treatment Requirements...DOH Offers Assistance to Small Systems**

The February release of EPA's "Guidance Manual for Selecting Corrosion Control Strategies," has enabled DOH to begin offering assistance this month to small water systems in the selection of a corrosion control treatment process. Systems whose 90th percentile results have exceeded the federal Action Levels for lead and/or copper are required under state and federal regulations to enter into the corrosion control treatment process. Historically the selection process for corrosion control treatment has been expensive and cumbersome for small systems. The option to have DOH complete the selection will allow systems to focus more of their resources towards getting treatment facilities constructed.

Systems will still need to obtain the services of a private consultant (Professional Engineer) to oversee the design and installation of the selected treatment.

DOH will charge a fee of \$162.00 for the first source and \$81.00 for each additional source to make the corrosion control selection for each system requesting this DOH service. Information packets will be mailed to affected systems in the next few months. For questions, call Chris McCord at (360) 664-0010.

### **Dear Dr. Drip:**

Everywhere I go I see people drinking water bottled in real pretty containers and I wonder if they are smarter, better informed than me, and I'm missing out. I thought I'd try some myself, but when I got to the store I couldn't decide as the shelves were lined with spring water, mineral water, purified

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water, sparkling water, well water, and some of it stated right on the label that it was city water! I know my drinking water is safe because they test it all the time, but some of my neighbors on the same system have water filters installed in their homes! So what's going on here?

Sincerely, Indy Woods



Dear Indy Woods:

In recent years, the popularity of bottled water and home water treatment devices has increased dramatically. A recent survey conducted by the American Water Works Association Research Foundation revealed that nearly half (43%) of the adults questioned used bottled water at least some of the time and for a variety of reasons, including convenience, taste preference and as a substitute for soft drinks, coffees and teas. Fourteen percent of those polled said they used a home water treatment device other than a water softener. With hundreds of bottled water products and home water treatment devices to choose from, it makes good sense to investigate the product before purchasing.

There are approximately 700 brands of bottled water sold in the United States alone. The most common kinds are spring water, mineral water, purified water, sparkling water, and well water. Considered a food product, bottled water is regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), while tap water, a utility product is regulated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The reauthorized Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996 requires that the FDA establish regulations for bottled water equivalent to those for tap water. Bottlers are also self-regulated by the International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) which represents 85 percent of bottled water companies.

Of the hundreds of home water treatment devices available, there are three basic kinds--those that install where the water supply enters the home, those that install at the point of use, such as a faucet, and the countertop pour-through variety. Used individually or in combination, the main categories of home water treatment technology include activated carbon filtration, reverse osmosis and distillation. While different types of filters remove different substances from the water, all require regular maintenance to ensure proper performance. Prices range from under \$100 to well over \$1,000. For your money to be well spent, make sure the device you purchase is the most cost-effective means of solving your particular problem.

Whether to purchase bottled water or install a home treatment device is, in the final analysis, a personal decision. If your tap water consistently meets federal, state or provincial drinking water standards, it is not necessary to use either bottled water or a home water treatment device to have safe water to drink. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests that individuals with weak or suppressed immune systems either boil their tap water for one minute, install a reverse osmosis water treatment device that is clearly identified on the product package to have an "absolute one micron" filter, or use distilled water.

To learn more about your drinking water, water conservation, and how you can protect water resources, contact your local water utility, state health department, regional EPA office or the Public Affairs Department of American Water Works Association.

Numbers to know:

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791  
FDA Consumer Inquire Line: 800-532-4440  
NSF International: 800-673-8010

Did you know.....

50% of bottled water manufacturers get their water from the same sources as municipal water departments

*American Water Works*

IBWA Hotline: 800-928-3711  
AWWA: (303) 794-7711

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The Washington State Department of Agriculture, regulates bottled water as a food product. For questions call (360) 902-1876.

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## **TAP-TIPS.....Water System Maintenance:**

Do you remember the last time someone climbed up and opened the hatch to your storage tank? While the weather is still gorgeous, it would be an excellent time to make a storage tank inspection. Check the screens on your vent and overflow, and clean any debris off the top of the tank. Also, you can make sure insects, birds or rodents haven't made their home near your drinking water supply. If you do it now, you don't have to deal with the cold or ice.

Do you recall the last time your storage tank was cleaned? If you can't remember, fall is a great time to schedule a tank cleaning.

Lastly, remember that for safety reasons, no matter what the weather, always take along a buddy!

Visit the Drinking Water Program's publication page on the internet: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/newpub2.htm>

From our publication list, select the appropriate category and then select the underlined publication. Currently the following publications are available (free Adobe Acrobat reader required):

Category: General

- 1996 Annual Report of the Drinking Water Program
- Drinking Water Program Legislative Report (Water Supply Advisory Committee (WSAC) report)
- Issues of the Water Tap newsletter

Category: Planning

- Water System Planning Handbook, April 1997

Category: Fees

- Water System Evaluation & Project Review & Approval Fees (WAC 246-290-990)

In this issue: The following individuals have contributed to the production of this issue of the Water Tap. John Aden, Peter Beaton, Tom Jaenicke, Peggy Johnson, Jennifer Kropack, Jim McCauley, Chris McCord, Dave Monthie, Terri Notestine, Mike Olden, Linda Pilkey-Jarvis (DOE), Skip Richards (WSAC Chair) and Judy J. Sides, Editor.

Comments and questions are welcome. Please write: Editor, the Water Tap, Department of Health, Division of Drinking Water, P.O. Box 47822, Olympia, WA 98504-7822 or email to

DWINFO@hub.doh.wa.gov 



**Reminder...DWSRF** preapplications must be post marked by 10/1/97 or hand delivered to any DOH office by 5 pm on 10/1/97. Mail completed original plus four copies to: Division of Drinking Water, Attn: Carolyn Terry, P.O. Box 47822, Olympia, WA 98504-7822. Applications are available on diskette or hard copy. To obtain an application and for assistance in completing the application, call your regional office. Southwest Region (360) 664-0768, Northwest Region (206) 464-7670, Eastern Region (509) 456-3115.

## **Drinking Water Publications, on the Internet**

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***Washington State Drinking Water Priorities Workshops 1997-98***

*September 30, 1997 in Lynnwood, WA*

*October 2, 1997 in Richland, WA*

*In Washington call toll free 1-800-562-0858*

*Others call (253) 833-9111, ext. 3369*

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