



Wyoming Waters

WYOMING WATER QUALITY & POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION



Photo By: : Jared Cooksey

The Hotline

The hotline is here for you to contact operators around the state that have volunteered to try and help out with water issues. Offering advice and “been there done that” information to Wyoming water/wastewater system operators. The following individuals are available, by phone, to assist you.

Collections

Jay Haughton 307– 637-6471

Distribution

Frank Fritzler 307-686-5265

Wastewater Treatment

Matt Buelow 307-214 - 3716

Water Treatment

Michelle Christopher 307-259-8239

Water Wells

Victor Spencer 307-220-0206

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307-721-5204

1 year term

Jay Haughton

307-637-6471

Ron Macioszek

307-872-0540

Matt Heilbrun

307-532-2012

Steve Rech

307-371-7338

Alternate Board Member

The more you know



(d) The term "first responder" refers to those individuals who in the early stages of an incident are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment, including **emergency response**



providers as defined in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101), as well as emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works, and other skilled support personnel (such as equipment operators) that provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations.

Homeland Security Presidential Directive / HSPD-8

 irp.fas.org/offdocs/nspd/hspd-8.html

AND KNOWING IS HALF THE BATTLE!



Water and Wastewater Operators – the First Responders in the Shadows

After September 11, 2001, many things changed. Rules about airports, rules about security, chemical storage, biohazards... and water and wastewater personnel. Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-8) defines a first responder as an individual who in the early stages of an incident are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence and the environment including emergency responders as defined in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 USC 01) as well as emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works and other skilled support personnel (such as equipment operators) that provide immediate support services during prevention, response and recovery operations. With this directive, water and wastewater operators became included as first responders.

Fast forward to February 2013: Presidential Policy Directive 21 (PPD-21) lists the Water and Wastewater Sector as one of the sixteen critical infrastructure sectors whose assets are so vital to the country that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof. This designation created a plan that has the goal of making the water and wastewater systems of the United States resilient to risks, both physical and cyber. This was the start of the WARNs (Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network).

Then COVID-19 happened, and the world was thrown into a pandemic that nobody was quite prepared for. As Stay-At-Home mandates were issued, water and wastewater operators were listed as “Essential Workers” and were expected to show up, albeit in masks and socially distanced to opposite sides of the truck.

Water and Wastewater operators have always been a critical part of emergency response, in the prevention of disasters, during disasters, and always in the cleanup of disasters. Often these dedicated individuals are not given the recognition that more visible positions such as fire, police and EMS are given. Sometimes, it’s even hard for them to respond to take care of their infrastructure during emergencies when uncredentialed folks are kept out of certain areas. Designation of water and wastewater operators as emergency personnel with appropriate credentialing could change this. The Town of Opal has adopted a resolution designating public work personnel as emergency personnel. Join this community in supporting the water and wastewater operators who are supporting their communities by providing safe, reliable drinking water and wastewater services. If you have any questions about adopting this resolution in your own community, please contact Michelle Christopher at mchristopher@warws.com.

RESOLUTION 2024-002

A RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE TOWN OF OPAL, WYOMING, TO THE WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES (WAM) ADVOCATING FOR LEGISLATION TO DESIGNATE PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES AS EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

WHEREAS, THE GOVERNING BODY of the Town of Opal hereby requests Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM) to support and advocate that public works personnel, water and wastewater operators be considered emergency personnel.

WHEREAS, Police, Fire and EMS workers are designated emergency response because they provide vital support during emergencies.

WHEREAS, Public works personnel such as water and wastewater operators are essential to our communities during an emergency, they keep the water flowing and the waste leaving.

WHEREAS, Other emergency response workers would not have the ability to provide our communities with the needed essential services of water and wastewater.

WHEREAS, We desire this designation of public works employees to be emergency personnel so we can ensure, in the event of an emergency, they will be able to keep our town systems functioning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY of the Town of Opal, that Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM), advocate for public works employees to be designated as emergency personnel.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 12TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024.

TOWN OF OPAL, WYOMING

Anthony J. Ritzdorf, Mayor

ATTEST:

SEAL:

Laura Gerber, Clerk/Treasurer

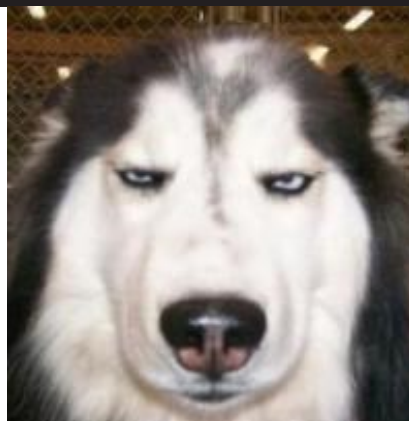


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How do you get a country girl's attention?

You a tractor



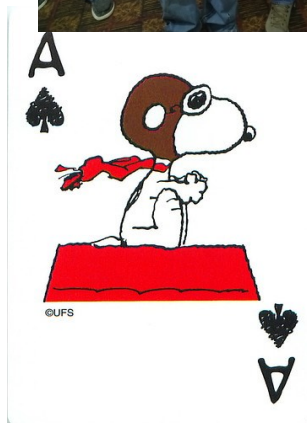
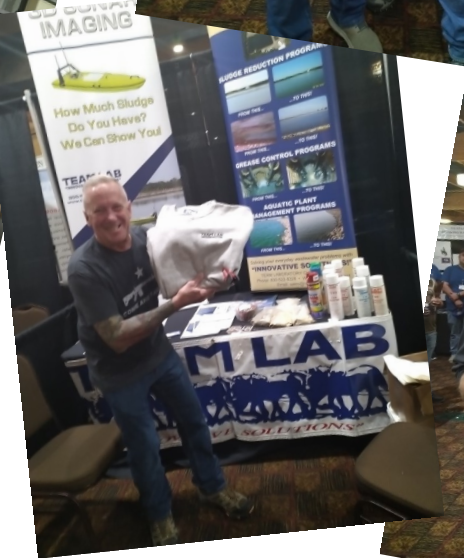
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Pug
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POKER RUN ON TUESDAY NIGHT A
GREAT EVENT!







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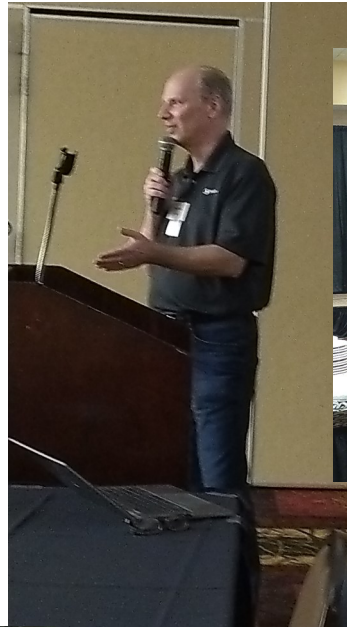
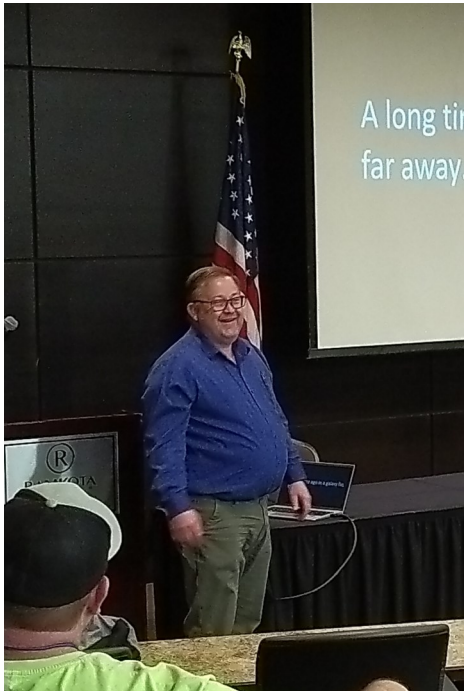
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Associate Members

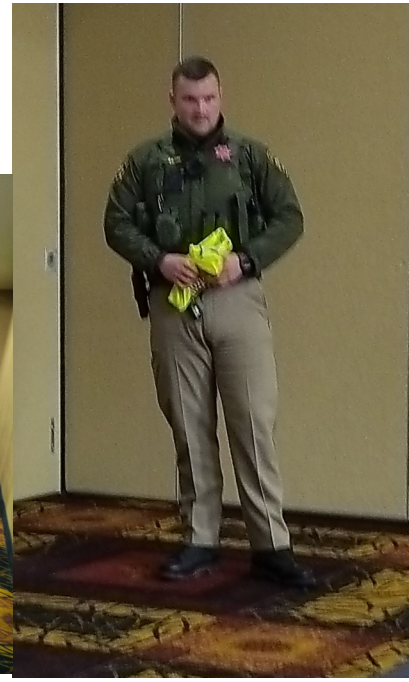
Vendor Name	Contact Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Description of product/service being displayed
Energy Management Corporation	Daniel Kennedy	307-251-0798	Dkennedy@goemc.com	Electric Motor, Industrial Generators, Drives and Motor Control Panels. All sales and Service.
Chlorinators	Chris Myers	772-288-4854	Regal@regalchlorinators.com	Chlorination Equipment
Titus Wastewater Solutions, Inc.	Gina Lathan	877-582-9899	Gina@tituswvs.com	<p>TITUS Twister Mixing Aerator: Designed to address common wastewater issues including F.O.G. (fats, oils, grease), odor, corrosion and blockages with effective aeration and mixing. Common applications include pump stations, lift stations, wet wells, municipal, industrial and commercial.</p> <p>TITUS Twister-FL Floating Mixing Aerator: Designed to provide efficient and effective aeration and mixing, as a viable solution for sludge, odor issues, limited equipment adaptability/versatility, high maintenance costs, stringent discharge requirements, cold weather issues, safety, and high operational costs in lagoons and large tanks.</p>
Imperial Pump Solutions	Joe McVey	970-443-8547	Joe@ips307.com	Water and Wastewater pump sales, service and repair
Sunrise Engineering	Mark Davidson	307-780-8800	MDAVIDSON@SUNRISE-ENG.COM	Sunrise Engineering is a civil and municipal engineering company.
Kois Brothers Equipment Company, Inc.	Jesse McKinley	800-672-6010	Jmckinley@koisbrothers.com	Selling quality equipment to professionals in the water, sewer, construction, solid waste, truck and utility industries for over 55 years and actively working in Wyoming since 1985. Super Products Camel products with jetting, vacuuming and parts for the liquid waste industry. Supplying rentals and new sales of all equipment.

2023 Conference Classes





When you need to keep the class in order!



WATER EXPERTS: WYOMING CAN'T AVOID POTENTIAL 'DOOMSDAY' COLORADO RIVER CRISIS

From Wyoming, the growing crisis spurred by prolonged drought along the Colorado River through seven Western may seem like the distant troubles of others.

But Wyoming also is poised to be impacted by the strain of the crisis that some fear is approaching a "doomsday" scenario.

"What does it mean for Wyoming? Flaming Gorge is being used for what it was originally intended for, to buffer the system," University of Wyoming professor Tom Minckley told Cowboy State Daily. "The 'bank account' (of the river's water) is starting to run empty, and this is the reserve account.

"Now, they're starting to go into the change drawers and see what's there."

Flaming Gorge Release

Earlier this year, 500,000 acre-feet of water was released from Flaming Gorge to ease the increasingly desperate need for water in Lake Powell, Lake Mead and elsewhere down the Colorado River Drainage, Minckley said.

An acre-foot is enough water to cover an acre of land in a foot of water.

Wyoming should expect to be asked for more releases from Flaming Gorge, said Minckley, a paleoecologist with UW's Department of Geology and Geosciences.

**Wyoming Legally Obligated
UW law professor Jason Robison agrees.**

Along with several other states along the river's main drainage at its tributaries, Wyoming is bound to the 1922 Colorado River Compact, he said.

"Wyoming is a part of the Colorado River Compact, and the compact imposes flow obligations on Wyoming," he said. "What those flow obligations really mean to me is, Wyoming is connected to Mexico. Wyoming is connected to the other upper (Colorado River) basin states and the lower basin states."

As water levels drop, there's been talk of a "doomsday scenario" along the Colorado River, which is a major agricultural and hydropower lifeline for the Western United States and Mexico.

Prolonged Drought

Minckley in 2019 was part of a UW-led venture that retraced the route of the 1869 John Wesley Powell expedition down the Green and Colorado rivers.

That year was exceptionally wet. Most notably, a June storm dumped huge amounts of snow on parts of Wyoming.

"That storm caught us on our expedition and sent massive amounts of water downstream," he said. "We were rafting on the melt runoff from that storm."

However, one wet year hardly makes up for more than two decades of drought along the Colorado River and across the West, he said.

It All Flows From Wyoming

Wyoming has much of the high-altitude real estate which gets the snow that in turn feeds the Colorado River drainage, Minckley said. And even during good snowfall years, the extended drought has left the mountains struggling to feed the river.

"We're in a 22-year-long drought. If the snow doesn't come, Wyoming can't send water downstream," he said. "If the snow does come, the atmosphere is warm, so it's going to take some of the water. And the soil is dry, so it's going to take some more of the water."

“Everybody’s trying to figure out, ‘How do we manage this?’” he added. “Snowpack used to tell us something about the prospects for the coming year. Now, it doesn’t.”

And that complicates things, Robison said, because roughly 90% of the Colorado River’s water comes from snowpack in Wyoming and the other upper basin states.

Big Obligations

That amounts to some big obligations, Robison said.

Under the Colorado River Compact, the upper basin states are expected to provide 75 million acre-feet of flow per decade, as measured at Lees Ferry in Arizona, he said.

Mexico, the river’s end user, is entitled to 1.5 million acre-feet per year.

And along with the downstream states and Mexico, Wyoming has to bear in mind the water flow expectations of 30 Native American sovereignties, he added, including the Navajo Nation.

Why Lees Ferry?

Though its geographically “nowhere,” Lees Ferry was designated as a flow measuring point for a couple of reasons, Robison said.

First, it represents sort of the “narrow point in the hourglass” between the upper and lower basins of the Colorado River, he said.

Also, the river is accessible for taking flow measurements there. Elsewhere in the region, it’s typically running through steep canyons or gorges.

Century-Old Rules

Robison is an expert on the 1922 Colorado River Compact. He recently edited a book on the subject, published in time for the compact’s 100th anniversary. He and Minckley also recently attended a University of Arizona symposium on the document’s centennial.

However, things might get lively in Las Vegas when the Colorado River Water Users Association (CRWUA) meets Dec. 14-16 in Las Vegas. Robison will attend, and the meeting will bring together representatives from all the states and other parties involved.

“The centennial (of the compact) is arriving under some auspicious circumstances,” Robison said. It’s the middle of a drought and with ever-increasing demand on the river.

Not The Same River

Given the drought, as well as large cities and agricultural demands that didn’t exist in 1922, the Colorado is essentially a different river than it was when the compact was written and implemented, Robison and Minckley said.

That could raise the question of whether it’s time for a new set of rules.

Regardless, it’s going to take cooperation and “sacrifice” on the part of all involved, Robison said. In Wyoming, that’s likely to mean hard choices for agricultural irrigation along the Green River.

Meanwhile, Wyoming and the other Western states can’t operate in isolation, Robison said.

Water shortages are becoming a problem around the globe and “the eyes of the world” are going to be on the CRWUA conference and the parties’ resulting decisions, he said. It could become a template for how to handle potentially cantankerous matters of water rights and shortages.

That’s important, because water shortages could become flashpoints for conflicts around the world, Robison said.

**Thursday night closing party
live music from**

Buffalo Scout



PARTY

Thursday night (10-26-23) Games, prizes and refreshments. Time to make and strengthen bonds with colleagues. Food, Refreshment and friends what a great way to end the week!

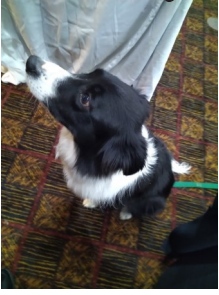


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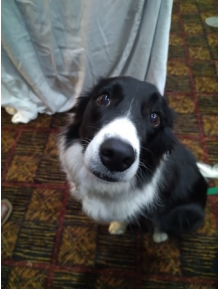
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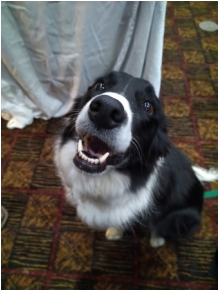
Monday!



Wednesday!

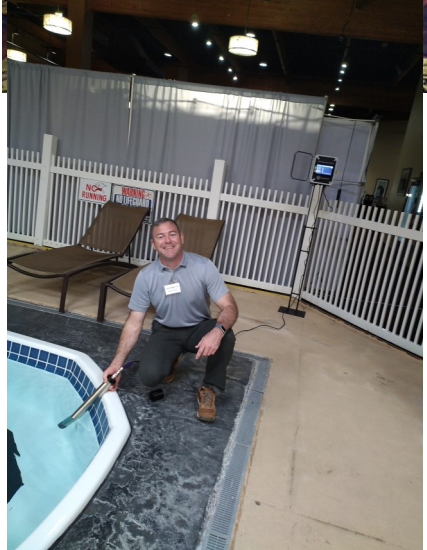
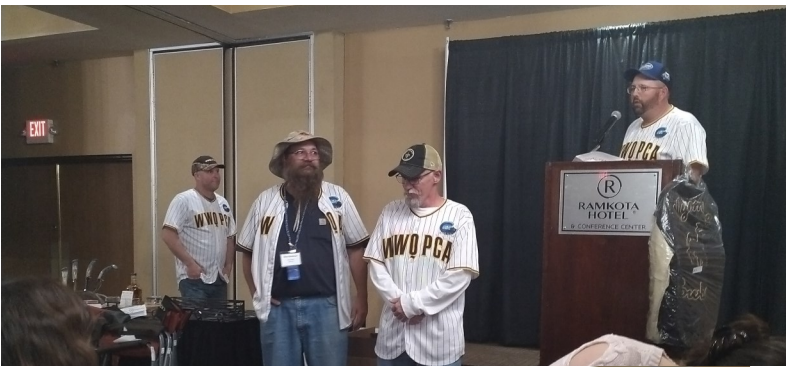
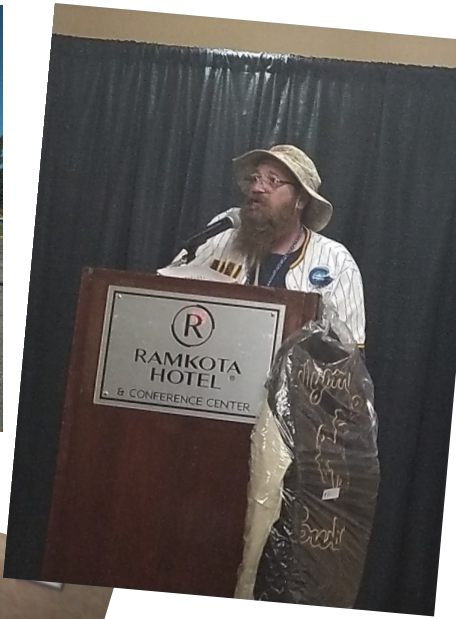


**Thursday
night**



**ALL WORK AND NO PLAY MAKES FOR A
LONG WEEK SO WHEN WE CAN WE GET
THEM OUT OF THOSE ROOMS AND
HAVING FUN WITH THEIR PEERS!**





The Secrets of Visionary Thinkers

5 Steps to Living in Possibility

BY SUSAN ROBERTSON

We tend to believe that famous innovators or other “creative” people have some inherent quality that the rest of us don’t have. But the truth is—they don’t. They’ve simply cracked the code on how to consistently live in possibility instead of living in obstacle.

Visionary thinkers see possibilities. Always. Most of us mostly see obstacles, most of the time. We move through work, and life, by addressing whatever the next obstacle is that falls into our path. We problem-solve the next issue on a project, we deal with the next customer complaint, we address the next challenge with our kids. But too rarely do we look up, survey the world, and make a conscious choice to shape our world to make it the way we want it to be.

Visionary thinkers make that daily choice—to imagine the possibility of a different world, to hold on to that vision, and to refuse to let the obstacles limit their thinking. They live in possibility.

Visionary thinkers are open-minded, innovative, imaginative, willing to take risks, optimistic, and collaborative—all skills related to creative thinking. They regularly imagine, consider, and pursue new ideas and solutions.

The good news is that all these creative thinking skills are learnable! Anyone can become a more visionary thinker by learning to leverage the creative genius that’s already hidden inside.

One of the primary barriers to living in possibility is the negativity bias, a cognitive bias, or mental shortcut, that all humans share. It’s the phenomenon that negative experiences have a greater impact on our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors than positive experiences do. That seems counterintuitive, but a wealth of research shows that negative affects us more than positive. As a result, we are much more motivated to avoid negative than to seek positive.

Our brains have evolved to excel at identifying potential negative so we can avoid them. It’s a survival mechanism, and it happens in the most primitive part of our brain, the amygdala. The

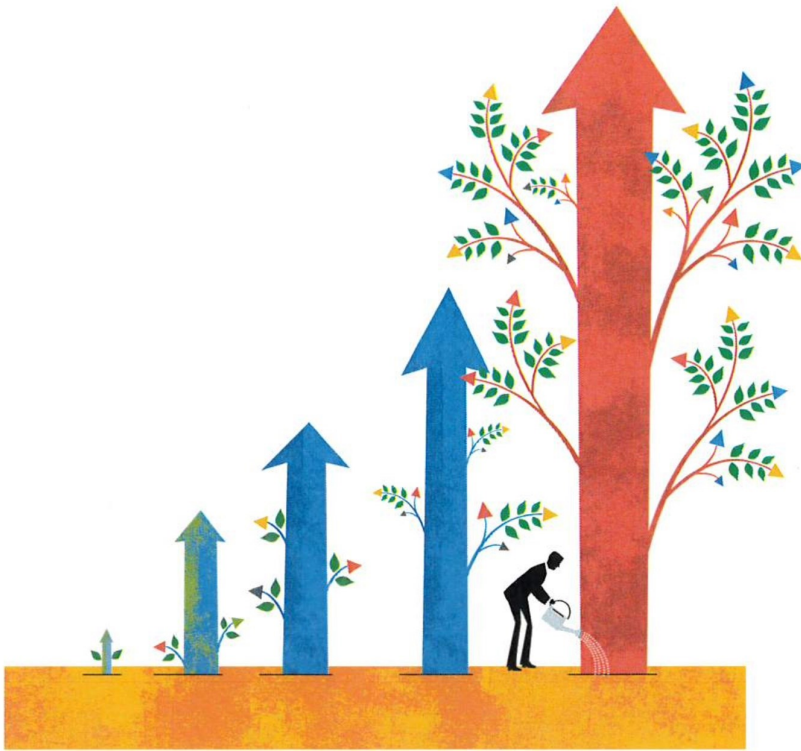
amygdala is responsible for detecting threats and triggering the fight-or-flight response. It’s laser-focused and lightning fast at identifying potential problems. This instant identification of negatives is what can trap us into living in obstacle.

Living in possibility requires refusing to let the negativity bias rule our thinking. There are a few steps that can make a significant impact, helping us manage around this pitfall and transform the way we think.

#1 Pinpoint the problem.

First, we must be able to spot when the negativity bias is at work. The easiest way to do that is by monitoring one simple phrase: “Yes, but....” On the surface, these words seem innocuous. And because we say them and hear them so frequently, they don’t seem like a problem.

But this short phrase is a massive blockade to creative and visionary thinking. It dismisses any potential positives in an idea or concept before



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even identifying what those positives might be. Instead, it focuses the energy and attention of both the speaker and the listeners on all the possible negatives. This can easily overwhelm any idea and immediately kill it.

#2 Manage your mind.

Once you've determined the negativity bias is at work (someone said "yes, but..."), the next step is to make a conscious choice to change your thinking. The key is to first identify the potential positives in any idea before focusing on the negatives.

This sounds easy, but it's actually quite hard. It's counter to a basic instinct, so it really does require a conscious choice to think this way,

plus very real discipline to put it into practice regularly.

#3 Nix the negatives.

The next critical step is to refrain from saying the negatives out loud—not yet anyway. The truth is, regardless that you've consciously chosen to identify the positives first, your brain will subconsciously identify the negatives anyway. It's instinctive and instant. Even while you're enumerating positives, your brain will be busy identifying negatives, too. But the simple trick of not saying those negatives out loud will help dramatically. Force yourself to speak out loud—and write down—the positives first.

#4 Teach the team.

When working with others, ask them to do the same. Help them understand that letting our natural negativity bias dominate the conversation has the potential to immediately kill any idea. Let everyone know that, of course, there will be a time to solve the problems, but the first task is to identify the potential the idea holds. If there aren't enough potential positives, then it's time to move to a new idea.

But if the idea is visionary and can make a real difference, it's imperative to hold off on the negativity bias momentarily and allow the brilliance of the idea to shine through.

#5 Transform the troublesome term

Once the above steps have led you to a potentially winning idea, it's time to address the problems with it. To continue to remain in possibility, you must change the conversation; you cannot return to "yes, but..." language.

Instead, articulate the challenges as a "how might we...?" question. So, instead of saying "Yes, but it's too expensive," say, "How might we do it more affordably?" This trick of flipping a problem statement into a problem-solving question is a neuroscience brain hack that will revolutionize your thinking and problem-solving.

This process of identifying positive potential first is the only way to find big ideas. Every successful innovation, in any industry or endeavor, is the result of someone, or a team, choosing to live in possibility in this way.

Visionary thinking requires making space for ideas that, at first, seem scary or difficult. It takes some real courage to push past our immediate "yes, but..." response and instead focus the conversation on "what if...?" If we don't hold ourselves accountable to looking for the positives, we'll never consider or implement any truly new ideas. Visionary thinkers must master this skill and learn to live in possibility. 🌱

Susan Robertson is a creative thinking expert with more than 20 years of experience speaking and coaching in Fortune 500 companies.

WVO and PCA Award Winners



HONORARY MEMBER



UP THE CREEK SOCIETY



When you acquire twenty years of continuous membership with WMQ and PCA, you earn your paddle and are honored with entry to the Up the Creek Society. These amazing operators are the newest members of the society!



**WHEN A FOUNDER AND AWARD
NAME SAKE COMES TO SAY HI, YOU
ASSEMBLE THE TEAM AND TAKE IN
THE MOMENT!**

DR GAIL ZIMMERMAN



Dr Gail Zimmerman Award

This was established in 1988 to recognize Water and wastewater laboratory managers and technicians who have shown outstanding ability, aggressive learning, desire and exemplary service. Dr Zimmerman trained water and wastewater lab personnel at Casper College for over 20 years he has had an outstanding interest and devotion to the water and wastewater fields.



Water bill would help fund \$335M in projects, mostly to aid irrigators

Legislation would support \$118M LaPrele dam reconstruction and \$84M Goshen irrigation tunnel repair.

Wyoming's 2024 omnibus water construction bill calls for \$52.8 million in appropriations and account transfers to help fund a dizzying array of projects from the \$118 million LaPrele Dam replacement to the \$88.8 million Leavitt Reservoir expansion and the \$84 million Goshen irrigation tunnel repair.

The legislation's total spending falls shy of the projects' overall estimated costs because some funds have already been appropriated and other monies are expected to come from different sources, including federal aid. The bill nevertheless underscores the enormity of the state's water development projects and the importance developers and lawmakers place on them.

All told, the projects total more than \$335 million, almost all to benefit Wyoming. Downstream Nebraska irrigators would contribute substantially to the Goshen tunnel repair.

Most of the LaPrele reconstruction would be federally funded; Wyoming has appropriated \$30 million for that project so far. Similarly, the Goshen irrigation tunnel repair has received a \$21.8 million Wyoming appropriation and part of the total \$84 million cost would be shared with Nebraska.

In addition to the major projects listed above, the Wyoming Water Development Commission plans on spending \$25 million to secure more water from Fontenelle Reservoir and seeks to grant \$9.6 million toward the \$19.3 million cost to build the North Side Tank to enable residential growth in Laramie.

More than \$1.1 million is earmarked for cloud seeding in the Wind River, Sierra Madre and Medicine Bow mountains.

A variety of factors, from inflation to challenges obtaining construction materials to unexpectedly high bids, combine to swell the projects' anticipated expenses. That's perhaps most apparent at the proposed \$88.8 million Leavitt Reservoir expansion, a project that's grown to 223% the amount of the original 2015 estimates.

“Water resources will carve the future for our descendants.”

FRANK AND CAETY SCHMIDT

The \$52.8 million [Senate File 75 – Omnibus water bill-construction](#) was introduced Feb. 9. Water legislation is rarely challenged.

Expansion of the existing Leavitt Reservoir would see a dam 96 feet high and about a third of a mile long impounding a reservoir covering 210 acres. Located in Big Horn County's Shell Creek drainage east of Greybull, it would supply late-season irrigation and provide some ancillary benefits.

Originally estimated to cost \$39.8 million, most of the project would be funded with a grant of up to \$87.1 million from the Wyoming Water Development Commission. Irrigators who would use the stored water would receive a \$1.7 million, 50-year loan at 4%, a figure that adds up to no more than 1.93% of development costs.

The omnibus water bill would appropriate \$56.8 million to the project. The bill also authorizes the Water Development Commission to spend \$32 million from a contingency fund to build the impoundment.



Since 1970, our association of Wyoming water & wastewater operators have been assembling the best in training opportunities for operators across the state. Each year at our conferences in Casper we offer a wide variety of technical training, gathering the certification hours needed for licenses and career advancement, further developing your own skills.

The WWQ & PCA are proud to announce that we have developed a grant for small systems to help with training expenses and to keep the men and women in our field trained and up to date on state

federal and local policies and the latest available technology.



Who is it for?

The person must be an operator or Operator in Training and the scholarships will cover conference fees only. The attendee will be responsible for pre-conference and room and board. Systems less than 10,000 population are eligible, and the systems must apply by sending a letter of recommendation for one person per year per system.

Cutting-edge educational programming will be available ranging from well construction to generational management and equipment safety. You can choose from more than 36 hours of educational offerings designed to help you do your job more efficiently, easily, and cost effectively. Exhibitors will be showcasing the latest in equipment and technological innovations. Attendees from every sector of the industry will be present, expanding their knowledge on all things water-related will improve your bottom line. Smart employees educated in their field make better, more sustainable decisions. Learn from real-life experts in the field on subjects ranging from business management to groundwater supply. Keep current on issues affecting the industry and make life long contacts that can help in difficult situations and investigating solutions to your challenges. Find answers to the problems that keep you awake at night or help stop the hot button issues that may come up in your community.

**WYOMING WATER QUALITY AND
POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION
GRANT APPLICATION**

Date: _____

City: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Population must be under 10,000.

The operator/operators in training I am nominating: _____

(please print)



Recommendation

Nomination by: _____ Title: _____

(Please Print)

(Please Print)

WHO DO YOU KNOW THAT HAS BEEN A STAND OUT PERSON IN THEIR FIELD LIKE THESE PAST RECIPIENTS





**NOMINATE
SOMEONE NOW!**

You can nominate an individual or group in several ways: fill out the nomination form on the following pages and mail, fax or scan the nomination form and their work history and accomplishments back to WWQ, go to <https://www.wwqpca.com/>, click on the awards tab at the top and complete the nomination form there, or use the WWQ Facebook page, LinkedIn account or direct message it to @wwqpca and we will get you in touch with the awards committee.

Robert D. Karr Memorial Award

The first award given by the WWQ and PCA was to Bob Karr in 1974 for his effort in getting the Association functioning in the early years. A consulting engineer and part time instructor at the University of Wyoming he was one of the three organizers of the WWQ and PCA in 1970. After his death, the award was named in his honor and given each year to a person, group or municipality who has rendered outstanding assistance and support to the WWQ and PCA.

Fay "Dutch" Riebennacht Memorial Award

The second award established was the Fay "Dutch" Riebennacht Memorial Award in 1978 in memory of "Dutch". Dutch was a man who brought the wastewater plant in Evanston into compliance through outstanding operation, even though over-loaded. His dedication to self training, certification and plant operations was a credit to his personal integrity, and the water and wastewater treatment profession. This award is given to a Wyoming operator who has demonstrated outstanding ability, aggressive learning, desire and exemplary service in Wastewater Plant Operation.

Dr Robert L. Champlin Award

This award was established in 1985 to honor Dr. Champlin, University of Wyoming Engineering Department. He was one of three organizers of WWQ and PCA in 1970 he trained water treatment plant operators for 38 year and pioneered many of the operator training programs in Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain area. His interest and devotion to the water treatment field has been outstanding. The recipient of this award will be an operator who has shown outstanding ability, aggressive learning, desire and exemplary service in the water treatment field.

Robert L. Moore Award

This award was established in 1985 to honor Robert who was in the water distribution field for over 30 years. His interest and devotion to the water distribution field has been outstanding. His eagerness to train fellow operators was tireless, recipients of this award will be an operator who has shown outstanding ability, aggressive learning, desire and exemplary service in water distribution.

Day Evans Award

This award was authorized in 1985 to honor Day who was in the wastewater collection field for over 40 years. He gave his continuous service to the field and was outstanding in his desire to learn. Recipient of this award will be an operator who has shown who has shown outstanding ability, aggressive learning, desire and exemplary service in the wastewater collection field.

Dr Gail Zimmerman Award

This was established in 1988 to recognize Water and wastewater laboratory managers and technicians who have shown outstanding ability, aggressive learning, desire and exemplary service. Dr Zimmerman trained water and wastewater lab personnel at Casper College for over 20 years he has had an outstanding interest and devotion to the water and wastewater fields.

Good Housekeeping and Safety Award

In 1980 WWQ and PCA established a Good Housekeeping awards for a water and a wastewater plant to reward diligence in plant maintenance, cleanliness and safety. These aspects of the profession are very important and often over looked. Each year the WWQ and PCA gives out two awards one for water and one for wastewater.

George Oetken Vendor Appreciation Award

This award was established in 1992 to honor George who proposed that suppliers be invited to the 1976 annual conference at Riverton. He assembled a mailing list and thus began the vendor's program that has become a very important part of our conferences ever since. This Award will be given to a vendor who has been supportive of the association technically and financially.

George Michael Outstanding Achievement in Utility Management

Established in 2012 in honor of George Michael. George worked for the City of Green River Wastewater Treatment, Wastewater Collections, Storm Water Management, and Water Distribution systems for 26 years. Of that time he was the Utility Manager for 20 years. His management practices kept the divisions in good shape and left a lasting legacy for the City of Green River.

WWQ and PCA Award Nomination Form

- ◇ Robert D. Kerr Memorial Award for Outstanding service to WWQ and PCA (Membership is not a requirement)
- ◇ Dr. Robert L. Champlin Award for Exemplary Service in the Water Treatment Field
- ◇ Dutch Riebennacht Memorial Award for Exemplary Service in the Wastewater Treatment Field
- ◇ Robert Moore Award for Exemplary Service in the Water Distribution Field
- ◇ Day Evans Award for Exemplary Service in the Wastewater Collection Field
- ◇ Dr. Gail Zimmerman Award for Outstanding Service in the Water or Wastewater Laboratory Field
- ◇ George Michael Award for Outstanding Achievement in Utility Management
- ◇ George Oetken Vendor Appreciation Award for Outstanding Service and Dedication
- ◇ Good Housekeeping and Safety Award in Water
- ◇ Good Housekeeping and Safety Award in Wastewater

Nominated by: _____ Phone: _____ Date: _____

Nominee's Name: _____ Position: _____

Years of Service: _____ State licenses: _____

Employer: _____ Supervisors Name: _____

Employers Address: _____

Background History: _____

Accomplishments: _____

Additional Information: Please provide additional information on a separate sheet.

Send Nominations to:

Wyoming Water Quality and Pollution Control Association

PO BOX 394

Casper, WY 82602-0394

Phone : (307) 268-4726

Fax: (307) 472-0012

You can also nominate on our website: www.wwqpca.com

Click on awards recipients then click on Submit a Nomination fill out the form and click submit.

This can be done on-line at [wwqpca.com](http://www.wwqpca.com)

Do you know an outstanding operator ?? Nominate them for one of our awards. Looks great on a desk, wall, in your truck, in a bathroom, kitchen or living room. They're so cool it would even look great in the refrigerator or freezer!

- 2001 - Kelly Rubrecht
- 2000 - Leo Maestas
- 1999 - Tracy Long
- 1997 - Deborah Bult
- 1996 - Michael Bellah
- 1995 - Ron Feehan
- 1993 - Jan Wagner - Teton Village
- 1992 - Greg Olson - Aspen/Aspens II

Robert Moore Award for Excellence in the Field of Water Distribution

One of the founding members of WWQ/PCA as well as Wyoming Association of Rural Water Systems, Robert Moore has many years of experience in the water and sewer wastewater field. He was the District Manager for the Wordwell Water and Sewer District which now incorporates Bar Nunn (then just a subdivision), and was the Mayor of Mills when their new water treatment plant was being built. For over 30 years he worked for an engineering firm out of Casper, where his focus was on water and wastewater planning. Governor Hathaway recognized Robert Moore for his knowledge and experience by appointing him to be the State Representative for the Old West Rural Water Commission.

Winners of this Award

- 2008 - Ron Williams - Green River
- 2007 - Jan Wagner - Teton Village
- 2005 - James Vandorn - Cheyenne
- 2004 - Ron Reed
- 2003 - Robert Graham
- 2002 - Johann Nield
- 2001 - Dale Smith
- 2000 - Doug Hundon
- 1999 - Joe Greath
- 1998 - Dave Eaton
- 1997 - James Broussard
- 1996 -

Day Evans Award for Excellence in the Field of Collection and Lagoons

One of the founding members of WWQ/PCA, Day Evans was a long-term P Works Director for the Town of Mills.

Winners of this Award

- 2008 - Sanitary Systems, Inc
- 2007 - Falcon Pump and Supply
- 2006 - Dana Kepner
- 2005 - Waterworks Industries
- 2004 - Mueller Co.
- 2003 - Waterworks Industries
- 2002 - Intermountain Laboratories
- 2000 - Intermountain Laboratories
- 1999 - Roger Carling - Energy Laboratories
- 1998 - David Anderson - Utility Tech Services
- 1997 - Marlan Hill - Falcon Supply
- 1996 - Marlan Hill - Falcon Supply
- 1995 - Ed Somers - WY Waterworks
- 1994 - Herb Thie - Hoch Company
- 1993 - Herb Thie - Hoch Company
- 1992 - Frank Tanner - Dana Kepner Company

George Oetken Vendor Appreciation Award for Outstanding Service and Dedication to WWQ/PCA

One of the founding members of WWQ/PCA, George Oetken was instrumental in starting the vendor exhibit at the annual conference. He was the long-term public works director for the City of Riverton.

- 2005 - Bob Molder - Gillette
- 2004 - Joe Dill
- 2003 - John Carter
- 2002 -
- 2001 - John Carter
- 2000 -
- 1999 - Mike Ispoit
- 1998 - Diane Bellah
- 1997 - Tara Schultz
- 1996 -
- 1995 - Louise Cordova
- 1994 - Bruce Jones
- 1993 - Randy Roper
- 1992 - Jack Young
- 1991 - Charles Russell
- 1990 - Elton Bartlett

- 1987 - William Loche
- 1986 - Daniel Griffin
- 1985 - Pat Camroth
- 1984 - Dorothy Shoup
- 1983 - Robert Moore
- 1982 - Douglas Public Works
- 1981 - Dr. Gail Zimmerman
- 1980 - Ed Somers
- 1979 - Ronald Saban
- 1978 -
- 1977 - City of Riverton
- 1976 - George Oetken
- 1975 -
- 1974 - Richard Moffett
- 1973 - Robert D. Kerr

Winners of this Award

- 2008 - Ty McConnell - Byron
- 2006 - Brian Leum - Rock Springs
- 2005 - Craig Redfield - Jackson
- 2004 - Jeff Schumacher
- 2003 - Ron Macloszetz
- 2002 - Brent Mosler
- 2001 - Ron Williams, Jason Palmer
- 2000 - Jeff Schumacher, Jim Wyant
- 1999 - Rich Owens, Ron Macloszetz
- 1998 - Wayne Pochard
- 1997 - Greg Handelman

- 1996 -
- 1995 - Robert Wiloth
- 1994 - Ernie Hartley
- 1993 - Harry Bremer
- 1992 - George Michael
- 1991 - Sam Edlund, Roger Brou
- 1990 - Randy Gregory
- 1989 - Bruce Hammond
- 1988 - Darrell Sheppard
- 1987 -
- 1986 - Eugene Leonard
- 1985 - Elmer Underwood
- 1984 - Charles R McCoy

Dr. Gail Zimmerman Award for Excellence in the Field of Laboratory Technician

One of the founding members of WWQ/PCA, Dr. Gail Zimmerman was instrumental starting the Water and Wastewater Technology Program at Casper College where he was a professor. Dr. Zimmerman was also a state legislator.

Winners of this Award

- 2008 - Michael Hare - Lander
- 2007 - Roger Brom
- 2006 - Maria VanderLoop - Teton Village
- 2005 - Steve Aelts
- 2004 - Dawn Parber
- 2003 - Kay Tritt
- 2002 -
- 2001 -
- 2000 -
- 1999 - Leonard Law
- 1998 - Roger Brom
- 1997 - Connie Johnson

- 1996 -
- 1995 - Paula Ortega
- 1994 - John M Ward
- 1993 - Rob Anderson
- 1992 - Mary Ros Mahl
- 1991 - Steven Aelts
- 1990 - Ronald Kalley
- 1989 - Jean Linhart
- 1988 - Dorothy Bruce

Good Housekeeping and Safety Award

In 1980, the Officers and Directors established a Good Housekeeping Award to reward diligence in plant maintenance, cleanliness, and safety. These aspects of the profession are very important and it was felt that 2 awards should be given each year: 1 to a water plant and 1 to a wastewater plant.

Winners of this Award - Water

- 2008 -
- 2007 - Mills Water Treatment Plant
- 2006 - Mitch's Cafe
- 2005 - City of Evanston
- 2004 - Tom Monalis
- 2003 - Tom Troxel - Torrington
- 2002 -
- 2001 - Richard Platt - HF Bar Ranch
- 2000 - Town of Mills
- 1999 - Tom Offe - Hartville
- 1998 - Leroy Graham - Rawlins
- 1997 - Craig Barnes - Shoshone MPL
- 1996 -
- 1995 - Janet Carney - Evansville
- 1994 -

- 1993 - William Craig - Encampment
- 1992 - Robert Logan - Dayton
- 1991 - Roundtop - Cheyenne
- 1990 -
- 1989 - John Carter - Wardwell/Mills
- 1988 - Beverly Bent - Thermopolis
- 1987 - R Arnold - Cheyenne/Sherard
- 1986 - Ron Saban - Riverton
- 1985 - Robert Miller - Cody
- 1984 - Jay Hich - Green River
- 1983 - Ron Osban - Lander
- 1982 - Richard Moffett - Casper
- 1981 - John Carter - Douglas
- 1980 - Alfred Kinter - Sheridan

Winners of this Award - Wastewater

- 2008 -
- 2007 - WVDOT Port of Entry - Sheridan
- 2006 - Aspen/Aspens II
- 2005 -
- 2004 -
- 2003 - City of Gillette
- 2002 -
- 2001 -
- 2000 - City of Green River
- 1999 -
- 1998 - Melody Robinson - Thermopolis
- 1997 - Duane Davenport - Sheridan
- 1996 -
- 1995 - Tara Schultz - Gillette
- 1994 - Charles George - Cody

- 1993 - George Michael - Green River
- 1992 - Greg Olson - Green River
- 1991 - Susan Loop-Stanley - Casper
- 1990 -
- 1989 - Michael Bellah - Riverton
- 1988 - Michael Robertson - Sheridan
- 1987 - Ken Cabrera - Rawlins
- 1986 - Melody Robinson - Evanston
- 1985 - Veon Taylor - Kemmerer
- 1984 - David Sorenson - Kemmerer
- 1983 -
- 1982 - Ronald Saban - Riverton
- 1981 -
- 1980 - Jack Young - Cheyenne Dry Cr

Bob Kerr Memorial Award for Outstanding Support to WWQ by an Entity

Winners of this Award

- 2008 -
- 2007 - Teton Village Water and Sewer District
- 2006 - Lori Salverson

- 1989 - William Mixer
- 1988 - Donald Hudson

The following awards are given out every year at the annual conference to individuals who stand out in their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to all!

Dr. Robert Champlin Award for Excellence in the Field of Water Treatment

One of the founders of WWQ/PCA, Dr. Robert Champlin was a professor of civil engineering at University of Wyoming. He has been a champion of water treatment and distribution for many years, and in the past provided operator training for licensing. He also ran a sideline consulting business.

Winners of this Award

- 2008 -
- 2007 - Steve Kelley - Chugwater
- 2006 - Robert Parker - Lander
- 2005 - John Jones - Lander
- 2004 - Robert Wiles
- 2003 - Les Hook
- 2002 - Craig Hook
- 2001 - Bud Spillman
- 2000 -
- 1999 - Roger Manbeck
- 1998 - Craig Barnes
- 1997 - Les Hook
- 1996 -

- 1995 - Harold Herman
- 1994 -
- 1993 - James Dechlevar
- 1992 - Richard Alimaras
- 1991 - Darrel Sheppard
- 1990 - Gene Moody
- 1989 - Beverly Bent
- 1988 - Charles Russell
- 1987 - Alfred Kinter
- 1986 - William J Powers
- 1985 - Richard Moffett

Dutch Riebennacht Award for Excellence in the Field of Wastewater Treatment

Dutch Riebennacht was a long-term operator for the City of Evanston. He ran a very antiquated plant, and through his knowledge and experience he managed to meet the NPDES requirements most of the time. Because of his knowledge and skills, he has been very well respected amongst other operators.

Winners of this Award

- 2008 -
- 2007 - Chaney Webber - Cheyenne BOPU
- 2006 - Frank Sheets - Evanston
- 2005 - Randy Rumpier - Greybull
- 2004 - John Petty - Teton Village
- 2003 - Jim Davis
- 2002 - Karla Symmetwett

- 1991 - Walter Lee Gaines
- 1990 - Michael Bellah
- 1989 - Jack Young
- 1988 - Tara Schultz
- 1987 - James Brewer
- 1986 - Randall Roper

DID YOU KNOW!!!!

Do you have a mayor, board member, commissioner, clerk, city attorney, human resources, economic development, city manager, asset director, finance director – in short, anyone who you feel would gain better understanding of what you do, as well as why and how you do it. WWQ has developed a reduced rate to help them better understand your job and the challenges in a field that many don't have a solid understanding of.

Decision Maker / Clerk Main Conference (no DEQ credit three days) \$100

Decision Maker / Clerk one day (no DEQ credit) \$50

This can be found on the Attendee registration on the WWQPCA web site.

WWQPCA.com

**2023 SPONSORS AND DONATIONS TO
OPERATORS AND THE WWQ & PCA TO
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**GAME NIGHT THURSDAY
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What we stand for and what you get for your WWQ & PCA membership



Comradery or Camaraderie No matter how you spell it WWQ PCA is where you find it!

Wyoming Water Quality and Pollution Control Association (WWQ & PCA) is a member driven, non-profit association. Our members serve small and rural water and wastewater systems throughout Wyoming. We are comprised of approximately 400 members and enjoy a rich history spanning over 50 years.

WWQ & PCA's mission statement is "The Association will promote and provide active advancement and use of knowledge involving the design, construction, operation, maintenance, regulation and management of water treatment, wastewater treatment, collection and distribution facilities within the State of Wyoming." In recent years we have been expanding this to include well drillers and pump installers in our classes and training opportunities. Since 2008 the state of Wyoming has required well drillers and pump installers to be licensed by the State. These contractors are in need of training opportunities and continuing education to maintain their licenses.

Over 85% of public water systems in Wyoming rely on well water for all or part of their drinking water supply so this has been a good fit for everyone. A Board of Directors serves to govern our Association. These directors are elected during the annual business meeting held in conjunction with our conference and are elected to a one- or two- year terms. We work in concert with state and federal agencies to provide the core classes and other hours needed to maintain your certifications and we do our best to keep the classes fresh and interactive to make for the best possible experience. Utilities operators, pump installers and well drillers must be certified and take continuous education to maintain these certifications. The yearly conference organizes professional training programs for operators and system decision-makers. Courses are submitted to Department of Environmental Quality for continuing education approval. We work with DEQ to submit course hours attended for each operator. Our training courses are utilized by a large portion of operators from communities both large and small, urban and rural. Well drillers and pump installers take advantage of these training opportunities as well. All operators, municipalities and other public water systems find our conferences to be an economical source for timely, high quality training.

Membership income allows us to provide programs like our yearly conference, scholarships, maintain a website, Facebook page and publish a biannual newsletter. We also use these funds to support the water operator community of water operators by assisting those in need due to injury or illness. All of these activities support WWQ's goal of supporting water and wastewater operators in the state by providing them with up-to-date information on new and emerging technology and regulations to help them provide high quality, safe drinking water and wastewater effluent flowing across the state.

Help Available

The WWQ & PCA has help numbers listed in our newsletter of people that are willing to help you troubleshoot your problems or get you in contact with the right people to troubleshoot your issues.

Wyoming Water Quality and Pollution Control Association Annual Rocky Mountain Education Conference October 21th - 25th, 2024 at the Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center

Vendor Display Application and Membership Application

Company Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Office Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Fax: _____
 Type of Product: _____
 Name, Title and of Representative for Badge: _____
 Name, Title and of 2nd Representative for Badge: _____

Exhibit Area: 8'x8' space 6' table skirted table, pipe and drape, 2 chairs, wireless internet, Includes meals for 2 (Wed lunch, break snacks and banquet; Thurs lunch and break snacks) **There is an additional charge for more than two Representative of \$40.00 each X _____ = \$ _____**
Do you need electrical outlets at your booth Yes No

Booth choice first through third: #1: _____ #2: _____ #3: _____ before Sept 1, 2023 \$350.00 ea X _____ = \$ _____
 Booth choice first through third: #1: _____ #2: _____ #3: _____ after Sept 1, 2023 \$450.00 ea X _____ = \$ _____
SEE BOOTH DIAGRAM FOR BOOTH NUMBERS

Booths may be set up after booth and draping are completed on Sunday approximately 12:00 noon and must be taken down by 10:00 a.m. Friday.

Coffee Breaks, Tuesday evening "Meet & Greet" and Poker Run. Wednesday evening Cocktail Hour before Banquet will be held in the Exhibit Hall. Thursday evening closing party for all attendees and vendors.

I would like to contribute \$35.00 to the Meet and Greet and will have a prize for the Poker Run on Tuesday Night after booth setup
A Pre Meet & Greet/Poker Run meeting will be held at 4:30 pm to distribute cards to participants. \$ _____

We ask that all attendees pick their meal for the banquet:

Representative Attending the banquet	___ Yes ___ NO	Entrée:	___ Beef	___ Chicken	___ Vegetarian
Representative: 2 Attending the banquet	___ Yes ___ NO	Entrée:	___ Beef	___ Chicken	___ Vegetarian
Representative: 3 Attending the banquet	___ Yes ___ NO	Entrée:	___ Beef	___ Chicken	___ Vegetarian
Representative: 4 Attending the banquet	___ Yes ___ NO	Entrée:	___ Beef	___ Chicken	___ Vegetarian

Wyoming Waters Newsletter Advertising

Two issues yearly Spring and Pre-conference

Associate Membership (Professional Directory listing for following year) - \$150.00 per year	\$ _____
Quarter Page Advertisement biannually for following year - \$175 per year	\$ _____
Half page Advertisement biannually for following year - \$250 per year	\$ _____
Full Page Advertisement biannually for following year - \$400 per year	\$ _____
4 Page Insert biannually for following year - \$500 per year	\$ _____

Sponsorships available- You do not have to be an exhibitor to be a sponsor:

Company name will be listed in conference program, on signage and announced during the event.

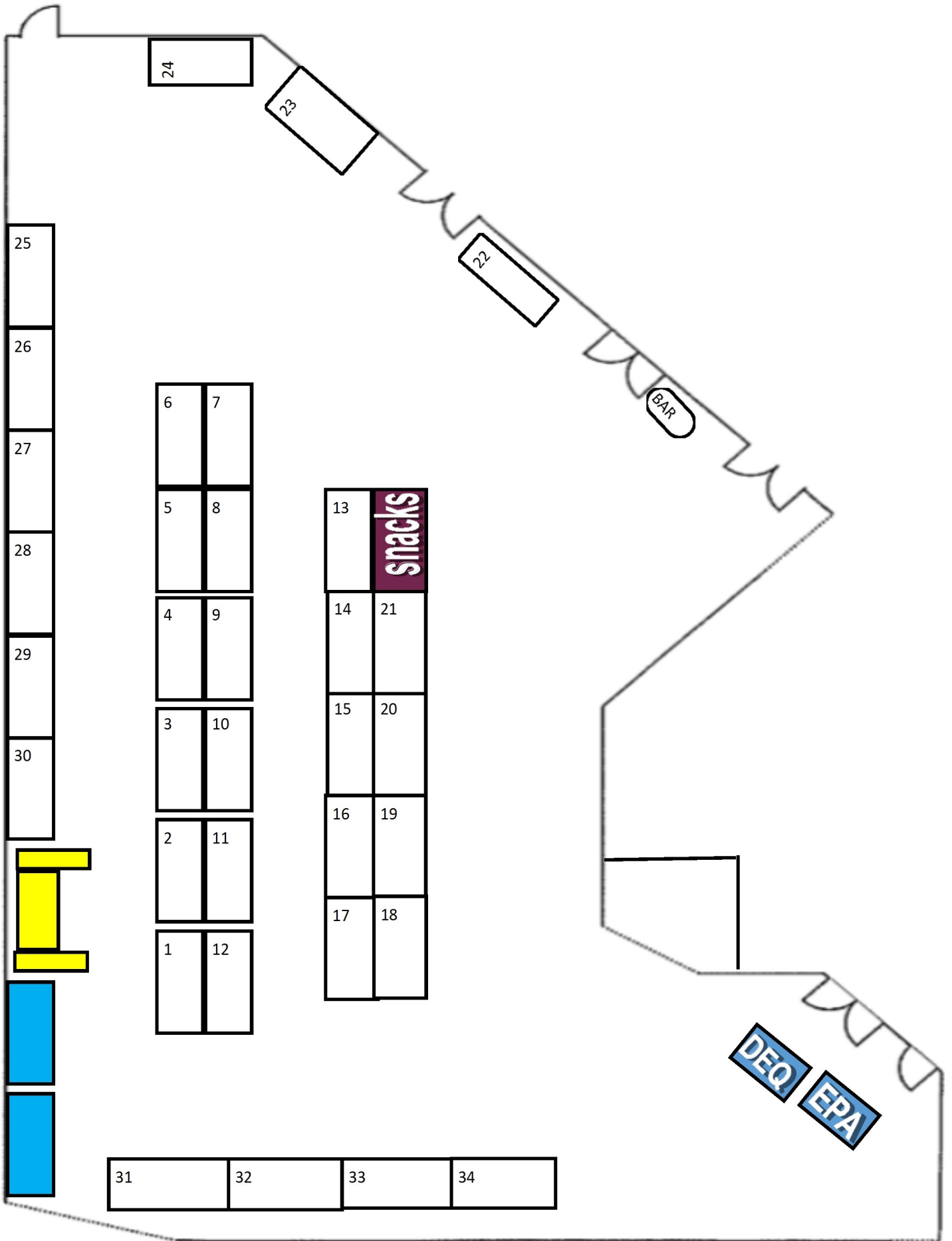
Break/food sponsor _____ X \$250= \$ _____

Game night (food and prizes) _____ X \$100= \$ _____

Donations to help Operators in time of crises (Death, Hospitalization, Terminal Diagnosis) \$ _____

Specify WWQ affiliation to obtain a special conference room rate at the Ramkota 800 N Poplar St, Casper, WY 82601 (307) 266-6000
To Reserve Exhibit Space, Complete This Form and Mail, e mail or Fax to:

WWQ & PCA Conference
P.O. Box 394
Casper, WY 82602-0394
Phone (307)268-4726 * Fax (307)472-0012
Or fill out form online at www.wwqpca.com



Wyoming Water Quality &
Pollution Control Association
P.O. Box 394
Casper, WY 82602-0394

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