



January 2014

IGWA Newsletter

The quarterly newsletter of the Indiana Ground Water Association (IGWA)

LOWER LEAD CONTENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DRINKING WATER PLUMBING MATERIALS START IN JANUARY

Starting January 4, 2014, new drinking water plumbing fixtures installed or repaired in drinking water systems or newly installed in homes must meet federal requirements for lower lead content.

Plumbing contractors and consumers should check for proper certification marks on the product or manufacturer's documentation to be sure the materials meet the new requirements of the federal Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act, officials with the N.C. Division of Water Resources say. The new law, enacted in 2011, is an amendment to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

Lead exposure, especially for children, can have significant adverse health effects. Most lead exposure occurs through eating or inhaling lead paint chips and dust. Introduction of lead through drinking water plumbing and fixtures may account for up to 20 percent of total lead ingestion.

Public water systems routinely sample for lead and testing is performed on newly installed private wells. Information for sampling existing private wells is available at local health departments. However, lead can also get into drinking water at the household level through service lines and interior plumbing and fixtures.

As part of the new federal legislation, the definition of "lead-free" has changed from a maximum content of 8 percent lead to

a maximum weighted average of 0.25 percent lead for the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings and fixtures that provide water for human consumption. The definition of "lead-free" for solders and flux is unchanged, and continues to be defined as containing not more than 0.2 percent lead.

Plumbing items used or supplied for use in public and private drinking water systems — new installations and repairs of existing systems — must meet the new regulations. Household fixtures and pipes, if newly installed, should also meet the requirements. Some plumbing materials have third-party certification marks that identify them as products that meet the new standards. The Environmental Protection Agency has information available on its website about identifying lead-free certified materials at <http://1.usa.gov/1aOjKZf>.

Plumbing materials that don't meet the new standards may still be used for non-potable installations such as irrigation, toilets, urinals, bidets and shower valves.

EPA FAQs regarding Lead Free Pipe and Fittings:

http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/lcr/lead_nsfstandard.cfm

How to Identify Lead-Free Pipe and Fittings:

<http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=P100GRDZ.txt>

IGWA's Biennial Convention & Trade Show Snap Shot

Big Turn Out, Big Fun, Big Thanks! See page 4 for more.



IOWPA's Biennial Convention and Trade Show held November 6 at Camp Camby once again drew a strong crowd from across the state.

A big thank you to our exhibitors and sponsors listed on page 4. We could not do it without them!

President's Message

Dear IGWA Members,

First I would like to thank everyone for the honor of becoming the President of the IGWA. I hope the next two years while I am your President will be great for all of us. Thanks to John Baker for a fine job. If there is anything you would like to see that would improve our association, please contact myself or any board member. We are here to serve you. If you would like to attend a board meeting, you are always welcome to join us. We could always use extra people on committees, you do not have to be on the board to help on any committee so please don't hesitate to volunteer.

As many of you know by now, we lost a valued friend, mentor and industry professional last year, Joe Armstrong. Joe has served the IGWA for too many years to count. Many of you paid your respects and made donations to the IGWA Scholarship Fund on his behalf. Joe's family and the IGWA thank you for your contributions. We were fortunate to see Joe at the Convention in November, not knowing it might be the last time for many of us. Joe has planned many conventions and will be remembered for the great times had by all. (See Joe's memoriam on page 10.)

The night before the convention we had a hospitality suite at the hotel supported by many of our supplier members. (See Hospitality Sponsors on page 4). It's a great time for newer members to meet veteran members and do some serious networking.

The convention was held at Camp Camby with a sold out trade show and more than 150 in attendance. (Please reference a listing of all exhibitors and program sponsors on page 4.) Although we say it often, we couldn't do it without the support of our vendors and sponsors! Thank you!

On Saturday, February 15th we will hold our Annual Committee Meeting at Kokomo Pump Supply. This is a great opportunity to get more involved with the IGWA. See page 3 for registration details.

I look forward to serving you in 2014. Please feel free to contact me at alexanderstump@yahoo.com or call me at 765-585-0987.

Have a great year!

Sincerely,

Troy Alexander, IGWA President
Findlay Brothers Well Drilling

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The Indiana Ground Water Association

serves its members through education, promotion, and representation.

Annual Committee Meeting

Respond by Wednesday, February 11, 2014

Date: Saturday, February 15th
Time: 10 am - 12 noon
Location: Kokomo Pump Supply, 804 W. Morgan St., Kokomo, IN 46901

The planning and implementation of most IGWA activities is handled by volunteer groups. All groups are supported by IGWA staff. IGWA Committees have ongoing, results-oriented tasks. The interaction between group members promoted effective planning and evaluation of tasks.

You can help!

Review the following list of committees and check off those of interest to you.

Return this form to the IGWA office if you would like to attend.

Volunteer Sign Up Form

I am interested in volunteering to work on the following areas or
I'll take a look the day of the meeting!

- ☐ **Communications Committee:** Establish objectives of quarterly newsletter, annual membership directory and website and develop advertising sales strategies.
- ☐ **Education Committee:** Works to enhance educational opportunities for all members of the industry, ranging from those with extensive practical experience to new members of the industry. Includes planning of Annual Meeting and Biennial Convention.
- ☐ **Legislative/DOT Committee:** Commit to involvement with local, state and federal officials. Develop grass roots efforts to involve membership.
- ☐ **Membership Committee:** Promote the IGWA by securing new members and assisting current members through providing member services.
- ☐ **Scholarship Committee/Awards Committee:** Raise funds to support the annual scholarship awards and develop an Awards Program.
- ☐ **Sponsorship Committee:** Raise funds through sponsorships to support legislative efforts.

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____

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Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

My primary area of business (check all that apply):

- ☐ Contractor
- ☐ Manufacturer/Supplier
- ☐ Technical

Return form to IGWA by Friday, February 11, 2014 via **Fax 317.889.3935** or
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IGWA's Biennial Convention & Trade Show Snap Shot

Big Turn Out, Big Fun, Big Thanks!



IGWA Past President, John Baker received award for his service.

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Lunch

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Franklin Electric – Platinum (2015)
Preferred Pump Indy and Larwill – Bronze (2013)
C & J Well Drilling – Bronze (2013)

Convention Follow Up with Chris Reimer, NGWA

I was asked a question by an IGWA member about the impacts of agriculture drain tiles on flooding. The IGWA member had seen some significant flooding, noted the increased tiling being done, and wondered about a link. I checked whether USGS staff had done or were aware of any research related to flooding and drain tiles. He said the agriculture community was moving to a "healthy soils" focus in the state, which involves deeper tiling to allow more recharge so that would seem to mitigate some of the effect tiling would have, although there are still a lot of tiles in place already. He also shared that at a recent meeting, data were presented showing more frequent, intense storms in the state. Bottom line he is not aware of anyone looking at the big picture to see how the various factors, i.e. tiling, intensity and frequency of storms, changing development patterns, may interact with one another and what their cumulative or individual effect is on flooding and groundwater recharge.

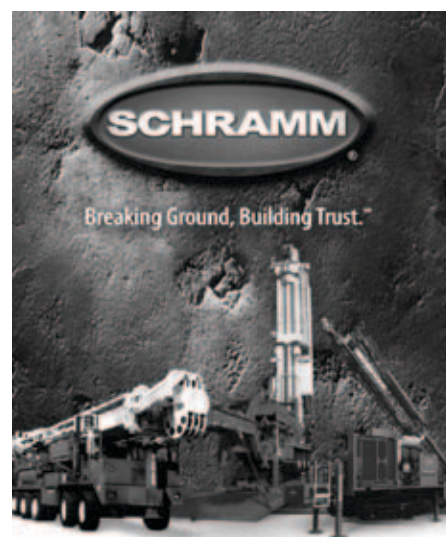
Of significance, he did say that because the state is seeing a big increase in water withdrawals, the Farm Bureau, Chamber and multiple state agencies have collectively come together to look at the issue. IGWA is probably already aware of these discussions but I wanted to be sure to give you a heads up just in case.

The USGS staffer mentioned now would be a good time to get involved if IGWA wanted to as the state is moving forward to develop a comprehensive water management plan.

Our director of science and technology, kindly provided the following links and comment related to drain tiles.

Most of what he's seen relative to drain tiles is related to water quality (nitrate). There are a lot of drain tiles, so the potential to increase flooding is there.

- The problem has been studied some for the Red River in North Dakota (see <http://www.rrbdin.org/archives/649> and briefing paper #1)
- Apparently, it is also addressed some in the book "A Watershed Year" about the 2008 flooding in Iowa (http://www.amazon.com/Watershed-Year-Anatomy-Iowa-Floods/dp/1587298546/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1384364892&sr=1-2&keywords=a+watershed+year)
- Also referred to in the following story: http://wfcourier.com/news/local/article_5fa1a21c-3b38-11df-a6df-001cc4c03286.html



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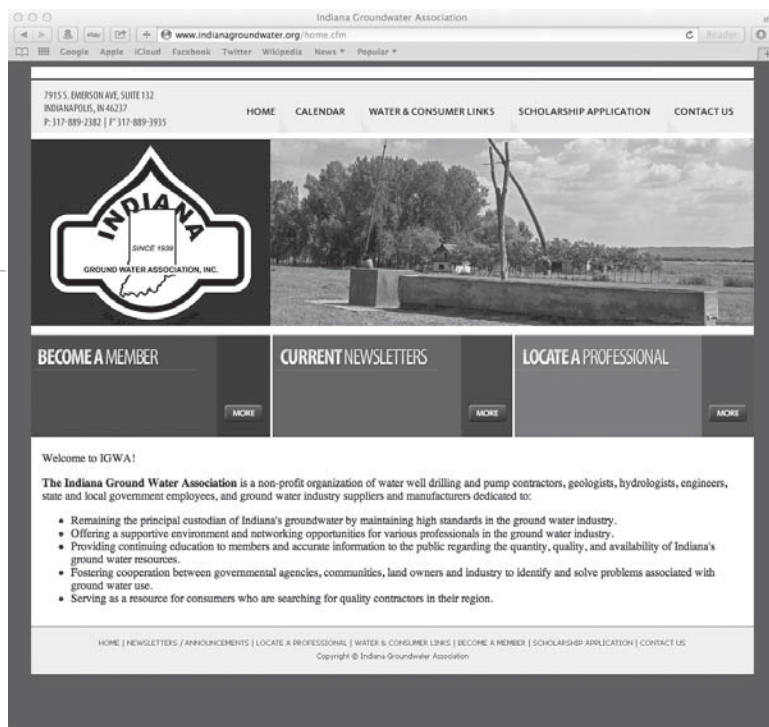
www.bradfordsupplycompany.com

Check out the IGWA's New Website

Ads may be purchased by drillers and suppliers.....this is where you will find out everything you want to know about Indiana's ground water industry.....electronic newsletters will be offered as opposed to print.....Thank you Jennifer Bonner for taking on this project!

IGWA Family In Business Scholarship Due April 30th

- Applicant must be a member, immediate family of IGWA member, employee of IGWA member, or immediate family member of employee.
- Applicant must be accepted at a college, university or trade or technical school. (Student may be full or part-time)
- All applications must be returned before April 30. Recipients will be notified by May 15.



Visit the IGWA Website for scholarship application and information — www.indianagroundwater.org



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Weinzapfel Water Well Drilling, Daniel Weinzapfel, 812-985-2250
Wells, Inc., Steffen Wellstein, 419-457-2611
Welty & Sons Well Drilling, Brent Welty, 574-831-2538
Wiley Well Drilling, Inc, Brendan Laudenbacher, 765-584-8648
Wiley Well Drilling, Inc., Larry Wiley, 765-584-8648
Wiley Well Drilling, Inc., Jack Wymer, 765-584-8648
Wilson's Well Drilling Co., Russell Wilson, 317-856-4845
Yoder-Stutzman, Inc., John C. Miller, 574-773-2868

In Memoriam: Joseph L. Armstrong

Joseph L. Armstrong, 64, Burlington, passed away December 15, 2013, at St. Joseph Hospital. He was born December 21, 1948, in Peru, to Earl W. and Geraldine L. (Snodgrass) Armstrong. On August, 16, 1975, Joseph married Betty J. Morrison, and she survives.



Joseph was a 1967 Carroll High School graduate and attended Ball State University. He was the president and owner of Armstrong Drilling, was a licensed and certified well driller and pump installer and ground water tech. Joseph was a member of Burlington United Methodist Church and attended Faith Church of Christ. He was a long-time member and past president of Indiana Ground Water Association, served on the Town Board of Burlington and Carroll County Area Planning Commission.

Survivors include wife Betty J. Armstrong; children, Michael Walker, Louisville, Ky., Valerie (Michael) Stout, Kokomo, Amanda (Jason) Blunt, Burlington, Joseph C. (Winnie) Armstrong, Burlington; brothers and sisters, Charlene (Dick) Coy, Fishers; the Rev. John (Sharon) Armstrong, Peru, the Rev. Chuck (Colette) Armstrong, Kokomo, Rebecca (Craig) Henry, West Liberty; mother in-law, Pearl Morrison, Burlington; eight grandchildren, Ashley Stout, Alexa Stout, Carson Stout, Devier Meriwether, Avery Armstrong, Reagan Armstrong, Felicity Blunt, Samuel Blunt; great-grandchildren, Casen Stout, Madden Stout; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Earl and Geraldine Armstrong, and brother, Michael Wayne Armstrong.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association or Indiana Ground Water Association Scholarship. Online condolences may be left at www.stoutandson.com.

NGWA provides water well system professionals guidance on hydrogen sulfide

The National Ground Water Association has developed an industry best suggested practice (BSP) for water well system professionals to use on how to deal with problematic concentrations of hydrogen sulfide in residential water well systems.

Hydrogen sulfide is often responsible for the “rotten egg” odor sometimes present in well water. It is a nuisance for well owners due to its corrosive properties, which, even in low concentrations, may cause well and plumbing components to deteriorate. However, the greatest health threat is to water well system professionals servicing wells who encounter hydrogen sulfide in confined spaces or very high concentrations.

Reducing Problematic Concentrations of Hydrogen Sulfide in Residential Water Well Systems includes:

- Health and safety information relating to hydrogen sulfide
- Guidance on the interaction of hydrogen sulfide with geologic and land-use conditions
- Methodologies for well construction and location
- Well function considerations
- Sampling and testing for hydrogen sulfide in groundwater
- Mitigation of hydrogen sulfide in water well systems.

The BSP, developed by a work group of NGWA member professionals drawing from extensive experience and referenced research, also discusses related constituents — sulfate-reducing bacteria and sulfur dioxide. Available as a PDF, the BSP can be downloaded through the NGWA online bookstore. While free to members, there is a nominal charge to nonmembers.

To learn more about NGWA's other BSPs, visit the industry best suggested practices page on NGWA.org or call 800 551.7379 (614 898.7791).

U.S. Housing Starts Shoot to Highest in Five Years

Bloomberg News reports builders broke ground on more homes in November than at any time in over five years.

Housing starts jumped 22.7% to a 1.09 million annualized rate, exceeding all forecasts of economists surveyed and the most since February 2008, data from the Commerce Department showed on December 18. Permits for future projects held near a five-year high, indicating the pickup will be sustained into 2014.

The article states gains in construction will probably boost economic growth this quarter as an improving job market propels home building to its best year since 2007. Federal Reserve officials today took the first step toward unwinding unprecedented monetary stimulus, saying they will reduce monthly bond purchases to \$75 billion from \$85 billion as employment and the expansion showed signs of progress.

Lower Rio Grande Basin Study Shows Shortfall in Future Water Supply

National Ground Water Association

Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Michael L. Connor released the Lower Rio Grande Basin Study that evaluated the impacts of climate change on water demand and supply imbalances along the Rio Grande along the United States/Mexico border from Fort Quitman, Texas, to the Gulf of Mexico.

"Basin studies are an important element of the Department of the Interior's WaterSMART initiative and give us a clearer picture of the possible future gaps between water demand and our available supplies," Commissioner Connor said. "This study of the lower Rio Grande basin will provide water managers with science-based tools to make important future decisions as they work to meet the region's diverse water needs. In addition, the study will help inform water management discussions between the U.S. and Mexico through the International Boundary Water Commission."

Among the findings and conclusions of the Lower Rio Grande Basin Study:

Climate change is likely to result in increased temperatures, decreased precipitation, and increased evapotranspiration in the study area. As a result of climate change, a projected 86,438 acre-feet of water per year will need to be added to the 592,084 acre-feet per year of supply shortfall predicted in the existing regional planning process in 2060, for a total shortfall of 678,522.

Water supply imbalances exacerbated by climate change will greatly reduce the reliability of deliveries to all users who are dependent on deliveries of Rio Grande water via irrigation deliveries.

The study includes an acknowledgment that all water management strategies recommended through the recently adopted regional water plan are part of a needed portfolio of solutions for the study area.

Seawater desalination, brackish groundwater desalination, reuse, and fresh groundwater development were examined as alternatives to meet future water demands. The study found that brackish groundwater development was most suitable. Further analysis was conducted; it was found that regional brackish groundwater systems would best meet the planning objective. An appraisal-level plan formulation and evaluation process was conducted to determine potential locations of each regional brackish groundwater desalination system.

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Northeast Sees Salt on Roads and Salt in Groundwater

National Ground Water Association

North Country Public Radio in Canton, New York, reports ecologists have been noticing a change in the groundwater throughout the northeast. It's getting salty.

Nancy Karraker, an Assistant Professor of wetland ecology at the University of Rhode Island, said she and other biologists have been documenting an increase in the salinity of groundwater.

"The problem with salt is that plants don't take it up, it doesn't bind to soils and so over time as it makes its way into wetlands, it concentrates," Karraker said.

They believe the main culprit is the salt used on roads. Some areas in the northeast have been found to have groundwater that has 25% the salinity of seawater. The most likely places are vernal or seasonal pools, roadside drainage ditches, and in some cases, reservoirs.

Karraker said sodium contamination poses health risks to delicate ecosystems. "In the spring, when the snow is melting, and the salts are being transported from the road into the wetlands, that's the exact same time when amphibians like wood frogs or spotted salamanders are laying eggs," she said. "So their embryos, their eggs are exposed to high levels of salt."

What sodium-contaminated water doesn't seem to bother are the eggs and larvae of the *Culex* mosquito, also known as the southern house mosquito. The *Culex* thrives in salty shallow water and can carry several diseases including the West Nile virus.

Georgia Association of Groundwater Professionals Notches Legal Victory

National Ground Water Association

A Georgia court ruled on November 8 that a city ordinance prohibiting the drilling of water wells within its city limits was unconstitutional.

The Superior Court of Washington County also found that a private landowner has, under Georgia and federal constitutions, the right to drill a well on their property subject only to the government's reasonable rules and regulations looking to the protection, safety, and health of its citizens.

The Georgia Association of Groundwater Professionals entered the suit with member Rabun Frost and property owner Donald Ashley challenging the fact that the city would not allow Ashley to have a well drilled on his property inside city limits where public water supply is available.

"If ever there was a reason for every driller to be a member of their state association, this is it," said Bruce Widener, executive director of the Georgia Association of Groundwater Professionals. "This proves that the Georgia Association of Groundwater Professionals is here to help the water well drilling industry whenever possible."

The Georgia Association of Groundwater Professionals is an affiliate state of the National Ground Water Association.

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For more info go to www.wellowner.org or email dsheets02@gmail.com to request pdfs of the flier, ads, and posters.

National Groundwater Awareness Week
March 9-15, 2014

What is groundwater?
It's the water that fills cracks, voids, and other openings in soil, sand, and bedrock.

Why is it important?
Persons with wells use groundwater for drinking water. Also, most groundwater flows directly into streams, rivers, and lakes from beneath.

How much is there?
About 98 percent of the available freshwater on Earth is groundwater.



Protect this precious resource!

- 1 If you own a water well, have your water tested yearly. Also test if there is a change in the odor, taste, or smell.
- 2 Don't overapply pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. Use them in the recommended amounts.
- 3 When you're handling hazardous substances, do so over cement to avoid groundwater infiltration, or runoff into surface water from accidental spills.
- 4 Don't dispose of any hazardous substances by dumping them on the ground, pouring them down the drain, or flushing them down the toilet. Contact local waste authorities about proper disposal of hazardous substances such as:
 - Pesticides/herbicides
 - Antifreeze
 - Fertilizer
 - Paint/paint thinner
 - Oil
 - Chemicals.
- 5 If you own a septic tank, have it cleaned and serviced every two years to prevent a breakdown that could pollute your groundwater.

Time for Your Annual Water Well Checkup

Just as you seasonally check your furnace or smoke detector batteries, the National Ground Water Association recommends an annual water well checkup.

Locally, contact National Ground Water Association member contractor:



National Groundwater Awareness Week
March 9-15, 2014
Find out more at www.WellOwner.org.





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Calendar

February 2014

- 15 IGWA Annual Committee Meeting, Kokomo Pump Supply, Kokomo — see page 3 to register.

March 2014

- 3 NGWA Congressional Drive-In Webinar — Register thru www.ngwa.org
- 9–15 National Ground Water Awareness Week — for more info go to www.wellowner.org or email dsheets02@gmail.com to request pdfs of the flier, ads, etc.

April 2014

- 30 IGWA Family In Business Scholarship deadline. Visit www.indianagroundwater.org

December 2014

- 31 CEUs due for 2015-2016 (biennial recertification)