



# Kentucky Rural Water Association

Helping water and wastewater utilities help themselves

January 10, 2018

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PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Ms. Gwen R. Pinson, Executive Director  
Public Service Commission  
P. O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

Dear Ms. Pinson:

Kentucky Rural Water Association will host its 2018 Management Conference on February 21-22, 2018, at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Please find enclosed a training summary which includes a timed agenda describing each session and speaker biographies.

These sessions will offer six (6) hours each day with a maximum of twelve hours of continuing education credit for water district commissioners. Approval for continuing education credit for operators has been requested from the Kentucky Board of Water Treatment and Water Distribution System Operators. A copy of that application is included.

With this letter and enclosures, Kentucky Rural Water Association respectfully requests that this training be approved for continuing education credit for commissioners as referenced in regulation 807 KAR 5:070. If additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Janet Cole  
Education Coordinator  
j.cole@krwa.org

Enclosures  
(Original and 10 copies)

<p><b>Mail to:</b></p> <p>Division of Compliance Assistance  Certification and Licensing Branch  Operator Certification Program  300 Fair Oaks Lane  Frankfort, KY 40601</p>	<p>Commonwealth of Kentucky  Department for Environmental Protection</p> <p><b>Application for Approval of Courses for  Continuing Education Credit</b></p> <p><i>Drinking Water Treatment, Drinking Water Distribution,  Bottled Water,  Wastewater Treatment and Collection System</i></p> <p>Telephone: 1-800-926-8111  www.dca.ky.gov/certification</p>	<p><i>For Official Use Only  Do not write in this space</i></p> <p><b>COPY</b></p>
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**I. Course Sponsor Information:** Agency Interest Number: 108571

A. Sponsoring Organization (school, business, association, etc.):

Kentucky Rural Water Association

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Key Contact Person:

**PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION**

Name and Title: Janet Cole, Education Coordinator

Address: 1151 Old Porter Pike

City, State and Zip: Bowling Green, KY 42103

Phone and Fax: Ph: 270.843.2291 Fx: 270.796.8623

E-mail: j.cole@krwa.org

Web Page: www.krwa.org

One-Time Approval Requested

Two-Year Approval Requested

B. If individual requesting approval is different than the key contact person for the sponsor, please complete the following information:

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. General Course Information:**

A. Title: 2018 Management Conference

B. Location and Date/s: Holiday Inn University Plaza/Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green, KY February 21-22, 2018

C. Cost per Student or Group: \$ 175.00

D. Delivery Format or Media (check those that apply):

Classroom

Web/Online

Laboratory

Exhibition

Field

CD-ROM

Video/Audio

Correspondence

Other (Explain)

E. Continuing Education Credits (**hours**) Requested for Target Audience:

Drinking Water Treatment, Distribution and/or Bottled Water: 12 hrs.

Wastewater Treatment and/or Collection: 12 hrs.

**(Attach a detailed description explaining how this training relates to the wastewater treatment process.)**

III. **Required Items** (must be attached to submittal, check off as completed):

- A.  Course Learning Objectives
- B.  Criteria for Successful Completion by Operators
- C.  Agenda (timed with instructors identified and brief description of topics)
- D.  Credentials for All Instructors

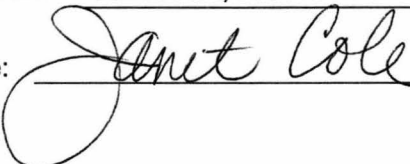
IV. **Additional Attachments** (required for distance learning courses, optional for other training):

- A.  Instructional Design (developed by whom/their credentials)
- B.  Curriculum Content (subject matter experts/their credentials)
- C.  Required Assignments and/or Examinations (type, passing score, etc.)
- D.  Mandatory Time Constraints (deadlines, granting of extensions, etc.)

V. **Signature of Sponsor's Contact Person**

I confirm that all information provided with this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. A complete list of attendees and credits to be awarded to them will be forwarded on a "Continuing Education Activity Report" to the Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance (within 30 days of completing the course when possible).

Printed Name and Title: **Janet Cole, Education Coordinator**

Signature and Date: 

December 5, 2017

**Kentucky Rural Water Association  
2018 Management Conference  
February 21-22, 2018  
Holiday Inn University Plaza and Sloan Convention Center  
Bowling Green, Kentucky**

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Learning Objective: The management conference will be directed toward the operators, managers, office personnel, and decision-makers of water and wastewater utilities. This year's conference will offer discussions on trends and ideas affecting our industry and will present ideas for planning and preparing for the future of drinking water and wastewater services in the Commonwealth.

Criteria for Earning Training Credits: Participants will be granted credit for actual time attending the training sessions. The maximum number of hours that can be earned each day is six (6) hours. An individual sheet will be provided to participants to record their attendance in the sessions. This sheet will be stamped by KRWA personnel after the completion of each session. Individuals must return the completed sheet to KRWA in order to receive credit for attendance.

**A timed agenda and brief description of each session follows.**

**Day One – Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

**8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

**Session 1: Fostering Community Engagement during Infrastructure Projects**

**Presenter: Clay Kelly, Strand Associates**

Drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects have the potential of being very disruptive to the communities in which they exist. City streets are often dug up, traffic can be disrupted, services to businesses and homes can be interrupted, a homeowner's yard can be ruined. Through all of this, rates may have to be increased as well. It's no surprise that members of the community are affected and could be upset. This session will cover various methods for improving communications between utilities and their customers during infrastructure projects.

**9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.**

**Session 2: PSC Treatment of Employee Compensation**

**Presenter: Gerald Wuetcher, Stoll Keenon Ogden**

In the past year, the Public Service Commission has more closely scrutinized employee compensation of water utilities and has significantly revised its ratemaking treatment of employee compensation expenses. This presentation reviews the change in PSC policies and provides suggestions for ensuring compliance with the new PSC policy, while avoiding unnecessary disallowance of employee compensation expenses and continuing to obtain the rates necessary to provide competitive employee salaries and benefits.

**10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

**Session 3: Employment Law Update: An Evolving World**

**Presenter: Stacy E. Miller, Stoll Keenon Ogden**

With a new presidential administration and an active Kentucky legislature, employment law has been dynamic and rapidly evolving in the past year. This presentation will review the recent developments in federal, state, and local employment laws and will review how those laws may affect the operational and financial capacity of drinking water and wastewater utilities.

**11:40 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch Break**

**1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Session 4: Operator Recruitment and Retention**

**Presenter: Paulette Akers, Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance**

Recruiting and retaining operators is a constant battle for Kentucky drinking water and wastewater utilities. This session will cover issues dealing with attracting and keeping operators in Kentucky, operator turnover and retirement rates, and how many new operators are entering the industry. This session will also cover a program being developed to allow for operator internships at utilities that is being designed as a way to help bring new professionals in to the operator ranks.



**2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

**Session 5: Geospatial Tools for Asset Management**

**Presenters: David Carter and Ron Householder, CDP/MapSync**

This session will cover new geospatial technologies that drinking water and wastewater utilities can use for asset management. 3D scanning can be used to create very accurate 3D maps of both the inside and outside of utility structures. These 3D maps are extremely accurate and can be used in CAD and GIS surveying. This session will also show the results of real world scans. Also included will be the use of mobile GIS for gathering information in the field and uploading it to an integrated management system.

**3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Session 6: Extending Meter Service Life**

**Presenter: Mary Ellen Wimberly, Stoll Keenon Ogden**

Studies show water meters remain largely accurate for 15 years, but PSC regulations require 5/8" x 3/4" meters to be tested or removed every 10 years. This presentation explores whether sample testing is the functional equivalent of testing each meter, the ANSI Standard method of sample testing the PSC has approved for gas and electric meters, and a utility's recent effort to extend its meter service life to 15 years.

**Day Two – Thursday, February 22, 2018**

**8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

**Session 7: Survival Skills for Effective Communications from the Trench to the Boardroom**

**Presenter: Bob Cashion, S4 Water Sales and Service**

This presentation will demonstrate real world communication issues in providing technical information that often gets lost in communication barriers due to the lack of effectively preparing your audience or ineffective presentation of the data. In this session attendees will be provided with examples of survival skills (i.e., factual data, scenarios, pictures) that will assist in a course of action to improve communication effectiveness with staff, board members and others.

**9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.**

**Session 8: The Kentucky Mesonet and Kentucky Utilities**

**Presenter: Stuart Foster, Kentucky Mesonet, Western Kentucky University**

The Kentucky Mesonet is a network of automated weather and climate monitoring stations being developed by the Kentucky Climate Center at Western Kentucky University to serve diverse needs in communities across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Kentucky Mesonet continues to innovate and now has an App that users can download and access a variety of information in real time. Kentucky drinking water and wastewater utilities often need precise climate data in real time speeds. The KY Mesonet can provide that information. This session will cover what KY Mesonet is, how it works, their new App and how it can benefit Kentucky utilities, as well as opportunities help to fund new stations.

**10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

**Session 9: Ice Pigging: Experience from the Field**

**Presenters: Ryan Leisey, Warren County Water District  
Paul Treloar, Suez.**

Ice pigging is a developing technology that is relatively new to the United States. Ice pigging uses an ice-slurry to replace a common plastic foam pipe typically used for pipe cleaning. This technology is useful in both drinking water mains as well as sewer force mains. This session will cover the process of ice pigging and then cover a real world example of its use by Warren County Water District.

**11:40 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch Break**

**1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Session 10: Social Media: Making Twitter, Facebook, and More Work for Your Office**

**Presenter: Robert Mohon, The Neil Group**

By this point, Social Media is nothing new to most people. However, many small utilities aren't using social media, or aren't using it effectively. Social media can be one of the most effective ways to communicate with your customers. This session will discuss ways in which utilities can use social media to get their messages out and to communicate with their customer base.

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**Session 11: Geotechnical Technologies for Ground Surveys**

**Presenters: Beth May, Near Surface Geophysics Innovations**

**Thomas Brackman, Geography and Geology, Western Kentucky University**

This session will cover new technologies for conducting near-surface geophysical surveys for construction projects. This new technology, when properly applied, can provide solutions to engineering, environmental, and geologic questions before ever drilling or digging into the ground. This non-invasive technology can help protect a utility's assets, can aid greatly in project management, as well as limit their operators exposure to hazards associated with digging and drilling. This session will also show data that has been collected in real world projects to allow attendees to see what advantages this technology can provide to a utility.

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Session 12: Risk Assessment of Underground Vaults: Protecting Workers from Common On-The-Job Hazards**

**Presenter: Luke Darby, EJ USA**

Too many workers are injured or killed each year and often could be protected with very little effort or cost. This session explores the safety hazards found in underground vaults, manholes and pump stations. This presentation will conduct a risk assessment of underground structures, identifying various hazards and the OSHA requirements for protecting workers from those hazards. Some of the OSHA topics covered are Fall Hazards, Confined Space Hazards and Lockout / Tagout.

## Speaker Bios

**Clay Kelly** has been with Strand Associates since 1996. He serves as the Business Development/Project Engineer and Assistant Director of Marketing. Clay earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Louisville in 1993. Before joining Strand, he served as the Water Development Engineer for the Baptist Mission of Ethiopia from 1993-1996.

**Gerald Wuetcher** is a member of Stoll Keenon Ogden's Utility & Energy practice. He spent more than 26 years at the Kentucky Public Commission, serving as a staff attorney, deputy general counsel and executive advisor. Although he worked on matters involving electric, natural gas, water and sewer utility issues, he is known for his experience in water and wastewater issues. Jerry developed the PSC's training program for water utility officials in 1998 and served as one of its principal instructors during his tenure at the PSC. After 27 years of service as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army, Jerry retired with the rank of colonel. He is a regular presenter at seminars on utility law and regulation.

**Stacy Miller** is a member in Stoll Keenon Ogden's Labor, Employment & Employee Benefits practice. Her practice focuses on employee benefits, civil and administrative defense with emphasis on the Family and Medical Leave Act, Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Fair Labor Standards Act. Stacy is a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law and earned a master's degree from the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce at the University of Kentucky. She is a member of the Fayette County, Kentucky and American Bar Associations, as well as the Society for Human Resources Management and the Lexington Employee Benefits Council. Stacy is a regular presenter at employment law seminars and has authored several articles as well as a book chapter on disability discrimination.

**Paulette Akers**, Division Director of the Division of Compliance Assistance, is an Eastern Kentucky alumnus, where she earned a B.S. in Biology, and an M.S. in Applied Ecology. Paulette has been the Acting Director of the Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance for much of this year. She began her career with the DEP in the Division of Water, working in the Water Quality and Watershed Management Branches for 13 years before moving to Compliance Assistance. Paulette is a native of Woodford County, where she lives with her husband and two sons.

**David Carter**, President of CDP Engineers, is a 1982 graduate of the University of Kentucky with a BSCE in Civil Engineering with high distinction. David is a licensed civil engineer and professional land surveyor. His engineering experience has focused on storm water management and modeling, water distribution systems, wastewater collection systems and site development. Since 1994, David has integrated engineering and GIS into sustainable workflow products for communities, institutions and utilities. As principle software architect of GeoSync software (GeoSync, GeoSync XG, GeoSync Go), David has an intimate knowledge and understanding of new technologies and how they can be integrated with design services to provide sustainable solutions.

**Ron Householder**, PLS, has held management positions for MapSync, Co. since June 1, 1994. Prior to this he was the owner of In-House Solutions, a mapping and consulting firm based in Lexington, Kentucky. He is a registered land surveyor with over twenty-nine years of experience in the land surveying, mapping and civil engineering fields. Mr. Householder has experience in Global Positioning Systems (GPS), Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and mapping application software development. He currently serves as Past-President of the Board of Directors of the Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio-Geospatial Information Technology Association (IKO/GITA).

**Mary Ellen Wimberly** is an associate attorney at Stoll Keenon Ogden. Her practice focuses on Utility & Energy law, representing utility companies in regulatory proceedings before the Kentucky Public Service Commission and other state and federal agencies. Mary Ellen received her J.D. from the University of Kentucky College of Law and also received her undergraduate degree from the University of Kentucky, where she majored in finance and economics.

**Robert K. (Bob) Cashlon** is a Nationally Certified Water Technologist, he holds class IV Water & Wastewater operators licenses in several states and has been providing water & wastewater related training for over 38 years, he is the Business Development Manager for S4 Water Sales & Services, and is involved extensively in operations and maintenance issues of filtration systems and water quality assessment projects. He is an active member in the AWWA and NRWA and various State associations where he has won several outstanding educational leadership awards. He has a BS degree in Environmental Health & Technology from Missouri Southern State University and a graduate of the Water & Wastewater Technical College, Neosho, MO.

**Dr. Stuart A. Foster** is professor of Geography at Western Kentucky University. He is director of the Kentucky Climate Center and Kentucky Mesonet. He has served as state climatologist since 2000 and is director of the Kentucky Climate Center, which serves as the State Climate Office for Kentucky, and the Kentucky Mesonet. Dr. Foster received his B.A. in Geography from West Virginia University in 1981. He completed his graduate education at The Ohio State University, including his M.A. in Geography in 1983 and his Ph.D. in Geography in 1988. Current interests focus on aspects of Kentucky's climate, issues in climate monitoring, and the analysis and visualization of climatological data in the delivery of climate services.

**Ryan Lelsey** has been the Manager of Engineering and Construction with Warren County Water District since August of 2013. Previously he has also worked a Regional Sales Manager for Caldwell Tanks. He earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Tech in 1999.

**Paul Treloar** has been the Ice Piggng Project Manager for Suez Water Advanced Solutions since October of 2012. Previously he served as the Overseas Operations Manager for Aqualogy UK (Suez). He has also served in a number of capacities for Bristol Water PLC, in Bristol, United Kingdom and for over 10 years he served in Her Majesty's Forces, Royal Marines.

**Robert Mohon** of The Neil Group is a veteran of the credit card, debit card and check processing industry. In 1995, Robert began his career in the credit card processing industry and set up one of the very first websites to accept online credit card payments. With a degree in Marketing from Auburn University, Robert has helped grow the client base of the company through sales process development, CRM, and client support improvements. Robert is an Ambassador of the Brentwood Chamber of Commerce (TN), a Board Member of the Nashville Investors Group, and past member of the Minds in Motion Advisory Board and Nashville Business Breakfast Club. His expertise includes advising clients on security (customer, employee, office), technology, internal controls, interpersonal skills, leadership, and social media/public relations.

**Elizabeth May** is the President and Senior Geologist of Near Surface Geophysics Innovations. NSG Innovations is a Women Owned Small Business specializing in geophysical applications in engineering, environmental and mining problems. Ms. May has over 25 years of experience working as a geologist, environmental scientist, regulator, project manager, and educator. Ms. May holds a Master's Degree in Public Health from Western Kentucky University and a Master's of Science Degree from the University of Kansas in geology. Ms. May received her undergraduate degree in geology from Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado.

**Thomas Brackman** is a Principal Geophysicist and Professional Geologist specializing in geophysics with applications to real world problems in engineering, environmental and mining applications. He is currently serving as the Director of the Geophysical Innovations Laboratory (GIL) at Western Kentucky University (WKU), Department of Geography and Geology and as Vice President and Principal Geophysicist at NSG Innovations LLC. Mr. Brackman developed and taught the geophysics program at Northern Kentucky University (NKU) for 10 years and served as the Director of the Laboratory for Applied Geophysics (LAG) at the NKU, Center for Integrative Natural Science and Mathematics (CINSAM). He relocated to Bowling Green and WKU to create a similar geophysics program while helping to establish NSG Innovations. Mr. Brackman received a Master's of Science at the Center for Earthquake Research and Information (CERI) at the University of Memphis and an undergraduate degree in the geological sciences at the University of Kentucky. He is registered as a Professional Geologist in the Commonwealth of Kentucky through ASBOG.

**Luke Darby** started with EJ USA in November of 2014. As an outside salesman, he currently covers the entire state of Kentucky and the southern portion of Ohio including the cities of Cincinnati and Dayton. Luke handles all sales and engineering requests for the hydrant and valve line as well as the extensive street casting product offering. Luke earned a bachelor's degree in Construction Management from BYU-Idaho in 2007 and started working with Ferguson Waterworks as a management trainee. During his 7 years with Ferguson, his duties included that of a trainee, inside salesman, outside salesman and during his final 3 years with the company he served as the branch manager of the Richmond, Kentucky office.