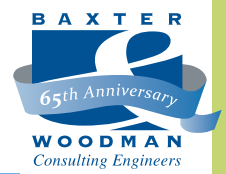


MUNICIPAL News



June 2011

WATER, WASTEWATER, TRANSPORTATION AND MUNICIPAL SPECIALISTS

NOW IN EFFECT!

NEW DNR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

*Can a toilet really
be a potential
cross connection
hazard? Yes!*

*Common locations
where cross connections
can occur*



A *cross-connection* is any temporary or permanent connection between a public water system or consumer's potable water system and any source or system containing nonpotable water or other substances.

For years, the State of Wisconsin has mandated that all municipal water utilities develop and implement a program to eliminate cross connections. Requirements include a cross connection control ordinance and on-site surveys. Recent legislation may affect how your water utility implements its cross connection prevention program.

WHAT REQUIREMENTS HAVE CHANGED?

NR 810.15 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code (which became effective 12/01/2010) requires the completion and submittal of an annual report to the DNR which must include a schedule for cross connection inspection frequencies, identification of the total number of service connections per category and the number of surveys completed in the previous year.

NR 810.15 also allows for a reduction in the frequency of "low hazard" inspections with a public information/education program.

HOW CAN MY COMMUNITY PREPARE?

- Review your cross connection control ordinance to be sure it contains all of the requirements of NR 810.15, including provisions for "denial of service" to any premises where an unprotected cross connection exists or where a survey could not be conducted.
- Attend a cross connection control training course offered by WRWA or others.
- Create/update your cross connection public information brochures.
- Continue to perform cross connection surveys or hire an outside firm to do so.

View a sample model ordinance for cross connection control or the DNR's Cross Connection Survey Report Form and instructions at www.baxterwoodman.com/water.html. For additional information, contact Jerry Groth at 608.277.1230 or ggroth@baxterwoodman.com.

Article by Jerry Groth, PE

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Industrial Pretreatment

INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT Q&A

Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) are designed to treat typical household wastes, biodegradable commercial, and biodegradable industrial wastes. Commercial and industrial facilities may, however, discharge pollutants that a treatment plant is neither designed for nor able to remove and this can cause serious problems.

The National Pretreatment Program, published in **Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 403**, provides the regulatory basis to require non-domestic dischargers to comply with pretreatment standards (effluent limitations). POTWs are responsible for ensuring that industrial and commercial facilities do not cause problems resulting from their discharges. This can be accomplished with a pretreatment program. The purpose of a pretreatment program is to prevent the introduction of pollutants to POTWs which will interfere with the operation, pass through the treatment facility and impact the environment, or interfere with the disposal of municipal sludge.

WHEN DOES A COMMUNITY NEED A PRETREATMENT PROGRAM?

USEPA Approved Pretreatment Programs – POTWS treating more than 5 MGD or smaller POTWS with federally regulated industrial dischargers are required to have a formalized pre-treatment program.

Informal Pretreatment Programs - POTWS treating less than 5 MGD can institute programs when industrial waste impacts the treatment processes and/or WPDES Permit requirements or when an industry is causing additional treatment costs and the POTW wants to recover those costs instead of having the local homeowner subsidize industrial treatment. Municipalities have increased flexibility when developing and enforcing informal programs as there is no oversight by the USEPA or WDNR on their program.

Regardless if a pretreatment program has one, five or fifty industrial users, it is advisable to manage the program as if it were a formal USEPA approved program

to provide legally defensible enforcement options.

WHAT MAJOR COMPONENTS HELP ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A PRETREATMENT PROGRAM?

A pretreatment program consists of performing both full and on-going surveys of all the industrial users in the POTW service area, adopting an ordinance consistent with Federal requirements, developing legally defensible local limits, issuing permits to those industrial users with discharges that are deemed necessary to limit, establishing POTW (Control Authority) protocols for sampling of industries, monitoring and data tracking of industrial user's discharge self monitoring sampling, enforcement of the ordinance and permits, and producing the POTW's annual report (for approved programs only) to the USEPA on the status of the industries and of the plant performance.

For the POTW, having the manpower and in house expertise to execute and maintain all of the facets of a well-executed program can be a major hurdle.



ent Programs

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HOW CAN COMMUNITIES SUCCESSFULLY MANAGE A PRETREATMENT PROGRAM?

- Maintain documentation for each permitted industrial user and tracking data to ensure requirements are met.
- Conduct yearly updates to the industrial survey. This will identify new industries that have moved into the treatment area, and who have left. Several methods of identifying the users in a program can be completed by water billing searches and driving the industrial parks.
- Adopt a clearly written pretreatment ordinance that gives the POTW the ability to implement a program adequate to protect the treatment works and allocate costs to those impacting the system.
- Conduct monitoring to confirm compliance status of industry and impact on the treatment works. At a minimum, the POTW must monitor the industrial users once a year, and mandate the industrial users to conduct self monitoring every six months,

and the POTW must monitor its influent, effluent and sludge once a year.

- Establish a clearly defined enforcement response plan (ERP) that contains detailed procedures indicating how the POTW will investigate and respond to instances of industrial user noncompliance.

HOW CAN B&W HELP?

Baxter & Woodman provides a wide variety of services from preparing formal program submittals to operating day-to-day programs for municipalities. Major program elements include conducting on-line web based surveys, developing ordinance(s) that can be incorporated into existing code, providing sampling and analyses overview for the development of legally defensible local limits and providing enforcement response plans that include examples of commonly needed notice of violations.

For additional information on industrial pretreatment programs contact Penny Bouchard at 262.763.7834.

Article by Nichie Brown, PE

Bird City Wisconsin Takes Flight

Bird City Wisconsin encourages municipal governments to implement urban bird conservation practices while educating residents. Bird City Wisconsin has identified 22 criteria across 5 categories, including habitat creation and protection, forest management, limiting hazards, public education, and recognition of International Migratory Bird Day. In turn, Bird City Wisconsin offers highly visible public recognition to those communities that succeed in meeting at least seven criteria. A Bird City receives two street signs, a flag and plaque, as well as publicity.

Applications are currently being accepted to certify your community as a Bird City. Over twenty Wisconsin communities are currently recognized as Bird Cities. The current application period closes July 1, 2011. Visit www.birdcitywisconsin.org for additional information, including help for communities that want to learn more about the application process and how to implement new conservation strategies.

Bird City Wisconsin is a joint initiative of the Milwaukee Audubon Society, Wisconsin Society of Ornithology, Wisconsin Audubon Council, Natural Resources Foundation and Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative.

INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM RESOURCES

USEPA Pretreatment Overview

http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program_id=3

EPA Region 5 Industrial Pretreatment

www.epa.gov/r5water/npdestek/npdprta.htm

USEPA Regulations

www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_06/40cfr403_06.html

USEPA Standards and Limits

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/pretreatment/pstandards.cfm>

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Great Lakes Compact Water Use Fee Begins

The *Great Lakes Compact* is a formal agreement between the Great Lake states collectively managing the water in the Great Lakes watershed. The Compact became effective in 2008. Since then, the Compact has prompted a variety of legislation affecting Wisconsin Water Systems.

The most recent legislation to affect Wisconsin Water Systems is the NR850 Water Use Fee. As a result of this legislation, all systems will soon receive a Water Use bill from the State of Wisconsin. Funds collected from the Water Use Fee will help implement requirements of the Water Conservation and Reporting program of the Great Lakes Compact. Each water system will pay between \$125 to \$9,500 depending on whether they are located in the Great Lake Basin or the Mississippi River Basin and depending on how much Great Lakes water they actually pump.

For additional information on the Water Use Fee, including a detailed breakdown of the assessment structure visit http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/greatlakes/RulesFactsheet_September2010.pdf

