



### Meetings & Events

*ORWA Fall Management  
Conference  
September 7-9, 2005  
Western Hills Lodge  
Wagoner, Oklahoma*

*NRWA Annual  
Management and  
Technical Conference  
October 9-12, 2005  
Sacramento, California*

The ORWA 2005 Legislator of the Year Award was presented to U.S. Senator James M. Inhofe at the ORWA Annual Meeting Banquet held April 12, in Tulsa. Senator Inhofe was recognized for his leadership in working to ensure that federal drinking water and wastewater regulations are practical, reasonable and affordable for small communities and rural water systems, and for his support of rural water association training and technical assistance programs.

Senator Inhofe chairs the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. As Chairman, he works to insure that the EPA follows the intent of Congress in the administration of Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act programs. Last year he held hearings in Oklahoma and other areas to receive input from communities and rural water districts on the impact of federal drinking water regulations. He challenges the EPA and environmentalist to justify the necessity and benefits of more

stringent federal mandates. Senator Inhofe is a past recipient of the National Rural Water Association Green Key Environmental Award. The award is presented annually by NRWA to members of Congress who work to protect our environment and water resources through the development of sensible, science based and cost effective regulations.

Each year Senator Inhofe initiates Dear Colleague Letters, which are signed by members of the Senate and sent to the Chairmen of Appropriation Sub-Committees, supporting funding for the Rural Development Rural Water Loan and Grant Program and rural water association training and technical assistance. His support has been indispensable in ensuring that these vital programs are available to improve the quality of life and enhance economic development in rural Oklahoma.

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### QUINLAN COMMUNITY WATER WINS WATER TASTE CONTEST

Winner of the First Annual ORWA Water Taste Contest was Quinlan Community Water located in Woodward County. The system is a ground water system that serves approximately 100 connections. System operator Verlaine Clark and bookkeeper Evalyn Johnson accepted the first place award on behalf of Quinlan Community Water.

Preliminary judging for the taste contest was held on Monday afternoon at the ORWA Annual Conference in Tulsa. Three rural water systems, Cotton County Rural Water District No. 2, Quinlan Community Water and Woodward County Rural Water District No. 1 were selected as finalist. A panel of three expert judges had the difficult task of selecting the states best tasting water at the final judging held on Tuesday morning. Entries were evaluated and judged for clarity, smell and taste.

Water from Quinlan Community Water was entered in the "Great American Water Taste Test", which was held April 19 in Washington, D.C. The event, held in connection with the annual Rural Water Rally, is sponsored by the National Rural Water Association.





For emergency calls after office hours, nights, weekends an

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## ORWA MAN OF THE YEAR

ORWA Deputy Executive Director, James Gammill was named ORWA Man of the Year at the ORWA Annual Meeting and Technical Conference held April 11-13, at the Marriott Southern Hills in Tulsa.

Gammill was employed by ORWA in September 1991 and has served as Deputy Executive Director for the last six years. He assists the Executive Director in the management of all programs and is responsible for management and administration of the ORWA Assurance Group, which provides coverage for 279 members of the Association. Gammill works with the Oklahoma Rural Water Enrichment Foundation in administration of the Scholarship Program and assists the ORWA Public Relations Committee in the implementation of the public relations campaign.

Gammill works at the state and federal level to develop, maintain and improve relationships with water related agencies and elected officials. He works to educate state legisla-

tors about the benefits of rural water and monitors proposed legislation and regulations to ensure they do not adversely affect rural water systems. Gammill has been closely involved with the ORWA Negotiating Team in negotiations with the Oklahoma Municipal League over territorial and water contract issues. He participates in Rural Water Rally and works with our congressional representatives to promote practical, reasonable and affordable drinking water and wastewater regulations and to enhance funding for water and wastewater system development and expansion in Oklahoma.

Gammill always gives extra effort to providing leadership and assistance in promoting the interest of the Association and rural water. He devotes much of his time and effort to improving ORWA and Assurance Group programs and services for the benefit of our members, and is always available to provide information or assistance to an ORWA member in helping resolve a problem

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## FLEET PURCHASE PROGRAM

Interest in the NRWA Fleet Vehicle Purchase Program appears to be growing. To date 33 certificates have been printed in Oklahoma from the Fleet Purchase Web Site. ORWA plans to purchase two vehicles in March. If your system has bought a vehicle through the NRWA program, please let us know about your experience. We would appreciate knowing about any problem you may have encountered, how much money you were able to save on your vehicle purchase and how our

prices compare to costs for similar Ford and General Motors products.

We encourage all of our members to check out the NRWA Fleet Vehicle Purchase Program. It was developed to make a wide selection of quality vehicles available to association members at a lower cost. For information on the program and to print a certificate go to [www.okruralwater.org](http://www.okruralwater.org). There is a link to the Fleet Program on our home page.

# MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

## T R A I N I N G

### BOARD MEMBER TRAINING

Rural water district board members can fulfill their six hour statutory training requirement by attending one of the training sessions listed below. Board member training is also approved by DEQ to fulfill renewal training for operators. All sessions are evening sessions, unless otherwise indicated, lasting from 6:30PM till 9:30PM for two consecutive nights unless otherwise stated.

March 15-16, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Onapa RWD #2, 5000 S Old Hwy 69	Checotah
March 21-22, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	City Hall, 120 Broadway Ave.	Ketchum
March 23-24, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Beckham Co. RWD #1 office, Main & Broadway	Carter
April 12, 2005	8:00 AM-5:00 PM	Marriott Hotel, 1902 E 71st Street	Tulsa
<b>3 hours credit in the Morning and 3 hours credit in the Afternoon</b>			
April 13, 2005	8:00 AM-1:00 PM	Marriott Hotel, 1902 E 71st Street	Tulsa
<b>4 hours credit</b>			
April 18-19, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Logan Co. RWD #1 office, 5113 S Sooner Rd	Guthrie
April 19-20, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	City Hall, Corner of Bell & Burnett	Clayton
April 20-21, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Okmulgee Co. RWD #6 office, 11003 Hectorville Rd	Mounds
April 26-27, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Wes Watkins Tech Center, 7892 Hwy 9	Wetumka
May 4-5, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Payne Co. RWC #3 office, 202 S Range Rd	Stillwater
May 10-11, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	NW Tech Center, 1801 S 11th Street	Alva
May 17-18, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Great Plains Tech Center, 4500 SW Lee Blvd	Lawton
June 7-8, 2005	6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Marshall Co Water Corp office, 400 E Main	Madill

### OPERATOR RENEWAL CLASSES

March 14, 2005	8:00 AM-12:00 PM	Logan Co. RWD #1 office, 5113 S Sooner Rd	Guthrie
March 15, 2005	8:00 AM-12:00 PM	Town Hall, 200 N Main	Ringwood
March 24, 2005	8:30 AM-12:30 PM	Library, 626 W Gentry	Checotah
March 29, 2005	8:30 AM-12:30 PM	Community Center, NW corner of Hwy 33 & 44	Butler
April 6, 2005	12:30 PM-4:30 PM	Fire Station, SE 2nd & Hwy 37	Tuttle
April 12, 2005	8:00 AM-5:00 PM	Marriott Hotel, 1902 E 71st Street	Tulsa
<b>3 hours credit in the Morning and 3 hours credit in the Afternoon</b>			
April 13, 2005	8:00 AM-1:00 PM	Marriott Hotel, 1902 E 71st Street	Tulsa
<b>4 hours credit</b>			
April 19, 2005	8:00 AM-12:00 PM	City Hall, 8th & Main Street	Gore
April 26, 2005	8:30 AM-12:30 PM	City Hall, 112 W Main	Cyril
April 28, 2005	8:30 AM-12:30 PM	City Hall, 1 W Commercial	Inola
May 3, 2005	8:00 AM-12:00 PM	City Hall, 724 Main Street	Paden
May 10, 2005	8:00 AM-12:00 PM	Water Office, Hwy 81 & Airport Rd	Kingfisher
June 7, 2005	8:30 AM-12:30 PM	Utility Building, 112 Williams Street	Westville

### Security/Emergency Response CLASS

April 8, 2005	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Quartz Mtn Water Auth, Hwy 9, 4 m W of Lone Wolf	Lone Wolf
May 11, 2005	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM	City Warehouse, 408 NE 6th Street	Guymon
May 12, 2005	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM	High Plains Tech Center, 3921 34th Street	Woodward

### CLASS "D" WATER CERTIFICATION CLASS

	All classes 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM		Test Place Date & Time
March 14-15, 2005	Mid-America Tech Center, Hwy I-35 & I-59	Wayne	Tech Center, 3-15-05, 4:00 PM
March 28-29, 2005	Indian Capitol Tech Center, 401 Houser Blvd	Sallisaw	Tech Center, 3-29-05, 4:00 PM
May 9-10, 2005	Cameron University, 2800 W Gore	Lawton	University, 5-10-05, 4:00 PM

### CLASS "D" & "C" WATER CERTIFICATION CLASS

	All classes 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM		Test Place Date & Time
March 28-29, 2005	Wastewater Plant, 1301 Pike Peak Rd	Chickasha	Canadian Valley Tech Center, 3-29-05, 3:00 PM
April 4-5, 2005	Library, 201 N Division	Guthrie	Library, 4-5-05, 3:00 PM
April 5-6, 2005	Wastewater Plant, 1002 "H" Street SE	Miami	NE Okla A&M College, 4-6-05, 3:00 PM

### CLASS "D & C" WASTEWATER CERTIFICATION CLASS

	All classes 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM		Test Place Date & Time
March 30-31, 2005	Wastewater Plant, 1301 Pike Peak Rd	Chickasha	Canadian Valley Tech Center, 3-31-05, 3:00 PM
April 6-7, 2005	Library, 201 N Division	Guthrie	Library, 4-7-05, 3:00 PM
April 7-8, 2005	Wastewater Plant, 1002 "H" Street SE	Miami	NE Okla A&M College, 4-8-05, 3:00 PM

All Lab Classes REQUIRE pre-registration, please call the ORWA office at 405/672-8925 to register.

### CLASS "C" WASTEWATER LAB CERTIFICATION CLASS

	All classes 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM		Test Place Date & Time
March 21-24, 2005	Wastewater Treatment Plant, 8700 W 100	Sapulpa	Central Tech Center, 3-21-05, 3:00 PM

## ORWA OUTSTANDING RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

The ORWA Outstanding Rural Water System Award is presented annually in recognition of the outstanding achievements of a rural water system, including operation, management and administration and is intended to recognize the contributions of the board members, managers, operators, office personnel and other employees that have helped make the system a success. The Award is meant to honor everyone involved with the system for their hard work, dedication, professionalism and commitment to providing a reliable supply of good quality water and excellent service to their customers.

Wagoner County Rural Water District No. 9 and the Cheyenne Utility Authority, Cheyenne, Oklahoma were presented the ORWA Outstanding Rural Water System Award at this years Annual Awards Luncheon.

Wagoner County Rural Water District No. 9 was formed in 1990 and began operation with 100 customers. The district currently serves 1643 members in the rural area northeast of Wagoner, Oklahoma. Wagoner No. 9 operates a surface water treat-

ment plant and provides water through over 300 miles of distribution line. Board members and staff of the district are:

Jim Stevens, Chairman; Robert Dardeen, Vice-Chairman; J.B. Shuffitt, Secretary/Treasurer; J.B. Duke, Director; Wayne Brauner, Director; Alan Muse, Manager; Vickie Fielden, Office Manager; Peggy Light, Secretary/Clerk; Trace Kinyon, Operator; Allen Mahurin, Field Manager; Jerry Mauldin, Operator; Brandon Collins, Field and Plant Operator and Bill Scuntlen, Meter Reader.

Cheyenne Utility Authority, located in Roger Mills County, began operation of their water system in 1960. The community operates a water treatment plant and currently serves 512 customers through approximately 28 miles of distribution line. Board members and staff of the Cheyenne Utility Authority are: Glenna Kirk, Chairwoman; Larry Bradshaw, Vice-Chair; Alvin Garling, Director; Gary Leonard, Manager; Richard Adams, Manager; Lisa Woods, Office Manager and Molly Lindenfelser, Bookkeeper.