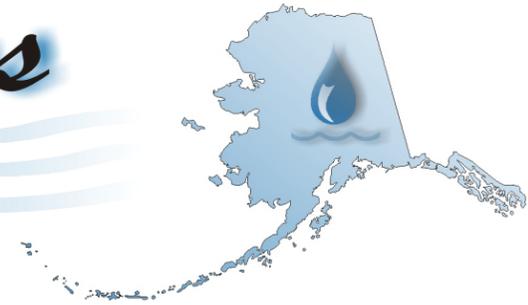


# Northern Flows



Alaska's Drinking Water Program Newsletter

Issue 20 • Winter 2005

## Important Information



### For Water System Operators and Owners

## Northern Flows

### Drinking Water Program Directory

#### ANCHORAGE OFFICE STATEWIDE FUNCTIONS

James Weise, DGS	Program Manager	269-7647
Vacant	Comp Tech Svcs Coordinator	269-xxxx
Vacant	Statewide DW Engineer	269-xxxx
Kathaleen Kastens	Project Coordinator	269-7639
Margaret Hansen	Administrative Clerk	269-7656
Vacant	Administrative Clerk	269-xxxx
Vacant	C/E Coordinator	269-3075
Jeanine Oakland	Environmental Spec.	269-2007
Karen Leis	Regulations Spec.	269-3082
Vacant	Regulations Spec.	269-7653
Maria Ridgway	Analyst Programmer	269-7625
Daniel Rogers	Analyst Programmer	269-2008

#### ANCHORAGE DRINKING WATER PROTECTION

Suzan Hill	Program Coordinator	269-7521
Vacant	DW Protection	269-0292
Chris Miller	DW Protection	269-7549

#### ANCHORAGE FIELD OFFICE

Heather Newman	Program Coordinator	269-7619
Vanessa Blevins, P.E.	Env. Engineer	269-7696
Sarah Rygh	Env Engineer Assist.	269-3076
David Edmunds	DW Compliance	269-7653
Jamie Stazel	DW Compliance	269-7624
Doug Zellmer	DW Compliance	269-7623
Kathleen Free	Environmental Tech.	269-7618
Leticia Tadina	Environmental Tech.	269-7517
Leilua Fadely	Administrative Clerk	269-7594

#### WASILLA FIELD OFFICE

Lynn Lowman	Program Coordinator	376-1861
Tee Little	DW Compliance	376-1860
Kellie Alvstad	Environmental Tech.	376-1859
Allan Nakanishi, P.E.	Env. Engineer	376-1862

#### JUNEAU FIELD OFFICE

David Khan, P.E.	Env. Engineer	465-5317
Carrie McMullen	DW Compliance	465-5333
Megan Costello	Environmental Tech.	465-5325

#### SOLDOTNA FIELD OFFICE

Susan Bulkow	Program Coordinator	262-5210
David Litchfield	DW Compliance	x227
Scott Fergie, P.E.	Env. Engineer	x224
Eric Burg	Environmental Tech.	x243

#### FAIRBANKS FIELD OFFICE

Cindy Christian	Field Operations Manager	451-2138
Vacant	Program Coordinator	451-xxxx
Lee Johnson, P.E.	Env. Engineer	451-2179
Linda Grantham	DW Compliance	451-2137
Marci Irwin	DW Compliance	451-2168
Johnny Mendez	Env. Engineer Assist.	451-5193
David Schleiger	Environmental Tech.	451-2170
Xenia DeVito	Administrative Clerk	451-2108

### Message from the Manager

As noted several months ago in the Fall 2004 newsletter, Issue #19, we had planned to begin a 30 day public comment period for a set of revisions to the Drinking Water Regulations, 18 AAC 80. That comment period was unfortunately delayed; however, we soon plan to have those proposed regulations out for public comment. This set of regulations will include the adoption by reference of the federal Radionuclides Rule, Variance and Exemptions Rule, Arsenic Rule, Filter Backwash Rule, and Analytical Methods. Additionally, all the references in the current Drinking Water Regulations, 18 AAC 80, are scheduled to be updated. The State of Alaska is late in adopting the Radionuclides Rule which we were required to have adopted and effective on December 8, 2004. The Arsenic Rule is scheduled for a late January 2005 adoption date, so getting this proposed regulations package out for public comment is a step in the right direction. The timely

adoption of the federal rules and updating references is required for the State of Alaska's primacy for drinking water and public water system (PWS) oversight.

The planned removal of the non-federal systems that are state regulated and serve fewer than 25 persons but more than a duplex, (Class C systems) is still on schedule to be completed on, or before June 30, 2005. As was noted in the previous two issues of the newsletter, Issues #18 and #19, there are many Class C PWS in this state. The more we look into this issue, the more systems we find. The most recent information obtained from our updated databases and hard copy files indicates that there are over 3,000 known Class C PWS across the state, possibly over 4,000 Class C PWS, providing drinking water to approximately 97,000 persons. Many of these systems are not registered with the state, have done no initial monitoring, and do not do any annual monitoring. Shocking isn't it? Do you get your drinking water from one of these systems?

workshops sponsored by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Drinking Water Program and taught by NANA Training Systems. There are ten (10) workshops planned from mid February through May 2005, and they are free of charge to all participants. Tentatively planned locations include: Anchorage (2 workshops), Kenai, Nome, Bethel, Fairbanks (2 workshops), Kodiak, Juneau, and Wasilla. The goal of these workshops is to provide "plain English" information and practical templates to the participants that will allow them to prepare a written ERP for their water system.

The Drinking Water Program is currently "on track" to complete two other very important projects within the first quarter of 2005. Phase I of our Electronic Data Reporting System (EDRS) project for PWS monitoring data is scheduled to be completed by mid February. This project will allow participating ADEC-certified laboratories to submit PWS monitoring data directly to SDWIS/State, the Drinking Water Program's PWS database. Phase II of the EDRS Project will be completed later in calendar year 2005, and will provide PWS owners

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If you are a PWS owner or operator, a very important activity for you to plan for in 2005 is to attend one of the Emergency Response Plan (ERP)

"Alaska Public Water Systems, like all other private and public sector industries need to do their part to ensure Alaska's stability and economic success. ADEC's Capacity Development Program is a prime example of industry, and our public utilities, taking responsibility to prepare for the unexpected and fully support themselves." Governor Frank H. Murkowski

Engineered Plan Reviews *by Allan Nakanishi*

The Drinking Water Program has developed new and improved engineered plan review checklists that are available at your local Drinking Water Program office or on the web at : <http://www.state.ak.us/dec/eh/dw/%20main/engineering.html> The checklists should be used to assure the completeness of engineered plans to be submitted to the Department to obtain construction and operational approval for both Class A and Class B Public Water Systems (PWS) for new construction, system modification and/or change of use, and separation distance waivers. Hopefully, the new checklists will make the engineered plan review process more efficient.

Several new features of the improved checklists include:

**Master Application Form.** This form supercedes the previous "Owner's Statement" that is required for all engineered plan reviews and waiver requests. It is used to compile necessary information about the facility and owner. A completed owner's statement is required for all engineered plan review submittals and it must be signed by the owner or authorized official before an engineered plan review can be started.

**Engineered Plan Review Application.** This form is used to compile information about the project engineer and Public Water System (PWS). It also contains a checklist matrix to determine the

correct checklists to include with your submittal.

**Checklists.** The checklists have been broken up into modules. This format allows a way to require only those items that are relevant to the project and project timeline. The checklist matrix in the *Engineering Plan Review Application* is the key to determining which checklist(s) will be required for your project.

**Approval Checklists.** Checklists for Approval to Construct, Interim Approval to Operate, Final Approval to Operate and Waivers outline the general conditions that must be met before a certificate may be issued. At least one of these checklists (depending on the project type) must be completed and provided at the time the specific approval is requested.

**PWS Component Checklists.** Water system components, such as Source, Storage, Distribution System, Treatment, as well as Capacity Development each have a specific checklist. Component checklists must be provided with the request for Approval to Construct submittal. The specific component checklist(s) that will be required depend on the project type.

**Checklist Guide.** The purpose of the guide is to provide additional information for each checklist item. It includes recommended guidance documents, regulatory citations, and a more detailed explanation. It is currently in a draft form but will be

updated over time.

#### Key Points to Remember When Using the Engineered Plan Review Checklist

- ✓ Incomplete submittals will be returned to applicant without review. Please double check to make sure all fees, forms and checklists are complete, accurate, and provided in the submittal.
- ✓ Checklists and Guide will be updated regularly. Please note the version date of the checklist and contact your local Drinking Water Program engineer or our website for the most recent version before beginning a new plan for submittal.
- ✓ The checklist is a guidance document and does not supercede regulatory requirements. Also, information that is required for an engineered plan review submittal is not limited to the checklist. Depending on the system configuration and situation, additional information may be required for the protection of public health. The plan review engineer will notify the applicant if additional information is needed to complete the submittal.
- ✓ Comments and suggestions to improve the checklist and guide are requested! For questions about specific checklist items, contact your local Drinking Water Program engineer. For comments and suggestions regarding the checklist, please contact Allan Nakanishi, P.E. by phone at (907) 376-1862 or by email at: [allan\\_nakanishi@dec.state.ak.us](mailto:allan_nakanishi@dec.state.ak.us).

Resources Corner: Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corp. cont'd. *by Doug Zellmer*

Additionally, YKHC helps systems meet their regulatory compliance goals by working closely with ADEC Drinking Water Program staff. One way that YKHC helps water systems stay in compliance with drinking water regulations is by conducting the required sanitary surveys of systems. YKHC member systems which are due for a sanitary survey should contact YKHC's Office of Environmental Health and Engineering to schedule a sanitary survey for their water system. Sanitary surveys are provided free of charge for member community systems.

YKHC also sponsors a YKHC Region "Water Plant Operator of the Year" award to formally recognize water plant operators for outstanding service to their communities. If you would like to nominate a Yukon-Kuskokwim area water plant operator for this award, contact Jeff Severn.

#### Rural Utility Cooperative

The Rural Utility Cooperative (RUC)

was established by YKHC and is operated out of the Office of Environmental Health and Engineering. The RUC was created to improve the efficiency of water and sewer operations while lowering maintenance costs to systems through bulk ordering and other "co-op strategies". The RUC is funded through the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), the Denali Commission, the Rasmuson Foundation, and the EPA. Current members of RUC are the communities of Holy Cross, Grayling, Toksook Bay, Russian Mission, and Upper Kalskag. The community of Alakanuk will also join the cooperative in early February 2005. RUC assists their member communities with water system upgrades, monitoring guidance, quality control, training, and financial capacity. Financial capacity guidance is provided through evaluation of, and assistance with billing and collections, as well as optimization of fuel and electricity usage to reduce operational costs.

Additionally, water operators of member systems become employees of YKHC with benefits, including retirement. The RUC, which is currently operating as a pilot program, may later expand operations to include additional water systems depending upon the performance of the pilot program. Water systems interested in more information about YKHC's Rural Utility Cooperative should contact Seth Smith at (907) 543-6184.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation sincerely appreciates the role that the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation plays in improving the quality of drinking water in western Alaska. "Working Together to Achieve Excellent Health" is YKHC's recently released mission statement. We at the DEC look forward to another year of working closely with YKHC toward our common goal of protecting and achieving excellent public health. ~

Administrative Penalties -The Cost of Non Compliance cont'd. *by Sherri Trask*

could easily be five times as high depending on the number of years the system had failed to submit the CCR (i.e. \$27,500 for the past 5 CCRs at the reduced penalty rate) This report can cost a community water system a couple hours of time and several hundred dollars to complete their annual CCR depending on who completes it. Some community water systems actually get their CCRs completed by the Alaska Rural Water Association at no cost. There are about 25 systems with CCR violations for 2002 and 2003.

The owners of PWSs need to ask the following questions: Where does your water system stand? Have you recently received an NOV? Do you think, or believe, that the Department's Drinking Water Program staff have forgotten you? What's it going to cost you to remain non-compliant? What do you think one or more violations that reflect a potential health risk would cost in terms of non-compliance and administrative penalties? ~

**Answer: c)** Methemoglobinemia is also known as "blue-baby" syndrome. It is blood disorder in infants that can be caused by high levels of nitrate/nitrite in drinking water that can interfere with the blood's ability to carry oxygen to cells in the body. Babies with methemoglobinemia will show signs of blueness around the mouth, hands and feet. For this reason, it is very important to test for nitrates annually.

## Question: What is methemoglobinemia?

- a. a protozoal disease that causes stomach problems
- b. too much methane in drinking water
- c. a disease caused by high levels of nitrate/nitrite in drinking water
- d. a new planet in the Andromeda Galaxy

Message from the Manager cont'd. *by James Weise*

and operators with web-based access to the SDWIS/State PWS database. This will allow them essentially "real time" and "read only" access to PWS compliance monitoring data. Lastly, in early calendar year 2005, we plan to field test the new Alaska Enhanced Sanitary Survey (ESS) form. This is a modified version of U.S. EPA's Enhanced Sanitary Survey form. After the form is field tested, and ADEC Drinking Water Program staff and third party inspectors are trained, the form will be made available to ADEC-approved sanitary survey inspectors for use statewide. It is currently planned that the form will have full functionality for use with personal data assistants (PDAs), laptop, or desktop computers and will include 3 sanitary survey form modules: 1) untreated ground water source, 2) treated ground water source, and 3) surface water or GWUDISW source.

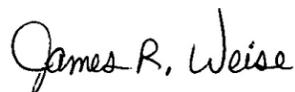
Staffing changes and restructure plans for the Drinking Water

Program continue. Cindy Christian has been promoted to the statewide Field Operations and Implementation Manager, a new position in the Drinking Water Program, and Cindy started in this position on January 18, 2005. Additionally, Susan Bulkow has returned to the Alaska Drinking Water Program. Susan was recently hired as the Environmental Specialist IV, Coordinator, for the Drinking Water Program staff in the Soldotna Office. Susan will start in this position on February 7, 2005.

Sadly, two staff are leaving the Drinking Water Program this month. Michael Knapp, Environmental Specialist in the Drinking Water Protection group and Sherri Trask, Environmental Specialist and Coordinator for our statewide compliance and enforcement activities, have resigned effective January 19 and 21, 2005, respectively. We wish both Michael and Sherri well in their new adventures and endeavors and say

"Thank you" for their good work and diligence.

From the rest of us here in the Drinking Water Program, let's get ready for spring and have some fun. Before you know it, spring will be here, and we need to get ready now. For the PWS owners and operators reading this newsletter, we recognize the good work you are doing in achieving and maintaining compliance for the public health protection of your customers. We also recognize the fact that operating and maintaining a PWS is a serious job that requires consistent commitment and support from management and your customers. Keep up the good work. ~



James Weise  
Manager  
Drinking Water Program

Administrative Penalties -The Cost of Non Compliance cont'd. *by Sherri Trask*

system fails to complete their annual nitrate monitoring requirement, a violation is given for that specific year in which the nitrate sample was missed. A notification of alleged non-compliance (NOV) can be issued to the system for being in violation of the annual nitrate monitoring requirement for that particular year. Along with this NOV, the system is given information on what needs to be done to correct the violation. In this example, a water sample for nitrate analysis must be collected and submitted to a certified laboratory. In addition, a deadline for returning to compliance is given in the NOV; e.g. the system must sample for nitrates within 30 days or an administrative penalty will be assessed. If the NOV

deadline is missed, a monetary penalty is imposed for every day that the system remains in non-compliance. These monetary penalties may continue until the system returns to compliance. Clearly, the sooner a system can return to compliance, the lower the administrative penalty.

The following example gives you a better sense of the size of a penalty. The CCR reporting requirement is due no later than July 1 each year; however it may not pose a serious health risk if not completed. Let's say that a community serving 400 people failed to submit their 2003 CCR on time and they were given an NOV on August 1, 2004. The community

also failed to complete the CCR by the NOV deadline. A preliminary determination was finally issued on September 24, 2004 since there was no evidence that the system corrected the violation. The penalty was calculated from the receipt of the NOV to the day the preliminary determination was made (55 days). The total penalty calculated for this single non-compliance would be approximately \$11,800. Alaska state statute allows a maximum for a PWS serving less than 1,000 people of \$100 per day **per violation**; therefore, the recalculated penalty was reduced to \$5,500. It's important to note that this is for one annual CCR violation only, the penalty

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Staff Profile- Environmental Engineer (Juneau Office) *by Cindy Christian*

David Khan is an Environmental Engineer I for the Mat-Su/Southeast Drinking Water Program area in the Juneau Office. He is responsible for a wide range of activities, including evaluating engineered plans for public water systems, reviewing separation distance waiver requests, coordinating activities with compliance and enforcement staff on enforcement actions, performing groundwater under the direct influence of surface water determinations, and completing sanitary survey inspections for public water systems in the Prince William Sound and Southeast Alaska areas. David works with system owners and operators to best assist them in achieving and maintaining compliance with the Drinking Water Regulations. He is very active in providing both compliance and technical assistance to the public waters systems in his area. David is especially interested in the chemistry and physics that lies behind drinking water treatment and system components. He is also interested in the concept of flow through pipes, pumps, tanks and porous media, such as sand filters and rocks.

David graduated from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks with a bachelor's degree in engineering. He retains a Professional Engineer (P.E.) license in Civil Engineering from the State of Alaska and he has also served as the president of the Alaska Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE). David came to Alaska as a young man in 1982 to attend college in Fairbanks and loved it so much he decided to stay. He accepted a position with British Petroleum Exploration in the Environmental and Regulations section as an engineer-intern. Eventually, he got married and started his family. David came to work for the ADEC Drinking Water Program in 1991. He was interested in using his engineering expertise to help provide safe drinking water to the people of Alaska. David takes great pride in helping to improve the quality of drinking water to enhance to health of the people of the state

David is very active in many activities outside of ADEC. His favorite thing to do is to spend time with his wife, Dianna and his two daughters, Chrystalina and Adriana. David also



likes to workout on his treadmill at home while watching QVC. His favorite hobby is constructing electronic projects. Most recently, he is learning to make a pressure transducer kit that converts pressure signals into electronic signals which will govern the speed of a pump. David is also an avid reader and likes to watch football. David also enjoys traveling and he just recently returned from a trip to Hong Kong and Pakistan. David is a very important member of the ADEC Drinking Water Program team, working to ensure the protection of public health through the application of sound engineering principals to provide safe drinking water to the residents and visitors of the state. ~

**UPCOMING TRAINING AND CONFERENCES**

World Water & Environmental Resources Congress 2005: May 15-19, 2005  
"Impacts of Climate Change" Anchorage " the site of one of the largest gatherings of environmental and water resource professionals " for more information:

[www.asce.org/conferences/ewri2005](http://www.asce.org/conferences/ewri2005)

Alaska Water and Wastewater Management Association 45th Annual Statewide Training Conference April 26-28, 2005, Juneau for more information:

[www.awwma.org/ConferenceInfo/Conference\\_Info.htm](http://www.awwma.org/ConferenceInfo/Conference_Info.htm)

ADEC Emergency Response Planning Workshops, February - May, 2005 for more information: [www.nana-nts.com/watersecurity.php](http://www.nana-nts.com/watersecurity.php)

Administrative Penalties -The Cost of Non Compliance *by Sherri Trask*

The EPA requires Drinking Water Primacy states to have the authority to impose administrative penalties. An administrative penalty is a monetary fine a Public Water System (PWS) must pay for remaining out of compliance with drinking water regulations. The Department may assess a penalty against an entity that violates, causes, or permits any term or condition in the Drinking Water Regulations, 18 AAC 80, to be violated, per Alaska Statutes AS 46.03.020 and AS 46.03.761. The penalty assessed will be stated in terms of dollars per day per violation in accordance with AS 46.03.761. The Department may not however, exceed a penalty of \$100 per day per violation for water systems serving 1,000 or fewer persons, and \$250 per day per violation for water systems serving between 1,001 but fewer than 10,000 persons. For a PWS serving greater than 10,000 persons, States have authority to impose an administrative penalty that is "adequate to ensure compliance" and by federal law can not be less than \$1,000 per day per violation. AS 46.03.761 became effective in June 1998, and the Drinking Water Program's regulations became effective September 21, 2002.

The Drinking Water Program's regulations, 18 AAC 80.1200-1290, address specific actions that need to be taken before assessing an Administrative Penalty on a PWS. The first step in the process is to issue the PWS a notice of alleged non-compliance (Notice of Violation or NOV) when a system has not made adequate efforts to return to compliance. The NOV lists all violations, all the information listed in 18 AAC 80.1210, and a required timeline for returning to compliance

for each violation.

If the PWS does not respond, or does not come back into compliance before the deadline noted in the NOV, a penalty will be calculated using this formula:  $\text{Penalty } (\$) = (A \times B \times C \times \$10) + D$  where "A" represents the public health threat of each violation; "B" factors in the system's previous compliance record; "C" reflects the population served by the water system; and "D" is the system's economic savings plus the Program's



associated costs per day of non-compliance. Economic savings is based on how much the system saved by not maintaining compliance with the Drinking Water regulations. For example, if a system failed to test for the new revised radionuclides initial samples (approximately \$600 per quarter for 4 quarters), they have saved \$2400 plus shipping. These "saved" costs, plus the additional cost to the Program above and beyond the routine costs to get the system to return to compliance, will be factored into the final penalty per day per violation. After the penalty has been calculated, an Issuance of Preliminary Determination will be provided to the PWS along with a worksheet showing how the penalty was determined.

After an Issuance of Preliminary

Determination has been received, the PWS has 10 days to request a reconsideration of the penalty. A system might request a reconsideration because it had partially returned to compliance, the noncompliance was out of the PWS's control, the Department files may be missing relevant information, or the PWS can supply further information that would justify a reconsideration of the penalty amount. The Director, Division of Environmental Health, will determine whether to recalculate the penalty, proceed with the original penalty, or dismiss the enforcement action.

If the Department does not receive a timely request for reconsideration, or if the Department determines that the penalty of any amount should be assessed, a written Notice of Assessment will be issued to assess the penalty. The PWS will have 45 days to contest the penalty.

**It is important to note that even if the system returns to compliance before the preliminary determination has been issued, a penalty of some amount will still be imposed.** The penalty is assessed because the PWS violated one or more Drinking Water Regulations in Chapter 18 AAC 80 and failed to correct the violation by the deadline given in the NOV. The penalty is calculated based on the number of days of non-compliance between the day the system receives their NOV and either their return to compliance, or the date the Department issues a notice of preliminary determination.

This may be better understood if you consider that a violation occurs for non-compliance for a particular compliance period. For example, if a

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Resources Corner: Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation *by Doug Zellmer*

The Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC) provides a variety of services on behalf of 58 federally recognized Alaska Native Villages distributed throughout 50 rural communities in southwest Alaska. YKHC's Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEHE) offers assistance to public water systems which serve these communities. Assistance provided includes the provision of educational opportunities for water operators, water laboratory services, training and technical assistance via the Remote Maintenance Worker Program, regulatory compliance assistance, and a number of other services. Most of these services are provided to their member communities at no cost to the community.

#### Training

YKHC-OEHE offers a variety of training opportunities ranging from plant maintenance to Introduction to Small Water Systems OIT/Level 1 courses. During 2003, seven courses were offered which included Boiler Maintenance, Electrical Circuits and Controls, as well as a number of Introduction to Small Water Systems OIT/Level 1 courses. Most recently, in December of 2004, a Consumer

Confidence Report workshop was performed in conjunction with the Alaska Rural Water Association. The primary goal of this workshop was to assist water systems that were on the EPA's Significant Non-Complier list for CCR non-compliance. For calendar year 2005, one of OEHE's primary objectives for their Operations and Maintenance Training Program is to get water operators certified to at least the level required for their water plant.

Training scheduled for the first half of 2005 includes a boiler maintenance course February 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, and an Introduction to Small Water Systems OIT/Level 1 course April 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. Those individuals taking the April Operator in Training (OIT) course interested in taking the Level 1 exam need to apply by February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lodging, meals, and training are provided at no cost to individuals from member communities for all YKHC-OEHE sponsored training, but transportation to the training location is the responsibility of the attendee. Individuals not associated with one of YKHC's member communities may also participate in YKHC sponsored training, but generally there will be a fee for those individuals. If you would like more information on the training that YKHC provides for water operators, contact Jeff Severn at 1-800-478-6599.

#### Laboratory Services

YKHC-OEHE operates a water laboratory in Bethel which is certified by the State of Alaska for the analysis of bacteria and fluoride samples. During 2004, a total of 1,294 bacteria samples and 52 fluoride samples were analyzed. Water

testing and sample containers are provided to water systems of member communities free of charge. There is a 40 dollar fee per sample for bacteria samples submitted by water systems not belonging to one of YKHC's member communities. Water systems interested in utilizing YKHC's lab for their water testing needs should contact Monica Thompson at 1-800-478-6599 for more information.

#### Remote Maintenance Worker Program

There are 4 remote maintenance workers (RMW's) employed by YKHC who provide assistance to their assigned communities. RMW's are available for "over the shoulder" training and provide technical assistance to water systems. RMW's also provide immediate response to emergency situations affecting community water and wastewater facilities. In addition, the statewide RMW program maintains an inventory of emergency repair equipment for loan to communities. YKHC member communities who would like to get in touch with their assigned RMW should contact Karl Powers at (907) 543-6427.

#### Other Assistance and Programs

YKHC also aids their member community water systems in obtaining state and federal funding for their water systems. Letters are sent to systems to remind them when funding applications are due, and that the system needs to make requests for any necessary improvements. YKHC can also assist in this process by providing supporting documentation for the projects which have been requested by the water system.

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