BAXTER & WOODMAN Consulting Engineers NEWS

Making a positive difference through innovative engineering solutions

TECHNOLOGY SPOTLIGHT

WATERLY

Collect data on a tablet. Automate your reporting. Take back your time.

Waterly is a subscription-based software data collection and reporting tool designed to help operators easily collect water system data and assemble regulatory and operations reports. Waterly minimizes errors and significantly reduces the time it takes to produce reports. Operators are then able to spend their time actually operating their system, rather than pushing paper.

WHY WATERLY?

Improve efficiency. Eliminate handwritten reporting by collecting data on a tablet. With Waterly, water operators spend less time collecting data and creating reports - allowing more time to manage the water system.

Improve accuracy. Operators can avoid performing calculations by hand on a scratch sheet of paper or spending time scrutinizing a large tabular report at the end of each month. Waterly allows your community to set expected ranges for each data field and then automatically checks the data live as it is entered.

Improve system insight. How much water did your facility pump during this month last year? How much salt did your facility use in your softening process over the course of the summer? Waterly provides these answers and more with just a few clicks. Through powerful data analytics, you can compile complex system information quickly and easily.

HOW CAN I GET STARTED?

Visit the Waterly website at ***www.waterlyapp.com*** or contact Tim Foerster at ***tim@waterlysoftware.com*** to schedule a quick Demo.

"This would save me two to three hours per week."
Municipal Water Operator

"This is incredibly useful for small water systems like us. Just about everybody does this by hand right now. Operators are always looking for a better way to do things - and this is it." *Local Mayor*

Visit *youtu.be/wewDMkBPeUg* to view a short video tour of Waterly. See how collecting data on a tablet can lead to faster, easier, more accurate reporting.

October 2018

INSIDE

BAXTER & WOODMAN
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WATER SYSTEM CHALLENGES

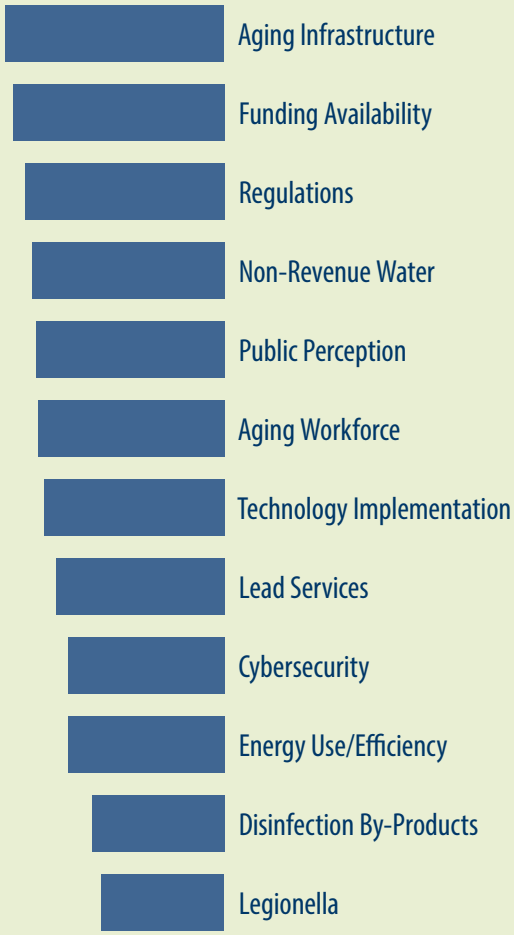
We turn on our faucets many times a day, often without considering some very important questions about the water that comes out of the tap.

Do we have enough? Is it clean? Will it last?

Planning, prioritizing and paying for improvements needed to replace aging water infrastructure in order to meet the current demand and regulations can be a challenge. Baxter & Woodman surveyed water utilities to identify the biggest challenges facing them today. From funding to cybersecurity, discover what hurdles other utilities are working hard to overcome.

Survey RECAP >

CHALLENGES RANKED



3 BIGGEST CHALLENGES

Aging Infrastructure

Funding

Regulations

Public Works Staff cite **Aging Infrastructure** most often as Challenging.

Elected Officials cite **Funding** most often as Challenging.

29%

of respondents that use **Lake Michigan water** are somewhat or very concerned about the **availability** of their current water supply.

62%

of respondents that use **groundwater and/or surface water** are somewhat or very concerned about the **availability** of their current water supply.

Survey Says...

"**Training and retaining** workforce after turnover from retirements."

"**Public perception** and understanding of the true costs of water and infrastructure maintenance."

"**Staff and resources shortage**, not enough personnel to fulfill job requirements."

"It is challenging securing **buy-in from Village staff** for technology and infrastructure improvements."

WATER SYSTEM CHALLENGES

A Resource

Danielle Gallet, Water Resource Strategist, Urban Planner and author of *Drinking Water 1-2-3* (http://drinkingwater123.metroplanning.org/), offers these suggestions and an overview of the Guide to help communities with their water system and supply concerns.

Why is *Drinking Water 1-2-3* an important document?

In Northeastern Illinois, our proximity to a Great Lake means we generally enjoy ample water. But that good fortune has lulled us into complacency, and our drinking water systems have been neglected. What's at stake? Public health and safety, including contamination and service disruptions due to crumbling infrastructure and aging water treatment systems. Municipalities and their residents, who find themselves hard-pressed to pay the escalating costs of collecting, treating and delivering drinking water. Increasing pollution concerns that threaten our drinking water sources. And, yes, some groundwater sources that may be unusable in 5–10 years.

While our water supply issues are significant, they are fixable. Local leaders hold the key to making sure our communities are safe and have sustainable drinking water systems now and into the future. *Drinking Water 1-2-3* helps outline these challenges and how we can head off calamities and create a sustainable water future for our region.

Who will benefit from reading *Drinking Water 1-2-3*?

Many of our drinking water utilities are owned and operated by a local municipality. And most elected officials enter office without prior experience in water management or running a water utility. This guide is designed to give our community leaders a leg-up in understanding the key aspects of water management. The resource provides checklists of critical questions to discuss with water system managers and engineers, municipal planners, public works officials, finance directors, developers, residents and businesses.

Ultimately, *Drinking Water 1-2-3* is a call to action, and an educational tool for local officials and community leaders to better understand and proactively address their area's drinking water needs.

What is the first step a reader should take after reading *Drinking Water 1-2-3*?

If you are a community official, start a proactive dialog with your water managers, public works, planners and finance folks. Use the checklists featured within the guide to understand if your community is embedding 21st century water management best practices into its everyday routines.

MORE RESOURCES

Other resources are available to help with water supply, service, and maintenance challenges:

- **https://www.awwa.org/**
- **https://www.isawwa.org/**

B&W can help…

Committed to protecting and preserving the water supply and staffed by recognized experts in the field, the Baxter & Woodman water group specializes in long-term system planning, design, construction, and operation of water supply, treatment, storage, and distribution systems.

Contact Carolyn Grieves, PE at *cgrieves@baxterwoodman.com* to discuss how Baxter & Woodman can help your community achieve its water infrastructure investment goals.

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MCDONALD ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

The Village of South Elgin McDonald Road Bridge Replacement project has been presented with a 2018 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award in the category of $10 Million or less. This award is presented to engineering projects within the ASCE Illinois Section that exhibit the greatest engineering skills and represent the greatest contribution to Civil Engineering progress and Mankind.

The McDonald Road Bridge project replaced the original bridge built in 1923 with an 88-foot single span, precast prestressed concrete girder bridge. Because of its narrow width, the Village was able to apply for and receive federal STP-Bridge funding assistance for the project. In addition to widening the bridge, the project included adding pedestrian underpass to connect the north and south segments of the Mid-County trail in a safe location under the roadway.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Second use of IDOT's new PPC-IL beam shapes
- 1st use of Reinforced Soil Slope (RSS) system combined with a pre-vegetated mat covering the RSS
- Pedestrian underpass with in-ground underpass accent lighting
- Two multi-use trail routes (at grade and below the new structure)