

Dear Penny,



Free Asset Management Workshops

Do you struggle with:

- Aging Infrastructure?
- Meeting regulatory requirements?
- Not having enough money to do all the maintenance you would like?
- Choosing which assets to replace and when?
- Knowing what assets you own and where they are located?

Do you wish you could:

- Have better communications with your board/management/decision makers?
- Have community members support rate increases?
- Have more confidence that you are spending your money in the right place?
- Increase your ability to handle emergencies?

Asset Management Could Help You!

The Department of Environmental Conservation is offering **free Asset Management Workshops** to public community drinking water systems. Workshop participants will develop components of an Asset Management Plan to help their systems use limited resources more effectively; decide when to maintain, repair, rehabilitate, and replace assets; improve communication with customers and decision makers; justify system

needs; gain support for rate increases; and qualify for financial incentives from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

Register early because each workshop will be limited to ten systems!

- Two asset management workshop series are being offered locations to be determined by interest.
- Each series consists of two full day workshops (April 24th & 25th and May 30th & 31st). Participants are expected to attend both days of the selected series.
- The workshops will be led by Heather Himmelberger. Ms. Himmelberger is a registered professional engineer and the Director of the Southwest Environmental Finance Center (SWEFC). She has been working with water and wastewater utilities for more than 20 years. For more than ten years, Ms. Himmelberger has been conducting trainings and providing direct assistance to help utilities throughout the U.S. develop Asset Management Programs her approach works well for systems of all sizes. She serves on the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Asset Management and Water Loss Control Committees. For more information about Ms. Himmelberger, visit the SWEFC's website and listen to her Time to Put Water First.

Ms. Himmelberger will host an informational webinar on **February 28th from 11am-noon eastern time** to provide an overview of Asset Management, discuss workshop logistics and answer questions.

Who is eligible to attend the workshops?

The workshops are open to public community drinking water system (CWS) staff - operators, board members, engineers, financial managers, etc. Consultants are welcome to attend at the request of a CWS, but not as the water system's sole participant. Preference will be given to systems serving less than 10,000 people, but all systems are encouraged to register. Operators will receive training credit hours.

How do I register for the workshops?

Contact Megan Young (<u>megan.young@vermont.gov</u> or 802-585-4903) to register for the webinar and workshop series.

*If you are interested in attending one of the workshops, please participate in the webinar on February 28th (link to be provided at time of registration).

Sincerely,

Megan Young, Capacity Development Program Supervisor Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division (802) 585-4903 Davis 2, Montpelier, VT 05620-3901

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