



# Quality On Tap!

April 2024 | Volume 19, Issue 4

**PURPOSE OF  
AN ANNUAL  
MEETING**

**EFFECTS OF  
ZEBRA MUSSELS  
ON RURAL WATER  
SYSTEMS**

*Save the Date*

**BDM'S 44<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL  
MEETING**

**Monday,  
March 25, 2024**

**DIRECTOR ELECTIONS  
DINNER SERVED FOLLOWING  
MEETING**

**NEW BDM  
MEMBER  
PORTAL**

**SEE PAGE 13 FOR MORE INFO**

# FROM THE MANAGER

Rodney Kappes  
Manager, BDM Rural Water System, Inc.



## Greetings from the Team at BDM:

Thanks to the recent weather, your team has been busy with outside projects that normally wouldn't get completed until this spring/summer. Outside of a couple of PRV issues which caused several leaks, the system has been running smoothly.

We have started some work on the new wells at our new water treatment plant site. The project will commence in earnest after frost comes out in the spring. This will position BDM well for additional capacity and redundancy once completed.

BDM has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Aberdeen and WEB Water to construct a major pipeline from the Missouri River through WEB country to Aberdeen with eventual plans for this pipeline to extend to BDM's treatment plant. We don't expect BDM to obtain any water from this source for many years. Currently, BDM's water source is adequate for our demand. This project is positioning BDM in a much better situation for an additional redundant water supply 25-30 years down the road. The project will require significant Federal Grant Dollars to become a reality. The current focus is to get federally approved as an eligible federal water project, which may take a year or longer. Once approved as a federally approved project, we will build as the grant dollars become available. The State of South Dakota has been very supportive of this project and providing a very good amount of seed money for us to start building pipeline on this project.

We recently had two staff members receive prestigious awards at the Annual South Dakota Rural Water Awards Banquet. Shannon Wegleitner received the Rural Water Office Person of the Year Award and Darin Roehr received the Rural Water Operations Specialist of the Year Award. Shannon and Darin were very deserving of these awards and are a testament to their commitment to BDM and our customers. The rest of the team consists of Jim Hagen, Ryan Vrchota and Jared Marzolf, who are also dedicated and committed to providing first in class service to our BDM customers.

We are currently in the middle of our annual financial audit, with full details to be shared at our annual meeting, which is scheduled for March 25th, 2024, at the BDM office. It appears BDM will have solid financial performance in fiscal year 2024.

We will have an election in District Seven as incumbent Kevin Deutsch and David Behrns will be running for that board seat. Please plan to attend to hear the exciting projects BDM is undertaking to continue to make your system first in class for reliability, redundancy, quality, and financial stability.

We are looking to add one or two operators to our team in the next year. If you or somebody you know would like an exciting and rewarding career in the rural water field, please give me a call at 605-448-5417. We have a very good benefits package which includes a 401k retirement program.

We continue to get Lead survey responses. For those of you who have completed and sent in the information, thank you. If you haven't, please do so at your earliest opportunity.

Thank You for your continued support, patronage, be careful and safe this spring. God Bless.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Torre Raap – Andover, SD

### Vice President

Kevin Deutsch – Sisseton, SD

### Secretary-Treasurer

Hal Treeby – Hecla, SD

### Directors

Terry Leonhardt – Groton, SD

Marc O'Brien – Britton, SD

Don Ogren – Langford, SD

Alex Suther – Eden, SD

### Advisory Director

John Cloud – Sisseton, SD

## STAFF

### General Manager

Rodney Kappes

### Interim Operations Manager

Ryan Vrchota

### System Operations Specialists

Darin Roehr

Jim Hagen

Jared Marzolf

### Office Manager

Shannon Wegleitner

### Attorney

Danny R. Smeins


## CONTACT INFORMATION

PO Box 49 | Britton, SD 57430

Phone: (605) 448-5417

Fax: (605) 448-2124

[www.bdmruralwater.com](http://www.bdmruralwater.com)

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To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# BDM MEMBERSHIP CORNER



## ANNUAL MEETING

*Be sure to join us for BDM's 44th Annual Meeting to be held at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 25th at the BDM building in Britton! Supper will be served following the meeting. More info can be found on page 15.*

### The BDM Rural Water System offices will be closed:

**MONDAY, MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>  
MEMORIAL DAY**

As always, if you have an emergency, please call the office at 605-448-5417 or toll free at 1-800-448-9236. You will then receive a message with the telephone number of the employee on call. Please call that person for assistance in an emergency only.

## BE A LEAK SEEKER!

With over 2,300 miles of pipeline, occasional leaks are going happen in the BDM system. Not only are leaks an inconvenience for our members, they are a costly expense to your water system. If you see a possible BDM leak, please call the office to report it right away. The first caller to report a verified leak will receive a \$30.00 credit on their next water bill.

## BDM RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INC. RATE SCHEDULE (EFFECTIVE 7/1/2023)

### GENERAL USER RATES:

Debt Service monthly payment: \$46.00 per hookup per month

\$6.95 per thousand gallons for the first 2,000 gallons used per month

\$5.95 per thousand gallons for the next 5,000 gallons used per month

\$4.95 per thousand gallons for the next 8,000 gallons used per month

\$3.95 per thousand gallons for over 15,000 gallons used per month

Gallons Used Per Month	Monthly Total	Gallons Used Per Month	Monthly Total
1,000	\$ 52.95	25,000	\$ 168.75
2,000	\$ 59.90	30,000	\$ 188.50
3,000	\$ 65.85	35,000	\$ 208.25
4,000	\$ 71.80	40,000	\$ 228.00
5,000	\$ 77.75	45,000	\$ 247.75
6,000	\$ 83.70	50,000	\$ 267.50
7,000	\$ 89.65	55,000	\$ 287.25
8,000	\$ 94.60	60,000	\$ 307.00
9,000	\$ 99.55	65,000	\$ 326.75
10,000	\$ 104.50	70,000	\$ 346.50
11,000	\$ 109.45	75,000	\$ 366.25
12,000	\$ 114.40	80,000	\$ 386.00
13,000	\$ 119.35	85,000	\$ 405.75
14,000	\$ 124.30	90,000	\$ 425.50
15,000	\$ 129.25	95,000	\$ 445.25
16,000	\$ 133.20	100,000	\$ 465.00
17,000	\$ 137.15	125,000	\$ 563.75
18,000	\$ 141.10	150,000	\$ 662.50
19,000	\$ 145.05	175,000	\$ 761.25
20,000	\$ 149.00	200,000	\$ 860.00

### ALL USERS:

No water is included in the debt service payment. All water used is in addition to the monthly debt service payment. Payments are due by the 15th of the month. A \$10.00 fee applies to all payments received after that date. Service is subject to disconnection if payment is not received by the 22nd.

### AFTER HOURS & WEEKENDS WATER EMERGENCIES:

Please call the BDM Office at 605-448-5417 or 1-800-448-9236 & a message will direct you to the employee on call.

# ROEHR AND WEGLEITNER RECOGNIZED BY SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER

The South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems proudly announces Darin Roehr as the distinguished recipient of the 2023 Rural Water Operations Specialist of the Year Award. Darin's outstanding 28-year tenure as an Operations Specialist with BDM Rural Water System has been characterized by exceptional service, dedication, and a commitment to excellence.

Darin's deep institutional knowledge, acquired during the system's installation, has been a cornerstone in resolving operational issues. Serving as the lead for the BDM Operation Specialists, Darin's commitment extends beyond regular hours, making him the first point of contact for SCADA alarms and ensuring the integrity of the system at any hour.

His proactive approach is evident as Darin begins each workday early, strategically preparing for potential issues – a testament to his foresight and dedication. Darin's instrumental role in the design of BDM's new water treatment plant, scheduled to commence in 2024, showcases his expertise. His field experience and comprehensive understanding of rural water systems have provided critical insights into the plant's design and functionality.

Darin's troubleshooting skills, quick resolution of issues, and ability to minimize downtime and expenses have significantly elevated customer satisfaction for BDM Rural Water System. Darin's community spirit shines through his volunteer work with the North Marshall Volunteer Fire Department, where he has served in various capacities, including fire chief and trainer.

The South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems commends Darin Roehr for his exceptional knowledge, dedication, and community service. His remarkable contributions make him a vital asset to BDM Rural Water System, and he is a truly deserving recipient of the prestigious Rural Water Operations Specialist of the Year Award for 2023.



The South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems proudly announces Shannon Wegleitner as the esteemed recipient of the Rural Water Office Person of the Year Award for 2023. With an exemplary 16-year tenure at BDM, Shannon has been an indispensable asset, particularly in the realm of customer service.

Shannon's role as the cornerstone of customer service at BDM has seen her handle a diverse array of responsibilities, from billing inquiries to managing new hookups, all executed with unparalleled efficiency. Her recent accomplishment in spearheading the transformation of the billing system is particularly commendable. Through extensive research and meticulous preparation, Shannon successfully transitioned BDM to a new program, complete with an online payment portal—a long-standing request from members. This substantial upgrade not only enhances customer convenience but also brings noteworthy savings to BDM.

Shannon's dedication and skillful execution in this complex task, ensuring a seamless transition without any customer impact, exemplify her extraordinary commitment to her role. Her ability to navigate challenges and drive positive change within the organization makes her a standout recipient of the Rural Water Office Person of the Year Award.

The Rural Water Office Person of the Year Award is a testament to Shannon Wegleitner's exceptional contributions, leadership, and impact on the water and wastewater industry. The South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems commends Shannon for her outstanding service and commitment to advancing the water and wastewater sectors.

# ZEBRA MUSSELS INVADE SOUTH DAKOTA WATERWAYS

*Tanner Davis, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator  
South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks*

**Z**ebra mussels are a small invasive mollusk (clam) that originated in Eastern Europe and first arrived in the U.S. in the mid-1980s. Zebra mussels were first found in the Lake St. Clair near Detroit, MI and since have spread throughout the Mississippi River drainage (Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Ohio Rivers). Populations also exist in the Western U.S.. Adults range in size, anywhere between ½ inch to 2 inches and can rapidly spread under the right conditions. Larval zebra mussels, called veligers, can spread by water transfer and veligers are so small they are invisible to the naked eye which adds to their invasiveness and ease of incidental transfer. Adults will attach to hardy surfaces and vegetation and for this reason, South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks enforces recreationalists to stay Clean. Drain. Dry. between waterbodies to help slow the spread. Always make sure to pull all plugs on your watercraft and don't transport any water, vegetation, mud or other organic matter from one body of water to the next. Below are the list of impacted waters in South Dakota.

## History of initial positive detections of Zebra Mussel

- 2014 Lewis and Clark Lake
- 2015 Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam
- 2015 McCook Lake
- 2018 Lake Yankton
- 2019 Lakes Sharpe and Francis Case
- 2020 Lake Cochrane, Kampeska, Pickerel and Dahme Quarry
- 2021 Lake Mitchell
- 2022 Enemy Swim, Blue Dog, Clear Lake, South Rush and Pactola Reservoir
- 2023 James River/Sand Lake Refuge, Roy Lake, Big Sioux River, Bigstone Lake, Lake Oahe

Please visit [sdleastwanted.sd.gov](https://sdleastwanted.sd.gov) for more information regarding AIS regulations, news/updates, maps, frequently asked questions, media gallery of AIS, and to report any potential AIS you may have found on our citizen monitoring page.



*Photo By: Sam Stukel*

# THE EFFECTS OF ZEBRA MUSSELS ON RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

**Z**ebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) first discovered in South Dakota in Lewis & Clark Reservoir in 2015 are invasive freshwater mollusks that have spread rapidly across various water bodies. Zebra mussels have been found in many bodies of water in South Dakota, such as the Missouri River, Big Sioux River, Blue Dog Lake, Lake Mitchell, Sand Lake National Refuge on the Jim River, Pactola Lake, and many more. Zebra mussels are small, fingernail-sized mollusks with distinctive zigzag stripes on their shells. They are highly adaptable and can thrive in a wide range of environmental conditions, making them formidable invaders. Zebra mussels are filter feeders, extracting phytoplankton and other particles from the water column, which can lead to competition with native species for resources. The spread of zebra mussels is facilitated by their ability to attach to various structures, including boats, docks, and water intake structures. Once established in a water body, they reproduce prolifically, with each female capable of producing hundreds of thousands of eggs per year. Their larvae, called veligers, can be transported over long distances by water currents.

Zebra mussels have had profound ecological impacts on invaded ecosystems. Their dense colonies can outcompete native species for food and space, leading to declines in native mussel populations. The increased water clarity resulting from their filter feeding can promote the growth of harmful algae, negatively affecting fish populations and disrupting food webs.

The economic consequences of zebra mussel invasions are significant. They can clog water intake pipes, leading to increased maintenance costs for industries and municipalities. Furthermore, the decline in native fisheries and alteration of ecosystems can have long-lasting economic repercussions.

Several strategies have been employed to control and manage zebra mussel populations. Physical methods, such as the use of barriers and underwater mats, aim to prevent the attachment of zebra mussels to structures. Chemical methods, including the use of molluscicides, have been employed, but their environmental impact raises concerns.

These infestations can cause significant problems in water systems, including clogging water intake pipes. Chemical treatment is one of the methods used to control zebra mussels in water intakes. Several chemicals can be effective in treating water to prevent or mitigate zebra mussel infestations. It's important to note that chemical treatment should be done carefully, considering potential environmental impacts and the safety of other aquatic life.

**Here are some chemicals commonly used for the chemical treatment of water intakes for zebra mussels:**

**CHLORINE:** Chlorine is a powerful disinfectant and is often used for controlling zebra mussels. It can be applied as a gas or in various chemical formulations. However, its use requires careful monitoring to prevent harm to non-target organisms and ecosystems.

**QUATERNARY AMMONIUM COMPOUNDS (QACs):** QACs, such as polyquat or benzalkonium chloride, are chemicals that disrupt the membranes of zebra mussels, leading to their mortality. These compounds are often used as part of a rotation strategy to prevent resistance.

**COPPER-BASED COMPOUNDS:** Copper is toxic to zebra mussels and is commonly used in antifouling coatings on boat hulls and water pump intake screens. Copper sulfate is a chemical option for treating water intakes, but its use needs to be carefully managed due to potential environmental concerns.

**POTASSIUM-BASED COMPOUNDS:** Potassium-based chemicals, such as potassium chloride, can be effective against zebra mussels.

**PEROXIDE-BASED COMPOUNDS:** Hydrogen peroxide is an oxidizing agent that can be used to control zebra mussels. It is generally considered less harmful to the environment than some other chemicals, but its effectiveness may vary.

It's crucial to consult with experts, environmental agencies, and follow state regulations before implementing any chemical treatment. Additionally, regular monitoring is essential to assess the effectiveness of the treatment and minimize potential negative impacts on non-target species and the overall ecosystem. Integrated pest management approaches, combining chemical treatment with physical methods and other control strategies, may provide more sustainable solutions for zebra mussel control in water intakes.

According to Matt Hansen of Hawkins Chemical. "Earthtec QZ is what the majority of water plants/dams are using on the Missouri River. It is the only approved molluscicide in the state of South Dakota and on the Missouri River. It is also NSF 60 certified, and EPA registered. Plants are feeding 1 PPM dose using peristaltic/ diaphragm pumps on manual mode or connected to SCADA. Plants have been feeding out of drums/totes and bulk tanks. Tubing is usually run by a diver from the intake building, down to the intake through PVC pipe to keep weighted to the ground in front of the intake screen. Based on management plan, some plants feed EarthTec QZ year around, turning down the dose in the wintertime to .5 PPM for a maintenance dose. When the water temp drops below 40 degrees Fahrenheit, it discourages colonization."



*Zebra mussels cling to an intake valve from a water system in South Dakota.*

# THE PURPOSE OF AN ANNUAL MEETING





**A**nnual meetings are pivotal for Rural Water Systems. These meetings provide the consumers with a time to come together and listen to the system's year in review, hear about future plans and projects, and help make important decisions. These meetings offer transparency, accountability, and communication between the Board of Directors and the customers. The purpose of the meeting is to show financial transparency, strategic decisions, regulatory compliance, and the election of board members.

At the meeting, financial statements for the previous year are presented. This shows the consumers financial responsibility and shows the financial health of the system. Many of the rural water systems have their Auditor, Treasurer or Accountant give a report at the meeting on the financial statements and go over the overall financial status of the water system.

Strategic discussions are also reported on, which can include plans for upcoming projects and potential challenges that may arise. Many times, the system engineer will give updates on the status of the distribution system, current or ongoing construction projects. This keeps the consumers well informed and can let them ask any questions about the direction or goals of the system. This open proactive approach allows for timely investment in the water system, reducing the risk of unexpected breakdowns and service disruptions.

Members of the rural water systems will have the opportunity to vote on the election of board members during the annual meeting. This democratic process allows them to have a say in the governance of the company and ensures leadership aligns with their interests.

Regulation compliance will also be presented at these meetings. These regulations are crucial for the functioning of the system. These will be reviewed, discussed and the consumers will be shown the requirements needed to keep health and safety standards.

Annual meetings are the cornerstone of effective governance and sustainable operations for the rural water system. These gatherings, whether it be an open house, an afternoon or evening meeting in a district of a water system, or a drive through as some had during the pandemic, are mandated by the by-laws of the system. Every water system's annual meeting may look different, but they facilitate community engagement, communication, planning, compliance, and democratic elections of the leaders. By actively participating in annual meetings, you can contribute to the success and longevity of your water systems, ensuring access to clean and safe water for generations to come.



## RAPID VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT/WATER SERVICE

**N**estled in the Black Hills of South Dakota, Rapid Valley Sanitary District–Water Service stands as a testament to community vision and dedication. Established in 1962 by local citizens, this organization was born out of the necessity for a safe drinking water supply in an era where many relied on shallow wells.

### Early Challenges and Innovations:

The journey began with a humble start, marked by challenges. Initial attempts at well construction faced setbacks due to poor production and high radium content. However, undeterred, the team persevered. In 1990, an underground gallery was installed along Rapid Creek to harness surface water, signaling a commitment to innovation.

### The Merger of 1994:

A pivotal moment arrived in 1994 when the Sanitary District and Water Service merged, forming a quasi-governmental entity – Rapid Valley Sanitary District–Water Service. This strategic union aimed at optimizing customer service and operational efficiency.

### Infrastructure Growth and Technological Advancements:

Over the years, Rapid Valley has evolved with the times. Infrastructure upgrades, new water and sewer main projects, and the addition of microfiltration units showcased a commitment to staying ahead in the ever-changing water industry.

In 2010, the addition of a third microfiltration unit, along with a Trojan ultra-violet system, catapulted the treatment

capacity from two to three million gallons per day. This not only exceeded Environmental Protection Agency standards but also positioned Rapid Valley to serve neighboring districts.

### Looking to the Future:

Rapid Valley remains a beacon of forward thinking. In 2009, a 1.85 million-gallon tank was added, and in 2013, a .256 million-gallon Aqua store tank bolstered storage capacity to 3.61 million gallons. Annual project plans ensure continuous improvements, with a booster station added in 2009 for future expansion.

Looking toward sustainability, Rapid Valley is pilot testing ceramic membranes for water treatment. Early results suggest increased production capacity, higher recovery rates, and lower operating costs, paving the way for the long-term success of water treatment initiatives.

### Community Collaboration:

Serving approximately 3,900 connections, Rapid Valley is not just a water provider but a vital community partner. Collaborating with the expanding Rapid City, the district emphasizes high-quality service and anticipates the needs of its residents.

For over 60 years, Rapid Valley Sanitary District–Water Service has been a guardian of water quality, adapting to challenges and embracing innovations. As they continue to pilot test new technologies and plan for the future, Rapid Valley remains at the forefront of the water industry, ensuring safe and sustainable water for generations to come.





## DIRECTORS:

- Chairman – Andy Fitzgerald
- Vice Chairman – Bob Phillips
- Secretary – Connie Olson
- Treasurer – Diana Nelson
- Director – Shirley Haines
- Director – Jennifer Battles
- Director – Carrie Wheeler
- Director – Eric Krebs

## STAFF:

- General Manager – Rusty Schmidt
- Field Operations Supervisor – David Flint
- Office Team Lead – Sara Bender
- Administrative Clerk – Kathy Graff
- Administrative Clerk – Samantha Faatz
- Service Technician – Mike Chrobak
- Service Technician – Nate Broom
- Service Technician – Tyler Volk
- Service Technician – Garret Whipple

## STATISTICS:

- Hookups: 3,771
- Miles of Pipeline: 70
- Water Source: Rapid Creek,  
Interconnection with Rapid City
- Counties Served: Pennington



# RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

## SMALL TOWNS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

### Across

- Pinnacle or peak
- Thieves
- Beverly Cleary heroine
- British director of classic thrillers
- Named after the colonial center in

### Virginia

- Named after a much larger city in Texas
- Named after Austrian capitol
- Stackable canned chip
- Align or position something

### Down

- Highlander country
- Dependence on or trust in someone or something
- Similar name to Black

### Panther kingdom

- German head of government
- Chief manservant
- George Michael Song
- Ring around the sun

**Enter to Win \$100**

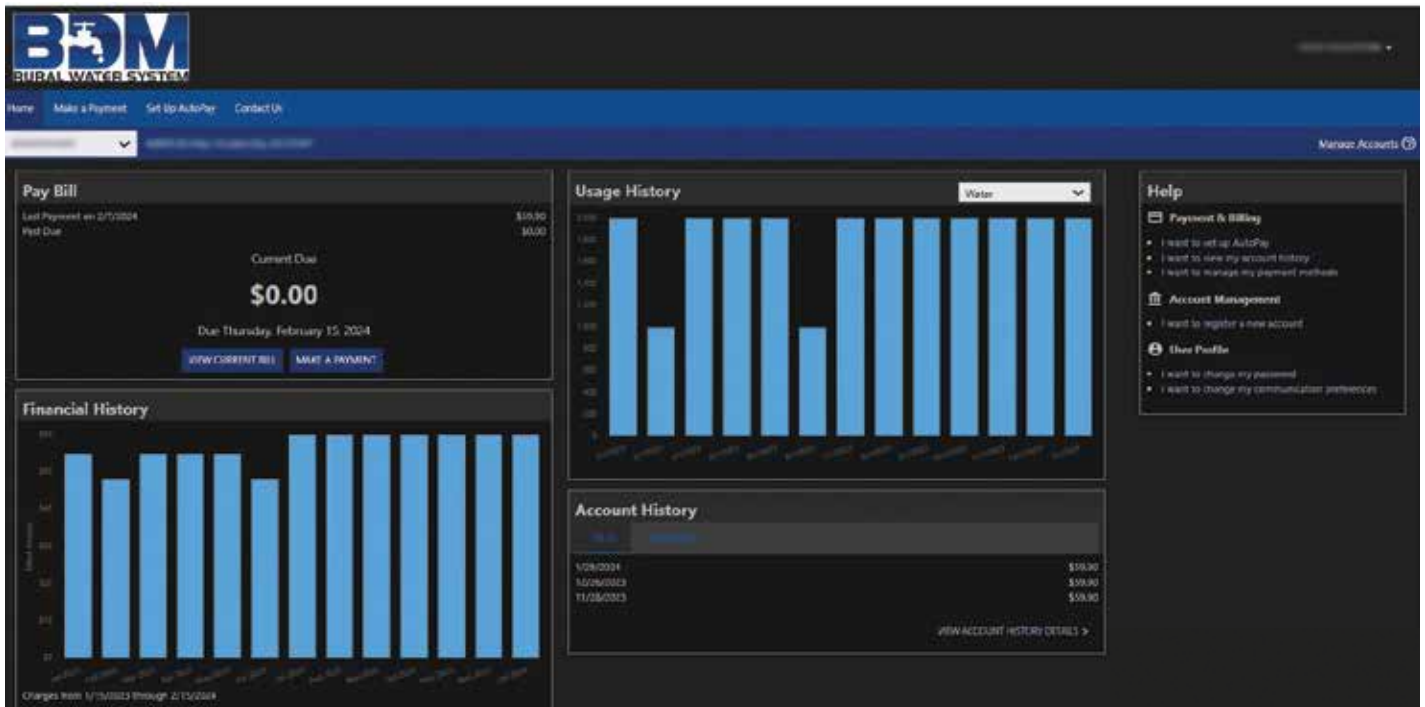
**SCRAMBLE ANSWER**

**RULES:** Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or **enter online at [www.sdarws.com/crossword.html](http://www.sdarws.com/crossword.html)** with the correct phrase by April 15, 2024 to be entered into the \$100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Don & Lura Kirkpatric with West River/Lyman-Jones who had the correct phrase of "Everything Comes Back to You" for January 2024.

# NEW BDM CUSTOMER PORTAL



**D**id you know the online customer portal is now up and running? Many of you have used the portal to pay your water bill or to sign up for automatic withdrawal from a credit or debit card. But did you know that the portal is useful even if you don't use it to make a payment? You can view your current account balance and review past payments and usages.

To visit the portal, go to our website [www.bdmruralwater.com](http://www.bdmruralwater.com) and click on "PAY MY BILL" (you do not have to make a

payment). Or you can go directly to [bdm.epayub.com](http://bdm.epayub.com). To sign up, you will need your account number(s), which can be found on your bill(s).

Once logged in, you will see graphs displaying your usage and payments for the past 12 months. You can also view a detailed account of your billing and payment history. Call Shannon if you have any questions regarding the customer portal.

## Lead-Free SD

(Take the survey now—it could pay off!)

### Have you completed your water line survey?

Drinking water is free of lead when it leaves the water treatment plant—however, water can absorb lead if it travels through lead pipes on its way to your faucet. The majority of South Dakota water pipes are free of lead, but we need to find where lead pipes still exist so they can be removed.



**We need YOU to help us find the lead pipes. That's where the survey comes in.**

To complete your quick water line survey, go to [survey.SDWaterPipes.com](http://survey.SDWaterPipes.com)



**Receive a \$5 credit on your water bill, and also be entered into a drawing for five \$100 water bill credits.**

*If we obtain a 90%+ survey return rate there will be an additional two \$250 water bill credit drawings.*



PO Box 49  
705 7th Street  
Britton, South Dakota 57430  
www.bdmruralwater.com  
605-448-5417

# 2024 Scholarship Application

BDM Rural Water is sponsoring four \$500 scholarships to be presented for the 2024 school year.  
Two boys and two girls will each receive the \$500 award to be drawn at random.

## APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

## FAMILY INFORMATION:

Parents Names \_\_\_\_\_

BDM Rural Water System, Inc. Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

University/College/Technical Institute you are or you will be attending \_\_\_\_\_

At present I am or plan on majoring in \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUIREMENTS:

- You must be a child of a member of BDM Rural Water System, Inc. with a billing account directly from BDM Rural Water.
- GPA must be a minimum of 2.0. A sealed official transcript from your current school must accompany this application.
- You must attend either a 2-year or a 4-year college or vocational institute.
- In order for this application to be considered, a photo to be used for publicity purposes must be submitted along with your application.

*All forms must be returned to the BDM Rural Water office by May 1, 2024.  
BDM Rural Water System, Inc., PO Box 49, Britton, SD 57430*

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.  
Esta institucion es un proveedor de servicios con igualdad de oportunidades.*



# **BDM ANNUAL MEETING**

**MONDAY, MARCH 25th, 2024**

**BDM office building  
705 7th Street, Britton, SD**

*The business meeting  
will be called  
to order at  
6:00 PM*



**Cash prize  
drawings will  
be held!**

*Note: Only BDM members are  
eligible to enter the drawings.*

**There will be an election between incumbent Kevin Deutsch and David Behrns for the District Seven Director position. No election will be held for District One, as the only petition filed was from incumbent Torre Raap.**

**Financial and operations  
reports will be available.**

**Supper will be served  
following the meeting.**



RURAL WATER SYSTEM

PO Box 49  
Britton, SD 57430

www.bdmruralwater.com  
605-448-5417



# WATER MATTERS

## HOW WATERFALLS WORK

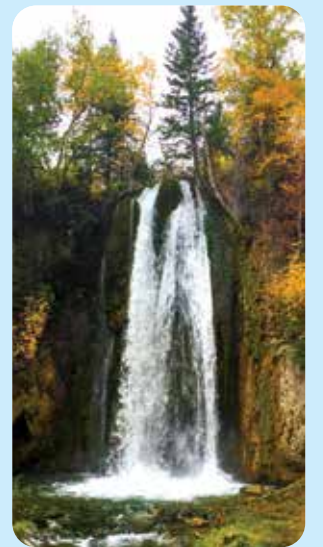


According to the dictionary, a waterfall is “a cascade of water falling from a height, formed when a river or stream flows over a precipice or steep incline.” Such a dry, academic description might well provide a workable technical definition, but it does little to convey the beauty of such features that have drawn the attention of people for ages. Waterfalls, both large and small, are the focal points of many national, state and local parks and scenic areas, ranging from the massive Niagara Falls along the St. Lawrence River to the modest Minnewissa Falls at the Pipestone National Monument 50 miles northeast of Sioux Falls.

In many cases, waterfalls form when fast-moving water passes over hard, resistant rock that transitions into softer, more easily eroded material. The harder capping rock is preserved (or eroded much more slowly), while the softer rock is quickly worn away. As a result, a step (geologists call it a nick point) develops in the river or stream, over which the water “falls.” Over time, the harder rock will also be eroded, and the waterfall moves slowly upstream. Chunks of the more resistant cap rock are often visible at the base of the waterfall. Roughlock Falls and Spearfish Falls along Little Spearfish Creek in the Black Hills are two good South Dakota examples of this type.

In other cases, the ledge over which the water “falls” is the result of a break in otherwise fairly uniform rock. Over millions of years, forces within the earth have created faults and fractures in the Sioux Quartzite, which is found across parts of southeastern South Dakota. These breaks have left behind a fairly irregular surface on the quartzite. When modern day rivers and streams flow across this surface, waterfalls and cascades develop where there are sharp transitions. The Falls of the Big Sioux River are an example, and led to the development of our states largest community. Rock Rapids, Iowa, got its name in a similar manner.

Next time you come across a waterfall, see if you can figure out just why it is there, but only after admiring what is taking place.



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132B Airport Avenue  
Brookings, SD 57006  
605-688-6741  
eastdakota.org