

Managers' Corner

By Steve Gleason

Thanks for all you do to serve our customers

As we head into spring, I wanted to thank you all again for your responsiveness and dedication during the cold snaps this winter. Your actions expressed an individual devotion to service and excellence.

With employees like you, this organization can do wonders and is getting better every day.

With the days of winter behind us, we feel a desire to be outside and a readiness and enthusiasm to achieve the plans we made for the year.

SPRWS is eager for this season.

Business has managed the meter-to-cash cycle so expertly that the 2019 financing is all but assured.

Thank you to those who make that happen.

Engineering has calculated, assessed, and solved technical problems, then planned and planned some more. We are more than ready with our game plan to tackle 2019.

Thanks for such great efforts.

Distribution has begun the process of welcoming back permanent and temporary staff and adding new employees to the roster. The preventative maintenance work you'll do this year is so very valuable to system reliability. Installing main, hydrant, valve and water service replacements with a mindset of "let's make sure this last two-lifetimes" makes us proud.

Production's service message is one of certainty: "Dear customer: Use all the water you need. We'll make more. It will be there when you turn on the tap."

Hats off to the supply and treatment teams.

Thanks to all of our employees for all you do to help us serve our customers together.

Enjoy this spring season.

Warmer weather brings pressure changes



Bruce Berg photo.

With the change in the weather, our administrative building's pressure changes, causing the doors to remain ajar. Please make sure they close completely behind you when you leave, especially at the end of the day.

Employee attendance awards set for April 23

Employees using 24 hours or less of sick leave in 2018 will be honored with pizza parties to celebrate their good health and good attendance April 23.

The award recognizes exemplary attendance of year-round, certified, non-probationary staff who were hired prior to the beginning of 2018.

Each recipient will receive a certificate of outstanding attendance signed by Steve Schneider and the division manager.

It is up to division managers to notify eligible staff of the exact time, location, and if necessary, change of date, that the luncheon will be held. If you think you qualify, look for more information to come from your division manager.

Are you a new employee? Attend a city workshop

The city is thrilled to welcome city of Saint Paul's newest employees at the "Welcome to Saint Paul" event. It's so important that our staff are successful in their new roles that the city requires attendance at this event for all new employees, including temporary employees, to help them understand Saint Paul's mission, vision, and values.

The next "Welcome to Saint Paul" (previously called New Employee Orientation) is from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Monday, April 22, at the Palace Community Center at 781 Palace Ave.

Breakfast snacks and coffee will be provided.

Objectives of this workshop include:

- Greet, welcome, and celebrate your employment with the city of Saint Paul
- Network and make connections with those in multiple departments
- Discuss what it means to be a public servant providing quality customer service using radical hospitality.
- Learn about the city of Saint Paul and its:
 - Mission
 - Vision
 - Values
 - Accomplishments

Please obtain supervisor approval to attend the workshop prior to registering. Once approved, register online at Event Brite: <http://tinyurl.com/y4z58h5o>.

Registration closes two business days prior to training. You do not need to print off tickets for this.

If you have any dietary restrictions, please let the hosts know by emailing jobs@stpaul.gov.

Water fountains are available near the break room.

Please bring a refillable water bottle with you so you can stay hydrated throughout the morning.

The city will hold additional workshops this year if you cannot make the April 22 date:

- June 28, 2019 - Rondo Library
- August 21, 2019 - City Hall Basement Room
- October 15, 2019 - City Hall Basement Room
- December 10, 2019 - City Hall Basement Room

Contact Anita Vue at 266-6523 or email anita.vue@ci.stpaul.mn.us or jobs@stpaul.gov with questions.

New water utility worker I's start work in distribution



Travis Bushnee



Thomas Hehn



Dylan Kimber



Michael Pavlick



Christopher Robinson



Tyron Vidal

The water utility has begun preparing for the construction season ahead by hiring a handful of new water utility workers.

Travis Bushnee, Thomas Hehn, Dylan Kimber, Michael Pavlick, Christopher Robinson, and Tyron Vidal all began work in distribution on April 1.

These are all certified, full-time employees.

Please welcome our new employees to the water utility if you see them around campus.

Century College courses available through June

SPRWS is partnering with Century College to offer continuing education classes to staff in May and June.

The utility has two seats available in each of the classes it is offering. Some series courses, such as the Excel series, are sequential and must be taken in order. If textbooks are required, they will be provided.

Classes are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. You must obtain management approval prior to signing up for the course(s) you are interested in.

Most classes are held at the main Century College campus in White Bear Lake.

If you need a list of the courses, please contact Debbie Szulim. To register, send Szulim a list of your preferred classes in priority order. You can email her at debbie.szulim@ci.stpaul.mn.us or call her at 266-6263.