

Divers check river crossing



Photo by Luke Sandstrom

With one of our three river crossings currently down on the Robert Street bridge, confirming the protection and condition of our other two crossings has become even more critical. Matt Dalrymple has been working with a diving contractor to complete an assessment of the 20" cast iron pipe that lays on the bottom of the Mississippi River near downtown St. Paul. The divers did their inspections on Tuesday, August 27.

Utility seeks to hire staff for water system worker II

The utility is hiring individuals to perform responsible work installing, operating, and maintaining the water distribution system including water mains, water services, valves, hydrants, and other water facilities. This position is an internal posting open to current, certified, classified city employees.

Here's what you can expect to do:

- Safely operate a variety of tools and equipment to achieve tasks.
- Install and repair domestic and commercial water service connections, air vents, water mains, blow-offs, hydrants, etc.
- Read and interpret water system maps

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SPRWS staff to participate in MN AWWA annual conference

SPRWS will be sending over 30 employees up to Duluth next week for the MN AWWA Annual Conference. The conference is a great opportunity to learn about industry trends, see what other utilities around the state are working on, and network with others for future collaboration.

"SPRWS is full of talented individuals leading the way in their areas of expertise. We are proud to have employees presenting on a variety of topics at the conference this year to help highlight the wonderful work being done here at SPRWS across all divisions," said Racquel Vaske.

SPRWS Representation:

Wednesday, Sept. 18 in the exhibitor hall starting at 10 a.m.

and running throughout the day, the utility will have two pipe tapping teams competing. The men's team will be returning from last year, which is made up of Joe Garcia, Andrew Lardani, Marcus Fitzgerald, Jake Wolf and Jake Masiello.

New this year, the utility will also have a women's team competing. Maddy Tusler, Sabirah Aleem, Alexandria Robertson, Kelsey Feirer, and Caitlin Brunette make up this inaugural team.

Thursday, Sept. 19, Several utility speakers will be featured throughout the day.

Up first is Rich Rowland, who will be presenting a talk called, "Piloting AMI. Who is Driving This Thing? SPRWS' Journey with Implementing AMI Technology."

Then Will Menkhaus will present with Jacobs, "Construction Lessons Learned at the SPRWS Water Treatment Plant."

Jeremy Erickson will present, "Unlocking the Flow: Water Age and Measuring and Modeling in a Complex Distribution System." He will be joined by former SPRWS employee Aubrey Boie.

Right before lunch, Josh Cobb, Steve Nystrom, and Jodi Wallin will team up to present, "Tapping Trust: Public Relations for Engaged Communities."

In the afternoon, Justine Roe will present, "Enhancing Lead Corrosion Control: The Evolution of Saint Paul Regional Water Services."

Several staff recently earn promotions



Allison Bruhn



Mike Hiveley



Rutger Krenz



Seneca Kruse



Brent Marsolek



Steve Nystrom



Adam Worm



James Yapp

Several SPRWS employees earned promotions in August.

Allison Bruhn and Mike Hiveley were promoted to water utility tech. II in damage prevention as direct reports of Brent Marsolek.

Rutger Krenz was promoted to water utility tech. II. He continues to work in agreements at the engineering service desk as a direct report of Dennis Rosemark.

Seneca Kruse was promoted to a water utility tech. III working on the Lead Free SPRWS team as a direct report of Brent Marsolek.

Brent was promoted to a

project manager IV to take over for Kaitlin Swanson as the Lead Free SPRWS manager and will continue to report to Rich Hibbard.

Steve Nystrom and Adam Worm were both promoted to project manager IV in administration working as direct reports of Racquel Vaske.

James Yapp was promoted to a water utility tech. III in damage prevention as a direct report of Brent Marsolek.

Congratulations to all of the staff earning promotions last month.

New accountant II hired in finance

The water utility has hired Michael Hansen as an accountant II as of Aug. 26.

He will be working as a direct report of Connie Garrahy in finance.

Please welcome Michael to the water utility.



Michael Hansen

Utility seeks to hire water system workers

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using GIS, drawings, and written instructions under the general direction of a supervisor.

- Respond to service calls regarding water quality, pressure, and leaks, and troubleshoots the issues. Respond to situations such as flooding as required.
- Operate job-related equipment including compactors, street saws, pumps, and pneumatic equipment to achieve assigned tasks.

This position may be required to respond to after-hours calls, overtime, and emergency situations.

Position Requirements

One year of experience as a water utility worker II or equivalent performing work on water distribution systems such as repairing or installing water mains, water services, valves or hydrants. OR

Two years of experience as a water utility worker I or equivalent performing manual labor supporting the construction, maintenance, and repairs of water distribution systems or utilities.

Must possess and maintain a valid Minnesota class D Driver's license, or equivalent out-of-state driver's license.

Exam dates and sign ups for this position will be posted.

Must apply online at stpaul.gov/jobs by midnight on Sept. 16.