

**Binh Huynh
retires**

**Safety picnic
held Oct. 13**

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*Our mission is to provide reliable,
quality water and services
at a reasonable cost.*

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Interns take advantage of on the job skills at utility

Four interns from the WETT program in St. Cloud and Eden Prairie have been learning about different aspects of the water utility over the past week.

Eric Thomas, Michael Seidel, Tony Jelen and Sam Mamer have had a busy and full week shadowing various divisions' employees to see what we do.

They visited the plant, water quality, meter operations, distribution and dispatch, the damage prevention unit, and maps and records.

The hands on experience with professionals from a surface water treatment plant can't be had with books and lectures. The intensive week-long program included seeing first-hand how a plant operates, how we run our own lab tests, how we prepare our maps and records, how our meters work, and what damage prevention and distribution crews do.

Special thanks to all of the utility professionals who spent time with the interns throughout the week.



Eric Thomas and Michael Seidel from the WETT program in St. Cloud and Eden Prairie spent the week learning about the various aspects of a water utility while here Oct. 24 - 28. Here they check the chlorine levels in some water samples from a work site to make sure that the bacteria test to be run on them would be effective.

Metric Giles wins the Karl Neid Community Involvement award



Metric Giles, water plant worker, shakes the hand of Joanne Tromiczak-Neid, the widow of Karl Neid, while Mayor Chris Coleman looks on after announcing to Metric that he had won the annual Karl Neid Community Involvement Award for 2016. The announcement was made in the break room of the plant on Oct. 21. Metric is a 30-year employee of the water utility and has been involved in numerous community activities over his career. One of them, the SPRWS community garden, was started by Metric several years ago.

Mayor Chris Coleman surprised longtime city employee Metric Giles Oct. 21 with the news that he was chosen as the 2016 recipient of the annual Karl Neid Community Involvement Award.

"I'm happy to present this award to Metric, a man who has dedicated his life to our community," said Mayor Coleman. "There is no better reflection of that than through this award, given to him by his peers."

Metric was chosen by a team of past Karl Neid award winners and Council President Russ Stark. The Karl Neid Community Involvement Award, established in 1992, honors the late Karl Neid, a community activist and city council member who died from

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Metric Giles wins Karl Neid Community Involvement Award

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a heart attack after devoting his entire life to serving the people of Saint Paul. Shortly after his death in 1992, this annual award was established to recognize a city employee who has a record of outstanding public service both at work and in his or her personal life.

Metric has been with the Saint Paul Regional Water Services for

thirty years, and was a long-time resident of the Frogtown neighborhood. His community interests run the gamut from urban farming to dispute resolution to public transportation. He fought for additional stops along the Green Line during its planning and served on the Metropolitan Council's Central Corridor Community Advisory Commit-

tee. Beyond his time working for water, he sits on myriad boards of directors and volunteers extensively in his community, from helping students build Little Free Libraries at Como Park High School, to turning empty lots across Saint Paul into urban gardens, such as the Oxford Community Garden.

Binh Huynh retires after 30 years with the water utility



Jim Graupmann, assistant general manager, presents Binh Huynh with his 30-years of service plaque from the city at a reception in his honor on Oct. 12, the last day Binh was in the office.

Binh Huynh, civil engineer II, retired from the water utility after 30 years of service. His last day in the office was Oct. 12.

Binh started with water in 1986 as an engineering aide I, and was promoted to engineering aide II the following year.

In 1990, he became a water utility technician I, earning a promotion to water utility tech. II in 1995.

In 1999, he became a civil engineer I. Then in 2002, he earned a promotion to civil engineer II, the position from which he retires.

Congratulations to Binh on his retirement!

End of season safety picnic held on October 13



Racquel Vaske, HR consultant, and Kendrick Morrison, water utility worker, play a bean bag toss game during the safety picnic on Oct. 13.



At left, Brad Eilts, distribution division manager, provides some information on how we did with safety during the construction season. The end of the season safety picnic recognizes the hard work of all of the staff during our construction season. All employees were invited to attend.