



Instrument calibration and verification training courses

ABOUT THE TACS

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) authorized the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to make grants to institutions of higher learning to establish and operate small public water systems technology assistance centers (TACs). Together, the TACs and state and federal regulatory agencies work with small water systems to assist them in acquiring and maintaining the technical, managerial, and financial capacity needed to consistently provide safe drinking water and meet the public health protection goals of the SDWA.

Resources available include, but are not limited to, on-site technical assistance, training for water system operators and managers, technical assistance in conducting sanitary surveys and self-assessments, water treatment technology research and evaluation, computer training including database and web page development and management, systems finances, and monitoring.

To maximize resources, many of the TACs have developed partnerships with state Rural Water Associations, state AWWAs, AWWA RF, state department of environmental protection, NFS, and USDA-RUS. Cooperation and collaboration efforts between and among TACs have expanded resources available to the small drinking water community. Some of their accomplishments are identified in the following write-ups.

TAC LOCATIONS

ALASKA

Alaska Training/Technical Assistance Center (ATTAC)

ATTAC is operated out of the University of Alaska Southeast Sitka Campus. ATTAC provides training and technical assistance relating to small public water systems. Water, wastewater, utility and sanitary survey workshops are offered throughout the State of Alaska. ATTAC staff is also addressing disinfection by-product formation and removal in Alaska's small water systems and performing demonstration projects to investigate, under full operating conditions, alternative and innovative drinking water treatment technologies.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES:

- Instructional Activities for Community Sanitation (a teacher's resource)
- Operator's Guide for Small Treated Public Water Systems in Alaska
- Resource Guide to Financial and Technical Assistance
- Small Water Systems Training CD
- Well Owner's Guide for Small Untreated Public Water Systems in Alaska

CONTACT:

ATTAC Program Coordinator
University of Alaska Southeast
1332 Seward Avenue
Sitka, AK 99835

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WEB: <http://uas.alaska.edu/attac>

ILLINOIS

Midwest Technology Assistance Center for Small Public Water Systems (MTAC)

The Midwest Technology Assistance Center for Small Public Water Systems is a cooperative effort of the Illinois State Water Survey and the Illinois Water Resources Center both located at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The MTAC involves ten Midwestern states through their Water Resources Research Institute. The Center promotes the capacity development of small systems through competitive grants and applied research and training activities. Its projects include work on sources and treatment of arsenic, protection of source waters, and financial management benchmarks for small systems. The MTAC has also sponsored numerous training workshops and the development of training tools such as the Emergency Response Planning Guide, an interactive CD-ROM that guides small systems in the development of their own emergency plan.



AVAILABLE PRODUCTS:

- Emergency Response Planning Guide CD and workbook
- Benchmark Investigation on Small Public Water System Economics
- Corrosion Control in Small Public Water Systems
- Technical Needs Assessment for Small Public Water Systems in the Midwest

CONTACT:

Midwest Technology Assistance Center (MTAC)
Illinois State Water Survey
2204 Griffith Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

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E-MAIL: mtac@sws.uiuc.edu
WEB: <http://mtac.sws.uiuc.edu>

Assisting small utilities using GPS



KENTUCKY

Western Kentucky University Technical Assistance Center for Water Quality (WKU TACWQ)

The WKU TACWQ serves to support capacity development of small drinking water systems through a Source Water Protection Program, the Utility Management Institute, a circuit rider, and information technology. Focused on Source Water Protection and the provision of utility management courses, the goal of the Center is to help small systems meet the requirements of the safe drinking water act and ensure public health. While focused on solving local problems that can serve as national models, the Center is impacting small systems throughout the country.

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- works with small water systems through the Source Water Protection Program to create national models for source water protection (projects focus on creating agricultural and community partnerships)
- offers six courses that lead to a Utility Management Professional designation for small water system professionals through the Utility Management Institute
- develop software tools to assist small water systems
- develop media relations guide for small water systems

CONTACT:

Western Kentucky University Technical Assistance Center for Water Quality Center for Water Resource Studies
Ogden College
1 Big Red Way, EST, Room 437
Bowling Green, KY 42101

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E-MAIL: ritchie.taylor@wku.edu
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MISSISSIPPI

Southeastern Regional Small Public Water Systems Technical Assistance Center (SE-TAC)

The SE-TAC uses a multi-state, regional approach to identify and fund new applications of technology and training and applied pilot projects to directly and significantly help the Southeast's small public water systems to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act and better protect public health. The SE-TAC includes (11) eleven states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- develop water sampling instructions for rural North Carolina churches
- provide training resources to rural and small public water systems
- provide and encourage water conservation practices

Future projects include water security, capacity development, source water protection implementation, and technology transfer and training.

CONTACT:

Southeastern Regional Small Public Water Systems Technical Assistance Center (SE-TAC)
GeoResources Institute
Mississippi State University
P.O. Box 9652
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9652

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E-MAIL: ballweber@gri.msstate.edu
WEB: <http://www.se-tac.msstate.edu>

MISSOURI

Missouri Technology Assistance Center for Small Public Drinking Water Systems

The Missouri Technical Assistance Center is operated by the Missouri Water Resources Research Center at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The Center specializes in the assessment of drinking water treatment technologies and assists in their improvement, as well as studying potential new contaminants that may affect small systems.



Two test sites and a pilot plant have been built where treatment systems can be installed and evaluated. Water chemistry and microbiological laboratories are equipped to provide the analyses necessary to evaluate the technologies.

SELECTED REPORTS:

- Formation of disinfection by-products
- The evaluations of various UV systems
- The presence of Cyanotoxins in Midwest Reservoirs
- Presence of NDMA in Drinking Water

CONTACT:

University of Missouri Technology Assistance Center for Small Public Drinking Water Systems
University of Missouri-Columbia
College of Engineering
E1511 EBE
Columbia, MO 65211

PHONE: 573-882-7564
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MONTANA

Montana Technical Assistance Center

The Montana Technical Assistance Center is operated by the Montana University System Water Center, headquartered at Montana State University - Bozeman. The Center specializes in the development of interactive training tools for the operators of small public water systems. These tools are engaging, self-paced, and available in several formats. They include a testing and tracking function so operators can submit results to their state certification agencies for continuing-education credit. The Center also develops self-assessment tools for water systems, and source water protection planning aids. The Center has conducted more than 20 evaluations of innovative treatment technologies for small systems.



AVAILABLE PRODUCTS:

- Sanitary Survey Preparatory Course
- Operator Basics - Groundwater Systems
- Self-Assessment for Microbial Risks
- Montana Source Water Protection Guide
- Technology Demonstration Summaries (20)

CONTACT:

Outreach Coordinator
Montana Water Center
101 Huffman Building
Bozeman, MT. 59717-2690

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Technology verification studies and pilot testing

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The New England Water Treatment Technology Assistance Center (NE-WTTAC) at the University of New Hampshire

The NE-WTTAC specializes in research and development of water treatment technologies for small water systems. The four major areas of focus are:

- engineer training materials
- evaluation of non-aligned treatment technologies
- comparisons of innovative treatment technologies
- costing summaries

The NE-WTTAC has worked with over 35 New England communities, all New England regulatory agencies, and consulting engineers on projects within the four major areas of focus.

CONTACT:

The New England Water Treatment Technology Assistance Center
Department of Civil Engineering
Environmental Technology Building - 348
University of New Hampshire
35 Colovos Road
Durham, NH 03824

PHONE: 603-862-1407 or 603-862-1412
E-MAIL: ne.wttac@unh.edu
WEB: <http://www.wttac.unh.edu>

PENNSYLVANIA

Small Public Water Systems Technology Assistance Center (SPWSTAC) at Penn State Harrisburg

The SPWSTAC is part of the Environmental Training Center at Penn State Harrisburg at Middletown, PA. The facility has numerous laboratories and technology classrooms for cutting-edge training and technology transfer. Penn State University and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection also support the Environmental Training Center (ETC). The SPWSTAC:

- provides training for small public water systems operators and those involved with instruction and training
- provides workshops and training for managers of small systems in cooperation with NE RCAP
- tests technologies for small systems

Over 20 courses have been developed which are available from the ETC. Many involve hands-on exercises. Over 120 individual courses have been delivered. Research has been carried out for reducing disinfection byproducts in drinking water. Current work is evaluating point-of-use devices and arsenic test kits.

CONTACT:

Penn State Harrisburg Small Public Water Systems Technology Assistance Center
175 Science and Technology Lab
777 W. Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057

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ABOUT THE TACNET WEB SITE

The TACNET Web site links individual center programs and research project papers to enhance the exchange of information among water treatment professionals. Its centerpiece is a descriptive bibliography of all the projects and tools developed by the TACs, with links to those available from the Internet. In short, the TACNET Web site is a gateway to information and contacts from all of the Technical Assistance Centers. For more information, please visit <http://water.montana.edu/tacnet>.

TACNET

**EPA
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
CENTER
NETWORK**

Assisting small public water systems, protecting public health



MISSION STATEMENT:

Together, the small public water systems technology assistance centers form a network with a common goal: to protect public health, improve water system sustainability, and enhance compliance. The technology assistance centers address the needs of small public water systems, including systems that serve Indian tribes, by applying university resources in the following areas:

- technology verification
- pilot and field testing of innovative technologies
- training and technical assistance

[HTTP://WATER.MONTANA.EDU/TACNET](http://water.montana.edu/tacnet)