# EPA Clean Water Act National Compliance Initiative Series

# BMPs for POTW Compliance: Critical Elements of Successful Wastewater Treatment (Part 2 of 2)

Presented Live: September 15, 2020

### DISCLAIMER

The information presented in this webinar is intended as training to help NPDES regulated entities and NPDES regulators understand additional techniques that can help operators refine their operations and, if need, to help bring their facilities back into compliance. Invited speakers are not speaking on behalf of EPA and do not necessarily reflect EPA positions or policy. This webinar is not intended, and cannot be relied upon, to create any rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable by any party in litigation with the United States. EPA reserves the right to act at variance with the information presented in this webinar at any time without public notice.

# US EPA Office of Compliance Technical Assistance Webinar Series

Introduction: Seth Heminway, US EPA Office of Compliance (heminway.seth@epa.gov)

- Webinar series supports the national EPA and state initiative to reduce noncompliance among CWA -NPDES permitted facilities. Focus is on helping wastewater system operators return their facilities to compliance, and those interested in fine-tuning their systems.
- The webinar will be recorded and posted.
- Certificates of attendance will be sent to those who have registered.
- You will be in "listen only mode."
- Use the chat box to ask questions and to suggest other training
- Speakers do not necessarily reflect EPA positions or policy.
- We strive for continuous improvement. Please complete the post webinar survey.

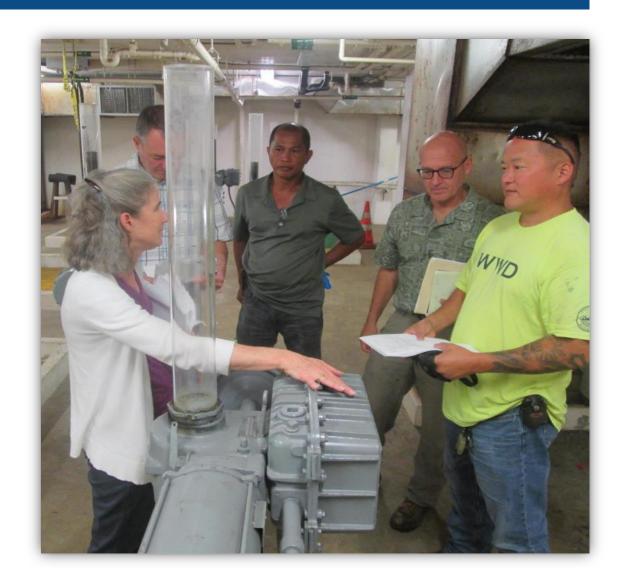


# Why do we need SOPs?

SOPs create repeatable protocols for carrying out critical tasks, creating consistency in facility and operator performance.

# What will a good SOP help you achieve?

- Proper operation and maintenance
- Manage avoidable failures
- Facility optimization and efficiency
- Meet Permit standards
- Employee health and safety
- Training



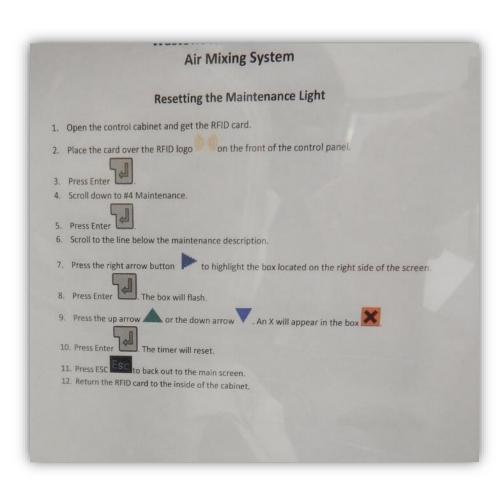
# What should you consider?

- Audience is key Not all procedures need to be complicated. Think of who will be using them.
- Operations are constantly evolving and may need modification – Make sure to have a procedure in place to review your procedures.
- Make sure SOPs are used SOPs should not be designed to sit in a book or on a shelf. Make them known and make sure they are field functional.
- Link SOPs to documentation Ensure mechanisms for data collection and documenting observations is included.
- TRAINING!



# **Tips and Tricks**

- Engage operators in the development process.
- Keep it simple when appropriate but include key operational values and ranges.
- Use pictures and imagery before and after, right and wrong.
- Keep SOPs close to the equipment and operations they were developed for.
- Use SOPs as a chance to set expectations for example, how long a task should take or cost
- Attach or incorporate SOPs into work orders



Date: 8	1.8	L RESPONSE PROCEDURE	
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10:25 am	", " possible a		
10:25 am	Dot-	eported by: Michael A-2C termine where originating from B. Idage essel, Engine Oil or other_UNKnown	Pump No oder, no
N/A	Determine size of slick on water (	example 100' X 25') 200 ' × 50'	Telvorn
10:25 dm	Action Taken ( deploy sweep, boo	mate 100 x 25') LOG' x 50'	
10:30 am	Instruct 1 crew member to tol	mera and document all actions with pic	
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### Polymer System Manual Filling

- 1. Press Rapid Fill ON and fill mix tank half full
- 2. Press Rapid Fill OFF
- 3. Press Blower ON
- 4. Press Wetting Head ON
- 5. Press Mix Tank Mixer ON
- 6. Press Screw Feeder ON
- 7. Go to MAIN screen and watch Polymer Feed Time Remaining (minutes)
- 8. After 5.55 minutes, go to Manual Screen and press Screw Feeder OFF
- 9. Press Wetting Head OFF
- 10.Press Blower OFF
- 11. Press Rapid Fill ON, and fill mixing tank to full level
- 12.Press Rapid Fill OFF
- 13.Mix for 45 minutes then press Mixer OFF



# **Example: SOP for Post-Aeration Basin Management**

### **PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of the Post-Aeration Basin is to ensure that WWTP's effluent dissolved oxygen level is maintained at a concentration of 6.5 mg/L or greater. The basin also provides an opportunity for the operations team to visually inspect the SBR effluent quality prior to the UV disinfection process.

### **SUMMARY**

This SOP describes the process for determining the performance of the Post Aeration Basin at the current time and since the last sludge judge solids depth measurements. Field data will be collected, documented and maintained in the Basin Sludge Level Form. The raw data and visual observations will be critical in the diagnostic evaluations of the operational variables contributing to the negative impacts on the performance of the Post-Aeration Basin and threats to the Plant's effluent quality.

The following quantitative information and operations observations will be critical to supporting the diagnostic evaluations of operational variables:

- ✓ WWTP current operation mode (normal/dry weather or wet weather mode)
- ✓ Visual appearance of SBR's effluent
- √ Volume/rate of SBR decant cycle
- ✓ Depth of the SBR decant arm with respect to the SBR's sludge blanket during the complete decant cycle
- ✓ Visual appearance of basin without aeration
- ✓ Visual appearance of basin during aeration
- ✓ Depth of solids in the basin
- ✓ Visual appearance of basin's effluent to UV System

### **RELATED SOPs**

Wet Weather Operations Mode SOP

Sequenced Batch Reactor SOP

**Ultraviolet Disinfection Unit SOP** 

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Prior to the collection of sludge judge solids depth measurements, the operator shall ensure that they have the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) staged in the collection area and that PPE will be worn during the activity. The collection of sludge judge core samples and any wastewater samples will require the use of eye protection, plastic gloves, disinfectant cleaning solution and paper towels. All other applicable safety procedures and PPE should be employed as needed, including but not limited to vests, cones, lockout/tagout procedures, and other process area control procedures and equipment.

### 1. Observe the visual water quality of the basin

### **Photographs**

Observe the basin's visual quality during morning and afternoon rounds. Note the following:

- 1. Color and solids concentrations during both aeration and standby modes.
- 2. If there is any color or solids during an aeration cycle return to the basin 10 minutes after the decant cycle has been completed. Make additional observations and conduct a sludge judge profile of the basin as described on the Basin Sludge Level Form (Appendix 2).
- 3. Operator will follow the procedures reviewed in Step No. 2 when profiling the basin.



Basin during an aeration cycle without solids.

Condition: Good

### 2. Solids profiling of the Post Aeration Basin

- 1. The basin should be profiled for solids accumulation on a regular basis. The WWTP team will use the Basin Sludge Level Form (Appendix 2).
- 2. The basin will be profiled at least 3 times a week even if color and/or solids are not observed.



Basin during an aeration cycle with approximately 8 inches of settled solids accumulation in basin

Condition: Poor

Condition Rating	Criteria	Comments/Actions
	No sludge judge measurable solids in the basin.	No action required.
Good	SBR effluent is free of visible and measure solids.	
	Post-Aeration Basin effluent is free of visible and measure solids.	
	Measurable amount (up to $1$ ") of solids found during sludge judge profiling, not impacting effluent quality.	No action required.
Average	SBR effluent has a faint shade of color.	
	Effluent from basin to UV disinfection clear.	
	Measurable amount (1" to 3") of solids, starting to impact effluent quality, water	Implement additional monitoring.
		Confirm effluent quality with respect to permit limitations.
	Some floating solids observed after aeration cycle has been completed.	Formally review recent stresses to the SBRs, try to identify peak hourly
Fair	SBR effluent has color and is changing the color in the Post-Aeration Basin.	flow period.
rdii	Effluent from basin to UV disinfection has a light color.	Document length of Wet Weather event operations.
	Solids can be seen in the effluent at times.	Evaluate solids removal scheduling. Ensure that
		Have solids removed from basin immediately.
Poor		Implement additional monitoring.
	Floating solids observed after aeration cycle has been completed.  SBR effluent has dark color and is changing the color in the Post-Aeration Basin.	Confirm effluent quality with respect to permit limitations.
	Effluent from basin to LIV disinfection has a dark color	Formally review recent stresses to the SBRs, try to identify peak hourly flow period.
	Disinfaction process may be threatened	Document length of Wet Weather or operational event identified as the stress to operations.
		Modify operating and maintenance schedules so that solids are removed prior to threatening permit compliance.

# **Example: SOP for Asset Risk Assessment**



# Formalized Guidance and **Standard Operating Procedures**

- Incorporated separate guidance to educate why the SOPs are needed and how they were developed.
  - How does the utility define an asset?
  - Condition assessment criteria
  - Considerations for determining the potential and consequence of failure (i.e., POF and COF)
  - Estimating useful life
- Photos, images, and examples from the utility
- SOPs were designed to be detached from the guidance and carried in the field

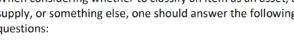
### STEP No. / DESCRIPTION

### **VISUAL AID**

### 1. Determine whether the item is an asset

### **Picture**

When considering whether to classify an item as an asset, a supply, or something else, one should answer the following questions:



- Does it have value for the organization?
- 2. Is it managed (i.e., is routine and/or corrective maintenance performed on it, or would it just be discarded and replaced)?
- 3. Would it cost more than \$1,000 to \$2,000 to replace? (Additional consideration can be made for lower cost items that occur in large quantities, such that collectively, the total value is significant.)

If the answer to all three questions is yes, it is an asset.



### **Example Parent-Child Relationship**

### 2. Determine the number of sub-assets (if applicable)

In many cases, it will be appropriate to break an asset into smaller units, or sub-assets (i.e., a parent - child relationship). A sub-asset, or child asset, is one that fits the following conditions:

- 1. It is managed separately from the parent asset.
- 2. It is or can be replaced separately from the rest of the parent asset.
- 3. The component in question cannot be classified as a supply (something that is discarded when it malfunctions or wears out and replaced without much thought.
- 4. Appropriate level of detail (enough assets to enable work orders to be written effectively without being too much of a burden to manage the information)
- 5. In general, costs more than \$1,000 to \$2,000 to replace. (Additional consideration can be made for lower cost items that occur in large quantities, such that collectively, the total value is significant.)

Parent Asset: Headworks Blower



Child Asset 1: Blower Motor



Child Asset 2: Blower Unit with Filter (filter considered a supply not an asset)



Child Asset 3: Blower Controls



3. Assess Asset Condition

Condition

For assets that can be seen in the field without risking harm to those making the assessment, assess the condition while looking at the asset. Use the following rating scale:

Criteria

Rating	Criteria	
- "	<ul> <li>Performs like new.</li> </ul>	
Excellent	<ul> <li>No identifiable problems.</li> </ul>	
	– No visible wear.	
	– Is an efficient asset.	
Good	<ul> <li>Could have a minor defect, but not one</li> </ul>	
	affecting performance.	
	– Wear less than 15%.	
	Minor defects, some that affect	
Average	performance.	
	<ul> <li>Shows some wear and tear (16 - 25%</li> </ul>	
	wear).	
	<ul> <li>Major and minor defects, some or most</li> </ul>	
Fair	affecting performance.	
	<ul> <li>Shows wear and tear (26% - 50%).</li> </ul>	
	Getting close to end of useful life.	
	<ul> <li>Major defects, most or all affecting</li> </ul>	
	performance.	
	<ul> <li>Shows major wear and tear (greater than</li> </ul>	
Poor	50%).	
	<ul> <li>At or near the end of its useful life.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Should be replaced.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>May require constant maintenance or</li> </ul>	
	operational interventions.	

Documented data and records, such as work orders and inspection reports, can be used to supplement the field information. For assets that cannot be seen (e.g., collection system pipes), use historical data and personnel experiences to help in rating the condition.



**Example Condition Ratings** 

Pua Pump Station Discharge Valve Condition: Good



Hilo WWTP Headworks Blower No. 1 Motor Condition: Average



Hilo WWTP Biotower Pump No.

Condition: Fair



Kealakehe Pump Station Pump No. 2 Check Valve Condition: Poor

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### 4. Estimate the useful life remaining

To estimate the useful life remaining for an asset or subasset, think about what that asset or type of asset is expected to do. Consider all you know about the asset (e.g., how the asset has performed, whether and what type of maintenance has been completed, history of repairs, past experience with assets of this type) and estimate how much longer the asset can continue to do what it is supposed to do. Provide the useful life estimate in terms of years of life remaining.

### **Example Useful Life Estimates**



Pua Pump Station Discharge Valve No. 1 **Useful Life** Remaining: 8 yrs.

Hilo WWTP Headworks Blower No. 1 Motor

Useful Life Remaining: 3 yrs.



Hilo WWTP Biotower Pump No. 1 Useful Life Remaining: 1 yr.



Kealakehe Pump Station Pump No. 2 Check Valve

Useful Life Remaining: 1 yr.



### 5. Determine Probability of Failure (POF)

Recall that there are four major failure modes of an asset:

- Mortality
- Level of Service
- Financial Inefficiency
- Capacity

While evaluating each asset, consider all failure modes and which failure mode is likely to dominate. Rank the probability that the asset will fail from 1 to 5, with 1 being least likely, and 5 being most likely. Use the table below for guidance.

POF Factor	Criteria	
1	Asset is brand new or like new.	
2	Asset is not brand new but shows no more than cosmetic signs of wear and tear.	
3	Asset shows signs of operational or physical decline but has not yet entered a potential failure state. Asset may show light to moderate rust, some light to moderate wear and tear, be nearing but not at physical capacity.	
4	Asset is in potential failure—showing signs of failure, such as cracks, root intrusions, I/I, vibration, noise, excessive rust—but is still delivering all or most of the required service (i.e., not in functional failure mode). Functional failure not expected within the next year, but within the next few years.	
5	Asset is already in failure mode (Level of Service, Mortality, Financial, Capacity) or expected to fail within 1 year.	



Pua Pump Station Discharge Valve No. 1 POF: 1



**Example POF Ratings** 

Hilo WWTP Headworks Blower No. 1 Motor **POF**: 2



Hilo WWTP Headworks Blower **Electrical Controls** 

**POF**: 3



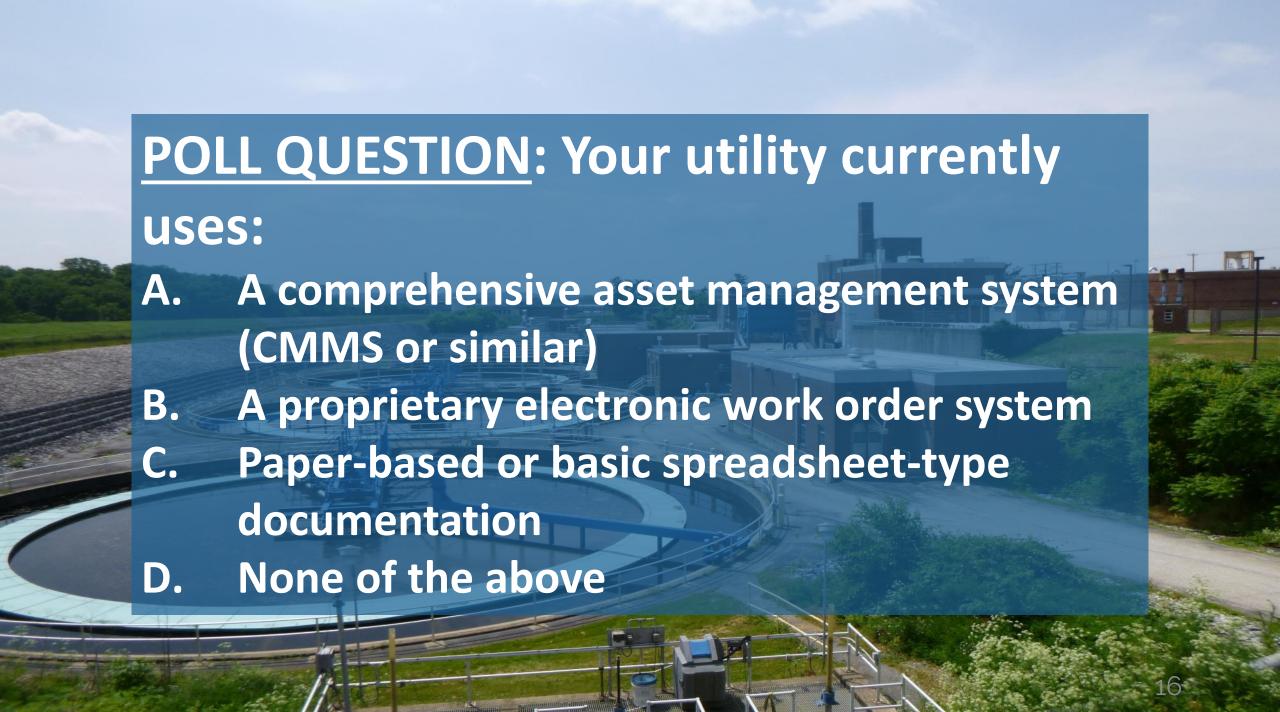
Hilo WWTP Biotower Pump No. 1

**POF**: 4



Kealakehe Sewage Pump Station - Pump No. 2 **POF**: 5

# Questions

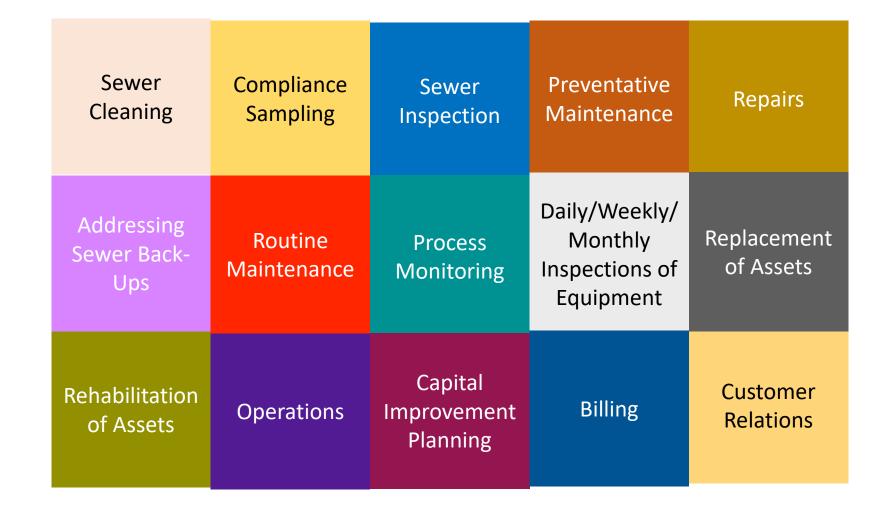


# Best Management Practices for POTW Compliance: Critical Elements of Successful Wastewater Treatment- Part 2 Accot Management for Compliance

# Asset Management for Compliance and Efficiency

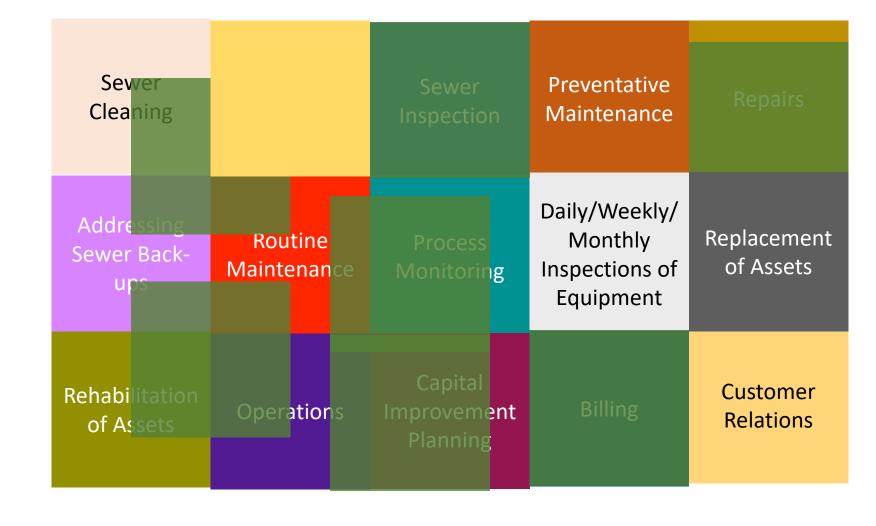
Presented by
Heather Himmelberger, P.E.
Director, Southwest Environmental Finance Center

Resources (money & time) Available



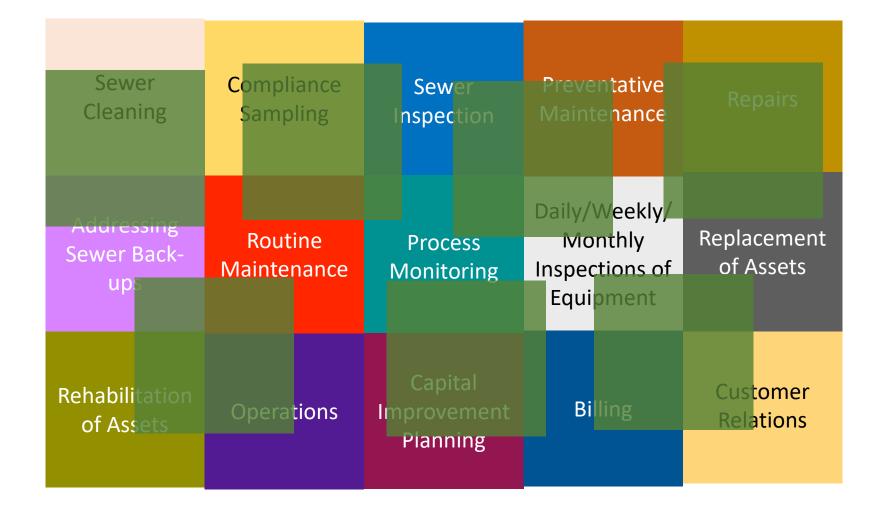
# **Typical Situation**

Resources (money & time) Available



So what happens?

Resources (money & time) Available



What we really need is a better way to make these hard decisions



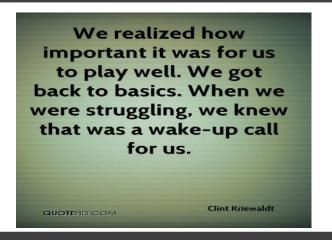
Asset
Management
provides that
better way

Google's Secret
Formula for
Management?
Doing the Basics
Well



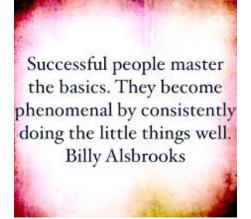
"Success at almost anything rests upon this single principle: Do the basics, do them well, and do them every day, even when you don't feel like doing them."

MATTHEW KELLY The Culture Solution



It helps you do the basic functions well

Champions are brilliant at the basics.
- Author: John Wooden



To improve compliance & efficiency

# What are the most important basics?

Protect Public Health

Protect the Environment

Customer Service

Maintain Assets in Acceptable Condition

Manage Risk

# Where does compliance fit in?

Protect Public Health

Protect the Environment

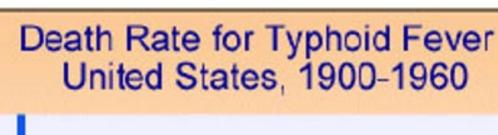
Customer Service

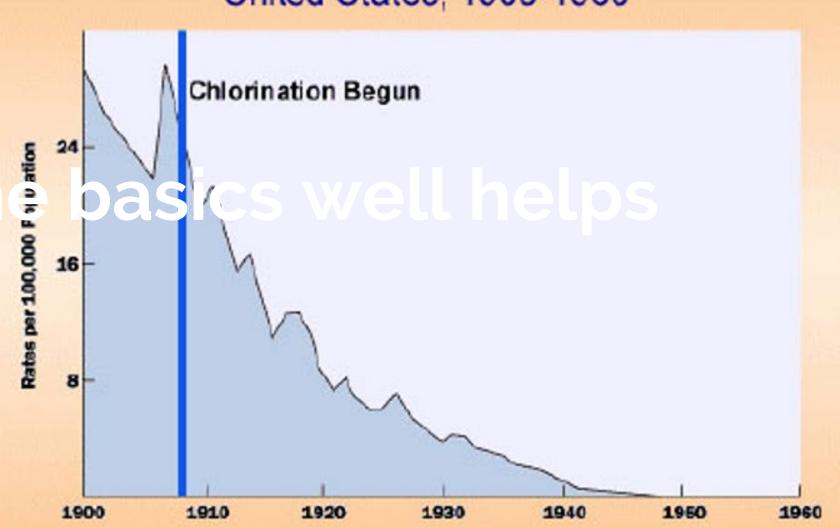
Maintain Assets in Acceptable Condition

Manage Risk



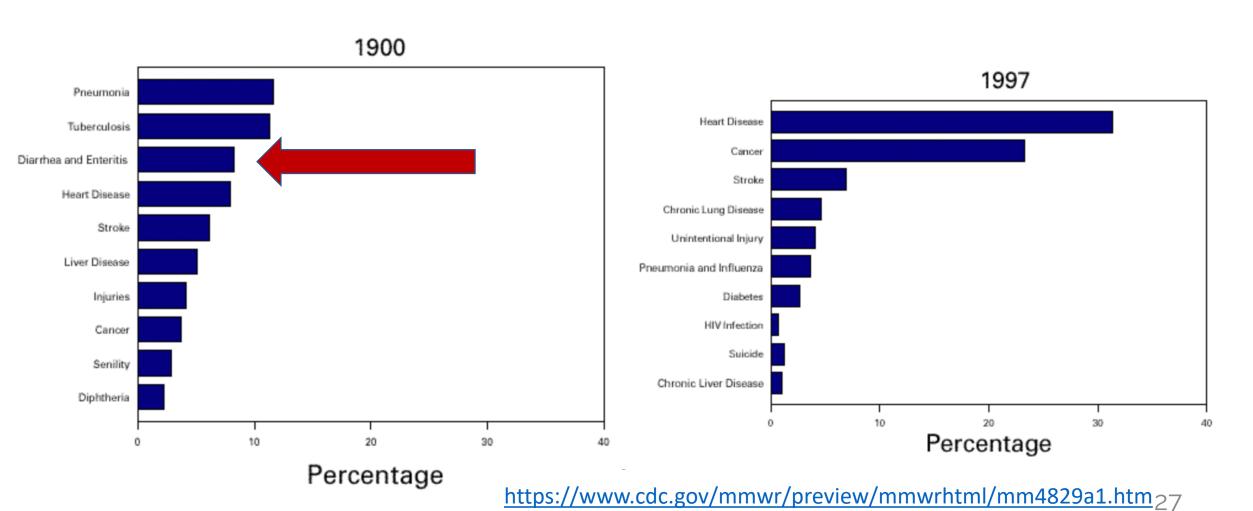
# MPA3





Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Summary of Notifiable Diseases, 1997.

# CDC Data: Leading Causes of Death 1900 and 1997





Asset Management is a thought process that guides you through more efficient and effective operation and management

# Asset Management

is designed to help you decide the best way to spend your limited resources (time and money) to have the best outcomes (to do the basics well to meet the needs of customers)

# It includes 5 Major Components

What assets do you have?

Which ones are most critical to doing that?

Do you have the money to get it all done?



What do you want them to do?

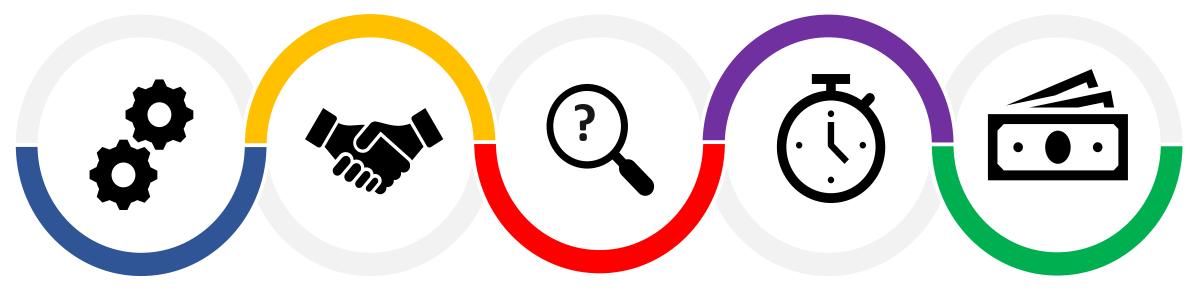
How do you ensure the assets do their job over their life spans?

## The Category Names

**Current State of the Assets** 

**Criticality** 

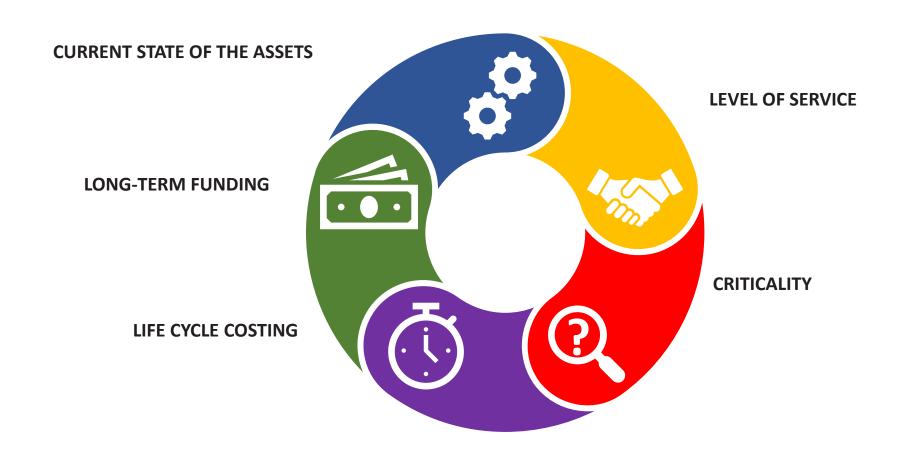
Long-Term Funding



Level of Service

**Life Cycle Costing** 

# Asset Management Is Not Actually Linear



# AM doesn't have a beginning or end

Your utility starts wherever it is. You aren't responsible for the past and can't change it



Use the past as a learning opportunity

# AM is a JOURNEY not a destination

Move forward from wherever you are



Continue the practice on into the future



Current State of the Assets





#### Answers the Basic Questions...

What assets do I have?

Where are they located?

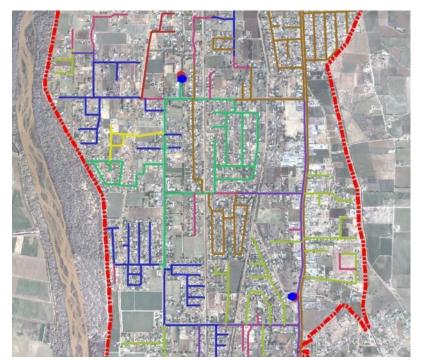
What do I need to know about them?



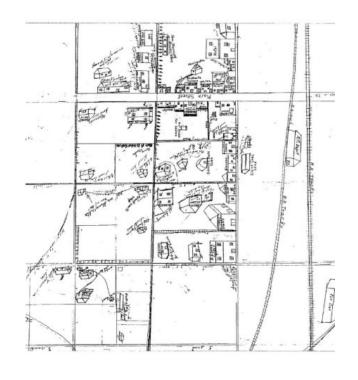


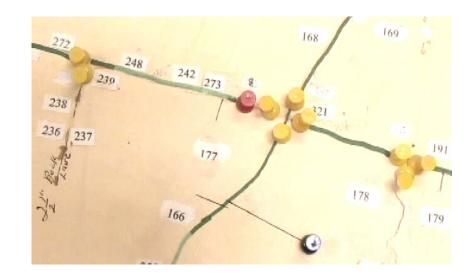


# Collect field data









#### **MAKE A MAPS**

## ALL TYPES OF MAPS CAN BE USEFUL. DOESN'T HAVE TO BE AN ELECTRONIC MAP.



### **Asset Name and ID**







## Replacement Cost

Maintenance Records

Operational status

Size or Volume

Manufacturer **Warranty Status** Supplier Contact Info

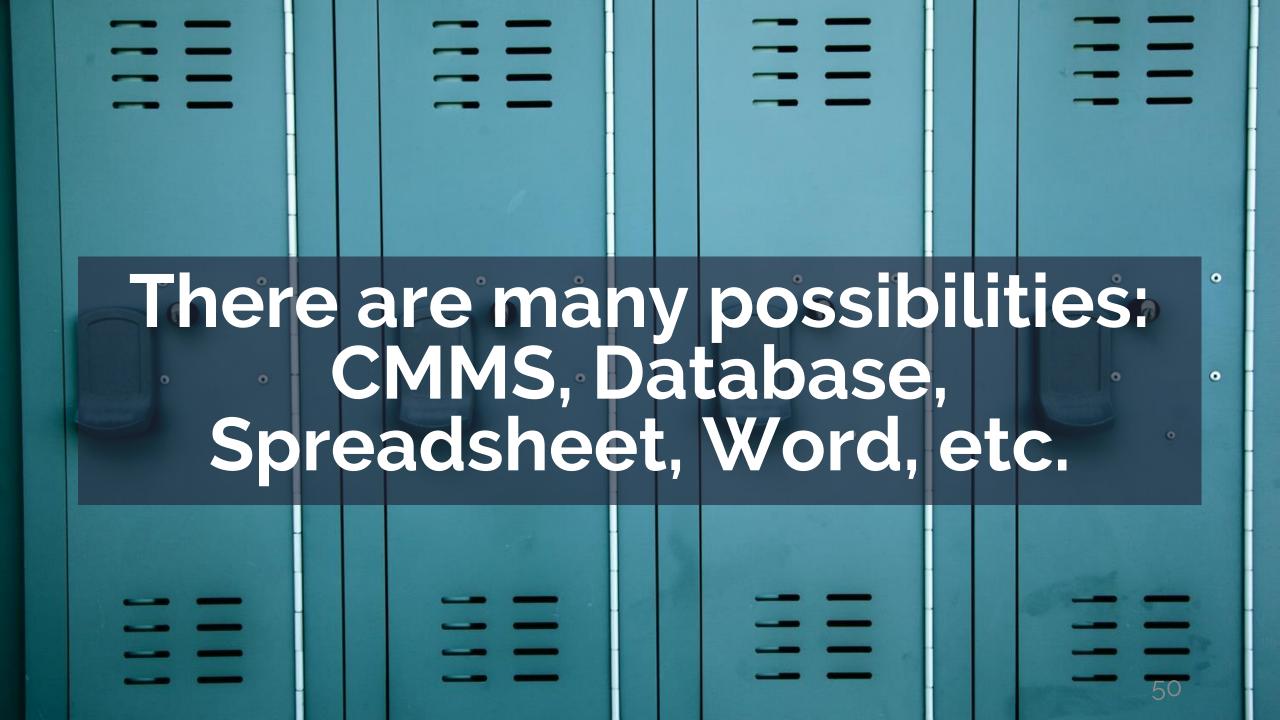
1				<b>WATER &amp; SEW</b>	ER LEA	K CAL	LLOG		
2	WA/SE	DATE	TIME	ADDRESS	_	CALLED		UPDATES	WORK TICKET#
3	WA	2/9/2016	10:38AM	OLD HILLSIDE NURSING HOME	ВН	RM	FIRE HYDRANT RUNNING	CREW WORKING ON LINE PER RM @ 10:50AM	48674
4	STREET	2/9/2016	11:24AM	1008 PLEASANT	DD	RM	LEAK IN THE STREET	FIXED	48642
5	SE	2/10/2016	10:00AM	400 FINNIMORE	ВН	RM	SEWER BACKED UP AT STREET	UNCLOGGED	48683
6	WA	2/10/2016	10:00AM	3502 RIVER ROAD	ВН	RM	A CAR HIT THE FIRE HYDRANT	FIXED DA/CN 2-22-16	48644
7	WA	2/10/2016	10:00AM	CORNER OR 22ND AND WACO	ВН	RM	LEAK FILLING UP CULVERT		
8	SE	2/10/2016	10:36AM	2015 WACO STREET		RM	RAW SEWER SHOOTING UP IN AIR FROM CLEAN OUT	UNCLOGGED	48684
9	WA	2/10/2016	3:15PM	1105 S LOVE LANE	ВН	R		FIXED	48647
10	WA	2/10/2016	3:30PM	206 FIELDSTC VE	IDE		AC SER BROKE	FIXED	48648
11	WA	2/10/2016	3:32PM	119 N 28 ST	ВН	RM	LÉAK @ METER	FIXD	48649
12	WA	2/10/2016	3:57PM	119 N 28 ST	ВН	RM	CUSTOMER CALLED AGAIN AND SAID METER LEAK WAS VERY LARGE, CALLED RODNEY TO LET HIM KNOW	FIXED	48649
13	WA	2/11/2016	9:00AM	28TH AND MEARS	вн	RM	WATER SHOOTING OUT OF MANHOLE	FIXED	48687
14	WA	2/11/2016	9:00AM	BLESSINGS BUILDING	вн	RM	WATER LEAK BEHIND BUILDING	FIXED	48671
15	SE	2/11/2016	9:53A	102 1/2 SURRY 300A	DD	RM	CALLED LAST NIGHT AT 8 AND THEY TURNED OFF WATER BUT THEN	SEWER STOP UP FIXED	48685
16	SE	2/11/2016	11:01AM	409 PARK	DD	RM	SEWER BACKING UP BUT SAID THEY NEED TO PUMP BOTH SIDES, WHEN	FIXED	48686
17	WA	2/16/2016	11:20AM	601 S. 14TH ST.	KS	RM	WANTS TO KNOW IF THERE IS A METER IN PLACE OR IF HE NEEDS TO GET ONE INSTALLED	01/16/2016 11:20:00 AM THERE IS AN EXISTING WATER LINE THERE, WILL INSTALL METER WHEN THEY ARE DEADY.	48659/48676
18	NA	2/16/2016	1:30PM	BETWEEN STH AND LUTTERION	ВН	RM	WATER LEAK	IT IS NOT A LEAK 02-17-16	48654













Level of Service



A wastewater system is first and foremost a customer service business



## Level of Service is directly related to cost

higher levels of service = higher costs lower levels of service = lower costs



Level of Service sets the overall policies, goals and procedures for the organization.



It puts everyone on the same page...

#### Desired Characteristics of Levels of Service Goals

Meaningful	Relevant to staff and stakeholders Provides a clear picture of performance
Measurable	Can be measured in a cost-effective manner Expressed as a qualitative or quantitative measure
Consistent	Consistent with industry practice Measurement is reproducible by others
Useful	Helps manage the utility Encourages improvement
Unique	Describes a specific attribute of utility services or activities Independent of other levels of service



Goals can be internal....

Meaning they are relevant primarily to internal staff (operators, managers)



Types of goals: System Maintenance, Employee Safety, Energy Management

Goals can be external....

Meaning they are also relevant to elected leaders and customers.



Types of goals: Public Health & Safety, Customer Service, Response Time



Having goals won't help if we can't or don't measure them...









### CONSIDER HOW GOALS CHANGE YOUR OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT



Goals are not set in stone...

They can be changed, adjusted over time and added or removed

## Criticality Risk Analysis





Projects and activities should be prioritized based on criticality/risk to ensure limited financial and personnel resources are used efficiently.





What is the likelihood a given asset will fail?

No single cause should be the sole predictor...



#### Most Common Factors to Consider

Condition of the Assets

Remaining Useful Life Historical Knowledge

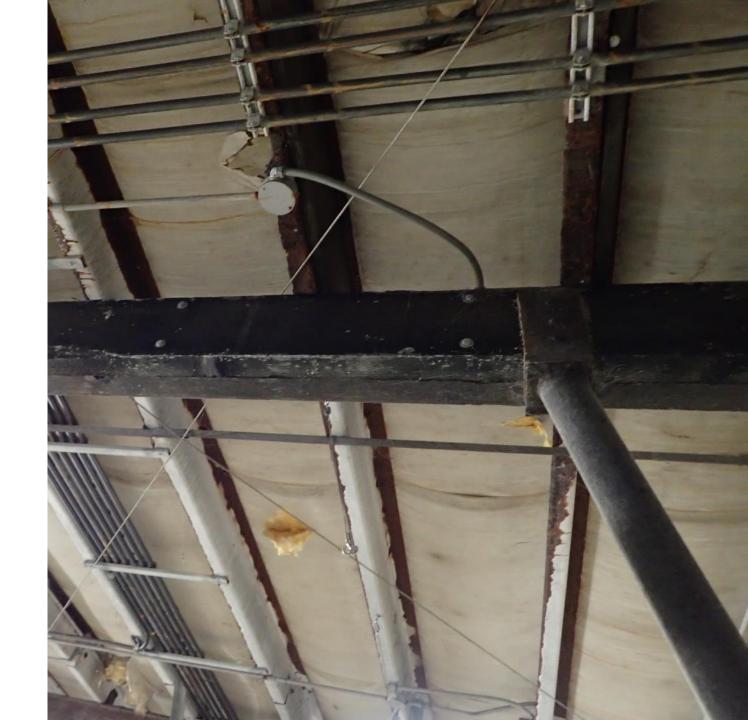
Repair History Operation and Maintenance History

## PoF Rankings from 1 to 5

1	Extremely low probability of failure		
2	Low probability of failure		
3	Average probability of failure		
4	High probability of failure		
5	Extremely high probability of failure <sup>71</sup>		

## Consider the triple bottom line:

- 1. Financial
- 2. Environmental
- 3. Social



### CoF Rankings from 1 to 5

1	Extremely low consequence of failure
2	Low consequence of failure
3	Average consequence of failure
4	High consequence of failure
5	Extremely high consequence of failure

More time and effort should be spent on highest risk assets

**Highest** Risk

**Moderate** Risk

Lowest Risk

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#### Ways to Reduce Risk

Routine & Preventative maintenanc e

Redundanc y

Spare Parts

Specialized Training Replace Assets Early

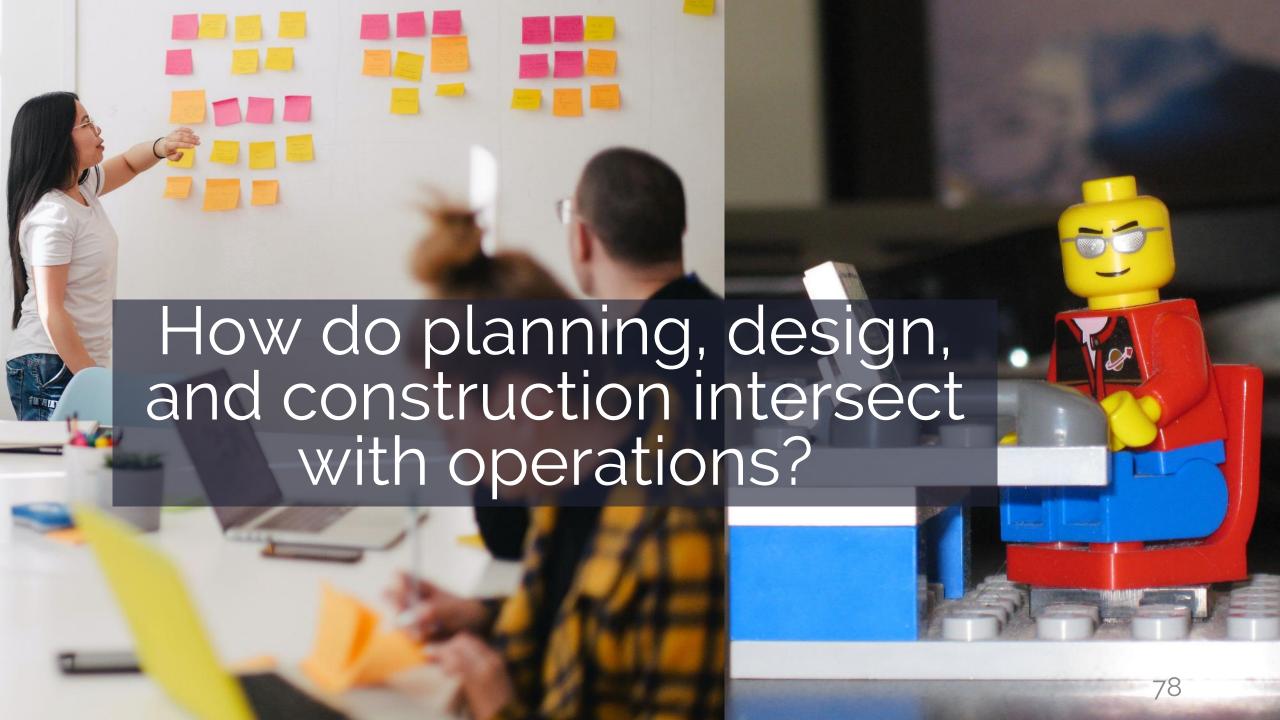
Monitoring

### Life Cycle Costing

An examination of the entire life of the asset to optimize O&M, repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of system assets.









Once you have your assets in place....



### It's time to manage them....





## Where should most resources be focused?

A - his jumpsuit

B - his shoes

C - his parachute

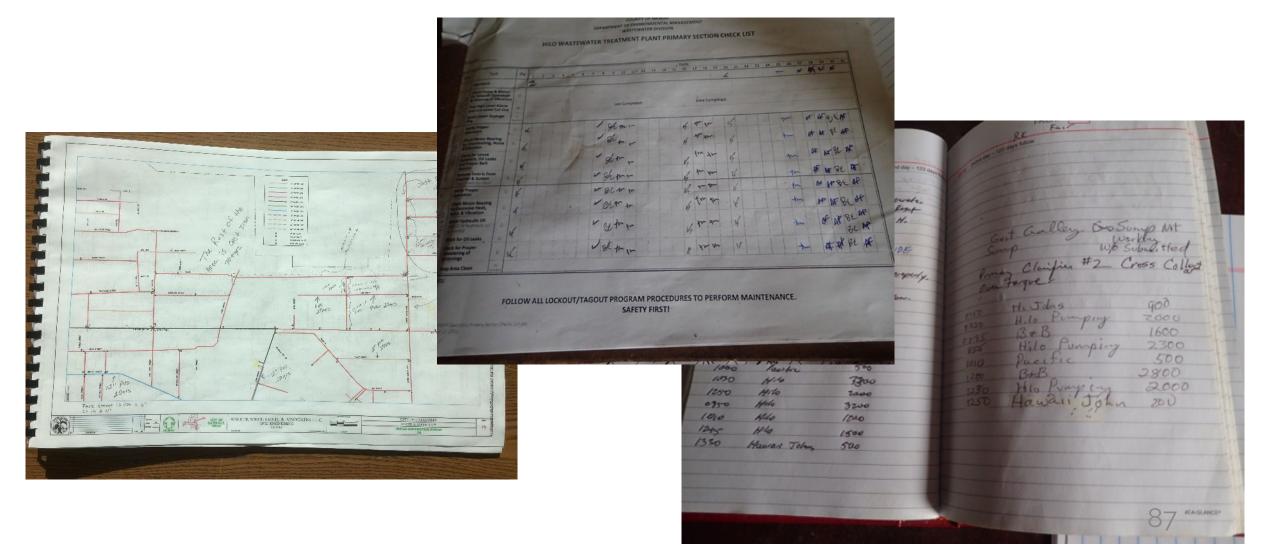


In this case, it was pretty obvious what to spend time and money on. Is it always that easy?





### We need more (and accessible) information to make better decisions

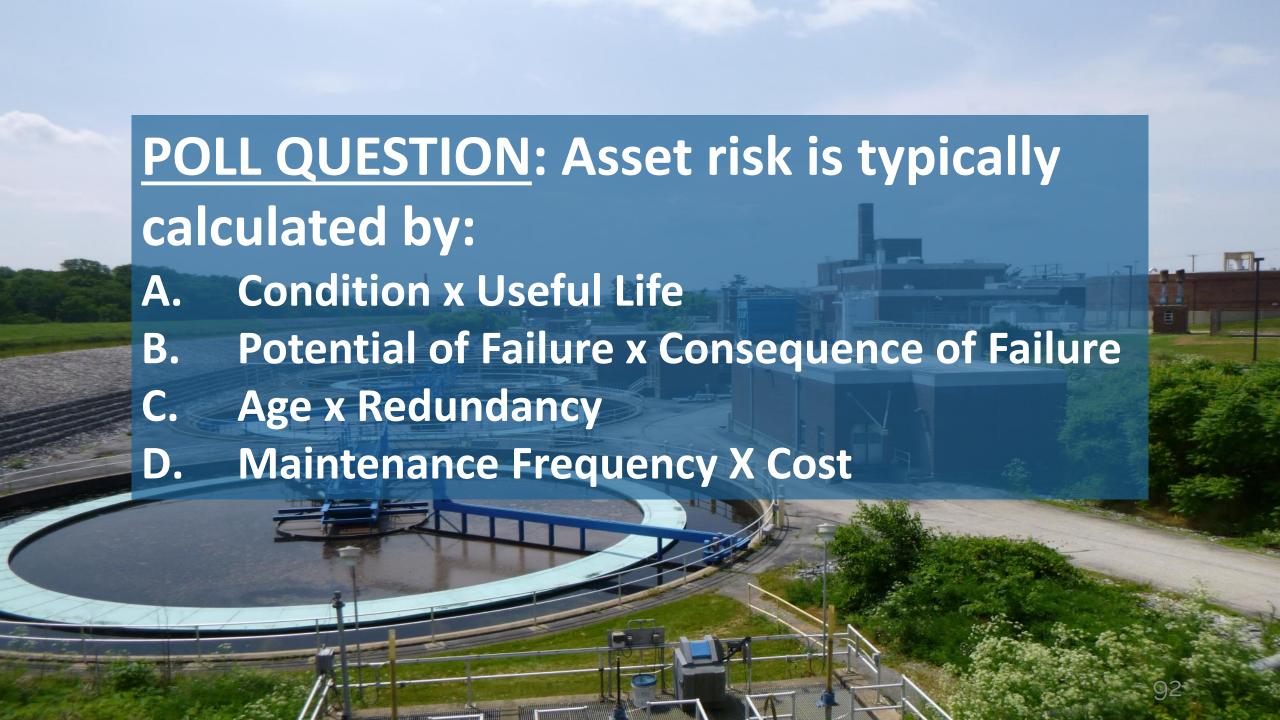


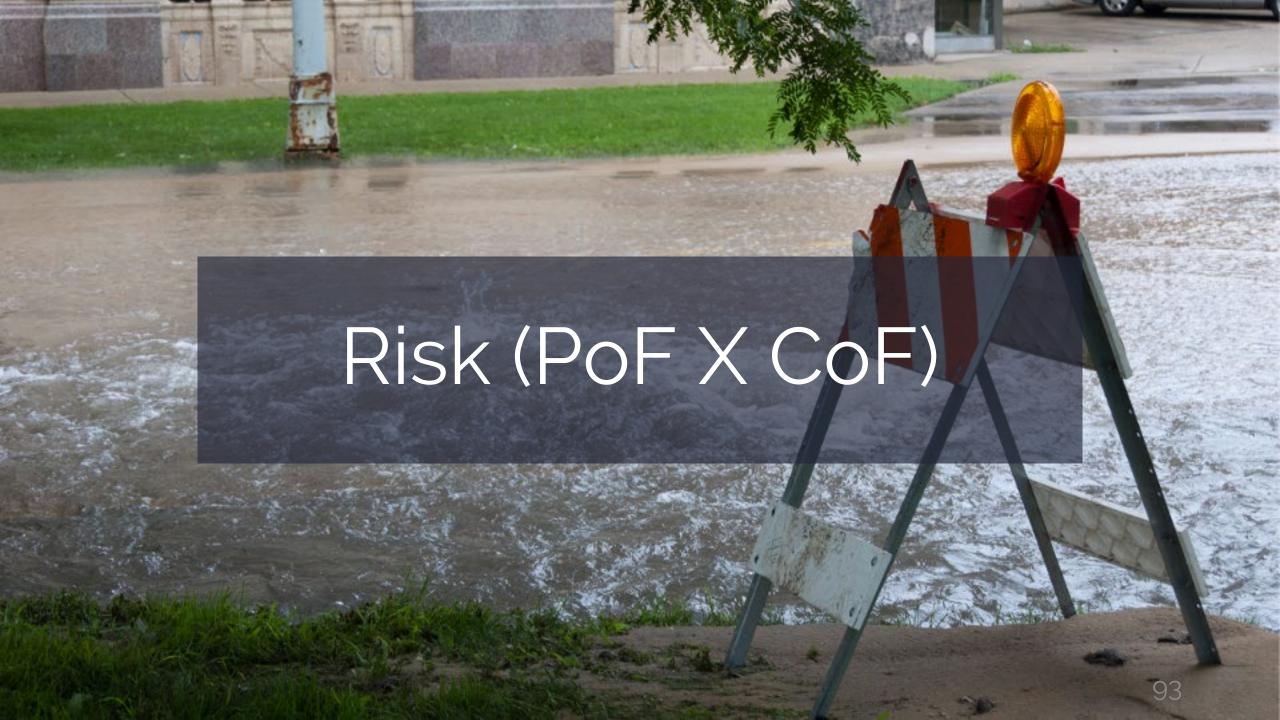
# What kind of information would youwant?



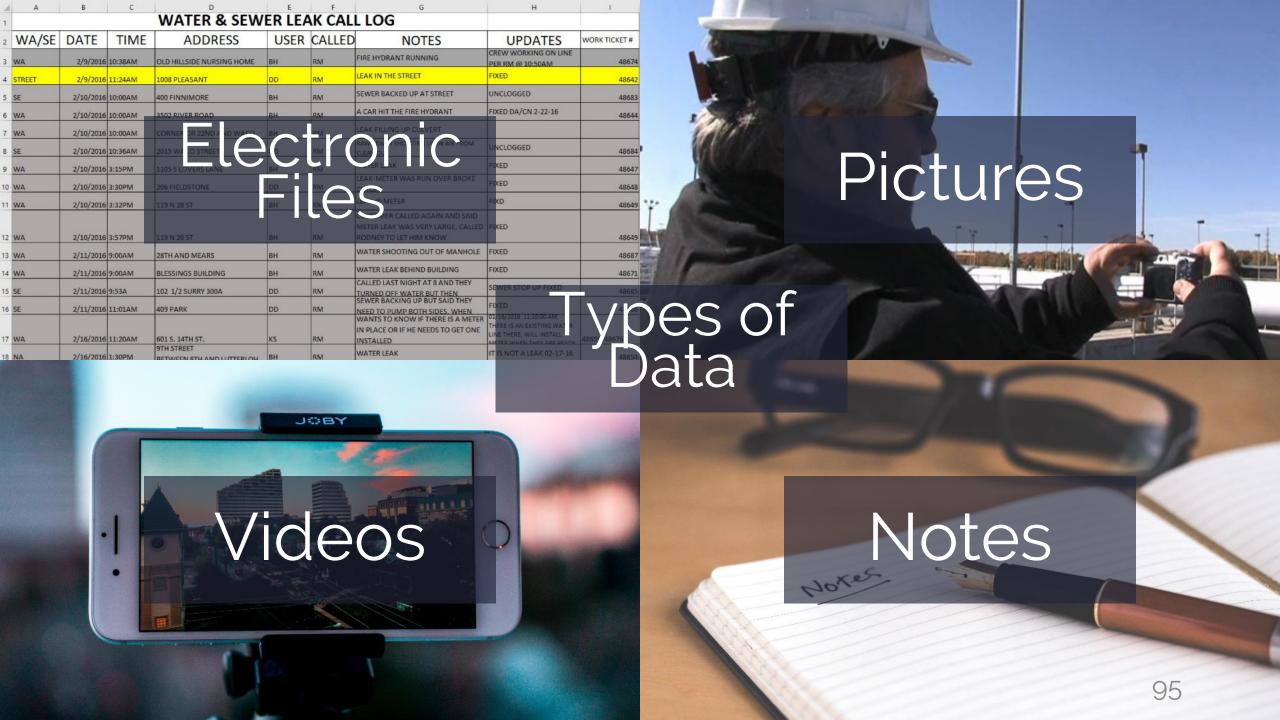








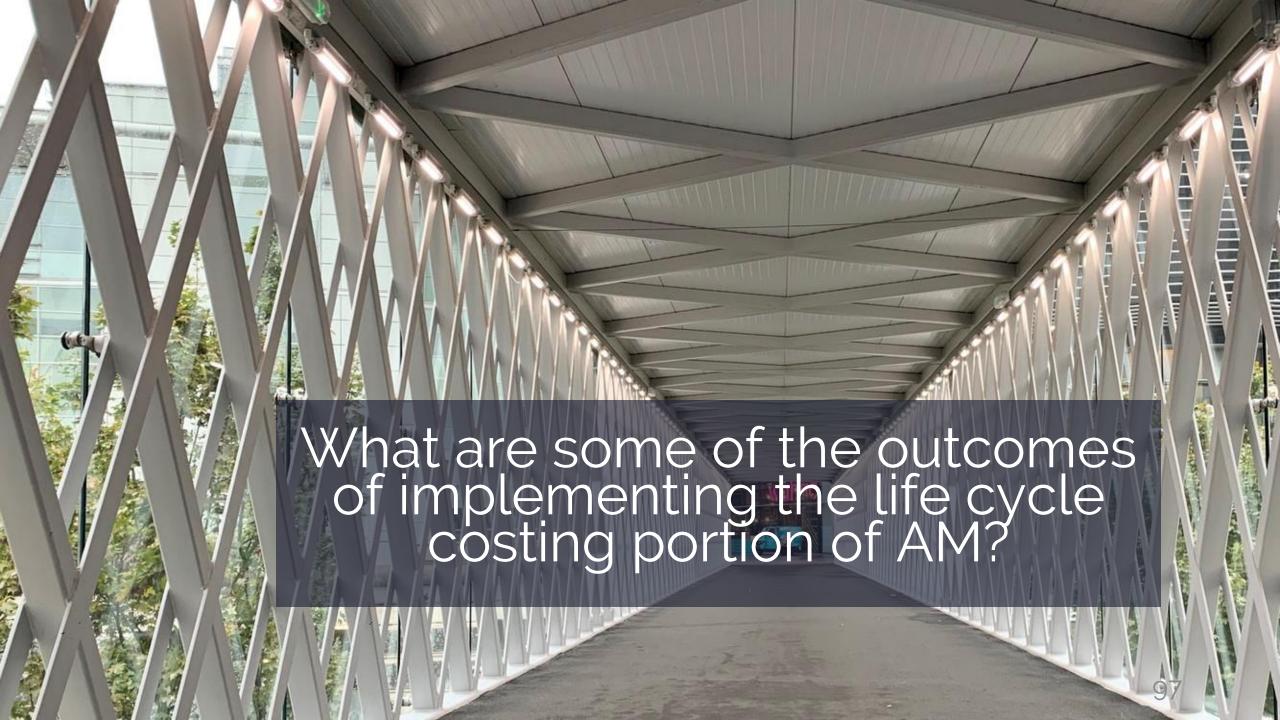




Think about:

What data do you collect? How/Where do you keep it? Is it accessible? Could you use it to make decisions? Could you use it to to determine trends?

3mformation





### Five questions to help develop an O&M plan...

What
Maintenance
Activities Do You
Need To Do?

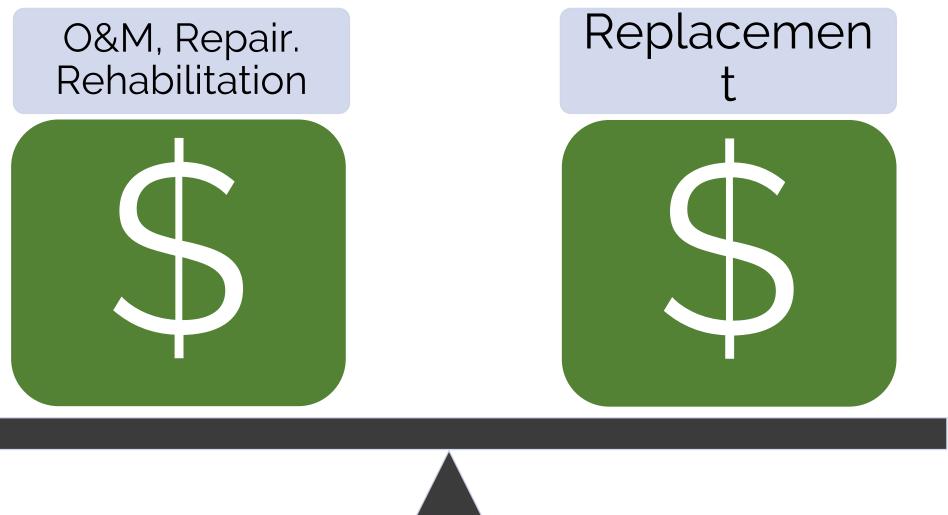
When Should You Do Them?

How Do You Do Them?

What Equipment Do You Need?

What Do They Cost?

#### Making the Case for O&M/Repair/ Rehab Over Replacement



Using risk to drive decisions on O&M, Repair, Rehab, and Replacement

Highest level of effort

Moderate level of effort

Lowest level of effort

### Let's go back to our example

A - his jumpsuit

B - his shoes

C - his parachute

### How Would We Handle These **Assets** Based on The Risk

**Parachute** 

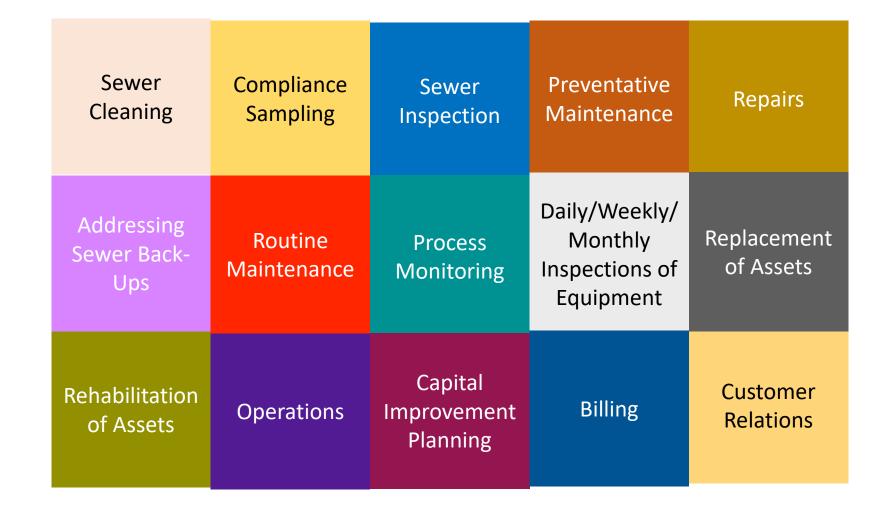
Jump Suit

**Shoes** 



### Long Term Funding

In order to maintain the desired level of service for the lowest life cycle cost, a utility must have a sustainable funding strategy Resources (money & time) Available



#### Remember this?

Resources (money & time) Available



The first 4 parts of Asset Management Can Improve Efficiency to help shrink size of boxes

Resources (money & time) Available



Long-Term funding – 5<sup>th</sup> part of Asset Management – addresses the size of the green box



# Internal

Rates

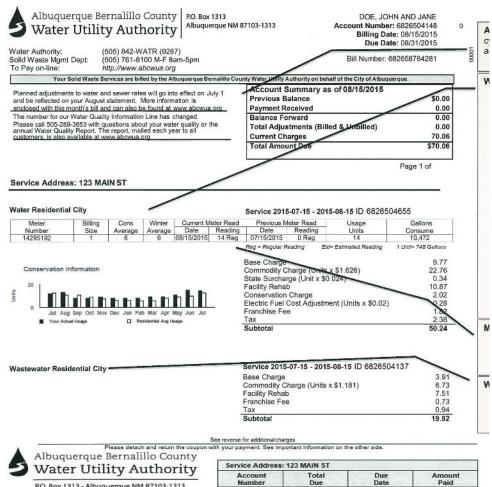
Taxes

Fees

Reserves

# Grants External Loans Bonds

# Internal funds come primarily from your Rates



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Check here to contribute \$1.00 to the Living River Fund (Be sure to add \$1 to your payment.)

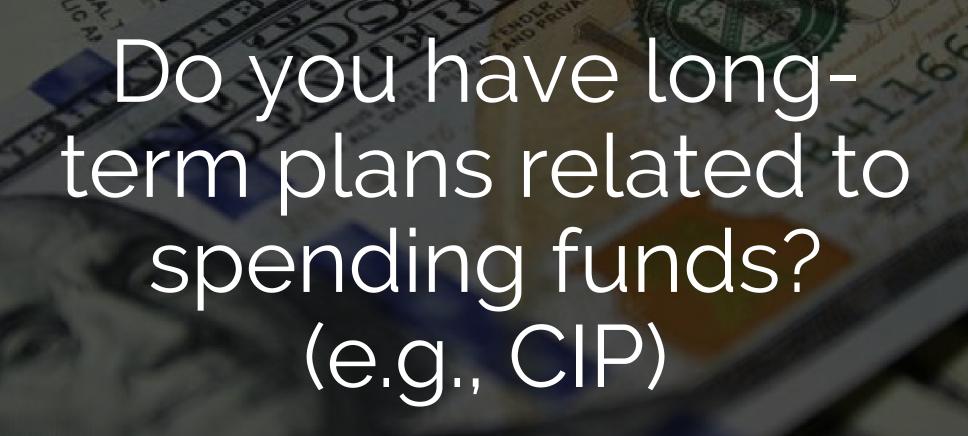


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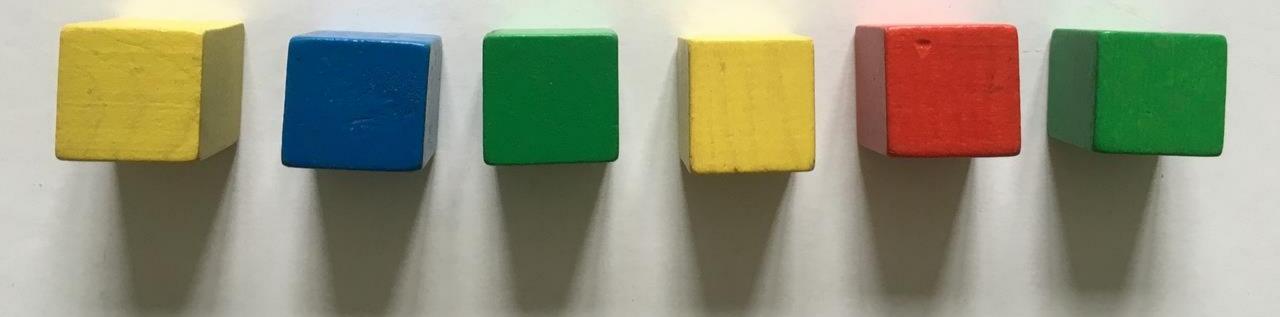
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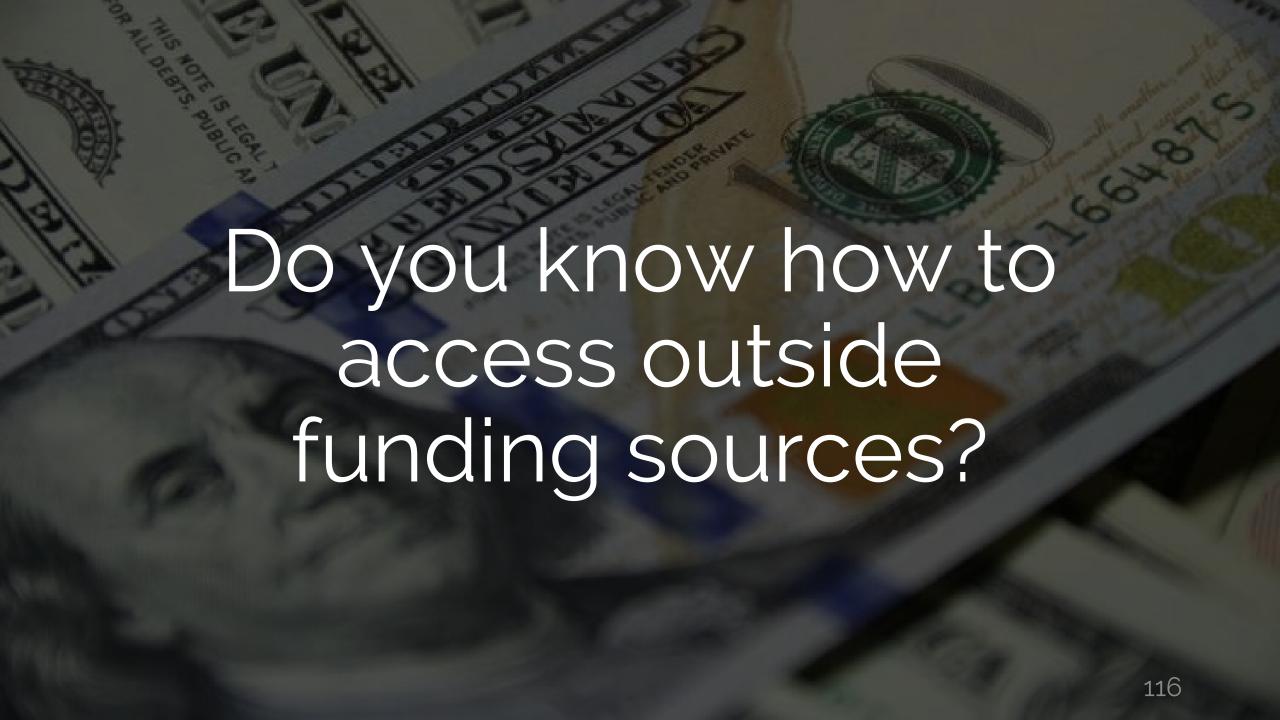
How is your money being spent? Are there changes that could be made?



# Are you incrementally funding infrastructure replacement?



What is your replacement cycle?





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> FUNDING SOURCES BY STATE OR TERRITORY

# https://efcnetwork.org/funding-sources-by-state/

#### Funding Sources by State or Territory

Note: Some states or territories may have additional resources listed below the map.



#### Back to the basics:

Protect Public Health

Protect the Environment

Customer Service

Maintain Assets in Acceptable Condition

Manage Risk

#### AM Addresses all of these:

Protect Public Health

Protect the Environment

Customer Service

Maintain Assets in Acceptable Condition

Manage Risk

### Which helps compliance by:

Understanding risk and acting on it reduces overall risk

Doing preventative and routine maintenance to keep assets working

Understanding what assets you have to do the job at hand

Recognizing that Customer Service is first and foremost

Collecting operational data to be able to trend and see when things are going awry Having a CIP allows for a good long term plan for what work to do when money is available and what work to put off when it is not available

Understanding condition and maintaining condition enables them to do the tasks

Helps develop a plan for and make a case for incremental investment

## Resources



Start Here Resources

#### Asset Management Switchboard

The Southwest Environmental Finance Center has partnered with EPA to create a repository of documentation and tools related to Asset Management.

Whether you are <u>new to the Asset Management</u>
<u>process</u> or just need a refresher on a specific topic,
the resource you are looking for is probably here. If
you're unable to find what you're looking for, reach
out and tell us about it.

If you would like to contribute by having a resource added to the repository, please email the Southwest Environmental Finance Center (by clicking on the link below) and tell us about it. We welcome your feedback and strive to serve your utility and water systems at large.

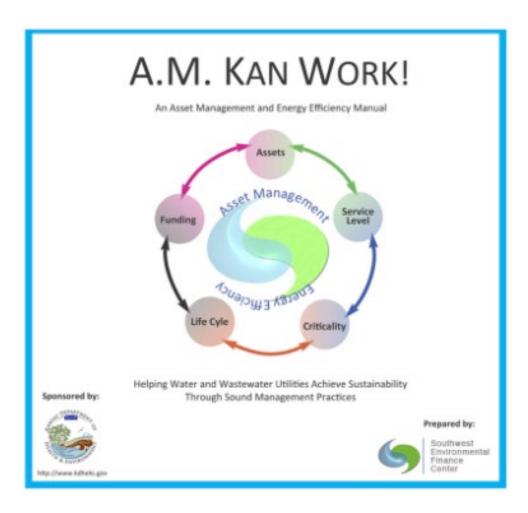
⊕ Email SW EFC

⊕ Phone (505) 277-0644

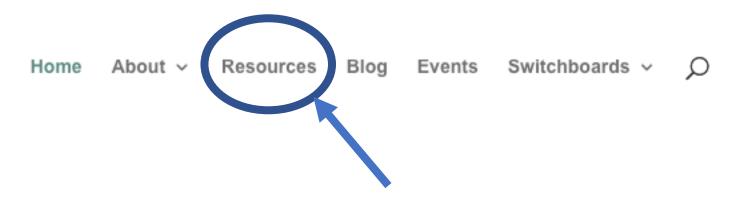


https://swefcamswitchboard.unm.edu/am/

## Resources



#### https://swefc.unm.edu/home/







An Asset Management IQ Test is presented here in order to help you review the concepts of the various core components of Asset Management. Both the test and a scoring table are also available as a <u>printable pdf</u>, which may be copied for use by multiple personnel within your utility.

In the web version of the test, clicking on a choice will automatically enter the number of points for that option and keep track of the score for each section of the Asset Management IQ as well as the total cumulative score. If a new answer is selected, the new choice and the new points will appear and the old points will be removed.

If the user completes the entire Asset Management IQ tool (all 30 questions) before starting Asset Management, it will provide a baseline evaluation at the beginning of Asset Management. Comparing the scores of each of the six sections will show which areas have the biggest gaps in terms of Asset Management activities. These scores may provide information about where efforts should be focused. You may wish to start with areas that are the weakest, offering a large improvement with a little effort, or with areas that are strong, which would offer a chance to get started in a familiar area.

As the utility progresses, the Asset Management IQ can be repeated and the scores compared to previous scores. At a minimum, you may wish to repeat the Asset Management IQ every year.

It should be noted that a total score of 150 would represent best practice in all areas of Asset Management. Not all utilities will be interested in achieving this goal. The utility should set its own target levels. The tool is meant to help utilities gauge their progress over time.



#### **Additional Resources for Training and Technical Assistance**

- EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter
- EPA's Tools, Training, and Technical Assistance for Small and Rural Wastewater Systems
   https://www.epa.gov/small-and-rural-wastewater-systems/tools-training-and-technical-assistance-small-and-rural
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund

General Info: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf">https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf</a>

State contacts: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/state-cwsrf-program-contacts">https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/state-cwsrf-program-contacts</a>

- Environmental Finance Centers
   https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter/efcn
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) <a href="https://rcac.org/">https://rcac.org/</a>
- National Rural Water Association (NRWA) <a href="https://nrwa.org/">https://nrwa.org/</a>





