

## Membership Benefits

Your membership in Montana Rural Water Systems brings you and your system many valuable benefits:

The training of Water and Wastewater system personnel through workshops and direct technical assistance in the field holds the highest priority for MRWS. At least twenty workshops are held throughout the state each year. Our staff strives to plan these workshops where the need exists and on topics of importance to the system personnel. Input from systems is an important part of our planning process.

Our Circuit Riders travel year 'round, visiting systems throughout the state and providing answers to your technical assistance questions. You can request a technical assistance visit whenever you have a problem, and if it is an emergency we will strive to have someone on-site within 24 hours.

Your membership in the state association automatically makes you a member of the National Rural Water Association. The National Association provides many benefits to our members including the publication of a quarterly magazine keeping us aware of water related issues at the Federal level.

All members are eligible to purchase Directors & Officers liability insurance for the Board of Directors, and Plant liability insurance at a greatly reduced cost.

A reference library of technical information is maintained in the MRWS office. The library also includes many videos that are available for systems to check out on request.

A bi-yearly newsletter is published by the state association for your information. The newsletter helps us keep you informed of the latest developments in financing, state regulations, federal guidelines, new

## Is MRWS A Regulatory Agency?

No! Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc. is an association of water and wastewater systems within the state of Montana and those Systems Operations Specialists are responsible for the day to day operations.

The federal programs are not connected with the state agencies. We do, however, work with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, City-County Health Departments, DNRC, USDA, Rural Development, EPA, and any other agencies that can provide help to our member systems.

*We do not want to control your system  
— We want to help you control it.*

*This is accomplished through formal training*

## About MRWS

### Who We Are:

Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc. is a nonprofit association of Rural Water Districts, Homeowner's Associations, Cities & Towns, Mobile Home Parks, Schools, and Campgrounds throughout the state.

### What We Do:

We offer training and technical assistance to small Water & Wastewater systems throughout our state. We have a Training Specialist who sets up training workshops and provides technical assistance. The Water Circuit Rider's, along with the Wastewater Technician, travel throughout the state providing information and technical assistance to those responsible for proper maintenance and operation of the system. The Source Water Specialists provides help and assistance in developing "Source Water Protection Plans" for communities and water districts.

# Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc.

People Committed to Helping Small  
Water & Wastewater Systems!



E-mail: [mrws@bresnan.net](mailto:mrws@bresnan.net)

Fill out Your Membership Form &  
Join MRWS Today!

“Dedicated to Safe Drinking  
Water For All Montanans”

Serving The Water & Waste-  
water Systems of the Treas-  
ure State Since 1979.

## Welcome!

Welcome to an informational package giving a brief description of who and what Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc. is all about. This brochure describes the dedicated staff and gives a brief description of the various programs available through the association.

The staff and Directors of Montana Rural Water Systems, Inc. hope to assist you with any problems or questions concerning your utility. We are dedicated to working together in solving problems concerning

## MRWS Staff

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## Help & Contacts

### Who Can Receive Help?

If you are a Water or Wastewater System that meets the criteria to be a public water system and are regulated by MT-DEQ or EPA, then you are eligible for our services.

If you are a system operations specialist, a clerk, a bookkeeper, a board member, an administrator, the Mayor or any other employee of a small water or wastewater system, our services are available to you at no cost.

### Who Do I Contact If I Have A Problem?

MRWS has an office located at 925 7th Avenue South in Great Falls, MT. Office hours are from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. You can contact the office with any questions or to request on-site assistance. The office will contact the appropriate staff member to return your call or schedule a technical assistance visit.

At the present time, our services are offered to all Water & Wastewater Systems at no charge or obligation. We can offer more services to those systems that are members, and member systems have priority.

### Who Administers The MRWS Program?

Administrative policies are decided by the voting delegates of each member system. A Board of Directors made up of nine volunteers from separate systems throughout the state, oversee the operation of the MRWS programs and act as an intermediary between the MRWS staff and the member

"It is by teaching that we teach ourselves, by relating that we observe, by affirming that we examine, by showing that we look, by writing that we think, by pumping that we draw water into the well." - Henri-Frederic Amiel (1821-81), Swiss philosopher, poet.

## How Do I Join Up?

Membership Applications are available on our website: [www.mrws.org](http://www.mrws.org)

-or-

Contact the office at 406-454-1151 and an application form will be mailed to you.

### Water & Wastewater Systems MRWS Annual Dues Structure

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|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Transient & Non-Transient Systems | — \$ 50.00     |
| 0—50 Hook-ups or less             | ----- \$100.00 |
| 51—150 Hook-ups                   | ----- \$150.00 |
| 151-500 Hook-ups                  | ----- \$200.00 |
| 501 or more Hook-ups              | ----- \$250.00 |

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### MRWS Associate Member Dues (Eg. Suppliers, Labs, Engineers)

## Goals

### MRWS Strives to Meet the Following Goals:

1. To help insure an adequate supply of safe drinking water for all Montanans.
2. To assist water/wastewater systems in meeting all state & federal regulations and to comply with the Safe Drinking Water & Clean Water Acts.
3. To help train and inform managers, operators, bookkeepers, board members, and city & town officials so that the operation and management of individual water/wastewater systems can be improved.
4. Conduct 20 plus training sessions annually for operators and decision makers. (no charge for training sessions)