



# ILLINOIS GROUNDWATER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 18, No. 2  
Fall 2002

## Contents

- IGA News
- What's Happening in Illinois Groundwater
- Agency and Regulatory Update
- Focus on Illinois Groundwater Education
- 2003 IGA Elections
- Fall 2002 IGA Meeting in Urbana, Illinois

## 2002 IGA Officers

**Chair:** Colin Booth,

Northern Illinois University

**Vice Chair:** Larry Lyons,  
Lyons Well Drilling

**Director:** Ed Mehnert,  
Illinois State Geological Survey

**Director:** Randy Locke,  
Illinois State Water Survey

**Secretary:** Sara Williams,  
Weaver, Boos, & Gordon

**Treasurer:** Terry Dixon,  
Harding ESE

**Editor:** Erik Spande,  
CH2M Hill

**Student Director:** vacant

## NEWS FROM THE IGA

### FROM THE IGA CHAIR, COLIN BOOTH

Hello on this beautiful Fall day - it would be nice if we got lots more like it. Anyway, Fall is moving on and so our Fall meeting approaches. On Wednesday, November 13 we will be meeting in Urbana. You can see the agenda and details elsewhere in the newsletter: we have a nice variety of talks lined up. But I am writing this before all the final arrangements have been made, and by the time this newsletter "goes to press" there may still be an odd slot or two left open, so if you are interested in presenting a talk on groundwater issues or research please send Sara an e-mail at [swilliams@weaverboos.com](mailto:swilliams@weaverboos.com). And since most of those at the IGA meeting won't have had the chance to attend the GSA annual meeting at Denver, don't be afraid to turn around a talk given there if it's about Illinois groundwater!

Our Spring meeting in beautiful DeKalb was well attended and had a great variety of interesting talks. We got a lot of very positive feedback. Even the glitches with the Powerpoint laptop were overcome. (Lesson: Remember back-up). Whether as a result of the meeting or because of the super-activity of our Board members, our membership has grown quite considerably this year, which is very nice to report! Nevertheless, building up membership numbers is a high priority, and maintaining it against the inevitable retirements, leaving the state, and address changes is a constant problem - so: (1) encourage others to join; (2) keep us up-to-date with your e-mail and postal addresses; and (3) keep your own dues up to date and attend the meetings!

Through its programs and its meetings, IGA helps to advance the knowledge of groundwater resources in Illinois, to protect and manage groundwater, and to provide a forum in which you can meet and interact with other groundwater professionals in the state. One new line that we will pursue is to use our website to list names, organizations, and areas of research or expertise for any members who wish it (and for researchers in government agencies and universities), thus providing a kind of hydrogeological expertise resource for Illinois. As always, if you have suggestions, please feel free to contact me ([colin@geol.niu.edu](mailto:colin@geol.niu.edu)) or any board member. See you in Urbana .....

**Colin Booth**

## FALL 2002 IGA MEETING IN URBANA, ILLINOIS

The Fall Meeting of the Illinois Groundwater Association will be held at the Holiday Inn in Urbana, Illinois, on Wednesday, November 13. A broad range of topics will be covered. The meeting will start with a continental breakfast from 8:30 a.m. and open at 9:20 a.m. The Holiday Inn is located at 1001 Killarney Street off of I-74 at the Lincoln Avenue exit. The hotel will serve its Allerton Picnic lunch (soup & sandwiches). Pasta primavera is available as the vegetarian meal. If you have special dietary needs, please contact Sara Williams. For those needing accommodations for Tuesday night, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn – please call 217-328-7900 and mention the IGA meeting. See the map at the end of the newsletter or refer to the hotel website for directions ([www.holiday-inn.com](http://www.holiday-inn.com)). In addition, there are several other hotels nearby, including Comfort Inn (217-352-4055), Courtyard (217-335-0411), and Days Inn (217-356-6873).

## SPRING 2002 IGA MEETING A SUCCESS

The Spring 2002 IGA Meeting was held at Northern Illinois University in the Holmes Student Center on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2002. A focus of this meeting was on radium in groundwater, which is an ongoing challenge for many communities in Illinois who rely on groundwater for their drinking water supply. This urgency was created by the U.S. EPA, which finalized the requirement that water supplies achieve 5 picoCuries per liter or less radium, and 15 picoCuries per liter or less total alpha, by December 8, 2003. The IEPA anticipates that some water supplies will have difficulty attaining this objective, including those who are currently in compliance due to sampling methodology changes ([www.epa.state.il.us/environmental-progress/v26/n3/index.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/environmental-progress/v26/n3/index.html)). Speakers showed the distribution of groundwater supplies affected by radium in Illinois, and how communities are dealing with radium concentrations in excess of recently finalized drinking water standards. Although radium in drinking water was a primary focus of the Spring IGA Meeting, other topics such as glacial geology and the results from site contamination investigations were also presented. As usual, there was something for everyone.

## IGA STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

One of the primary goals of the Illinois Groundwater Association is to foster scholarship in the science of groundwater, and one way we support this effort is through our IGA Student Research Grant Program. Applications are invited for IGA student research grants for the year 2003-2004. The IGA annually awards one to several small grants (typically \$150 - \$300) to help support student research in groundwater in Illinois. Any undergraduate or graduate student registered for full- or part-time study at an accredited college or university in Illinois is eligible to apply. **This year, the deadline for receipt of completed applications will be Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003.** Application forms and guidelines can be obtained from:

[Dr. Colin Booth](#)

**IGA Grants Coordinator**

Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, IL 60115

Phone: 815-753-7933 fax: (815) 753-1945 E-mail: [colin@geol.niu.edu](mailto:colin@geol.niu.edu)

**IGA STUDENT GRANT AWARDEE – ROSA LEAL-BAUTISTA**

The IGA is proud to announce that the 2002-2003 IGA Student Research Grant was awarded to Rosa Leal-Bautista, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences at Northern Illinois University. Rosa has a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the Universidad Popular Autonoma del estado de Puebla and a master’s degree in environmental engineering from the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. She is working under Dr. Melissa Lenczewski on a project entitled “Sorption of MTBE on clay-rich deposits in northern Illinois”. The project involves laboratory experiments of MTBE sorption on columns of soil, till, and lacustrine samples collected from the DeKalb County area of northern Illinois. Isotherms will be evaluated and the controls of sorption by properties such as clay mineralogy and organic matter content are being examined.

**2002 IGA DUES REMINDER**

2002 is nearly over, so don’t forget to renew your membership for 2002 if you haven’t already. For more information on registration, please call or e-mail Terry Dixon, IGA Treasurer, at (309) 693-5697. Please print, complete, and mail this information along with your registration fee to Terry at the address provided below.

IGA membership dues are \$15. Student membership is \$5. Membership renewal for each calendar year is payable at the time of the Spring Meeting. **Make checks payable to the Illinois Groundwater Association.** Membership is available to anyone interested in groundwater resources in Illinois.

<i>COST</i>	<i>NAME</i>
Renew Membership \$15	Position: _____
New Membership \$15	Employer: _____
Student \$5	Address: _____
	_____
Clip form & mail to:	Phone: _____ Fax: _____
<a href="#">Terry Dixon</a>	E-mail: _____
Harding ESE	
8901 North Industrial Rd	(309) 693-5697 Fax (309) 692-9364
Peoria, IL 61615	TWDixon@mactec.com

**NOTES ON THE IGA NEWSLETTER**

The IGA newsletter is changing. The first thing you will likely notice is the change in format, which had been essentially the same until this year. This format will continue to change incrementally to fit the web delivery of IGA and groundwater-related information to our valued members. The other major change is a shift in content, which will be clearly divided into categories that cover the wide range of groundwater issues of interest to our readership. If you have a particular issue that you feel is missing, or if you would like to report on an issue-of-interest, contact the IGA Editor or any IGA Board Member. They will be happy to hear any suggestions, or even complaints. Thank you for reading, and we hope to continue to improve the newsletter’s value to you.

## ***WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ILLINOIS GROUNDWATER...***

### **CONSERVATION CONGRESS V UPDATE**

*By Paul Kesich, Fermilab*

The Conservation Congress is an outreach program operated by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. It is the largest and most influential constituent outreach program operated by the Department serving as an advisory body of natural resource stakeholders.

Delegates for the Conservation Congress assemble in the Illinois State House every three years to represent the views of the State's diverse constituency and make recommendations to the Department of Natural Resources and policy makers of Illinois. The recommendations that have come from past congresses have vastly improved state government and its stewardship of our natural resources as well as enabled the Department to make informed decisions which reflect the needs and interests of conservation organizations in Illinois.

Members of the Conservation Congress are representatives from recognized organizations in Illinois including businesses, not-for-profit organizations and other groups committed to protection, conservation and enjoyment of Illinois' natural resources. From this membership, 118 representatives make up the Assembly of Delegates that votes on proposals put forth by the members. Seventy of these delegates are elected from organizations to represent regional interests and the remaining 48 members are selected from organizations entitled to appoint statewide delegates and alternates. Statewide delegates are selected based on the degree to which the organization's activities contribute to the mission of the Congress, the size (membership) of the organization, participation in past Congresses, and to ensure that a diversity of conservation interests are represented at the Assembly of Delegates.

The most important part of the Conservation Congress is the regional caucus process. These are organized public meetings from which all Conservation Congress recommendations must arise. The caucuses are where issues are identified and prioritized and possible solutions developed. Regional delegates are also elected at these caucuses.

Constituent groups select a representative and an alternate to attend regional caucuses where general issues are introduced. Caucus issues, challenges and solutions are discussed and prioritized before advancing to one of six work teams, composed of statewide and regional delegates and Conservation Congress members from the regional caucus. Work teams then refine, consolidate and prioritize the issues, challenges and solutions to clarify and strengthen them and begin to develop recommendations which are assigned to committees that are formed to reflect the general issues.

Recommendations developed through the caucus and work team process are taken to the Assembly of Delegates in the Illinois State House where they are approved, modified or tabled during two days of deliberations and testimony. On the third day of the Assembly, the delegates vote to pass or fail each committee recommendation. The approved recommendations are presented to the policy makers of Illinois for possible implementation.

## **CONSERVATION CONGRESS V UPDATE (CONTINUED)**

The Illinois Groundwater Association has again been selected to serve as a statewide organization for the fifth Congress. As of this newsletter article, Erik Spande and I have attended two caucuses. At the first caucus, the agenda and ground rules were reviewed, introductions of the Conservation Congress Executive Staff and IDNR Staff were made and the constituents introduced themselves and the organizations they represented. The training manual was reviewed and questions answered to ensure competence of participants in the Congress process. Breakout groups were then formed to begin the process of brainstorming issues and ideas. The second caucus took the issues and ideas developed during the first caucus and consolidated and prioritized them and then through a voting process chose the top ten issues for development with action statements. Ten issues will be forwarded from each region to the final Assembly. The third caucus will take the prioritized issues and begin the documentation of solutions and to identify additional research needs for work teams to consider. Regional delegates will also be elected during the third caucus and the need for subsequent caucuses will be addressed. The IGA will be working with other statewide and regional caucus members on the issue of water resource quality and quantity. Any information on concerns from IGA members should be brought to my or Erik's attention.

## ***AGENCY AND REGULATORY UPDATE***

### **IEPA GUIDANCE PROVIDED FOR CCRS**

Modified from information from the cited IEPA web site

The IEPA has published a guidance manual for water suppliers for consumer confidence reports (CCRs), which is a report that water suppliers are required to provide to water consumers. The guiding principle behind CCRs is that all people have the right to know what is in their drinking water and where it comes from. CCRs provide an opportunity for water suppliers to educate consumers about the source and quality of their drinking water, and to involve them in decisions about it. The USEPA has revised its public notification requirements to expedite notification of serious health threats and simplify notification of other violations. Consumers who are familiar with the basic drinking water information in CCRs will be able to participate more effectively in the notification processes. The information contained in CCRs will assist consumers in making informed choices concerning their health and the health of their families. The information contained in CCRs allows consumers to better understand and appreciate the challenges faced by public water suppliers in delivering safe drinking water. Educated consumers are more likely to help public water suppliers protect drinking water sources and realize the need to upgrade the treatment facilities in order to make their drinking water safe. Even before generation and distribution of a CCR was required, many water suppliers saw the benefits associated with educating consumers and were distributing some form of a CCR voluntarily.

The CCR manual is available in PDF format at the IEPA web site:

[www.epa.state.il.us/water/compliance/drinking-water/guidance-manual.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/compliance/drinking-water/guidance-manual.html)

***AGENCY AND REGULATORY UPDATE (CONTINUED)***

**IEPA BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT GRANTS AWARDED**

Modified from IEPA news releases

Illinois EPA Director Renee Cipriano announced that the cities of Farmington and Gillespie have been awarded Brownfields Redevelopment Grants by the Agency. Farmington will receive \$25,497 and Gillespie will receive \$87,750 in grant funds to conduct site investigations and provide oversight. Both Brownfields projects will be conducted under the authority of the IEPA's Site Restoration Program. The grants are awarded to Illinois municipalities for environmental assessments of abandoned or underutilized properties in preparation for cleanup and redevelopment.

Farmington's brownfield site is 1.5 acres and was formerly used as a gasoline service station and an auto dealership. Underground storage tanks remained on the property, but were removed in November 2001, through a federal brownfields grant obtained by the city. Petroleum contamination is frequently associated with older underground storage tanks. Once work is completed, and the Illinois EPA issues a No Further Remediation Letter, the site will be redeveloped for commercial use.

Gillespie's brownfield site is the former DuraCraft Kitchens property, owned by Kaan, Inc., which is located in Gillespie's downtown business district and has remained unused for nearly a year, when a large fire destroyed most of the facility structures. Since the fire was of suspicious origin, the owner's insurance carrier has declined to pay an insurance benefit and no cleanup activities have been conducted at the site. Due to the property's prominent downtown location, the city has taken steps to proceed with investigation activities necessary to remediate the site. The adjacent United Community Bank has notified the city of its interest in purchasing the property, if the environmental problems can be resolved. Acquisition of the property would allow the bank to enlarge its existing facility to accommodate an expanded loan and check processing facility. This could translate to an additional 20 to 30 jobs for Gillespie.

"Brownfields grants help communities with the funding they need to evaluate the environmental impact of the past uses of property and enables them to form a plan to rehabilitate the site for redevelopment," said IEPA's Director Cipriano.

Governor George Ryan noted that 64 Illinois communities have now been awarded grants under the program, which began July 1, 1998. "Illinois communities have received over \$5.9 million, to date, for environmental assessments of brownfields sites. This assistance is often the catalyst necessary to bring sites that have been community eyesores or potential hazards back to productive use."

IEPA brownfield award links:

[www.epa.state.il.us/news-releases/2002/2002-176-farmington-grant.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/news-releases/2002/2002-176-farmington-grant.html)

[www.epa.state.il.us/news-releases/2002/2002-174-gillespie-brownfields-grant.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/news-releases/2002/2002-174-gillespie-brownfields-grant.html)

## ***AGENCY AND REGULATORY UPDATE (CONTINUED)***

### **ILLINOIS WATER QUALITY DATA AND TOOLS PUBLISHED**

Modified from information available at the cited IEPA web site

The Illinois EPA has published the [Illinois Water Quality Report - 2002](#) and yearly tables that summarize water quality data ([www.epa.state.il.us/water/water-quality/](http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/water-quality/)). A new [Illinois Water Quality Information - 2002 Mapping Tool](#) has also been published. These reports and the mapping tool document the chemical, physical, biological, habitat and toxicity data on rivers and streams, inland lakes, Lake Michigan and groundwater that the IEPA collects to satisfy reporting requirements found in the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA). The primary purpose of the reporting process is to provide for an assessment of the overall water quality conditions of Illinois waters.

Water quality conditions are assessed in terms of the degree to which waters attain "beneficial uses," also called "designated uses." Pollution control programs are designed to protect designated individual uses, including aquatic life, swimming, drinking water, recreation, secondary contact and indigenous aquatic life and fish consumption. Each state has the responsibility to set water quality standards that protect and assess attainment these beneficial uses. In Illinois, the Illinois Pollution Control Board is responsible for establishing water quality standards.

[Illinois Water Quality Report - 2002](#) was published in July 2002. The report is 98 pages in length and it is divided into four parts: Executive Summary, Background, Surface Water Assessment, Groundwater Assessment. A literature and extensive set of appendixes are provided as documentation. The total size of the report is 525 pages.

[Illinois Water Quality Information - 2002 Mapping Tool](#) is an on-line interactive tool that allows users to locate, create, and print maps showing Illinois water quality data collected or managed by the IEPA. Users can select map layers, and scale maps using site tools. Data are from Federal, State and local agencies.

The Summary of the Condition of Illinois Water Resources includes tables summarizing the water quality in Illinois for the years 1996, 1999, 2000, and 2001. These tables can be accessed at the IEPA Bureau of Water web site at [www.epa.state.il.us/water/water-quality/](http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/water-quality/).

### **NEW CHEMICALS ADDED TO IEPA'S TACO PROGRAM**

Modified from information at the cited IEPA web site

The IEPA's Tiered Approach to Corrective Action (Reference: [IAC Title 35 Part 742](#)) is a procedure for evaluating risks to human health posed by environmental conditions, and for developing remediation objectives that achieve acceptable risks. The IEPA is continually updating its TACO program, and it has recently published objectives for chemicals not contained in the TACO Tier I tables on its web site. The web site notes that these new objectives are for convenience only and are not TACO Tier I objectives. TACO regulations allow a person to request site-specific remediation objectives from the Agency.

The list of additional chemicals is extensive, and the link below to the IEPA web site has links to these new listings and more information on the development of these objectives.

[www.epa.state.il.us/land/taco/chemicals-not-in-taco-tier-1-tables.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/taco/chemicals-not-in-taco-tier-1-tables.html)

## ***AGENCY AND REGULATORY UPDATE (CONTINUED)***

### **IEPA PUBLIC WATER REPORT AVAILABLE**

Modified from information at the cited IEPA web site

The IEPA has published the report *State of Illinois Public Water Supply Annual Compliance Report – Calendar Year 2001*, which documents the annual violations occurring during the previous calendar year of national primary drinking water regulations by public water systems (PWSs) in Illinois. This report was completed to satisfy the requirements of the 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act, which requires that states submit this report to the US EPA and make it readily available to the public.

This report is available at the IEPA web site at this link:

[www.epa.state.il.us/water/compliance/drinking-water/compliance-report/index.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/compliance/drinking-water/compliance-report/index.html)

### **NIPC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Modified from information available at the NIPC web site

The Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) facilitated a strategic planning process to identify issues and strategies to address the complex and often interrelated water resource issues facing the northeastern region of Illinois. The *Strategic Plan for Water Resource Management* is intended to guide the region in responding to its water resources issues: water quality, flooding, and water supply. In each of these areas, the plan recommends a series of strategies and identifies the entities to implement them. The goals were to develop a region-wide consensus to influence state policy on behalf of the region, to improve management at the regional and local level, and to enhance public understanding of water issues. Recommendations include new legislation, funding for research, changes in agency practices or funding allocations, and improved public education. A complete discussion of the detailed issues and related strategies is contained in the plan, and a summary of the strategic plan was reported in the Spring 2002 IGA Newsletter.

An electronic version of this plan was posted at the NIPC web site after it was adopted by the Commission on September 25, 2001. This electronic version of the plan is available at this link: [www.nipc.cog.il.us/water\\_plan\\_2001.htm](http://www.nipc.cog.il.us/water_plan_2001.htm). The NIPC recently made a hard copy of the plan available through the NIPC Publications Center (312-454-0400, x210). It can also be picked up in person at the Publication Center at 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1800, Chicago, IL 60606. For more information visit the NIPC web site: [www.nipc.cog.il.us/new-pubs.htm#Strategic](http://www.nipc.cog.il.us/new-pubs.htm#Strategic)



***AGENCY AND REGULATORY UPDATE (CONTINUED)***

**FINAL IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE FOR THE ARSENIC RULE**

On January 22, 2001 EPA adopted a new standard for arsenic in drinking water at 10 ppb, replacing the old standard of 50 ppb. The rule became effective on February 22, 2002. The date by which systems must comply with the new 10 ppb standard is January 23, 2006.

The final Implementation Guidance for the Arsenic Rule is based on the final rule published in the Federal Register on January 22, 2001. It incorporates comments received on the previous draft implementation guidances, and from the training sessions on the arsenic rule held throughout the country. The guidance summarizes key sections of the Proposed Rule and provides a "how to" approach for EPA Regions and States to implement the regulation. It contains an explanation of the rule's requirements and guidance for preparing State primacy revision applications. The document incorporates comments received from Regions, States, technical assistance providers, water systems, and others.

[www.epa.gov/safewater/ars/implement.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ars/implement.html)

***FOCUS ON ILLINOIS GROUNDWATER EDUCATION***

**GROUNDWATER EDUCATION--HELP NEEDED**

*An open letter to IGA members from Harry Hendrickson, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Groundwater Education Coordinator.*

Dear fellow IGA members,

One sign of progress is the inclusion of groundwater concepts in Illinois State Board of Education documents relating to the preparation of science teachers. Infiltration is being added to the other water cycle *'tion* words, like *evaporation* and *precipitation*. Groundwater is specifically mentioned, and new teachers will need to study it in the context of the hydrologic cycle and the sustainability of water resources.

Another sign of progress is that activity levels for the Illinois Groundwater Protection Education Program for the 12 months ending June 30, were significantly higher than in previous years. Credit for this goes to staff from DNR, DPH, IDA, and IEPA, as well as many volunteers and local extension, health, water, and soil and water conservation agencies. The growth in county or multi-county stewardship days where students and teachers circulate among outdoor stations accounts for a large part of this growth. During FY 02, there was a 63% increase in contacts with students through field day presentations, a 44% increase in teacher contacts through workshops, and a 40% increase in contacts with professionals at their meetings. The big job we all have is building groundwater into the water cycle, as it is taught and perceived, and this cannot be done in offices or committee meetings.

## **GROUNDWATER EDUCATION--HELP NEEDED (CONTINUED)**

Our most efficient methods for the long term, involve teachers and young people. Almost 30% of the Illinois population is 19 or under, and this population can and is being reached through school and field day programs.

Last year, almost 500 (often outdoor) classroom type presentations were made to about 13,600 students, over 700 teachers, and 1100 other adults at field events. Over 360 teachers participated in workshops and over 2500 picked up materials at teacher institutes. Emphasis is placed on the middle school level where all students learn the water cycle, and where state educational goals related to science, health and geography can all be addressed through groundwater education. There are roughly 180,000 students and 9000 teachers at each grade level in Illinois, and we are making a significant dent through our work with teachers and students. This next generation should be better equipped to understand and deal with groundwater than previous ones. Hopefully, no longer out of sight and out of mind.

Although progress is being made, much more remains to be done, as we have reached only 49 of 102 counties with outreach activities and less than 10 % of this audience. We are requesting your help in staffing these events to further expand this needed program. We have displays, groundwater models, presentation outlines, and game equipment sufficient to run five stations or field events on the same day, but we do not have staff or travel resources to fulfill all requests.

During this fiscal year, we are faced with significant budget cuts. Unless we find volunteers or other resources, activities in the current fiscal year will be reduced. Despite increased requests, we simply cannot participate in as many events. In the first 33% of this fiscal year, our activity levels are well ahead of last year, but more than 55% of our reduced travel budget is gone.

So, we need your help, especially with field day events scattered throughout the state. If you would be willing to invest a day or several days in teaching middle school students, please get in touch with me by email <hhendrickson@dnrmail.state.il.us> or phone 217-785-8577. If you provide your travel limits, we will try to match you up with events in your area, and arrange to equip you with materials and train you. Most of the events are repeated annually and arrangements are usually made from 1-12 months in advance. We hope you will be able to help.

## **WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS HELD**

The Northern Regional Groundwater Protection & Planning Committee (NRGPPC) held a workshop for teachers on June 18, 2002, titled *Protection of Our Drinking Water and Health*. Nineteen teachers attended the workshop from Boone, DeKalb, McHenry, Ogle and Winnebago counties. The workshop was part of a 3-credit Master's course, Environmental Science for Teachers, offered by Aurora University and Kishwaukee Intermediate Delivery Systems, (K.I.D.S.). Organizers of the workshop were from county health departments, high schools, IDNR, businesses, conservation districts, ISGS, health departments, and interested citizens.

## ***FOCUS ON ILLINOIS GROUNDWATER EDUCATION***

### **DUPAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL GROUNDWATER PROJECT**

About 50 middle schools in DuPage County will be equipped to teach groundwater through a training process that will culminate with a workshop on February 28, 2003 at GlenBard East High School. Ten mentor-teachers will first be trained in October and December training sessions. Then, they will plan and conduct most of the workshop. Each participating school will receive several teaching aids including a groundwater model, posters, H2O BELOW Education Guide, and several publications, the total commercial value of which is close to \$1000. Presentations from the Illinois State Geological and Water Surveys and IDNR will cover resource and protection information, while local organizations and agencies will present local groundwater concerns. With help from local resource staff, the teachers will pack their own groundwater models using well logs for information. The mentor-teachers will present teaching methods and serve as continuing sources of information and support for their co-workers.

Harry Hendrickson, the IDNR groundwater education coordinator, stated this will be the 18th Illinois county where the middle school program is conducted. It was developed originally by SIU-Edwardsville and IDNR through a grant of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Since foundation funding ended in 1998, local sponsors have provided the resources needed to train and equip teachers. Since this is the largest county (population of over 900,000) covered to date, the program may be repeated next year to provide full coverage of public and private mid-level learning centers. About 13,000 students are at each grade level in DuPage County. One project goal is to assure that groundwater is taught as part of the water cycle at the appropriate middle school grade level.

DuPage County was recently added to the Northeast Groundwater Protection Region and Committee due to volatile organic carbon contamination of private wells. Though most of the DuPage County municipal water supplies were switched to Lake Michigan in the early 90's, there are still large numbers of relatively shallow private wells, some of which have excessive levels of trichloroethene. Project sponsors include the DuPage County Public Works Department, Northeast Illinois Groundwater Protection Committee, Waste Management Research Center, Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District, DuPage County Health Department, DuPage Regional Office of Education, and the Department of Natural Resources.

Teachers can get more information through Deb Jacobson of the DuPage County Environmental Education Program ([ec.dupageco.org/edprogram/](http://ec.dupageco.org/edprogram/)) or from Marjorie Cave of the DuPage County Regional Office of Education ([www.dupage.k12.il.us](http://www.dupage.k12.il.us)). Assistance is needed in providing certain resources and reference materials for the teachers, as well as with packing groundwater flow models on February 28. If you are interested in helping, please contact Harry Hendrickson, IDNR, 217-785-8577, [hhendrickson@dnrmail.state.il.us](mailto:hhendrickson@dnrmail.state.il.us); Dan Horvath, Chair, NE GW Comm, 630-232-9820, [rescon@inil.com](mailto:rescon@inil.com); or Allen Panek, Naperville Public Works Dept., 630-420-6111.

**ANNOUNCING: IGA OFFICER CANDIDATES FOR 2003**

**CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR OF IGA: DR. EDWARD MEHNERT** is a groundwater hydrologist and has been an applied researcher with the Illinois State Geology Survey in Champaign since 1985 and the Section Head of the Groundwater Geology Section since 1998. Dr. Mehnert's research focus is the fate and transport of agricultural chemicals in groundwater and the characterization of the physical and chemical properties of aquifers. Ed holds degrees in Civil Engineering from Oklahoma State University (B.S.), University of Notre Dame (M.S.), and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Ph.D.). Ed has served the Illinois Groundwater Association as co-editor of the newsletter in 1986 and 1987 and as Director since 2001.

**CANDIDATE FOR VICE-CHAIR OF IGA: MR. RANDY LOCKE** is a licensed professional geologist with the Illinois State Water Survey in Champaign, Illinois. Randy received his B.S. in Geology from Illinois State University in 1991 and his M.S. in Geology from the University of Iowa in 1994. Since coming to the Survey in 1994, his research has included hydrogeologic evaluations of nature preserves, hydrological and geochemical impact assessments, regional water resources assessments, and GPS applications. He has been an IGA member since 1995, IGA webmaster since 1998, and has served on the IGA Executive Board since 2002.

**CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR OF IGA: MR. DANIEL HORVATH** is the president of Resource Consulting, Inc., an environmental consulting firm located in Geneva, Illinois. His work as an environmental consultant and hydrogeologist has focused on soil and groundwater contamination issues including the characterization and remediation of petroleum and solvent releases and the regulatory issues related to them. Dan received his B.S. in Geology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1989 and has continued his education at Northern Illinois University through its Environmental Geosciences Certificate and M.S. programs in its Department of Geology. Dan is also the Chairman of the Northeastern Illinois Regional Groundwater Protection Planning Committee, mandated by the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act to identify, monitor, and educate the public about groundwater protection issues in northeastern Illinois.

**CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY OF IGA: MS. SARA WILLIAMS** is a geologist with Weaver Boos and Gordon since May 2001. She supports projects involving environmental studies of solid waste disposal facilities, as well as industrial manufacturing operations. Sara will be graduating from Northern Illinois University in December 2002 with a M.S. in Geology and Environmental Science. The main focus of her graduate research was describing the hydrogeology and delineating the groundwater flow systems and wellhead protection areas for various Community Water Supplies in Illinois. Sara has served the Illinois Groundwater Association as Student Director in 2000 and as Secretary since 2001.

**CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER OF IGA: DR. STEVE BENNETT** received his B.S. in Geology in 1988 from University of Northern Iowa, his M.S. in Geology in 1990 from Indiana University, and his Ph.D. in Geology in 1994 from Indiana University. After completing his Ph.D. he became an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geology at Western Illinois University in August of 1994. Dr. Bennett teaches courses in introductory physical geology, mineralogy, oceanography, hydrogeology, and at the Western Illinois University summer geology field camp. Dr. Bennett is formerly a Director and Chair of the IGA.

ILLINOIS GROUNDWATER ASSOCIATION  
**BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF 2003 IGA OFFICERS**

**Chair**        ( )     Dr. Edward Mehnert  
    Illinois State Geological Survey  
    Champaign, Illinois

( )     \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice-Chair** ( )     Mr. Randy Locke  
    Illinois State Water Survey  
    Champaign, Illinois

( )     \_\_\_\_\_

**Director**    ( )     Mr. Daniel Horvath  
    Resource Consulting, Inc  
    Geneva, Illinois

( )     \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary** ( )     Ms. Sara Williams  
    Weaver Boos & Gordon  
    Chicago, Illinois

( )     \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer** ( )     Dr. Steve Bennett  
    Western Illinois University  
    Macomb, Illinois

( )     \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Place an "x" in the box opposite to the candidate of your choice. If you prefer to vote for a candidate not listed, write the name and business affiliation of the candidate of your choice in the space provided and mark with an "x". Write-in candidates must be members of the IGA. Mail or e-mail the completed ballot to [Sara Williams](mailto:SaraWilliams@weaverboos.com) at:

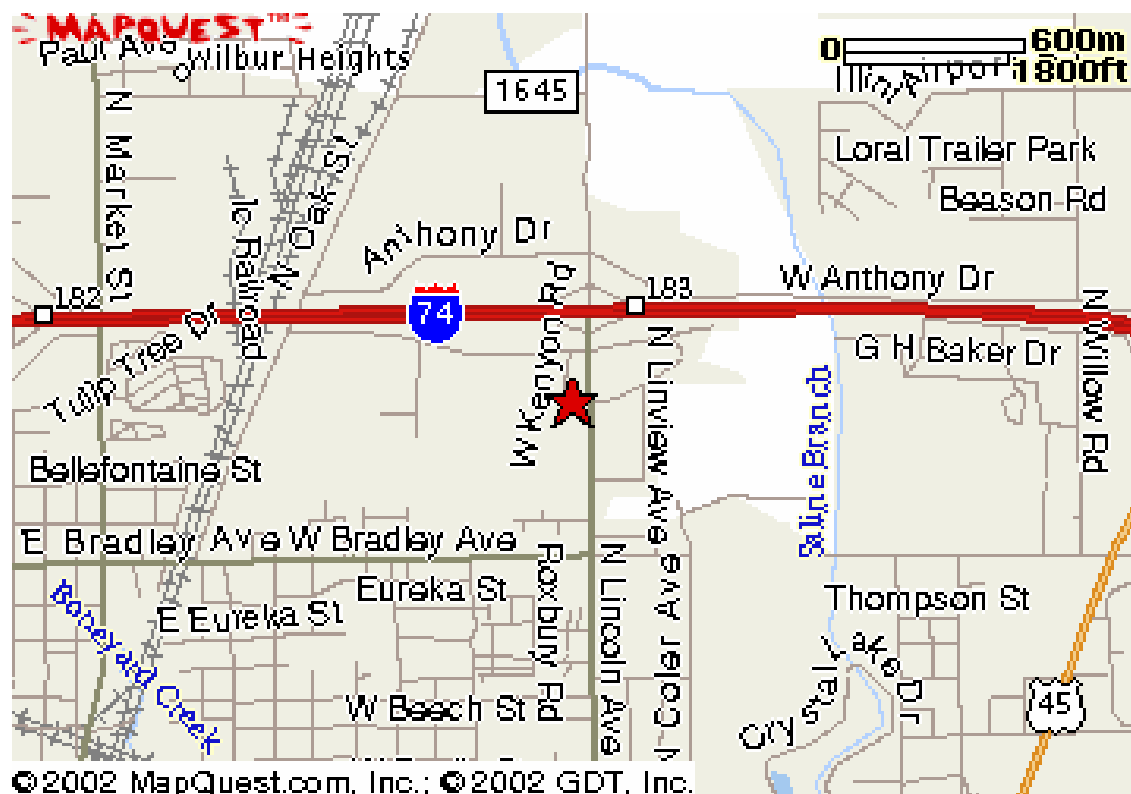
Weaver Boos & Gordon, Inc.  
 200 S. Michigan Ave. Ste. 900  
 Chicago, Illinois 60604  
 (312) 922-1030 Fax (312) 922-0201

*Special Note: As we prepare to elect new officers, we would like to thank Colin Booth and Terry Dixon for their service to the Illinois Groundwater Association. Colin served as a Director, Vice-Chair and Chair, while Terry served as Treasurer from 1998 to 2002. Thank you for your selfless efforts to improve our organization and Illinois' groundwater.*

### FALL 2002 IGA MEETING IN URBANA, ILLINOIS

The Fall Meeting of the Illinois Groundwater Association will be held at the Holiday Inn in Urbana, Illinois, on Wednesday, November 13. A broad range of topics will be covered. The meeting will start with a continental breakfast from 8:30 a.m. and open at 9:20 a.m. The Holiday Inn is located at 1001 Killarney Street off of I-74 at the Lincoln Ave. exit. The hotel will serve its Allerton Picnic lunch (soup & sandwiches). Pasta primavera is available as the vegetarian meal. If you have special dietary needs, please contact Sara Williams. For those needing accommodations for Tuesday night, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn – please call 217-328-7900 and mention the IGA meeting. See the map below or refer to the hotel website for directions ([www.holiday-inn.com](http://www.holiday-inn.com)). In addition, there are several other hotels nearby, including Comfort Inn (217-352-4055), Courtyard (217-335-0411), and Days Inn (217-356-6873).

See you at the meeting!



## TENTATIVE AGENDA

### ILLINOIS GROUNDWATER ASSOCIATION 2002 FALL MEETING HOLIDAY INN, URBANA, IL WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2002

8:15 to 9:20 Registration, Coffee & Doughnuts/Muffins/Bagels

9:20 to 9:30 Opening Remarks: Colin Booth, IGA Chair

#### Session 1

9:30-10:00 *Analytical Element Modeling of Groundwater Flow*. Dr. Henk Haitjema, Indiana University.

10:00-10:20 *Groundwater Modeling of the Mahomet Aquifer: From Conceptual Models to Post-Audits*. George Roadcap, Illinois State Water Survey.

10:20-10:40 *High-Resolution Geophysical Investigation of the Buried Mahomet Valley West of Monticello, Illinois*. Andre Pugin & Tim Larson, Illinois State Geological Survey.

10:40-11:00 Break/ Vote for Officers

#### Session 2

11:00-11:20 *Arsenic Geochemistry and Distribution in the Mahomet Aquifer*. Tom Holm & Steve Wilson, Illinois State Water Survey.

11:20-11:40 *Siting & Development of a Bottled Water Plant and Micropack's Water Processing*. Sean Hoffman, Micropack, Inc.

11:40-12:00 *Stable Isotopes in Groundwater: Not Just for Academics Anymore*. Dr. Tom Johnson, University of Illinois.

12:00-1:15 Lunch

#### Session 3

1:15-1:35 *Dissolved Helium as a Tracer for Flow in the Mahomet Aquifer*. Dr. Steve Van der Hoven, Illinois State University

1:35-1:55 *New Aquifer Sensitivity Classification for Illinois*. Dick Berg, Illinois State Geological Survey.

1:55-2:10 Break/ Count Votes for the election of IGA officers for 2003

2:10-2:30 *Water Supply Planning and Management in Illinois: An Update*. Derek Winstanley, Illinois State Water Survey

2:30-2:50 Illinois Groundwater Association, Business Meeting (election results released)

2:50 Adjourn