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.

Available Resources:

- Instructional Activities for Community Sanitation (a teacher’s resource)
- Resource Guide to Financial and Technical Assistance
- Small Water Systems Training CD

Contact:

ATTAC Program Coordinator
University of Alaska Southeast
1332 Seward Avenue
Sitka, AK 99835
Phone: 907-747-7756
E-mail: attac@uas.alaska.edu
Website: http://uas.alaska.edu/attac

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 Products:

- Emergency Response Planning Guide CD and workbook
- Benchmark Investigation on Small Public Water System Performance
- 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
Phone: 217-333-9321
E-mail: mtac@sws.uiuc.edu
Website: http://mtac.sws.uiuc.edu

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 through state and national models, the Center is impacting small systems through 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 through 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 through 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.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Develop small utilities using GPS
- Instrument calibration and verification training courses

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.

Missouri

Missouri Technical 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:
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University of Missouri-Columbia
College of Engineering
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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:
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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
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University of New Hampshire
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Durham, NH 03824
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E-MAIL: ne.wttac@unh.edu
WEB: http://www.wttac.unh.edu

PaRISONNA
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
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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.