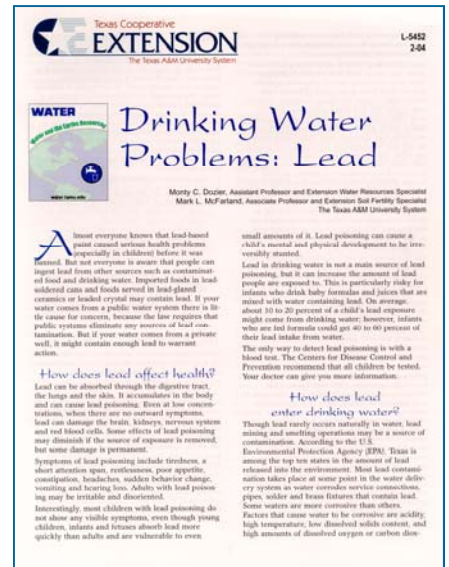


# New Water Publications Now Available

A series of water related publications have been added to the TCE Bookstore. These publications address various water quality topics for private water well users or homeowners interested in in-home water treatment. These publications are available in English and Spanish and can be downloaded from the TCE Bookstore website located on the worldwide web at <http://tcebookstore.org/>. The publication numbers and titles are as follows:

- L-5451 Drinking Water Problems: Iron and Manganese
- L-5452 Drinking Water Problems: Lead
- L-5441 Shock Chlorination of Wells

- L-5450 Solving Water Quality Problems in the Home
- E-225 The Do's and Don'ts of Saving Water



## Rainwater Harvesting

Texas Cooperative Extension has organized a rainfall harvesting task force to address this issue. The group recently reviewed a new rainfall harvesting publication prepared by Russell Persyn. This publication entitled "B-6153 Rainwater Harvesting" will be a great resource for rainfall

harvesting programs and is now available from the TCE bookstore. The group is now planning to develop on-site demonstrations to study methods of rainfall harvesting. This effort will provide much needed information to determine water yield and savings from employ-

ing this technology in a variety of settings.



### Quote of the Day

*Edward John Phelps stated. "The man who makes no mistakes does not usually make anything."*

Here's wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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## Safe Drinking Water Act Celebrates 30 Years

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The Safe Drinking Water Act celebrates 30 years of protecting America's drinking water. The Safe Drinking Water Act was signed into law on December 16, 1974 and has governed a mandatory national program to protect public health through drinking water safety. In the United States, more than 53,000 community water systems test for the presence of up to 90 different

contaminants that are regulated by this Act. In the last 30 years, the percentage of individuals and communities receiving safe, clean water has increased significantly.

Nationally, the US-EPA celebrated this historic anniversary by a visit from Benjamin H. Grumbles, EPA Assistant Administrator for Water, to the Clayton County, Georgia Water Authority. This public water

supplier was selected based on the innovative methods the system employees to protect public health. In addition to conventional water treatment, the Clayton County Water Authority uses ultraviolet light disinfection at all their treatment plants to provide greater removal of microbial pathogens that can negatively impact human health by causing gastrointestinal illness.

## EPA Funds Water Security Efforts

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Through EPA grant funding and the collaborative efforts of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Water Environment Federation, and the American Water Works Association, the Interim Voluntary Water Infrastructure Security Enhancement Guidance Documents were released on December 9, 2004. The guidance documents are intended to

assist drinking water and wastewater utilities in reducing the vulnerabilities of their systems to man-made treats through the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of both new and existing systems. These interim documents will be the basis for the development of voluntary consensus standards and published in late 2006.

Training materials for each of the documents are currently being developed and will be available in Spring of 2005. Additional information and links to the documents can be found under the What's new? Section of the water security webpage located at [www.epa.gov/safewater/watersecurity](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/watersecurity).

## Water Program Idea Snapshot

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In order to educate private well owners on groundwater quality and water wellhead protection, the Soil and Crop Science Unit is conducting private water well screening events across Texas. These events bring the water screening lab to the county level and provide an avenue to disseminate information on the quality of well water in a given

area. The mobile lab screening program will determine the presence of fecal coliform bacteria in the water and determine the nitrate-nitrogen and salinity concentrations of each sample. These screenings can be done almost anywhere and have included such sites as a county precinct barn, county fairgrounds, school classroom, or Extension of-

fice. If the local Extension staff would like, and educational event discussing the results of the screening and methods to remediate or manage any water quality problems found can be presented the following day of the screening event. For more information contact me at the email address or phone number listed on front page.

## Website Spotlight of the Quarter

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This quarter's website spotlight of the quarter is shining on the Southern Region Water Quality Information System located at <http://srwqis.tamu.edu/>. This website provides a wealth of water quality in-

formation from drinking water to watershed information and links to information from across the Southern Region of the United States. After navigating the site, you will find information on water quality

protection, land use mapping, watershed protection, pollution prevention along with a variety of other topics. This is a great site and a bookmark must for all professionals in the water quality business.