

EPA Administrator testifies before the Senate (April 21, 2016) explaining that they will fund \$64 million for small and rural communities technical assistance but not on-site/circuit rider technical assistance ([video](#)). It is up to Congress to “mandate” that EPA use some portion of this \$64 million to help small and rural water communities in ways that they find beneficial by directing the funding to the Grassroots Rural and Small Communities Assistance Act ([PL 114-98](#)) in the Fiscal Year 2017 EPA Appropriations Bill.

Louisiana Legislature Presses St. Joseph Mayor If He Would Drink His Community’s Yellow and Brown Water: Louisiana Rural Water Association (LRWA) Executive Director Pat Credeur was called on to provide expert advice, and he told the legislature that LRWA circuit riders said the water plant is not being maintained. He said 25 leaks were found in the water system and that the town produces 19 million gallons but only sells 1.9 million ([more](#)).

Communicating Lead to the Public:

- Utah Rural Water’s guidance on lead and building your public’s confidence in its drinking water supply ([RWAU Guidance](#)).
- Last week, NRWA interviewed drinking water scientist [Dr. Joseph Cotruvo](#). Dr. Cotruvo’s key message is that the media coverage of the lead in drinking water issue is not providing the public with scientific and objective information on lead, public health, exposure, and best practices. A summary of that interview is to be published next week.
- Michigan Rural Water Association Executive Director Tim Neumann says in his magazine’s next issue that, *“It is important while what is going on in Flint we use this opportunity to educate our communities on what is involved in the process of making sure they have clean safe potable water coming out of their faucets every day. There are numerous ways for lead to enter the drinking water system from main repair or replacement to service line replacement, changing of the water meter and any internal plumbing work the homeowner performs can all cause lead to enter drinking water. Even removing all lead service lines homeowners could still have lead entering their drinking water depending on how old their home is and the internal plumbing fixtures in the home. It is important then that there is education provided to the homeowner even after lead service lines and/or water mains are replaced (excerpted).”*
- NRWA on effort in conflating the World Health Organization guidance

level of 10 parts per billion (ppb) with EPA action level of 15 ppb ([NRWA](#)).

On Wednesday, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette charged the "Good Guy" Water Operator in Flint, Mike Glasgow, whose Family Was Drinking the Water, with Criminal Charges (Democracy Now [video](#)).

Earth Day 2016 with USDA, Illinois and Vermont Rural Water Associations ([Vermont](#) and [Illinois](#)).

New Alaska Water and Sewer Advisory Committee Passes

Legislature: The new commission will evaluate the full scope of the water and sewer infrastructure problem in rural Alaska including looking at the number of homes without safe water and sewer, the programs and funding that currently exist to support the infrastructure, and past efforts to remedy the issue ([more](#)).

India Uses Massive Train to Transport Rural Water: Trains – each carrying more than half a million liters of water – are being used to move water to drought regions ([video](#)).

EPA's Two-part Webinar Series Discussing the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR): A **May 11th** and **May 18th** webinar will cover lead and copper federal requirements, health effects and sources, monitoring requirements, 90th percentile calculations, requirements to inform the public, and requirements related to treatment changes and new sources ([register](#)).

National Rural Water Association

Contact: Mike Keegan, Policy Analyst <keegan@ruralwater.org>
(Washington, DC)