

**Rural Water Continues to be First Responder for Water Utilities Impacted by Natural Disasters:** Just as the Louisiana Rural Water Association is finishing up operations that assisted 69 water utilities in 20 parishes impacted by severe flooding, the Florida Rural Water Association (FRWA) is preparing its state's water utilities. On Friday, an FRWA representative said, *"With a tropical storm projected to hit the state in the next few days, FRWA would like to remind you that we are here to offer assistance. You may email us at [frwa@frwa.net](mailto:frwa@frwa.net) or call [800.872.8207](tel:800.872.8207) for assistance."* FRWA also released preparation guidance to water utilities ([FRWA](#)).

**Wall Street Journal Headline – “Use of a Water Disinfectant [Chloramines] Is Challenged”:** *"Many experts now say chloramine is creating problems of its own. Researchers have identified hundreds of disinfection byproducts in drinking water, including some that increase in the presence of chloramine and can be more toxic than those regulated by the EPA."* Based on its April study, the Water Research Foundation says water utilities looking to reduce levels of disinfection byproducts should avoid chloramine ([WSJ.com](#)).

**Environmentalists Request NRWA's Assistance in Fact-checking Their Next Report on Source Water Protection:** The Environmental Working Group (EWG) is planning to publish a report on tap water that details the contaminants found in our nation's drinking water, highlighting the lack of source water protection programs and inadequate funding and regulations (their last similar [report](#) was released in 2009). EWG has offered to provide NRWA with an advanced-prepublication database to allow water utilities to comment on the findings before they are released to the public. We plan on contacting any utility contained in the database, assisting in the public education effort, and promoting source water protection.

**Kansas Rural Water Association Flags Viral Twitter Photo of Corporeally Submerged Water Utility Worker Fixing a Leak** ([USAToday](#)).

**Phoenix Swimming Pools Contaminated by Cryptosporidium** ([more](#)).

**West Virginia Chlorine Gas Leak Forces Evacuation:** On Saturday, a railcar began leaking chlorine gas inside a chemical plant near Proctor (WV) that forced evacuations, road closures in three counties and resulted in two workers at the site to be hospitalized. The leak was first reported around 8:45 a.m. when Marshall County 911 said a chemical cloud from

the plant was heading south. The leak was stopped before 2 p.m. ([more](#)).  
**Haverhill, Massachusetts Pays \$250,000 for NPDES Violations** ([more](#)).  
**Guthrie, Oklahoma Residents Revolt over High Water Rates:** The city will vote on a measure to allow a vote of the people instead of a vote by city council to raise rates. The city manager says change would be a negative move because the city uses water and sewer revenue and helps supplement their general revenue budget ([more](#)).

**Vermont Rural Water Association Releases Annual Report and Forwards to Congressional Delegation** ([report](#)).

**Water Winner - Etowah Utilities Wins Tennessee 2016 Best Tasting Water:** *"We have worked very hard over the years to provide the people we serve with the highest water quality possible,"* said Etowah Utilities General Manager John Goins. *"We recognize the responsibility to our customers to provide the purest water possible at the lowest possible rate."* Judges for the annual competition were: Bobby Goode with the USDA Rural Development; Doug Anderton with National Rural Water Association; Michael Atchley with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation; and Matt Hinkin, the chief meteorologist with Knoxville's WATE-TV. *"I've judged the statewide competition several times now, and I'm always impressed by how much it means to the competitors,"* noted Hinkin. *"The first time I saw the contest officials wearing white gloves in an effort to not smudge my glass, I knew this was a serious matter. It definitely opened my eyes to the importance of the many rural utility districts in Tennessee and the service they provide"* ([more](#)).

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## **National Rural Water Association**

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