Rural Water Associations Respond to Hurricane Matthew: “FRWA preparations began on Thursday in anticipation of Hurricane Matthew. FRWA made sure that the generators were serviced, filled with fuel, and loaded on a trailer for delivery to systems to keep them up and supplying clean drinking water.” FRWA urges first responders to recognize post-traumatic stress with the following statement, “When entering storm-ravaged areas, it can be hard to comprehend the misery and the utter and total destruction of the area. Being prepared to simply get down to work is the best thing responding utilities can do. Be prepared for situations where people are not ready to think and act rationally and may be more worried about their family and their community than providing assistance.” FRWA and FlaWARN have staged 20 large generators, 10 small generators, two 6-inch bypass pumps, three four-inch trash pumps and a trailer equipped with tools, radio and satellite communications, and sleeping accommodations for emergency response personnel (FRWA). North Carolina Rural Water Association (NCRWA) is on standby (including office staff) with the Circuit Riders and Wastewater Techs prepared for immediate mobilization. All of NCRWA staff has been issued a “Certificate of Post Disaster Re-entry” in the event of curfew and closed storm areas. This certificate will permit reentry for the purpose of delivering or assisting in the distribution of essentials or assisting in the restoration of utility services. NCRWA has established its Command Center in the central part of the state where calls for assistance and dispatching will be handled.

NRWA Urges Senators to Retain Local Control in Lead and Copper Monitoring (NRWA 10/7/16).

NRWA Presses IRS to Withdraw Changes to Tax-Exempt Eligibility Criteria (NRWA 10/7/16).

NRWA Urges EPA to Reject Erin Brockovich Call for National Regulation of Hexavalent Chromium (NRWA 10/7/16).

NRWA Tells EPA that Use of Design Flows Versus Actual Flows for Crafting NPDES Permits Could Harm Small Communities (NRWA 10/7/16).

The Future Success of NRWA’s §1926(b) Advocacy is Dependent on your Participation in “Your” Association (NRWA Exegesis).

A Toilet or Safe Drinking Water? The Stark Choice Facing Many People in Rural India (Guardian).

Professor Drinking Water Warns of Limits of Corrosion Control in
Flint (news): “As long as the lead pipes are there and filters are not in place, we will never again be able to say water coming through a lead pipe, regardless of how good the corrosion control is, is safe by modern standards not only in Flint but all around the United States ... The only way to be sure the water is safe is to get rid of all the pipes or use a filter.”

Mississippi’s Claim That Tennessee Is Stealing Groundwater Is a Supreme Court First: Mississippi claims that Memphis and its utility company, Memphis, Light, Gas and Water are stealing water from the Memphis aquifer by withdrawing vast amounts of water and causing a "cone of depression" that has spread into DeSoto County. They say that cone of depression is forcing the groundwater in the Memphis aquifer to move into Tennessee instead of staying within Mississippi’s borders (more).

Iowa Agriculture Secretary Questions EPA Nitrate Standard: Secretary Northey was asked about his thoughts concerning the federal drinking water standard nitrate limit of 10 parts per million. He said there are “a lot of questions about whether that is the right number” (September 15th).

Flint Hit With Bacterial Illness as Residents Shun City Water: Outbreak of shigellosis, a bacterial illness that is easily transmitted when people do not wash their hands (NYTimes).

National Rural Water Association