

WaterOne CURRENT

Summer 2017

We believe in the meaningful work of producing clean water.

Crews Test & Paint Fire Hydrants Throughout Summer



WaterOne Summer Distribution Technician Patrick Banning flushes a hydrant in Overland Park.

WaterOne's annual fire hydrant audit and maintenance is underway. Summer crews are hitting all the neighborhoods, checking out every one of our 18,000 fire hydrants to make sure they are in proper working order. Each Distribution Technician can complete between 55 to 60 hydrants a day.

"We're making sure that the hydrant is operational and ready to go in case of an emergency," said Utility Foreman Mark Spini. "They locate the valve and do a quick flush, making sure not to damage the grass or pavement. The location of all the hydrants are logged and color-coded in our auditing database software, so we can track which hydrants are completed or need maintenance."

Summer is also the time to get a fresh coat of paint on WaterOne's fire hydrants. Hydrants are due for a fresh

coat of paint every six years on a rotating schedule. Jayhawk Fire and Sprinkler Co. has been contracted to pressure wash, prime, and paint around 3000 hydrants this summer with WaterOne's signature yellow-with-black-cap color scheme. If you notice any grey hydrants in our service area, it means that hydrant has been recently primed and is now awaiting its final coat of paint.

"Once in a while we get questions from the public about the primed hydrants- sometimes folks wonder if we've picked grey as our new official hydrant color, or worry that it means the hydrant is broken or out of service," said CMVS Assistant Manager Dusty Sease. "We make sure to reassure them that the color is just temporary and doesn't affect the hydrant's proper operation." 💧

Tower 2 Tower 5K Raises Money for Water For People



WaterOne and Olathe kicked off National Drinking Water Week with the second annual Tower 2 Tower 5K on May 6th, 2017. The Tower 2 Tower 5K took runners and walkers from WaterOne's Lenexa water tower to the City of Olathe water tower and back. This year, 420 people signed up for the sold-out race, and the pack left the gates shortly after 8 am in beautiful weather. Medals were awaiting the class winners when they returned.

The Tower 2 Tower 5K was a huge success. Over \$6500 was raised for Water For People, a non-profit that works to bring safe, clean water to developing communities around the world. Special thanks to our sponsors Burns & McDonnell, Black & Veatch, and Homeserve, as well as our event partners at the City of Olathe and our many volunteers.

Visit www.tower2tower5k.org to see photos and results from the event! 💧

WaterOne Wins R5 Environmental Award



The Johnson County Department of Health and Environment awarded WaterOne an "R5 Certification" for environmental stewardship. The certification focuses on efforts to:

- **Reinvest** in your company, community, economy and future
- **Rethink** your business process, how you manage resources and purchasing power
- **Reduce** consumption, waste, and your environmental impact
- **Reuse** products and consciously buy reusables
- **Recycle** as a last resort and buy recycled products to support a closed-loop system

WaterOne qualified for the certification based on numerous environmental and community efforts, such as volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, instituting recycling programs, and abiding by eco-friendly purchasing procedures. Many of WaterOne's qualifying actions were driven by practices implemented by its Fleet Department, like recycling old motor oil and use of environmentally friendly soaps and solvents. 💧

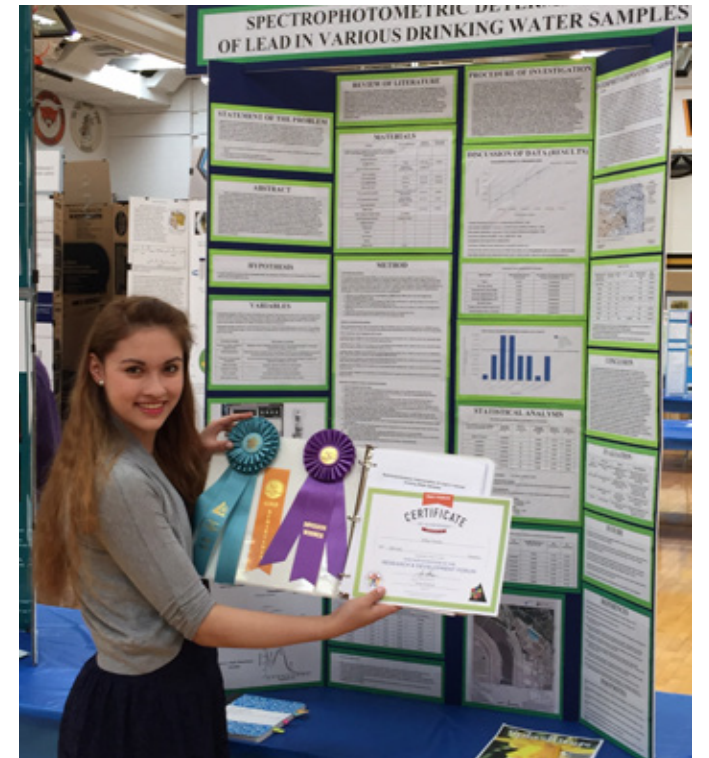
Young Scientist Wins Science Fair With Water Quality Research

A local high school student's innovative water science project has won local and state competitions following a visit to WaterOne's lab for her research. Ellie Green, a senior at Shawnee Mission East high school, completed the science project for her International Baccalaureate Chemistry class.

Her project, titled "Detection of Lead In Drinking Water Using Internally Referenced Competitive Assays Allowing Low Cost Source Sample Testing at 1 ug/L Reading Positive/Negative at Action Level," exhibited and won awards at both the Greater Kansas City Science Fair and SMSD Research & Development Forum. The project went on to win the Stockholm Junior Water Prize at the Kansas Level, and subsequently competed at the national level.

To research her project, Ellie and her dad toured WaterOne's Water Quality Lab where they interviewed staff and learned about the instrumentation and methods that are used to test for the presence of lead in water.

"We're excited to support Ellie and her research," said Greg Totzke, Water Quality Laboratory Manager. "The field of water quality is so important, both here and all



Local high school student Ellie Green with her award-winning scientific research.

over the world. It's inspiring to see bright young minds apply their talents to the subject, given how critical clean, safe water is to public safety and trust." 💧

Meter Reader Competes At National Competition



Cutway of a typical WaterOne water meter.

WaterOne is honored to have a member of its talented staff recently compete in the Meter Madness Nationals at the annual American Water Works Association (AWWA) conference in Philadelphia. Rudy Holden is an Operations Technician 1, former Meter Services tech, and zen master of meter assembly. Rudy squared off against 27 contestants from the US and Mexico in a battle to determine who can assemble a water meter the fastest.

"Contestants are given a bucket with all the components of a meter. Also mixed in are six parts that don't go with the meter," Rudy said. "We're timed to put it together as fast as possible, and the finished meter has to function and hold water. Points are deducted if it leaks or if bolts aren't tight."

Rudy prepared for the competition for months by assembling and disassembling a practice meter every day, ten times before his shift and ten times after.

While he didn't win the competition, he locked in times of 43 and 46 seconds, which place him among the top 25 competitors in the nation. The champions won with times that were barely seconds faster, and Rudy is looking forward to competing again next year. 💧

WaterOne Quenches Thirst at Lenexa Business Blast

WaterOne's Quench Bar was a big hit at the 2017 Lenexa Business Blast on Thursday, June 7th. The annual expo is put on by the Lenexa Chamber of Commerce and drew over 300 attendees, who were delighted to sample WaterOne's cucumber and strawberry-basil infused tap water. 💧



WaterOne

Water District No. 1 of Johnson County

10747 Renner Blvd | Lenexa, KS 66219

Setting the Standard for Utility Excellence

GOVERNING BOARD

Robert Olson, Chairman

Bob Reese, Vice Chairman

Brenda Cherpitel

Terry Frederick

Mark Parkins

Jim Vader

Dennis Wilson

Mike Armstrong,
General Manager

Media Contact

Mandy Cawby

Customer Relations Director

mcawby@waterone.org

(913) 895-5546

Stay CURRENT

Subscribe at

www.waterone.org/subscribe

Customer Service

913/895-1800

24-Hour Emergency Contact



In an emergency,
would we reach you?

Notify JoCo

Sign up for emergency alerts at
www.notifyjoco.org



*Celebrating 60 Years
of high quality water*

YOUR
**2017 WATER
QUALITY REPORT**
IS NOW AVAILABLE

read it online at
waterone.org/H2OReports

4

#MyWaterOne

Facebook | Twitter | YouTube | LinkedIn | WaterOne.org

