Masks still available for water and wastewater utilities

By Lash Chaffin, Utilities Section Director

In May, 50,000 washable, cloth face masks were made available by FEMA and Nebraska WARN to water and wastewater utilities/purveyors in Nebraska. Masks are still available at the rate of five (5) masks per full time employee. Masks are not limited to certified water and wastewater operators. All full-time employees in the utility (associated with water/wastewater) are eligible for five masks. Masks are currently available at the distribution locations outlined in this article.

If you are interested in requesting masks through this program, fill out the form attached to this Newsletter and take it to the distribution location. Please fill the form out completely and accurately with all pertinent data and contact information. If you have multiple PWSID or NPDES numbers for service areas within your system, please provide only the number for your primary service area. Requests will only be accepted by completing the official request form.

There are eight (8) primary points of distribution (PODs) which should allow for reasonable access to the masks for most utilities. Please go to the POD associated with your field service area as indicated on the map.

Please follow all recommended social distancing and other protective requirements and guidelines that may exist at the time of your pick-up or delivery.

Field Service Area 1
Beatrice Utilities
1806 S 16th Circle Drive
Beatrice, NE 68310
Address for pickup
M-F 8:00 AM-4:00 PM
Contact Steve Kelley
(402) 228-5217
skelley@beatrice.ne.gov

Field Service Area 2
Wahoo Utilities
605 N Broadway
Address for Pickup
Wahoo, NE 68066
Hours available
M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Contact Ryan Hurst
(402) 443-3222
Hurst@wahoo.ne.us

Field Service Area 3
City of Norfolk
Address for Pickup
300 South 49th
Norfolk, NE 68701
Hours available
M-F 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
Contact Dennis Watts
(402) 844-2210
dwatts@norfolkne.gov

Field Service Area 4
City of York
Address for Pickup
100 E 4th Street
York, NE 68467
Hours available
M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Contact Aaron Dressel
(402) 363-2604
dressel@cityofyork.net

Field Service Area 5
City of Kearney
Address for Pickup
1220 E 26th Street
Kearney, NE 68847
Contact Anton E. Jelinek
(308) 233-3259
ajelinek@kearneygov.org

Field Service Area 6
City of O’Neill
Address for Pickup
O’Neill Utilities
401 E Fremont St
O’Neill, NE 68763
Hours Available
M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Continued on page 2
Masks still available for water and wastewater utilities

Continued from page 1
Contact Curtis Kizzire
(402) 336-3640
ssidak@cityofoniell.com

Field Service Area 7
City of North Platte
Address for Pickup
North Platte, NE 69103
Hours Available
M-F 7:30 AM- 4:00 PM
Contact Leroy Kramer
(308) 530-7758
Kramerel@ci.north-platte.ne.us

Field Service Area 8
City of Alliance
Address for Pickup
1313 W 1st Street
Alliance, NE 69301
Hours Available
M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Contact Paige Johnson
(308) 762-1907
pjohnson@cityofalliance.net

The Nebraska Rural Water Association has volunteered to pick up and deliver masks to water/wastewater systems that cannot send employees or need help receiving masks. Please Contact Randy Hellbusch at 402-443-8535 or email randy@nerwa.org to coordinate.

If you have any questions regarding this program or if you have problems accessing/filling out the mask request form, contact Ryan Hurst at the City of Wahoo, Hurst@wahoo.ne.us or 402-443-3222.

Electric Underground Workshop scheduled

An Electric Underground Workshop is scheduled for Sept. 9-10, 2020 at the Wheatbelt Training Field in Sidney. Due to restricted guidelines, we will be limited to the first 10 registered. Additional registrations will be put on a waiting list in case someone cancels.

Participants need to bring either a cloth or N95 mask and the normal related electric tools and safety gear. Sanitizer will be provided. Be sure to keep posted for any changes or cancellations.

2020-2021 Executive Board

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Utility Superintendent
West Point
Nebraska utilities history – Tekamah

The Utilities Section Newsletter will continue to feature histories of both utilities and associate members. Any historical data and/or photos of your utilities, a specific facility, or articles already written are welcome, along with permission to print. If you have questions, contact Rob at 402-476-2829 or robp@lonm.org.

By Rob Pierce, LNM Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Tekamah, located in Burt County, had settlers in the area by 1854 and on October 7 was laid out by the Nebraska Stock Company and platted by William N. Byers. One source noted that each of the nine men of the “Nebraska Stock Company” put a name in a hat and the paper drawn had Tekamah written on it thus the settlement was named. On Feb. 18, 1855, Tekamah was named the county seat and on March 14 was incorporated by the Nebraska Territory. On March 22, a post office was established and later that year, Tekamah was incorporated as a city of the second class (1855). By 1856, a store was operating and the first newspaper, Tekamah Times, was printed. The first school sessions were taught by 1857 and by 1860, the population was 122. A stage route from Omaha to Tekamah was operating along with a second store by 1869. By 1870, the precinct and village population had increased to 498. On Dec. 23, 1871, the Burt County Pilot newspaper was established and in the fall of 1872, the weekly Burtonian newspaper. A school building was erected (located west of present school) in 1873. On Aug. 30, 1876, the Chicago & North Western Railroad was extended to the area and from 1876-80, it was a terminus of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroads. By 1880, the population was 776 and the city boasted a grain elevator, stockyards, a hotel, many stores and several church organizations. The city had a high school building by 1880 and a frame courthouse was in use. Two newspapers the Burtonian and Advocate were printed and by 1881, the railroad line was completed to South Sioux City.

By 1887, the population was estimated at about 2,000 and the city had two banks (First National Bank & Exchange Bank), several general stores, four groceries, three drug stores, a jeweler, four millineries, three hotels (Northwestern Hotel, Mercantile Hotel, and Astor House), five real estate offices, two implement dealers, a photographic gallery, three lumber and coal yards, a meat market, a depot, two grain elevators, three blacksmiths, a gunsmith shop, two wagon shops, a creamery, a canning factory, two printing offices, four livery stables, four carpenter shops, three flour and feed mills. The city had a brick public school building, tree-lined streets and two public parks. At the frame city hall building, located on the

Continued on page 4
Nebraska utilities history – Tekamah

Continued from page 3
corner of 13th and J Streets, the
city council discussed a proposal
to install a waterworks system
(1887). In 1889, the city water
system was installed and by May,
had a 20 member fire department
with 1,100 feet of good 2.5-inch
hose, a hook/ladder truck and a
bell alarm.

In 1890, the population was
listed at 1,244, three newspapers
were printed and three hotels
were operating (Merchants,
Northwestern and Astor House).
Some of the businesses included
a hardware, a restaurant, a livery
stable, a drug store, a gunsmith,
a blacksmith, a bank saloon and
an ag implement dealer, to name
a few. In 1891, water mains were
installed and on Nov. 5, fire chief
S. A. Hoon discussed purchas-
ing 800 feet of hose along with
a hose cart. On Jan. 12, 1892,
the bylaws were adopted for the
organization known as the Tek-
amah Fire Association (incorpora-
tion completed April 1892). By
1892, a frame hose house building
to store equipment was located
on the southwest corner of 13
and L Streets. By October, the
fire department had 36 volunteer
firefighters, one hose cart, 800
feet of 2.5-hose, and a one hook/
ladder truck. By October 1892,
the city had three bored wells with
water pumped with a Barr Duplex
pump (14x7x12) to a reservoir
on the hill (13 ft. high x 60 ft.
diameter), had three miles of 4, 6
and 8-inch mains along with 19
double hydrants (water pressure
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Nebraska utilities history – Tekamah

Continued from page 4

In 1893, an alarm bell was added for $143.16. About this time, a hook and ladder truck was built by C. M. Schroder. On Oct. 28, 1996, the first telephone line was built into Tekamah, connected to Omaha (42 miles) by the Bell Telephone Company. The population by 1899 was estimated to be 1,800 and the streets in the business section were unpaved, but graded level with a bridge spanning Tekamah Creek. The fire department had 40 firemen, 1,100 feet of 2.5-inch hose, a hook and ladder truck and an alarm bell with the hose house located on 13th Street. The water system by May consisted of three bored wells, which pumped to a reservoir on the hill about 150 feet above the business area. Water was pumped by a Barr duplex pump with a capacity of 80,000 gallons per 24 hours. The reservoir was 13 feet deep and 60 feet in diameter with a capacity of 237,000 gallons. The water system had three miles of 4, 6 and 8-inch pipe and 19 double hydrants with domestic pressure of 65 psi and direct pressure (fire) of 100 psi.

The average daily use in the summer was 60,000 gallons and in the winter was 40,000 gallons. In May 1899, the Tekamah Roller Mill, owned by J. Glasson, was located on 15th Street and operated with a 40 horsepower (HP) engine and a steam boiler operated with coal. The first electric plant was owned by W. H. Glasson, as he was given a franchise to furnish the city with electric lights. Street lights, at this time, were lit using gas and oil. By September 1899, the cornerstone was laid on a new school building for $20,000.

By 1900, the population was 1,597 and by 1903, the fire department had 45 volunteer firefighters in a (20 ft. x 30 ft.) fire house where the hook and ladder truck and hose carts were housed. By June 1904, the Tekamah Roller Mill & Electric Light Works, owned by J. Glasson, were located to the east of Tekamah Creek (old boiler and engine in mill not used at this time). A brick building by the mill housed a 100 HP engine and a Dynamo. The population by 1910 was 1,524 (one source noted about 2,000) and the brick city/fire hall building was located on the corner of 13th and L Streets. The water system in 1910 consisted of seven (100 feet) bored wells pumped by a Fairbanks-Morse duplex power pump (5x5) capacity 120 gallons per minute (gpm), a 150,000-gallon reservoir elevated 165 feet above the business district and a duplex steam pump (7x12x14) with a capacity of 350 gpm. The average daily consumption was 35,000 gallons with the domestic pressure at 68 psi and fire pressure at 115 psi. The distribution system had 1.5 miles of 4, 6 and 8-inch pipe and 37 double hydrants. By January 1910, the mill was no longer operating, but used the building east of the main building that housed the 100 HP engine and Dynamo. Later, the city voted on bonds and built its own municipal power plant in December 1915 for $35,000. The plant houses a 160 HP boiler, a 75 HP steam engine and had a generator rating of 75 kVA. The fire department building, located on I Street, housed a city hose cart with 600 feet of hose, had three companies with 42 men, two hose carts, 1,700 feet of

Continued on page 6
Nebraska utilities history – Tekamah

Continued from page 5

2.5-inch good hose, and one hook and ladder truck. A fire bell was on the brick City/Fire Hall building. This building housed a hose cart, hose tower, hook and ladder truck and 1,000 feet of hose on the corner of 13th and L Streets. By 1915, a $15,000 Tekamah Carnegie Library was built and opened Jan. 1, 1916. By 1917, a brick and tile works business was operating and a new brick/block courthouse building was erected in 1918.

On July 21-23, 1915, the Tekamah Races were held with entries of trotters, pacers and runners. About 150 entries were in the harness class and there were 21 entries from Los Angeles, 10-12 from San Francisco, and some from Oregon, Utah, Idaho, Mexico, Illinois, Colorado and Wyoming.

By 1920, the population was at 1,811 and an ice plant was in operation by 1921. In 1923, a new brick railroad depot was built and in 1925, an electric fire siren was installed. By 1925, electric current was provided via transmission lines with rates of $0.17 per kilowatt hour (kWh). The city owned water plant and distribution lines had rates of $0.15 per 1,000 gallons usage. In 1929, the Iowa-Nebraska Power Company purchased the Tekamah City Light & Power Company municipal power plant for $100,000. A new school was built in 1933 and the population rose slightly from 1,804 in 1930 to 1,925 in 1940. In 1941, Consumers Public Power District purchased the holdings of the Iowa-Nebraska Power Company. By 1950, the population was 1,914 and an addition was made at the school.

The population in 1960 was 1,788 and a lagoon type wastewater treatment facility was built in 1963. In 1967, a runway was installed at the airport along with an underground cable (40-inches deep) for lights and a 40-foot tower with a revolving beacon was erected. The electrical system was owned by Consumers Public Power District. The population by 1970 was 1,848 and in 1972, an addition was made at the school. The electrical system was operated/supplied by the Nebraska Public Power District. In 1979, the railroad discontinued service through the city.

In 1974, the electrical distribution system was owned by the city and supplied/leased by the Nebraska Public Power District. The population decreased slightly from 1,886 in 1980 to 1,852 in 1990. From 1982-1994, the natural gas system was operated by Minnegasco and supplied by Northern Natural Gas. In 1995, the city received a $20,775 grant from the USDA for a sewage treatment project with a total cost of $892,700. The wastewater system was updated and expanded with new lagoon cells. The facility was a facultative flow through lagoon treatment system. By 1999, the fire department had 37 volunteer firefighters and 37 active EMT’s.

By 2000, the population was 1,892 and the city was a retail electric customer of Nebraska Public Power District. From 1998-2003, the natural gas system was operated by Peoples Natural Gas and supplied by Northern Natural Gas. From 2005-2009, the natural gas system was operated by Aquila and supplied by Northern Natural Gas. In 2006, the basic gas rate was $11 per month plus $1.11 per therm. In 2006, electric rates were: basic rate of $7.50 with a summer rate of $7.90 for the first 1,000 kWh and $7.53 for additional; the winter rate was $7.14 for the first 1,000 kWh and $6.09 for additional. The minimum monthly bill was $9. Solid waste collection was provided by a private firm and hauled to Douglas County landfill (35 miles). Tekamah has a Northridge Country Club (nine-hole) one-half-mile west of Highway 75 and P Street. The city had five parks, which covered five blocks with two ball fields, playground equipment, shelters and a swimming pool. By 2009, the water system had 115 fire hydrants and an insurance classification (ISO) of 6 inside city limits and 9 outside. The water tapping fee was a $250 minimum for new water service and all water users paid a monthly water improvement fee of $9.15 per meter. The wastewater treatment system had a daily capacity of 300,000 gallons with an average daily flow at 255,000 gallons. The historic peak discharge was 2,592,000 gallons. A project in 2009 was to repair 22 blocks of sewer infrastructure at the lagoon site, land application and one 18-acre lagoon site. It was anticipated to cost $1.2 million and would be

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Nebraska utilities history – Tekamah

Continued from page 6
financed by stimulus funds.
By 2010, the population decreased to 1,693 and the water system consisted of five municipal wells (average depth 180ft) with a combined pumping capacity of 1,600 gallons per minute (gpm). The overhead storage capacity was 300,000 gallons and the average daily demand was 185,000 gallons. The historic peak was one million gallons and the system maximum capacity was 2,304,000 gallons.

The 2010 water rates were:
• First 1,000 gallons at $5 minimum;
• 1,001-5,000 gallons at $1.50 per 1,000 gallons;
• 5,001-10,000 gallons at $1.75 per 1,000 gallons;
• 10,001-50,000 gallons at $2 per 1,000 gallons; and
• excess of 50,001 gallons at $1.25 per 1,000 gallons with a minimum bill of $32.72 per month.

Today, Tekamah has a population of 1,823 and has been a city of the second class since 1855 (165 years). The city has been a League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section member for over 43 years (membership records to 1977 per directory). Tekamah maintains about 26 miles of streets, 25.5 hard-surfaced with armor coat or concrete, 60 percent curbed and sidewalks (2009), five parks, a water system with five wells a reservoir and over 115 fire hydrants. The city also maintains a library, city hall/auditorium, a wastewater collection system and treatment facility and has operated a municipal airport for about 52 years. Natural gas is operated by Black Hills Energy and supplied by Northern Natural Gas. Solid waste collection is provided by private companies. Longtime employee Terry Schroder retired in 2019 after 42 years of service to the citizens of Tekamah.

Backflow/CCC Programs: Public Education

One of the areas public water systems gets criticized on the state sanitary surveys is not having an on-going continuous public education program concerning cross connection “backflow.” One way might be to add some basic definitions in billing stuffers, flyers, the local newspaper, municipal newsletter or posted in a heavily trafficked public area (village/city office). Some public education questions you could use are the following:

**QUESTION:** What is a cross-connection?
**ANSWER:** A cross-connection is any temporary or permanent connection between a public water system or consumer's potable (i.e., drinking) water system and any source or system containing nonpotable water or other substances. An example is the piping between a public water system or consumer's potable water system and an auxiliary water system, cooling system, or irrigation system.

**QUESTION:** What is backflow?
**ANSWER:** Backflow is the undesirable reversal of flow of non-potable water or other substances through a cross-connection and into the piping of a public water system or consumer’s potable water system. There are two types of backflow: backpressure backflow and backsiphonage.

**QUESTION:** What is backpressure backflow?
**ANSWER:** Backpressure backflow is backflow caused by a downstream pressure that is greater than the upstream or supply pressure in a public water system or consumer's potable water system. Backpressure (i.e., downstream pressure that is greater than the potable water supply pressure) can result from an increase in downstream pressure, a reduction in the potable water supply pressure, or a combination of both. Increases in downstream pressure can be created by pumps, temperature increases in boilers, etc. Reductions in potable water supply pressure occur whenever the amount of water being used exceeds the amount of water being supplied, such as during water line flushing, firefighting, or breaks in water mains.

**QUESTION:** What is backsiphonage?
**ANSWER:** Backsiphonage is backflow caused by a negative pressure (i.e., a vacuum ~ or partial vacuum) in a public water system or consumer's potable water system. The effect is similar to drinking water through a straw. Backsiphonage can occur when there is a stoppage of water supply due to nearby firefighting, a break in a water main, etc.

An efficient public education program continuously gets backflow/cross connection information to the general public. Today with all the difference avenues, information can be obtained. A good program tries to cover all the bases using flyers, newspapers, postings, banners, newsletters along with open house tables and brochures. Mark your calendars at the first of the year and schedule how and when information gets distributed. Make sure your system is working to provide information to the consumers and the general public concerning cross connections/backflow.

Nebraska Breaktime Trivia
"Just For Fun"

**Q-1.** What historical event occurred on November 19, 1863?

**Q-2.** What village in Nebraska was first known as “The Artesian City” because of the numerous artesian wells in the area?

**Q-3.** What village in Nebraska was originally called Halifax?

**Q-4.** What city in Nebraska was named for a mill near a ford across the Blue River?

Answers on page 11.

Years of Service Awards

Remember to recognize your employees’ anniversary milestones. The League provides certificates for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 and 65.

You can request a certificate by emailing brendah@lonm.org at the League office.
Certificate renewal extension, continuing education opportunities

By Mike McBride, Program Coordinator, NDEE

Certificate Renewal Extension. Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency wastewater operators with certificates expiring Oct. 1, 2020, will have an additional 90 days to earn continuing education hours for renewal purposes. Title 197, Chapter 7, 001 allows late renewals up to 90 days beyond the expiration date (commonly referred to as the “90-day grace period”), meaning that you would have until Jan. 1, 2021, to renew your certification. In the past the Department has required continuing education hours to be completed by the initial Oct. 1 expiration deadline; because of the public health emergency, the Department will accept continuing education hours during the 90-day grace period.

Continuing Education Opportunities.

• Did you know that “in-house” safety, first aid and equipment training may be used for continuing education hours? Contact the operator certification program if you have questions about approved wastewater training.

• Operators are encouraged to consider online/on-demand continuing education opportunities. See list of approved providers below.

Online/On-demand training Providers Approved for Nebraska wastewater operator continuing education hours.

CEU PLAN ................................................................. https://www.ceuplan.com

INDIGO WATER GROUP .............................................. https://www.indigowatergroup.com

AMERICAN WATER COLLEGE ............................ https://www.americanwatercollege.org

360 WATER ................................................................. https://www.360water.com

WATER OTTER ............................................................. https://www.waterotter.com

SACRAMENTO WATER PROGRAMS ......................... https://www.owp.csus.edu

JADE LEARNING ........................................................... https://www.jadelearning.com
Crow Line: A line of positive communication that all can share

Congratulations – Incorporation Anniversary Recognition:
105 years – Washington (July 1915); 110 years – Cotesfield (July 1910); 120 years – Winnetoon (1900); and 135 years – Waverly (1885).

Utilities Section members and associate members highlighted in bold.

Do you, your department or facility have something to crow about? Received an award, had an article written highlighting an event or person? Do you have a project worthy of acknowledgement in the Utilities Section Newsletter?

If so, please send your information to any of the League/Utilities staff so we can share your excitement with other members.

Remember to recognize your employees’ anniversary milestones. The League provides certificates for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 and 65.
You can request them by contacting the League office by email brendah@lonm.org, fax 402-476-7052 or call 402-476-2829.

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Farabee Mechanical, Inc.
Hickman, NE 68372 • (402) 792-2612
farabee@inebraska.com
www.farabeemechanical.com
SAFETY/HEALTH CORNER

Distracted driving

By Rob Pierce, LNM Field Rep./Training Coordinator

One of the most dangerous things we do every day is getting behind the wheel of a vehicle. Safe driving skills should be our focus once we get behind the wheel. Each year, one of the safety topics your system should discuss is safe driving skills and distracted driving. A few tips on safe driving skills start with familiarizing yourself with the vehicle starting with a quick inspection. For example, is there gas, oil, good windshield wipers, wiper solution. First thing sitting down, adjust mirrors, make seat adjustments and then buckle up. Next, put away your clipboard/paperwork, maps, coffee thermos, your cell phone and anything else to minimize distractions when operating the vehicle.

There are three main distraction types: visual, physical, and cognitive. Distractions may be one type, a combination of two or even all three. At your next safety meeting, discuss how a team of municipal employees can all learn more about distracted driving hazards and what can be done for everyone to be a safer, more engaged driver. In the old days before power brakes, power steering, no cell phone, a static sound-
Training calendar

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, future workshops and conferences may have to be rescheduled or cancelled.

July
July 14 .............. Water Operator Training Workshop ................................ Community Center, Loup City
July 22-23 ......... Power Equipment Expo ......................................................... CANCELLED

August
Aug. 12 .......... Water Operator Training Workshop .......................................... McCook
Aug. 13 .......... Water Operator Training Workshop ........................................... Lexington
Aug. 11-13 ...... Rubber Gloving Workshop ....................................................... Northeast Community College, Norfolk
originally scheduled May 19-21
Aug. 18 ......... Backflow Workshop ................................................................. Beatrice
Aug. 19 ......... Backflow Workshop ................................................................. Wayne
Aug. 25 ......... Backflow Workshop ................................................................. Ogallala
Aug. 27 ......... Backflow Workshop ................................................................. Grand Island

September
Sept. 1-3 .......... Rubber Gloving Workshop ................................................. Wheatbelt Training Facility, Sidney
Sept. 9-10 ...... Electric Underground Workshop ............................................. Wheatbelt Training Facility, Sidney
Sept. 16-18 ..... Annual Conference ............................................................... Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

October
Oct. 14 .......... Water Operator Training Workshop .......................................... Norfolk

Ideas transform communities
At HDR, we’re helping our clients push open the doors to what’s possible, every day.

hdrinc.com
402.399.1000
NEWARN is pleased to announce that FEMA is making a significant quantity of washable, cloth face masks available for potential distribution to all requesting water and wastewater utilities/purveyors in Nebraska. We have received 50,000 cloth masks for Nebraska water and wastewater utilities. Accordingly, masks will be initially allocated to requesting utilities at the rate of five (5) masks per full time employee. The masks are not limited to only operators; all full-time employees in the utility (associated with water/wastewater) are eligible. As supplies may be limited, requests will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. Masks will be available at the distribution locations starting May 13th.

If you are interested in requesting FEMA masks through this program, we ask that you please fill out the form attached to this letter and bring it to the distribution location.

Please fill this form out completely and accurately so we have all pertinent data and contact information. If you have multiple PWSID or NPDES numbers for service areas within your system, please provide only the number for your primary service area. (Note: Requests will only be accepted by completing the official request form)

To facilitate distribution of masks throughout the State, we have established eight (8) primary points of distribution (PODs) which should allow for reasonable access to the masks for most utilities.

The location of each POD (along with associated contact information) is provided in this letter. Please go to the POD associated with your field service area as indicated on the map.

Nebraska Rural Water has volunteered to pickup and deliver masks to water/wastewater systems that cannot send employees or need help receiving masks. Please Contact Randy Hellbusch at 402-443-8535 or email randy@nerwa.org to coordinate.

We ask that you please follow all recommended social distancing and other protective requirements and guidelines that may exist at the time of your pick-up or delivery.

Please note that there is NO GUARANTEE of mask availability for all utilities in our State through this program. At this time, it is recommended that you not cancel or reduce any previous orders or ongoing supply arrangements that you may have made with other sources.

We are pleased to be able to assist with this effort as a means of supporting all water and wastewater utilities in our State as they adapt to the many challenges at hand, while also continuing to provide reliable and essential services for all. If you have any questions regarding this program or if you have problems in accessing/filling out the mask request form contact me or one of the contacts associated with the points of delivery.

Thank You

Ryan Hurst
NEWARN Chair
Hurst@wahoo.ne.us
402-443-3222
**Mask Information/Instructions**

As a reminder these masks are not PPE. However, you should use the same protocols for putting on and taking off.

**How to put on a face mask**

1. Clean your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before touching the mask.
2. Remove a mask from the package and make sure there are no obvious tears or holes in either side of the mask.
3. Determine which side of the mask is the front. (similar to a shirt stitching)
4. Instructions for the type of mask you are using. *Face Mask with Ear loops*: Hold the mask by the ear loops. Place a loop around each ear. Mold or pinch the stiff edge to the shape of your nose.
5. Pull the bottom of the mask over your mouth and chin.

**How to remove a face mask**

1. Clean your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before touching the mask. Avoid touching the front of the mask. The front of the mask is contaminated. Only touch the ear loops/ties/band.
2. *Face Mask with Ear loops*: Hold both ear loops and gently lift and remove the mask.
3. Clean your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
4. After use you can wash the mask up to 15 times. Follow instruction on the packaging for laundering.

**Mask Example:**

![Image of a person wearing a face mask and a package of face masks]
NEWARN Mask Request Form

Please use this form to request face masks for your utility. Please note that there is NO GUARANTEE of mask availability for all utilities in our State through this program.

Date: ________________________________

Number of Masks Requested (Limit 5 per Full time employee): ____________________________________________

Utility Name: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Utility's Full Address: ______________________________________________________________________________

PWS ID or NPDES Number (combined utilities use one or the other): ______________________________________

Utility Type (mark one)

☐ Water

☐ Wastewater

☐ Both

Estimated Population Served: ____________________________

Number of Full time Employees: _________________________

Utility Contact Name (First and Last Name): ______________________________________________________________

Utility Contact's Cell Phone: _______________________________________________________________________

Utility Contact's Email: ____________________________________________________________________________

Mask Pickup Location: ______________________________________________________________________________

******Mask Pickup Instructions******

Please follow all social distancing guidelines when picking up masks.

- Please contact the Point of Distribution for your field service area for specific instructions on pickup.
- Have the form completed before you come to pickup the masks. You will not be given the masks if you do not turn in a completed form!
- If you are having Rural Water or another utility pickup your masks they must turn in the form on your behalf.
**Field Service Area 1**

**Beatrice Utilities**

*Address for pickup*

1806 S 16th Circle Drive

Beatrice, NE 68310

**Residential address**

*Hours available*

M-F 8:00 AM-4:00 PM

*Contact*

Steve Kelley

(402) 228-5217

skelley@beatrice.ne.gov

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**Field Service Area 2**

**Wahoo Utilities**

*Address for pickup*

605 N Broadway

Wahoo, NE 68066

*Hours available*

M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

*Contact*

Ryan Hurst

(402) 443-3222

Hurst@wahoo.ne.us

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**Field Service Area 3**

**City of Norfolk**

*Address for pickup*

300 South 49th

Norfolk, NE 68701

*Hours available*

M-F 8:00 AM-4:30 PM

*Contact*

Dennis Watts

(402) 844-2210

dwatts@norfolkne.gov

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**Field Service Area 4**

**City of York**

*Address for pickup*

100 E 4th Street

York, NE 68467

*Hours available*

M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

*Contact*

Aaron Dressel

(402) 363-2604

adressel@cityofyork.net
Field Service Area 5
City of Kearney
Address for Pickup
Kearney Utilities
1220 E 26th Street
Kearney, NE 68847
Hours Available
M-T 7:00 AM-4:00 PM
Contact
Anton E. Jelinek
(308) 233-3259
ajelinek@kearneygov.org

Field Service Area 6
City of O’Neill
Address for Pickup
O’Neill Utilities
401 E Fremont St
O’Neill, NE 68763
Hours Available
M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Contact
Curtis Kizzire
(402) 340-7827
ssidak@cityofoneill.com

Field Service Area 7
City of North Platte
Address for Pickup
401 E 7th St
North Platte, NE 69103
Hours Available
M-F 7:30 AM- 4:00 PM
Contact
Leroy Kramer
(308) 530-7758
Kramerel@ci.north-platte.ne.us

Field Service Area 8
City of Alliance
Address for Pickup
1313 W 1st Street
Alliance, NE 69301
Hours Available
M-F 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Contact
Paige Johnson
(308) 762-1907
pjohnson@cityofalliance.net