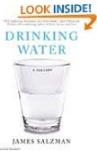


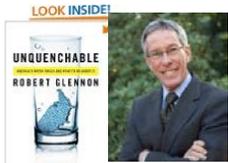
SMURPH'S RECOMMENDED WATER BOOK READING LIST

BAYWORK Training Buffet November 17, 2015



This month's AWWA journal had a review of a relatively new 2012 book on DRINKING WATER A HISTORY, and before I finished reading the review I had it downloaded electronically. My hard copy version came to my house two days later. I still like to hold a book and read, and sharing books is easier with hard copies. I will frequently go back and forth between devices, and hard copies. Being able to take 20 books in one light device is SO NICE!

This is the first book to take a broad look at the history of drinking water, how we and past societies have thought about and managed this most vital of all resources. It is a work of cultural anthropology that explains why no one expects to obtain food and lodging for free, but assumes water is basically a “free good” for the taking.

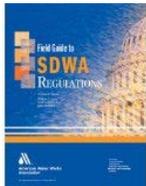


Dr. Glennon's book UNQUENCHABLE is probably one of the best books ANY ONE would like on water. He has great YouTube videos with a lot of the same information. His VEGAS intro is SUPER interesting!!

Gosh, Sue, I am very flattered by your enthusiasm. My talk on May 15th is to the SMUD board of directors and leaders from the strategic planning committee. I don't know whether board meetings are open to the public. I hope they are and that you and your friends can come. But the board may have in mind a closed meeting with some one-on-one with me. In short, I don't know whether the meeting is open to the public and the decision is not mine to make. All the best, Robert



I know it isn't a book BUT it did just come out, and you WILL like it! You mean you don't have your own Commemorative Gold Edition of all 25 segments of “California's Water” series yet? What are you waiting for? Hurry before they sell out at \$30 a copy postage included. Do it today! <http://www.acwa.com/Products/californias-water-series/californias-water-commemorative-gold-edition> Which is your favorite episode? How many KEY water places have you been in CA? After 8 yrs, and 1,000 miles a week I didn't get to see them all. CA is AWESOME! My idea of America is California and NOT California. Every type of geology, 1,200 miles of coastline, need I go on?



OK I bet you don't see this coming, do NOT buy this book. Unless history was your favorite subject in school. WHY? It may have been great in 2006, but the regs have changed a little since then. This is my now retired boss's favorite book, when I came to SID the ink was still wet in the book, 5 years later she was still using it. We used to be a Hershey's bar on reg. questions, after winning 5 in a row she quit betting (I should have let her win one). OK how many of you have it? Another thing not to like is it's only National regs, doesn't everyone here prefer CA regs? While we are on a RARE topic for me “books not to buy” add this right away!



Water Solutions, Inc. \$49.00 plus shipping

Compiled by Water Solutions Inc. An excellent reference for the current California State water regulations. Lay Flat binding makes it easy to use. Tabs at critical sections take you right to what you need to know. Each year water operators help us adjust where the tabs should be so this year is even better. This will be our seventh year publishing the rule book, if your copy is more than two years old (or worse you don't have a copy) now is the time to buy. You MUST have this book when talking to a regulator so you can reference what section of the rules applies to your discussion. You really want this book when your explaining budget requests so you can show why something needs to be done to be legal and lastly there is no substitute for the legal requirements when you get a positive test result. This book is a must have at the lowest price we have every offered it for.

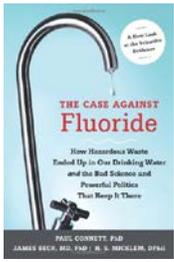


I would have to include my most FAVORITE DBP book! We have had such problems with THMs at 3 different water systems with 3 different treatment plants, and 2 different SW sources. Written by more than 30 DBP experts, this technical and managerial reference tool provides essential background and answers important questions, such as how to balance microbial and chemical risks. You can always learn MORE about THMs, they are not going away. I have 2 sessions at the CA/NV AWWA Fall conference on this topic. I just found a copy 93% off the list price now at \$9.17! It's not the most recent book on the subject, but it is the best. Some things about DBP just haven't changed.



Some people know I am FASCINATED BY FIRE HYDRANTS!! One year I thought I might try to become an expert on them (that didn't happen). But I do ♥ this excellent manual on them! Imagine how cool you will look carrying it around all tabbed out? It is one way to strike up a conversation at Starbucks. There is plenty of time to get one before the Fall conference. It has another BONUS I get nearly ALL the hydrant questions on certification exams. YEAH! In addition, you MUST check out www.FireHydrant.org the pictures, the links, the email list, and DON'T get me started on the mailbag! I've tried to get Willis Lamm THE real expert who will answer ANY hydrant question to come talk to our Operations Staff, but I think he thinks I am kidding? Maybe SAWWA should put on a really great Fire Hydrant Workshop? Are you a Hydrant expert? They are looking for them! Don't hesitate to contact them about anything hydrant related, they would love to hear from you!

OK ½ way done, I think I have covered a “good” amount of material for people to take away, or SHARE! Maybe if I had used even smaller font? Or margins? At least if I forget to cover something in the BOOK TALK I have the key points available in print.



I really can't talk about WATER BOOKS without one example on fluoride. I know controversial subject! That is why I put it on the second page. So if people only read the first page I won't upset anyone. I am not trying to upset anyone. It is good to read both sides of issues, and make your own informed decisions. This more recent book on the topic is meticulously referenced! And one of the primary authors Paul Connett has a PhD in Chemistry, and I favor chemists talking about chemicals. Our largest SW system in Suisun recently for the 3rd time in a dozen years held public meetings to decide to begin fluoridation. For the 3rd time they voted not to pursue it at this time. Several other local cities (Davis, Woodland, and others) are finding customers interested in fluoride, and these are the types of books the customers are using as resources. I find it is helpful to review materials others are reviewing!

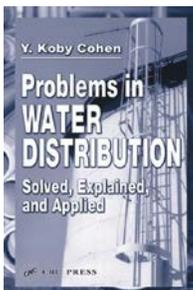


I better get something specific to WQ on the list. We all get customer complaints from time to time. Hopefully not too many! This is a national AWWA book, suspiciously similar to the CA/NV AWWA book on the same subject, Coincidence? How far back in time do you go with the different editions? What is your most unusual WQ complaint? One of my favorites is the FIRST TIME I got a call about fish eggs coming out of the faucet. You never know WHO is going to be on the other end of the phone when it rings. One agency near us gives a copy of AWWA's "PLAIN TALK About Drinking Water" to every customer where they respond to the home at \$13 each! That is how I got a "free" copy of it. We have found most complaints can be resolved over the phone by careful questions, and good explanations of the frequent testing we do in the distribution system.

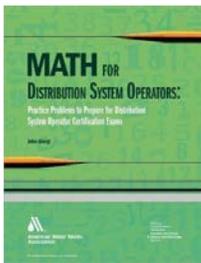


IF I had one resource in the field it would be this book. A little pricey at \$80, but you can get some older editions for 1/2 the cost. Good size, and GREAT detail graphics on everything from hydrants, pumps, maps, meters, fittings, tanks, pipes, valves, flushing, and more! I learn something every time I open it. I wish they would make a digital version. Don't you wonder sometimes with today's technology WHY more of our WATER BOOKS are not available in both hard copy and digital version? Hmm? I like this book better than some of the Office of Water Program home study books. It has everything in one book.

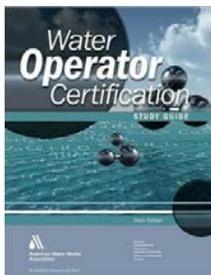
Don't forget there is a NEW Home Study Distribution 6th edition of the Ken Kerri books, so they are not grading previous editions anymore.



There are MANY different resources available to study for certification exams! IF your grade was proportional to how much \$\$ you spent I would be a D5/T5 right now. BUT you not only have to have good materials you need to actually read them. Any one who knows me knows I am NOT a fan of the Davidson pie. Why not just learn math? I came across this book differently than the AWWA or CSUS path. It is a little pricey but the unique helpful ideas this book really covers well are: unit cancellation the "right" way, and if you get the wrong answer the author explains WHY you got the wrong answer. I have not seen that in any other operator study materials. The author Koby Cohen is a D5/T5 former CDPH engineer. He starts with the very basics, and covers over 300 problems at all levels. He has good test taking tips, great information on READING the problem correctly, and drawing pictures most books do not explain in detail. The book also has 8 practice exams (30 questions each) in different subject areas.



This AWWA book of distribution practice problems (there is a similar book for treatment problems with a purple cover) is nice because it is divided by exam grade level from D1-D4. The problems show in between steps. The author tries to give some help with rearranging equations for those who didn't like algebra. He also is good about first deciding WHICH equation applies, along with getting the question numbers into the equation units. Each level has 10 practice exam questions at the end of the chapter with very detailed answers. If you are comfortable with the problems in this book, you should do very well on the exams. The main difference with the higher grade exams is the higher grade problems require additional STEPS to get into the right units. Each grade builds on the grade below. I keep working to understand the concept before moving to more complicated concepts.



One last study resource.....this book has a spiral binding so it folds to each page very easily. This book is also by level for both treatment and distribution in one book. It is primarily sample questions. The answers do give references to the book you can go look up more detail in. If you like LOTS of examples of questions you will like this book. In using this book to study we found some wrong answers! ☹ So did others, so the publisher had to issue an errata sheet with 11 corrected answers. I'm sure some of you have had that feeling "can the book be wrong?" YES it can! Not very frequently but it does happen. The more problems you study the easier the exam will be. I frequently mix it up and go back and forth between different study materials. Every author has their own idea on how to disseminate information. Sometimes the student is not ready, then later it makes more sense. I wish I knew the magic words to explain, but every one is different and what works for one doesn't work for all.

TWO PAGES is enough for now. IT was hard to pick just a few, and I tried to represent different types of WATER BOOKS, hopefully there was something for everyone. One book here, one book there adds up over a lifetime. Christmas is coming what better gift!