



KINGBROOK
RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Quality On Tap!

October 2025 | Volume 21, Issue 2

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THE ROCKS
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SEPTIC OWNER**

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CONSERVING WATER,
AND PROTECTING YOUR
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YOU**

**NEW
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**EMPLOYEE
MILESTONES**

FROM THE MANAGER

Heath Thompson, General Manager
Kingbrook Rural Water System, Inc.



As summer fades, work continues on the system-wide improvement projects. The DeSmet Water Treatment Plant and Orland Reservoir Project are near completion. The Arlington Tower project is expected to be completed before winter, and the Chester Treatment Plant project is scheduled for completion in early spring 2026.

Work has begun on the 2024 Pipeline Improvement Project. Hopefully, with good fall weather, the project's sixteen miles of pipeline can be installed before the ground freezes. Drilling four new production wells will start this fall and will be constructed at the same time as the pipeline project.

Working on four major improvement projects while undertaking the day-to-day activities of operating a water system the size of Kingbrook requires a great deal of effort from Kingbrook's employees. The field group routinely reallocates duties and responsibilities to other operators to facilitate contractors and bring new infrastructures online, while also trying to maintain service to members or limit the impact of outages during specific project-related activities. The same is true of the office staff, as project coordination requires outreach and coordination between state agencies, engineering firms, project accounting, and membership outreach. Overall, Kingbrook is very fortunate to have a resolute staff operating, maintaining, and improving your system.

Another important issue for Kingbrook Rural Water is the issue of cybersecurity. While technologies have streamlined many functions of a modern water system, those same technologies come with inherent risks. Especially if left unchecked due to cyberattacks. Kingbrook is aware of this issue and implements third-party professionals to help manage and watch-guard Kingbrook's Information Technologies (IT) and Operational Technologies (OT). In addition to those efforts, Kingbrook has been participating in programs put on by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). CISA is a U.S. federal agency that works to defend against cyber and physical threats to critical infrastructure. CISA was established within the Department of Homeland Security to improve the nation's security and resilience. CISA's role includes connecting stakeholders, developing security services, and maintaining a secure and resilient infrastructure. The use of CISA's cybersecurity services and tools will help Kingbrook to improve its security posture.

Kingbrook comprises eighteen dedicated individuals who run, maintain, repair, and grow the members' system. The effort and commitment this takes are considerable and often go unnoticed due to the nature of how a regional water system operates. Office staff must undertake complex and detailed tasks to ensure the system's administrative function and compliance are met daily. The same is required of the field staff, who may fix issues before any service interruption. These efforts lead to accessible water 24/7 or the repair and correction, should it stop, promptly and efficiently. I am grateful to work with such a talented group of individuals.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Corey Dorhout

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Doyle Renaas

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Damon Stormo

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Jon Ekern, Treatment Plant Manager

Jerrud Kruse, Senior Operations Specialist

Bill Osterberg, Treatment Plant Specialist

Logan Calmus, Treatment Plant Specialist

Chad Bjerke, Operations Specialist

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Alan Brown, Operations Specialist

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Aaron Jeffrey, Operations Specialist

Caleb Clark, Operations Specialist

Reid Cummings, Operations Specialist

Benjamin Jones, Operations Specialist

Tabitha Duffy, Office Manager

Danielle Zeeck, Bookkeeping & Accounting Specialist


Teresa Mohr, Accounts Receivable Specialist

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Email: office@kingbrookruralwater.com

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(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



PAYMENT OPTIONS

There are several convenient methods for customers to pay their water bill:

- 1) Mail your payment
- 2) Drop your payment off at our office (there is a drop box on the east side of the building for 24-hour convenience)
- 3) Sign up for ACH payments (visit our website or call the office for more information)
- 4) Pay your bill online at www.kingbrookruralwater.com and click the "Pay My Bill" button
- 5) Sign up for the customer portal (call or email the office for more information)

E-BILLS

Did you know that you can receive your Kingbrook bill by email? You can enroll for e-bills through the Kingbrook Customer Portal at kingbrook.authoritypay.com. Create your portal account or log-in, click "change" under the bill type for the account you wish to enroll, then click agree. If you have more than one account, you will need to enroll each account.

Step-by-step instructions to create your portal account and to enroll in e-bills can be requested by calling the office at 605-983-5074 or emailing payments@kingbrookruralwater.com. Please note that if you choose to receive your bill by email, you will no longer receive a paper copy.



LEAK REWARD

Members who report a water leak on any of Kingbrook's main lines will receive a \$25.00 leak reward. With approximately 3,000 miles of water line in the distribution system, members can play a key role in assisting system employees in locating water leaks.

All members who received a leak reward in 2025 will be entered into a drawing for a cash prize of \$100.00. The drawing will take place at our 2026 Annual Meeting. Members need not be present to win.

The winner drawn at our 2025 Annual Meeting was Lee Klein.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Kingbrook Rural Water office will be closed on the following dates:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025
– VETERAN'S DAY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025
– THANKSGIVING DAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025
– CHRISTMAS EVE DAY – CLOSED @ 12PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2025
– CHRISTMAS DAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025
– NEW YEAR'S EVE DAY – CLOSED @ 12PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026
– NEW YEAR'S DAY

In case of an emergency, please call the office at 605-983-5074 or toll free at 1-800-605-5279 and you will be forwarded to our after-hours answering service.

TAPPING NATURE'S PRESSURE: Artesian Wells in South Dakota

Long before electric pumps and modern plumbing made water easily accessible, rural residents across South Dakota found a natural ally underground: artesian wells.

An artesian well is a remarkable feature of geology, where water, under natural pressure, rises above the level of its underground source. In some cases, that pressure is strong enough to send water flowing directly to the surface, creating what's known as a flowing artesian well. These wells are nature's version of pressurized plumbing, no electricity needed.

South Dakota is fortunate to sit atop several major artesian aquifers, including the Madison and Dakota formations. These aquifers typically collect water in the higher elevations of the Black Hills, where it seeps into permeable rock layers like sandstone. Trapped beneath layers of impermeable rock such as shale, the water becomes pressurized by gravity and the weight of the water above. When a well taps into this aquifer at a lower elevation, sometimes thousands of feet below ground, that pressure can push water all the way to the surface.

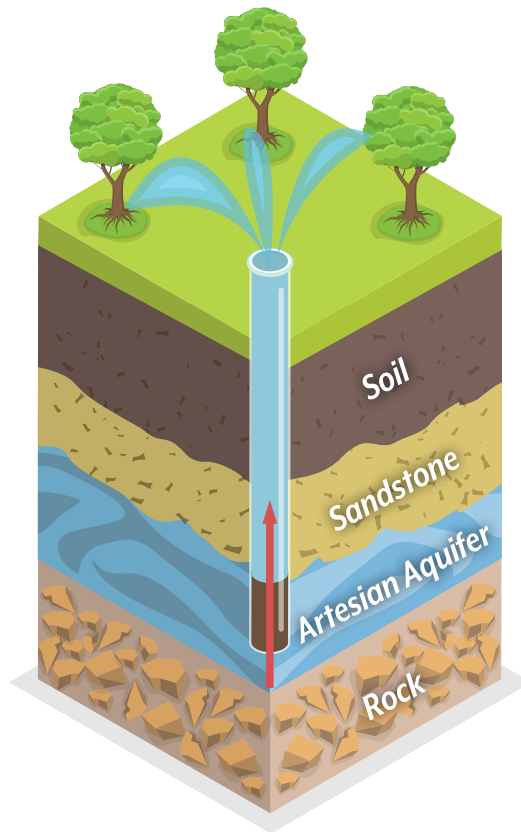
One of the most famous examples is the flowing well that has supplied water to Capitol Lake in Pierre for over a century.

Drilled to a depth of 1,300 feet, this artesian well produces warm water – around 90 degrees Fahrenheit – and even small amounts of natural gas. For years, the gas was ignited, creating a fiery spectacle that could be seen dancing above the gushing waters near the State Capitol. At one point, the gas was even used to help heat the Capitol building itself.

Artesian wells have long been part of South Dakota's story. Before widespread electrification, these wells offered a vital lifeline to communities that lacked access to pumped water. Their usefulness and uniqueness were so appreciated that one Sanborn County town proudly took its name from its most valued feature – Artesian.

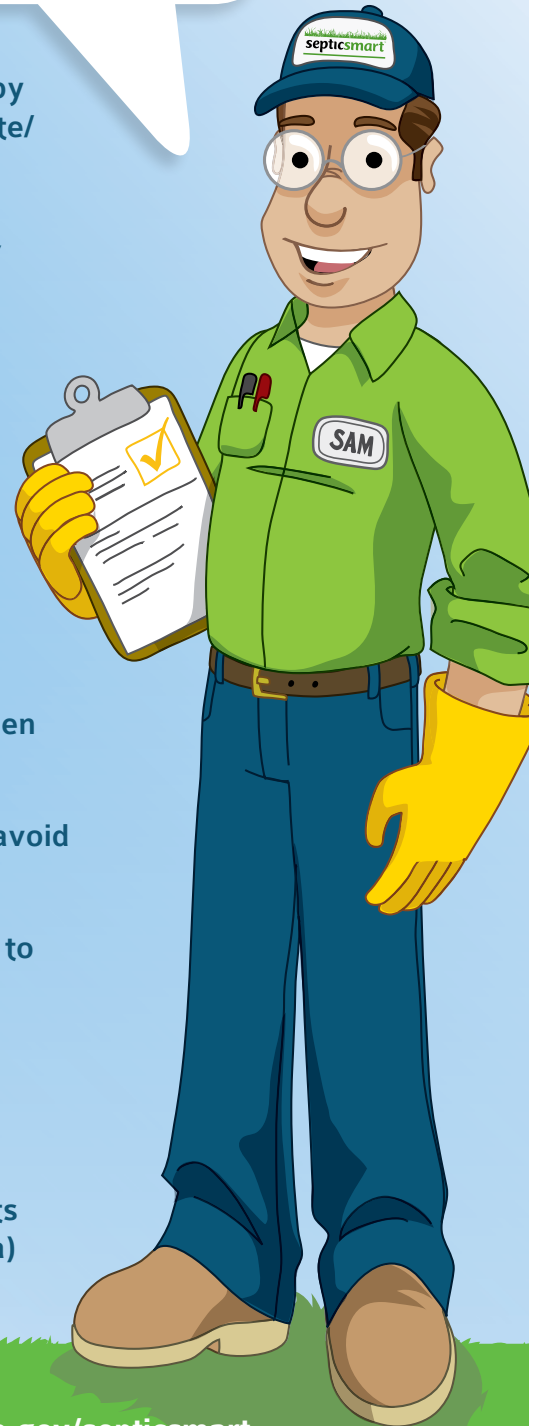
Today, while many of these wells are supplemented or replaced by modern systems, artesian wells still serve as a testament to the natural forces that shape our water resources. They're a reminder that sometimes, with just

the right geology, nature does the hard work for us.




Top 10 Ways to Be a Good Septic Owner

- ✓ Have your system inspected every three years by a qualified professional or according to your state/local health department's recommendations
- ✓ Have your septic tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years
- ✓ Avoid pouring harsh products (e.g., oils, grease, chemicals, paint, medications) down the drain
- ✓ Discard non-degradable products in the trash (e.g., floss, disposable wipes, cat litter) instead of flushing them
- ✓ Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the drainfield and tank
- ✓ Follow the system manufacturer's directions when using septic tank cleaners and additives
- ✓ Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system
- ✓ Maintain plants and vegetation near the system to ensure roots do not block drains
- ✓ Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low- or phosphate-free
- ✓ Prevent system freezing during cold weather by inspecting and insulating vulnerable system parts (e.g., the inspection pipe and soil treatment area)

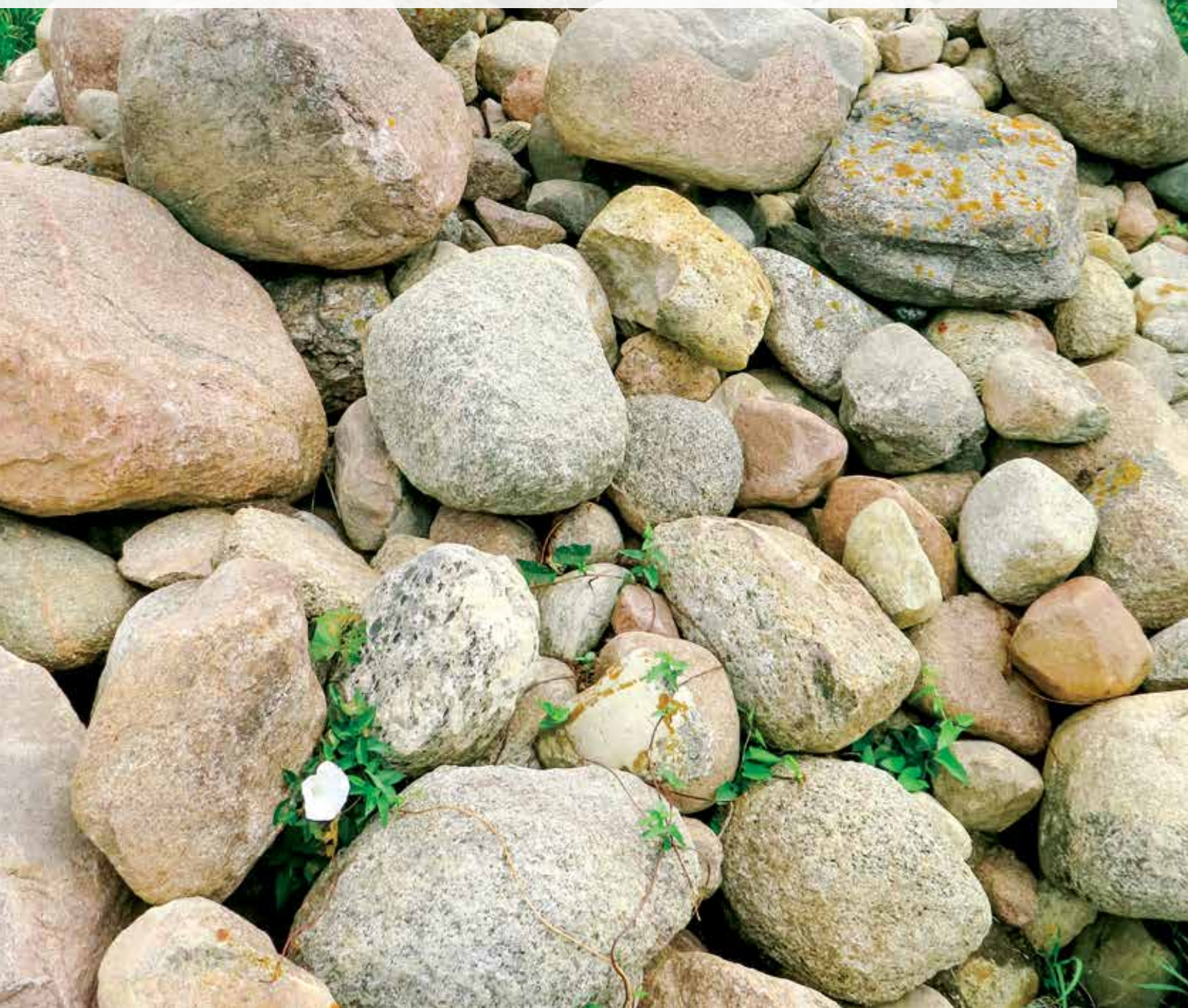


For more SepticSmart tips, visit www.epa.gov/septicSMART

 EPA EPA-832-F-16-010 | July 2016

WHERE DO ALL THE ROCKS COME FROM?

By Jay Gilbertson, East Dakota Water Development District



Piles of rocks are a common sight in and around farm fields all across eastern South Dakota. These piles represent the result of years, and sometimes generations, of effort to rid farm fields of stones and boulders so that plows can move more smoothly through the earth. Did you ever wonder where all these rocks came from?

The last significant geologic event to impact eastern South Dakota was the Great Ice Age, which began about two million years ago and ended(?) about 10,000 years ago. During that time, massive sheets of ice, called glaciers, advanced out of Canada and into this part of the world. Detailed studies of the materials left behind by the ice, collectively referred to as glacial drift, suggests that there may have been over a dozen distinct ice advances during this time.



Glaciers are extremely effective earth movers, and each ice advance dramatically rearranged the landscape it encountered. In the eastern Dakotas, the pre-glacial landscape was developed on comparatively soft rocks, like shale, marl (a type of limestone) and poorly-consolidated sandstones. The ice movement ground most of these rocks to fine particles, which are now the basis for the clay-rich soils of the region.

And yet there are numerous large rocks and boulders found today scattered across the countryside. The rocks that 'survive' transport by a glacier tend to be hard, crystalline varieties, like granite or quartzite. With a few notable exceptions, there are really no 'native' sources of actual hard rocks in eastern South Dakota. As such, pretty much all of the rocks and boulders found across the landscape were brought here from other places, like Canada (mostly) and northern Minnesota, by the various ice advances, and then left behind when the ice melted. The transported rocks may have traveled a few tens of miles, or in some instances, well over 1,000 miles before coming to a final resting spot. Geologists refer to rocks that have been transported in such a way as glacial erratics.

So, if someone finds a big rock out in the field, where did it come from? The quick and simple answer is, "up north." Determining exactly where a particular glacial erratic originated from can be difficult. The mineral composition and physical characteristics of rocks are highly variable, and as such a 'granite' from one region can look markedly different from a 'granite' from another. The ability to locate a point of origin usually requires that your rock 1) has

relatively unique and readily identifiable characteristics and 2) geologists have previously identified a unique location where this particular rock type is found in place.

For example, the Sioux Quartzite, which is exposed at various places in southwestern Minnesota and southeastern South Dakota (including at the Falls of the Big Sioux River in Sioux Falls), is one such rock. Boulders of this distinctive pink rock are common in glacial deposits south of Interstate 90 in South Dakota, having been picked up by glaciers advancing across the region from the north. with some found in remnant glacial deposits as far away as northeast Kansas.

Another, more traveled example are rocks known as omars. Omars are derived from the Omarolluk Formation, part of a group of rocks

limited to the Belcher Islands, which are located in the southeastern part of Hudson Bay. The rock is typically dark- to medium-gray in color, with a distinctive oval-shaped inclusion of lighter gray material. The rock is a variety of sandstone (graywacke), and the lighter spots are calcareous concretions. If exposed to weathering, the light spots will wear away, leaving a rounded cavity in the stone. Omars are found all across the northern United States, from Michigan to Montana. Each example started out at the same place, and was subsequently moved, often in multiple steps, to its final resting place.

So, the next time you see a rock laying out in a local field, or in a rock wall built from such stones, imagine the long and arduous journey it had to make to get here.





SMART METERS:

Saving Money, Conserving Water, and Protecting Your Community

In recent years, rural water systems across South Dakota have been making major investments in technology. But this technology isn't hidden away in a treatment plant or tucked inside an office – it's right where you might least expect it: in the water meter at your home.

Today's smart water meters are packed with advanced features that provide enormous benefits to both customers and utilities. By pairing these meters with software that interprets the data, water systems can save time, reduce costs, conserve water, and even prevent costly leaks before they spiral out of control.

Smart meters come in a wide range of models, from simple designs that measure basic usage to advanced meters that can detect leaks or abnormal patterns in real time. Many

rural water systems in South Dakota use cellular networks to transmit meter data – working much like a safe and secure text message that can reach even the most remote locations. In more populated areas, utilities may rely on strategically placed radio antennas to gather and deliver the information. Smart meters meet strict safety standards and use secure, low-level radio signals – far lower than most common household electronics. They're not only safe, but they also deliver better service, transparency, and reliability for customers.

Regardless of the method, the data is invaluable. A smart meter can track gallons used, water temperature, flow volume, and even the time and duration of water use. While that may sound like a lot of detail for something as simple as filling a glass of water, it allows utilities to bill accurately

without sending staff house to house. That efficiency saves countless hours and reduces costs – savings that ultimately benefit customers.

Perhaps one of the most exciting features of smart meters is leak detection. When unusual usage patterns are detected, utilities can notify a customer quickly – sometimes even before the customer realizes there’s an issue. With a little investigative work, operators can often pinpoint the source of the leak, whether it’s a dripping faucet, a running toilet, or a broken irrigation line.

Many systems also offer customer portals, where households can log in and monitor their own water use. This empowers customers to identify leaks early, track conservation efforts, and avoid the shock of an unexpectedly high bill.

Utilities also benefit from smarter planning. With access to real-time usage data, rural systems can better predict demand, prioritize upgrades, and make smarter investments for the future.

The newest generation of smart meters takes things a step

further with acoustic leak detection technology. Don’t worry – these meters aren’t “listening” to conversations. Instead, they pick up on the distinct frequencies that leaks produce as water escapes into the ground. With the right software, utilities can locate leaks down to within a few feet.

This breakthrough is a game changer. While it’s relatively easy to spot leaks after water passes through a customer’s meter, leaks on the utility’s side of the system are much harder to find. Acoustic-enabled smart meters give utilities the ability to stop water loss at its source, saving money, reducing wasted water, and protecting vital infrastructure.

Water is one of our most valuable resources, and rural water systems are committed to managing it wisely. By reducing water loss and improving efficiency, smart meters not only keep customer bills affordable but also ensure that rural water systems remain strong and sustainable for years to come.

Smart water meters save money, conserve water, and improve service, making them a win-win for customers, communities, and the environment.



Through the customer portal, smart meter users can view real-time water usage, track daily and monthly trends, set up leak alerts, and manage their accounts – all from their smartphone, tablet, or computer.

BIG SIOUX COMMUNITY WATER

For more than half a century, Big Sioux Community Water has been providing safe, reliable drinking water to Moody and Lake Counties, and portions of Brookings, Minnehaha, and Pipestone, MN. From its beginnings in the early 1970s to today's modern, expanding system, Big Sioux has been built on community vision, steady growth, and a commitment to delivering the best water possible.

The story began in 1972, when a steering committee met at Sioux Valley Energy in Colman to explore the idea of a rural

relied on. Through the 1980s, the system grew steadily with new towers, wells, the first treatment plant at Brant Lake, and additional pipelines. By 1979, the system surpassed 1,000 members. The addition of SCADA monitoring in 1989 improved reliability, and by 1990, membership had reached 1,350. The construction of a lime softening treatment plant in 1994 raised water quality even higher and helped push membership past 2,000 by 2010.

Growth also came through partnerships. In 2000, Big Sioux began supplying bulk water to Flandreau as well as more than 200 million gallons annually to Dakota Ethanol. Demand around Lake Madison and Lake Brant led to the construction of a smaller membrane treatment plant, which began operating in 2010. In 2017, a new pipeline connection with Minnehaha Community Water provided additional capacity and extended service to Madison and Chester. The results have been striking: in 1980, annual sales were about 150 million gallons; by 2021, they had grown to over one billion gallons.

Today, Big Sioux is part of the Shared Resources project, a major collaboration with Minnehaha Community Water Corporation. Together, the two systems are building

a new eight million gallon-per-day water treatment plant near Trent, along with new wells, reservoirs, a booster station, and 15 miles of treated water pipeline. Backed by a \$110 million funding package provided through the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) and federal ARPA funds, this project is designed to provide added capacity and reliability while keeping costs efficient through shared resources. It is one of the most significant rural water collaborations in South Dakota.

As the new year approaches, the Big Sioux Board of Directors and staff are looking ahead to growth and expansion in 2026 and beyond. Future upgrades and maintenance are top priorities, along with planning for added capacity to ensure uninterrupted, reliable service for all customers.

At the 47th Annual Meeting in 2019, longtime Director Andy



Big Sioux Community Water tower next to the Dakota Ethanol plant in Wentworth, SD

water system. Two of those early leaders, Dan Carlson (now retired after 50 years) and Andy Groos (retired after 52 years), went on to serve decades on the Board of Directors. With support from DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates (DGR), a preliminary engineering report was developed and submitted to the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) for funding. With around 700 original sign-ups, the system delivered its first water in 1975. A well field was established east of Egan in the Big Sioux River valley, and three production wells were drilled. Remarkably, one of those original wells is still producing water today.

In the early years, treatment was simple – primarily disinfection and fluoridation – but it was still a major improvement over the private wells many families had

BIG SIOUX COMMUNITY WATER



Groos said, “Rural water is probably the most precious commodity we have on the farm, especially given the quality we enjoy.” Retired Director Dan Carlson added, “Having quality rural water at my home gives me many of the advantages of city living while getting to enjoy the benefits of country living.”

Now under the leadership of Manager Jodi Johanson, Big Sioux Community Water continues to carry forward that vision – protecting water resources, investing in infrastructure, and ensuring the best quality water for the communities it serves.



Big Sioux Community Water Headquarters in Egan, SD



Progress photo of the Shared Resources plant near Trent, SD

DIRECTORS:

- Chairman – Dan Dannenbring
- Vice Chairman – Vince Nelson
- Secretary/Treasurer – Gaylen Backus
- Director – Tom Hagedorn
- Director – Reggie Gassman
- Director – Kent Whipkey
- Director – John Mousel
- Director – Rick Olivier
- Director – John McCorkle

STAFF:

- General Manager – Jodi Johanson
- Chief of Distribution – Chad Kneebone
- Chief Plant Operator – Aric Olson
- Small Systems Operator – Jeff Carruthers
- Distribution Operator – Lucas Dailey
- Distribution Operator – Taylor Bult
- Bookkeeper – Kim Hansen
- Office Manager – Lenhi Olson

STATISTICS:

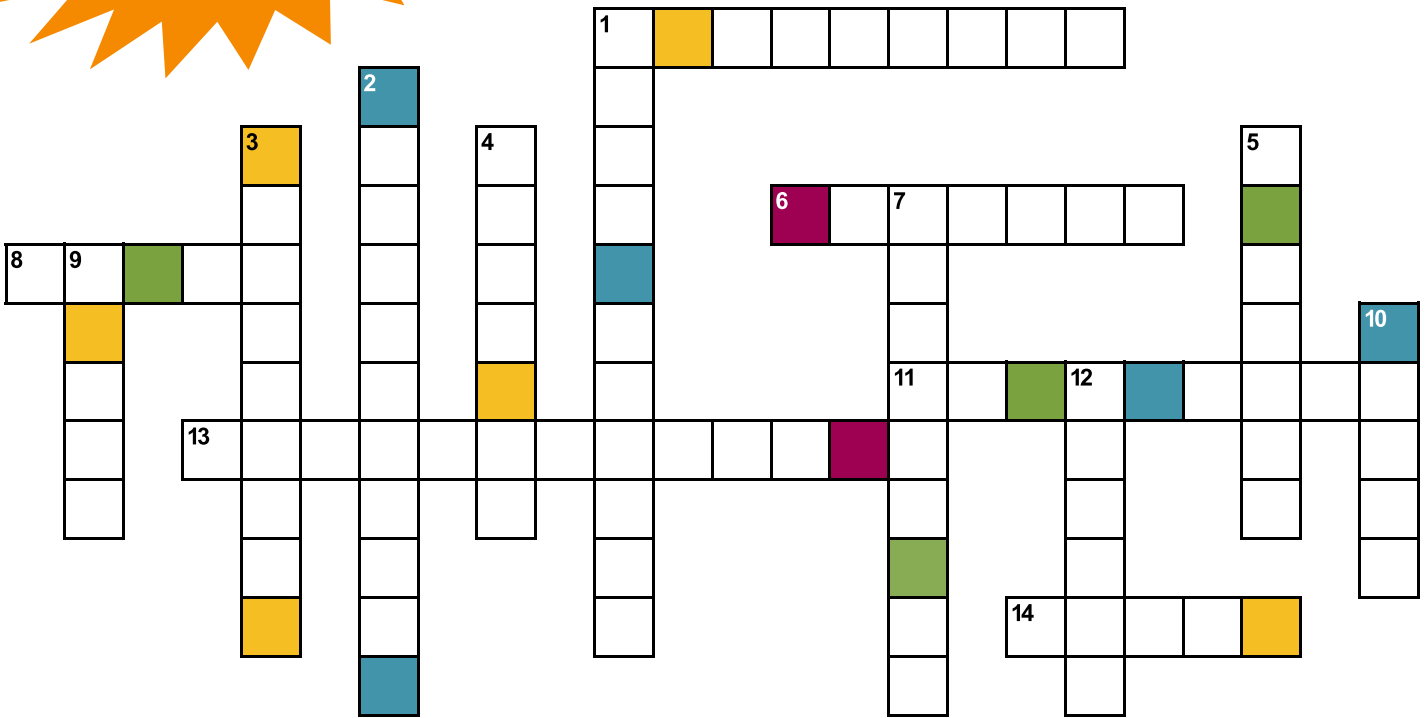
- Service Connections: 2,395
- Miles of Pipeline: 900
- Water Source: Wells – Big Sioux Aquifer, Skunk Creek Aquifer
- Counties Served: Moody, Lake and portions of Brookings and Minnehaha; Pipestone, MN
- Towns Served Individual: Rutland
- Towns Served Bulk: Flandreau, Egan, Trent, Colman, Wentworth, Chester
- Contracted Management Water Systems: Egan, Wentworth, Chester

RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

PIES



SCRAMBLE ANSWER



Across

- 1. Sweet purple fruit-filled pie
- 6. Traditional Thanksgiving dessert
- 8. Classic American pie made with spiced fruit
- 11. Rich dessert pie for cocoa lovers
- 13. Tart citrus filling with a fluffy topping
- 14. Pie filled with custard and topped with whipped topping

Down

- 1. Custard pie with slices of yellow fruit
- 2. Creamy orange pie, often mistaken for pumpkin
- 3. Savory pie topped with mashed potatoes
- 4. Tart green citrus dessert from Florida
- 5. Tangy stalk used in spring pies
- 7. Traditional pie with spiced fruits and sometimes meat

- 9. Southern favorite made with nuts and corn syrup
- 10. Summer fruit pie popular in the South
- 12. Tart red fruit often paired with a lattice crust



RULES: Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or **enter online at www.sdarws.com/crossword.html** with the correct phrase by October 15, 2025 to be entered into the \$100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Idell Moritz from Sioux Rural Water who had the correct phrase of "Savor sunshine and smiles" for July 2025.



TELL CONGRESS: RURAL AMERICA RELIES ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Small and rural communities rely on access to affordable loans and grant opportunities through USDA Rural Development to make repairs and upgrades and to build new critical infrastructure for their communities.

While affordable financing is vital for these communities, it is not the complete solution. After these projects are completed, the need for training for water and wastewater operators does not go away. Technical assistance ensures the government's and public's investment is secured. For small and rural communities to remain sustainable, they need ongoing training and technical assistance.

Technical assistance for small and rural communities includes providing training, energy audits, certification, financial management, environmental compliance, governance, and on-site technical assistance necessary to ensure that water and wastewater facilities operate at the highest possible level. Through the grants provided through USDA WEP, these services are provided at no cost through technical assistance providers like NRWA and its State Affiliates. The loss of funding for this essential technical assistance will jeopardize the sustainability of rural water systems and their communities. System managers will be forced to choose between not addressing ongoing operational and management issues or contracting for these services at steep costs.

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems, in partnership with USDA RD WEP provides the following technical assistance to rural communities in our state:

- **Circuit Rider Program**
- **Disaster Recovery Circuit Rider Program**
- **Wastewater Technical Assistance and Training Program**
- **NRWA Apprenticeship Program**
- **Decentralized Wastewater Technical Assistance and Training Program.**

Rural Development will continue to play a vital role in modernizing, preserving, and protecting rural America's infrastructure and public health. You can help secure its future today by signing the pledge and writing to your Congressional representatives today.

Providing adequate support and resources necessary to protect and enhance the environment, public health, sustainability of utilities, and economic vitality of rural America with clean, affordable, and safe water service is a primary responsibility for our federal elected officials.

CALL TO ACTION

Join us in supporting the USDA Rural Development Water and Environmental Programs essential to strengthening rural water and wastewater systems. These programs are critical for ensuring:

- **Public Health** – Clean and safe water for communities across America.
- **Economic Vitality** – Supporting jobs and sustainable growth in rural areas.
- **Technical Assistance** – Empowering operators with the tools and training they need.
- **Affordability** – Keeping water and wastewater services accessible for all.

By signing the Rural Water Strong pledge, you demonstrate your commitment to the future of rural communities. Together, we can protect the health, prosperity, and resilience of small towns and rural areas across the country.

Sign the pledge today and make your voice heard!

Scan the QR code to fill out the pledge form or visit ruralwaterstrong.org/pledge



Thank You Notes



Kingbrook Rural Water System,

Thank you for awarding me with one of your \$500 scholarships! Your generous support will help me greatly in pursuing my academic goals, and I am truly grateful for your investment in my future.

Sincerely,
Sam Gigov

Sorry this is late but I would like to thank the board for the \$100 door prize that I won at the annual meeting.

**Thank you,
Wayne Soren**



Dear Kingbrook Rural Water,

Thank you so much for awarding me your scholarship! This contribution will impact me greatly, as it will assist me in lowering my cost of tuition.

The costs of schooling has been bringing me great stress, but with your help, I will be able to switch my focus to my work, rather than my future debt. I will use this money wisely, as I will take my schoolwork very seriously.

I would also like to thank you for the opportunity to attend your banquet. It was an honor to be recognized in front of my family, peers, and community members.

Thank you again! – Kate Larson

EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

At Kingbrook, we're proud to recognize the dedication and contributions of our team members. This year, we're excited to celebrate three employees who have recently reached significant career milestones with us.



Mike Warner, System Operations Specialist, marked 10 years with Kingbrook on December 1, 2024.



Tabitha Duffy, Office Manager, celebrated 15 years on April 5, 2025.



Chad Bjerke, System Operations Specialist, reached his 10-year anniversary on June 18, 2025.

Please join us in congratulating Mike, Tabitha, and Chad on these well-deserved achievements. Their hard work, dedication, and commitment have made a lasting impact, and we're grateful to have them as a part of the Kingbrook team. Here's to many more years of shared success!

Meet Our New Team Members

Kingbrook is happy to welcome three new System Operations Specialists who joined our team earlier this year: Caleb Clark, Reid Cummings, and Ben Jones. All three came on board this spring and are now getting settled into their roles and service areas.

Caleb Clark joined the team on February 26th and is based in the Lake Preston area. His service area extends from just north of Lake Preston down through the Oldham and Ramona areas and also includes Lake Thompson and rural Arlington. In his free time, Caleb enjoys working with livestock and spending time outdoors.

Reid Cummings started on March 10th and lives in Brookings with his wife, Sarah. By the time you read this, they will have welcomed a new baby to the family – congratulations to the

growing Cummings family! Reid's service area includes Sinai, rural Volga, rural Brookings and areas to the south. Outside of work, Reid enjoys hunting, shooting, and spending quality time with family.

Ben Jones, who also joined the team on March 10th, recently moved to Madison. His service area covers rural Madison and Junius and areas to the north including Nunda. Ben enjoys spending time with his daughter Gracie, hunting, fishing, shooting sports, gardening, and home improvement projects in his spare time.

We're excited to have Caleb, Reid, and Ben as part of the Kingbrook crew and look forward to what they'll bring to the team!



Caleb Clark



Reid Cummings and wife Sarah



Ben Jones

**KINGBROOK
IS ON
FACEBOOK!
LIKE AND FOLLOW
OUR PAGE AT**

**FACEBOOK.COM/
KINGBROOKRURALWATERSYSTEM**





Kingbrook Rural Water System
 PO Box 299
 Arlington, SD 57212
 605-983-5074
 kingbrookruralwater.com

Presort Standard
 US Postage
 Paid
 Permit #32
 Madison, SD



WATER MATTERS

LONE ROCK



About 8 miles, as the crow flies, southeast of Flandreau, and just a mile from the Minnesota border, sits Lone Rock, the largest glacial erratic yet identified in South Dakota. With a diameter of over 25 feet, and standing roughly 20 feet above the prairie surface, this rock has been a local landmark for ages. As testimony to its uniqueness, a local church, cemetery and the township in which it resides all bear its name.

Lone Rock is a block of pink granite, carried to the area by glaciers many tens of thousands of years ago. Although its exact point of origin is unknown, the nearest rocks of similar composition are found in the valley of the Minnesota River, some 90 miles to the northeast. Here, ancient crystalline rocks, ranging in age from 1.5 to 3.5 billion years, are exposed, and could have been the source

of Lone Rock. Another large glacial erratic, the Three Maidens at Pipestone National Monument, has a similar composition and likely a comparable origin story.

The rock sits in a pasture near the corner of 487th Avenue and 235th Street. This is private property, so visitors are encouraged to admire the feature from afar. But don't worry, it's big enough to be seen from the road. The Lone Rock Lutheran Church and the Lone Rock Cemetery are located less than a mile west of the intersection.

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