



PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM PEER REVIEW PROGRAM



HELPING TO KEEP WATER SYSTEMS AFLOAT

- **WHAT IS THE PEER REVIEW PROGRAM?**

The Peer Review Program is a program provided by the Mississippi State University Extension Service at no charge and designed to provide assistance to help strengthen the operations of Mississippi's public water systems through operator/operator relations. A Peer Review is an evaluation of the water system's technical, managerial, and financial capacity.

- **WHO ACTUALLY PERFORMS THE PEER REVIEW?**

Experienced volunteer operators from the region perform Peer Reviews. These operators are not related to any regulatory agency.

- **HOW CAN THE PEER REVIEW HELP MY WATER SYSTEM?**

The assistance provided during a Peer Review can greatly enhance the performance of a water system. After an evaluation of the water system, the Peer Review Team will provide recommendations for improving the water system **and** the water system's Capacity Rating. The Peer Review Team may suggest ways that the water system may reduce costs, comply with rules and regulations, and prepare for the annual inspection performed by the Mississippi State Department of Health. Most importantly, this program will help the water system provide service to its customers more efficiently and effectively. Six months following the evaluation, the Peer Review Team will return, if requested, with a follow-up visit to check any progress that has been made and provide more assistance.

- **WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO REQUEST A PEER REVIEW?**

Any Mississippi community water system may request a Peer Review. A responsible official of the water system such as the mayor, board president, etc can make a request for a Peer Review.

- **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

FREE of charge! Peer Reviews are provided at no cost to your water system.

- **WILL THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OR ANY OTHER REGULATORY AGENCY SEE THE RESULTS FROM MY PEER REVIEW?**

NO! Neither the Department of Health nor any other regulatory agencies will see the results of a Peer Review. Also, they are not made aware of who participates in the program. The Mississippi State University Extension Service provides this service.

- **HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR THE PEER REVIEW PROGRAM?**

Although all water systems are good candidates and are eligible to request a Peer Review, those with lower Capacity Ratings may especially want to take advantage of this free program. Water systems with a new operator can benefit from participating in the program. Any water system with the desire to improve is a good candidate.

- **HOW DO I REQUEST A PEER REVIEW OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM?**

To request a Peer Review contact:

Alan Barefield

MSU Extension Service, P.O. Box 9656, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Phone – 662.325.3207 FAX – 662.325.8915

E-Mail Address – alanb@srdc.msstate.edu

Website – <http://msucares.com/water>

