



HoleTalk

Fall 2025
Published Quarterly

www.nywelldriller.org

ESWWDA FALL MEETING

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2025

*DEREX Dual Rotary Drilling Demo, Tour of the Pioneer Oil Museum,
On-site BBQ, Cocktail Hour, Dinner*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

**Local tours of functioning oil wells*
*Options for a golf outing**

RSVP FOR THE TOUR or Golf BY 9/26/2025 TO Rootwws@gmail.com

Root Water Well Systems and **East West Drilling** are hosting this meeting. East West will have a tent available on Friday and there will be room for vendor members to set up displays if they wish to.

The Friday evening Cocktail Party at the **Wellsville Brewery** is being sponsored by **Xylem**.

The Friday evening dinner at **Italia's Restaurant** is being sponsored by **East West Drilling**.

A full itinerary is available on page 2 along with suggested lodging accommodations. Camping at Trout Run Camp Resort in Wellsville is available for campers or rental cabins and can be made by calling (833) 320-9794 or (585) 596-0500.



Microtel Inn & Suites, Wellsville
For Reservations

By Phone:

Call Reservations at (585) 593-3449

Reference **Empire State Water Well Driller's Fall Meeting 2025** when making reservations using the group code **100225EMP**

Or Visit: <http://www.wyndham.com/hotels/29893>

Select Arrival & Departure Dates,

Use Group Code: **100225EMP**

Booking Link:

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/microtel/wellsville-new-york/microtel-inn-suites-wellsville/rooms-rates?&checkInDate=10/02/2025&checkOutDate=10/05/2025&groupCode=100225EMP>

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 3RD.

FOR THE GROUP RATE OF **\$134.00 + TAX**

"Support the Suppliers Who Support You"

Mission

The ESWWDA is committed to taking a leadership role in protecting our natural resources through the promotion of the ground water industry. It strives to support a spirit of cooperation, communication, and education within the industry and with the consumers and regulatory agencies.

Visit

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Empire State Water Well Driller's Association Fall Meeting

Oct. 3-4, 2025

Accommodations:

**Microtel Inn & Suites
by Wyndham**
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(833) 320-9794

*There is a block of 20 rooms (mix of singles/
Doubles) at a rate of
\$134+tax. Guests will
have up until 30 days prior
to make a reservation
within the Group Block.
After the 30 day cutoff the
Group Block will close and
the discount rate will no
longer be available.*

The Hann Homestead Inn
3537 Barrett Hill Rd.
Andover NY 14806
607-203-9707

Trout Run Camp Resort
2137 State Route 19
Wellsville, NY 14895
(833) 320-9794
They have camper sites
rental cabins
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Friday Oct. 3, 2025

Agenda:

9 - 10 a.m.

Board of Directors Meeting at the
Pioneer Oil Museum,
Hahn & Schaffner Site. 88 Boss St.,
Bolivar, NY

10:30 a.m.- noon

DEREX Dual Rotary Drilling Demo at
the Hahn & Schaffner Site.
88 Boss St., Bolivar, NY

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

BBQ at Hahn & Schaffner Site.
88 Boss St., Bolivar NY

1:30 - 3 p.m.

Tour of Pioneer Oil Museum

3 - 4 p.m. General Meeting

at the Pioneer Oil Museum, Hahn &
Schaffner Site. 88 Boss St.,
Bolivar, NY

6 -7:00 p.m. Cocktails

Wellsville Brewery, Main St.
Wellsville, NY.

7:00 p.m.

Dinner at Italia's Resturant on Main
St. Wellsville, across the street from
the Wellsville Brewery.

Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025

*For anyone who'd like to extend their week-
end.*

For the Oil Field Enthusiast:

We are going to offer a local tour of function-
ing oil leases, guided by David Root.
Please RSVP if interested by Sept 26 to:
Rootwws@gmail.com

For the Golf Enthusiast:

There's are several golf courses near by. If
interested, we will get group tee times for a
fun 9 hole tournament.
RSVP if interested by Sept. 26th to:
Rootwws@gmail.com

For the ATV Enthusiast:

Tall Pines ATV Park is close by and offers
off-roading with ATV trails, plus a camp-
ground, cabins, and showers.
Check out their website at: tallpinesatvpark.
com for more information .
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(585) 593-4304 • Rootwaterwell@gmail.com

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(518) 746-0173 • Rosickdrilling@yahoo.com

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Christopher Beatson, Xylem
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Values

The Board of Directors and membership of E.S.W.W.D.A. believe in the promotion of the ground water industry through:

**Professional Standards • Communication
Education • Integrity • Affordability**

The President's Thoughts

Drill on!

Hello ESWWDA, it is hard to believe we are already in the thick of summer, and it has been “thick” all right, with the heat wave and humidity that have been blasting us for the past few weeks.

All of this while we are generally in our busiest time of the year, working harder and longer hours. Yet, as I sit and ponder what I can put in this letter that has not already been discussed in past presidents’ letters, all I can think about is how soon it will be Fall and then onto the next ESWWDA meeting.

However, before I delve into the future, I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Sue Bates** and **Julie Boyd**, our very own “correspondence managers,” for the planning that went into our summer meeting in **Glens Falls**. These two ladies really do all the behind the scenes work for our association and have been for many years. Thank you, ladies! I also want to thank **Flomatic** and their entire staff for hosting a day at their complex with a very nice factory tour of their facility and lunch on the lawn. We got to see their new additions and soon to be additions. We even had the Board of Directors meeting in their boardroom. Thank you. I cannot leave out **Dave Rosick and family**, along with **East West Drilling**, for the good time and food at the brewery.

Getting into some of the business end of the stick, there has been a publication of a paper for the board’s review from the **DEC** on how the state would like to see the integration of the geothermal drilling industry into our current drilling regulations. Much of this is based on the “definition of a borehole” and how it is classified with a focus on closed loop deeper than 500’. We are currently reviewing this and preparing feedback for the



state of NY. If any of you would like to review it for yourselves, we can provide a link to view it. It is available to our members as well.

On another note, I hope you all are on your second or third book of the **Raffle tickets!** You should have bought yourself some

and sold the rest! 10,000 dollars is what we are talking about here. \$5k for second and \$1k for 3rd. **These can be sold to “ANYONE”; you do not have to be a member to buy a ticket!** Sell them to anyone. We should have them on a link through our **Facebook** page. I cannot stress enough the importance of getting these tickets sold before the January meeting. I am asking for everyone’s participation in this. This raffle is to raise the money needed to continue to have our Big Beautiful meeting at the **Turning Stone**. Their prices have dramatically increased year by year, so we had to come up with some additional income to offset the increasing cost of having our meeting there as well as to benefit our VA **Give Back Program**.

In closing, I would like to see a strong attendance at the Fall meeting that will be held on the western side of the state in **Bolivar, NY**. My family and I, along with **East West Drilling**, will be hosting a live “**Derex 1340 DR**” drilling demo on the grounds of the “**Pioneer Oil**” museum (the old Hahn and Schaffner complex). There you will be able to wander these multi-building grounds that were a part of our drilling past and see actual working hit and miss motors, along with much more. I will just stop here and refer you to the ad that follows in this **Hole Talk**. I hope you all have a profitable summer with minimal swear words used to address the “issues” we all deal with on a daily basis. **Drill on!**

Chris Root, ESWWDA President

ESWWDA SUMMER MEETING

July 11, 2025

The summer general membership meeting of the **Empire State Water Drillers' Association** was called to order on Friday, July 11, 2026, at the Queensbury Hotel at 3:35 pm with 10 members in attendance. Roll call of the directors in attendance or via zoom are the following:

President **Chris Root**

Past President **Dave Rosick**

Directors:

Zack Barlett

Bernie Kistner

Dave Keough

Ed Bates made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as recorded in *Hole Talk*. **Henry Boyd** seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The treasurer's report was reviewed by and accepted by the Board. **President Root** asked the membership for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. **Ed Bates** made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. **Jim Dwyer** seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Copies of the report are available upon request.

President Root addressed the membership. He is concerned about the 50/50 raffle sales and noted that the Board has come up with a few more marketing ideas. One of which would be to encourage the salesperson by giving the person who "sells the winning ticket" \$500. We will also be able to purchase tickets

shortly via the website. He updated the membership on DEC revisions that the Board would be commenting on and the discussion of testing. With the option, again, of writing our own tests so we could return to offering exams at our meetings.

Communications: We received a thank you letter from **Gregory Dominick**, a recent Veteran we had helped.

Sickness & Health: We noted the passing of **Danylo Kulczycky** from Parratt-Wolff who had collaborated with past **President Wills** and **Analisa Bastiani-Jesco** on membership with the P.E.s.

Insurance & Safety: **Analisa Bastiani-Jesco** reported that the **New York Compensation Insurance Rating Board (NYCIRB)** has announced changes to the New York State Construction Classification Premium Adjustment Program, effective October 1, 2025. Under the new guidelines, the credit will only be estimated when quoting a workers' compensation policy. To qualify, businesses must have a minimum premium of \$5,000, possess one or more eligible class codes—such as 5183 for Plumbing and 6204 for Drilling—and meet the program's hourly wage requirements. The final credit will be determined during the premium audit, where the insurance carrier will gather necessary information and submit it to the rating board for credit evaluation. The rating board will then calculate

the final Construction Premium Adjustment Program (CPAP) credit percentage, which will be applied to the final premium.

Membership: **Sue Bates** reported that we have a total of **300 members** with **246 paid** and **54 unpaid**. We have one new associate member, **Aaron Hughes** from **Preferred Pump**.

Scholarship: No report given at this time.

Government Affairs: **President Root** noted that there had been discussion regarding the installation of point wells. DEC might not have a problem with them according to Beth, but the Board advised consulting local and State Health Departments when questions arise.

NEWWA: **Henry Boyd** reported that the NEWWA Board will be meeting at the end of September. Anyone with feedback on the last or future class offerings should reach out to him. **The Expo** will be **March 13-14, 2026** in **Marlborough, MA**.

Budget & Finance: No report given at this time.

Education: **Henry Boyd** reported that there were no classes scheduled until January. He thought more enforcement would help bring people to the classes.

NGWA: An email was sent out to the membership that three new PSI sites in New York State and one new one in Vermont.

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ESWWDA Values

WSC: No report given at this time.

Hole Talk: The next deadline to submit articles is **August 1st**. If anyone is interested in assisting with editing quarterly, please contact **Julie Boyd**.

Public Information: Please review your website information.

DOT: Just a reminder that if you hire a third party to renew your company, make sure they follow through with the filings.

Geothermal: Federal tax credits for residential programs are ending at the end of this year. The commercial tax credits will continue.

Veterans Program: No applicants at this time.

Past Presidents: **Past President Rosick** looked at what the neighboring

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Professional Standards ◦ **Communication**
Education ◦ **Integrity** ◦ **Affordability**

states require for their state licensing along with testing. Vermont requires three years' experience and eight continuing education units per year. Massachusetts requires one year of working under a Massachusetts licensed driller. New Hampshire requires 2-years' experience, a high school degree or GED, and a letter of recommendation.

Old Business: The fall meeting will be held October 3-4 in the "Land of Deer and Derricks" near Wellsville, NY with a Derex drilling demonstration at the **Bolivar Pioneer Oil Museum**

which has working displays and much more. We will be donating a well to the museum. Lunch will be onsite and dinner at a local restaurant. The Board and

General membership meetings will be held at the museum. On Saturday **Dave Root** will be doing an oil field tour.

The annual meeting will be held one week earlier this year **January 13-14, 2026**, at **Turning Stone Casino**.

New Business: No new business at this time.

At 4:30 pm **Dave Rosick** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was followed by a second from **Carol Lawrence**. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:
Julie Boyd

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Kevin Moravec 315-536-3911
Ricky Tompkins 845-629-8301
Zack Barlett 315-331-6900

Education

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952
Sandra Baldwin 518-396-9499
Zack Bartlett 315-331-6900

Membership

Chairperson Sue Bates 315-339-9060
William Frey 716-937-7977
Chris Root 585-593-4309

Insurance/ Safety

Chairperson Analisa Jesco 888-869-3535
William Frey 716-937-7977
Chuck Crover 845-783-9355

Government Affairs

Chairperson Janice Hawk-Baldwin 518-885-7952
Sandra Baldwin 518-885-7952
Jeff Smith 518-758-6142
All Board of Directors

NEWWA

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Julie Bullock 845-225-3196
Alt. Dan Boyd 772-626-4515
James Utter 607-351-1002

Liaisons to NGWA/WSC

Chairperson Mike Palleschi 518-348-6995
Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Dave Keough 845-258-7867
Zack Bartlett 315-331-6900
Richard Moravec 315-536-3911

Budget & Finance

Chairperson Tyler Wills 518-758-6142
Chuck Crover 845-783-9355
Bernie Kistner 845-473-1969
Analisa Jesco 888-869-3535

Hole Talk

Chairperson Julie Bullock 845-225-3196
Sue Bates 315-339-8960

By-Laws

Chairperson Tony Ferraioli 518-861-8733
Henry Boyd 845-225-3196

Environment

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Daniel Boyd 772-626-4515
Mike Palleschi 518-348-6995

DOT

Chairperson Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952
Daniel Boyd 772-626-4515
William Frey 716-937-7977

Geothermal

Chairperson Kevin Moravec 315-536-3911
Richard Tompkins 845-629-8301
Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952

Giving Back

Chairperson Jim Utter 607-582-7436
Sandra Baldwin 518-885-7952
Zack Bartlett 315-331-6900
Tyler Wills 518-758-6142

Supplier's Division

Chairperson Bernie Kistner 845-473-1969
Dave Keough 845-258-7867
Christopher Beatson 585-469-0069

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

August 2025

CATEGORY	TOTAL	PAID	UNPAID
Contractors	170	136	34
Suppliers	56	44	12
Associates	76	69	7
=====			
Total	302	249	53

*Members in arrears for 2+ years
will be dropped from active membership*

**Payments may be made by mailing checks to:
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Analisa M. Bastiani-Jesco

Area Director, Water Well Drillers Insurance Program
518.533.6841 Analisa_Jesco@ajg.com



Tracy E. Wronoski

Area Vice President
518.242.7550 Tracy_Wronoski@ajg.com

30 Century Hill Drive Ste 200 Latham, NY 12110

ESWWDA & You ... A Smart Alliance

The industry is in an era of change. To understand the changes taking place and to lead the industry through its transitions, drillers need to access the best minds available - each other.


That's why your affiliation with the ESWWDA is a smart investment. It's an alliance of individual drillers that work for you and with you.

Your membership gives you access to programs and services specifically formulated for the professional growth and success of water well drillers and pump installers.



The association provides:

- **Educational programs in:** water well drilling, pump installation, general management.
- **Informative newsletter:** *Hole Talk* covers local, state and national issues and news.
- **Annual Tuition Scholarships**
- **A united voice:** ESWWDA speaks for drillers on issues of far-reaching impact.
- **A voice:** A vote on the direction ESWWDA takes.

Join or renew your membership and keep this powerful alliance alive! 

ESWWDA

Membership Application **Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association • Organized 1941**

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Pump Installer \$250

MGWC/CWD/CPI # _____

Supplier/Manufacturer \$250

NYS DEC Reg # _____

Associate Company Member\$50

Sponsor: _____

Retired Member\$50

(Who were self-employed with no employees)

Dues are NOT Tax Deductible

Mail application to: **Susan Bates, 900 N James Street, Rome, NY 13440** (Checks payable to: **ESWWDA**)

Or visit our website at www.nywelldriller.org to join.

TICKETS for SALE

Mud School or Cash Raffle

If you would like to buy tickets before the next meeting, please send me a check or call with a credit card to buy tickets. I will then send them to you in the mail. **Mud School** drawing is \$30 per ticket and the drawing will be October 2025. **Cash raffle** is \$50 per ticket and the drawing will be January 2026.

Checks made out to ESWWDA and mailed to **Julie Boyd** at **1054 Route 52, Carmel, NY 10512**.

Want tickets? Call **Julie** at **845-225-3196**, email **Julie** at **jewels2564@aol.com** or go on the **ESWWDA** website at **<http://www.nywelldriller.org>** to purchase tickets.

BAROID MUD SCHOOL

Win 1 of 2 chances to attend mud school in
Houston, TX in 2026

Drawing: October 2025 at the
General Membership Meeting

Tickets: \$30.00 each

Winner need not be present to win

Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

First Prize \$10,000

2 - Second Prizes of \$5,000 each

5 - Third Prizes of \$1,000 each

ESWWDA Annual Meeting - January 14, 2026

winner need not be present to win

Ticket Prices: \$50.00 per ticket

See Board members or staff to purchase tickets.

We appreciate your generous support of our organization!

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Contact: Michael Palleschi, PG, CPG
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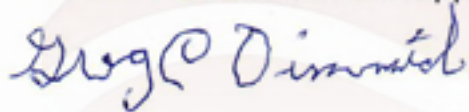


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You have no idea how much I appreciate the water!



Gregory Dimmick

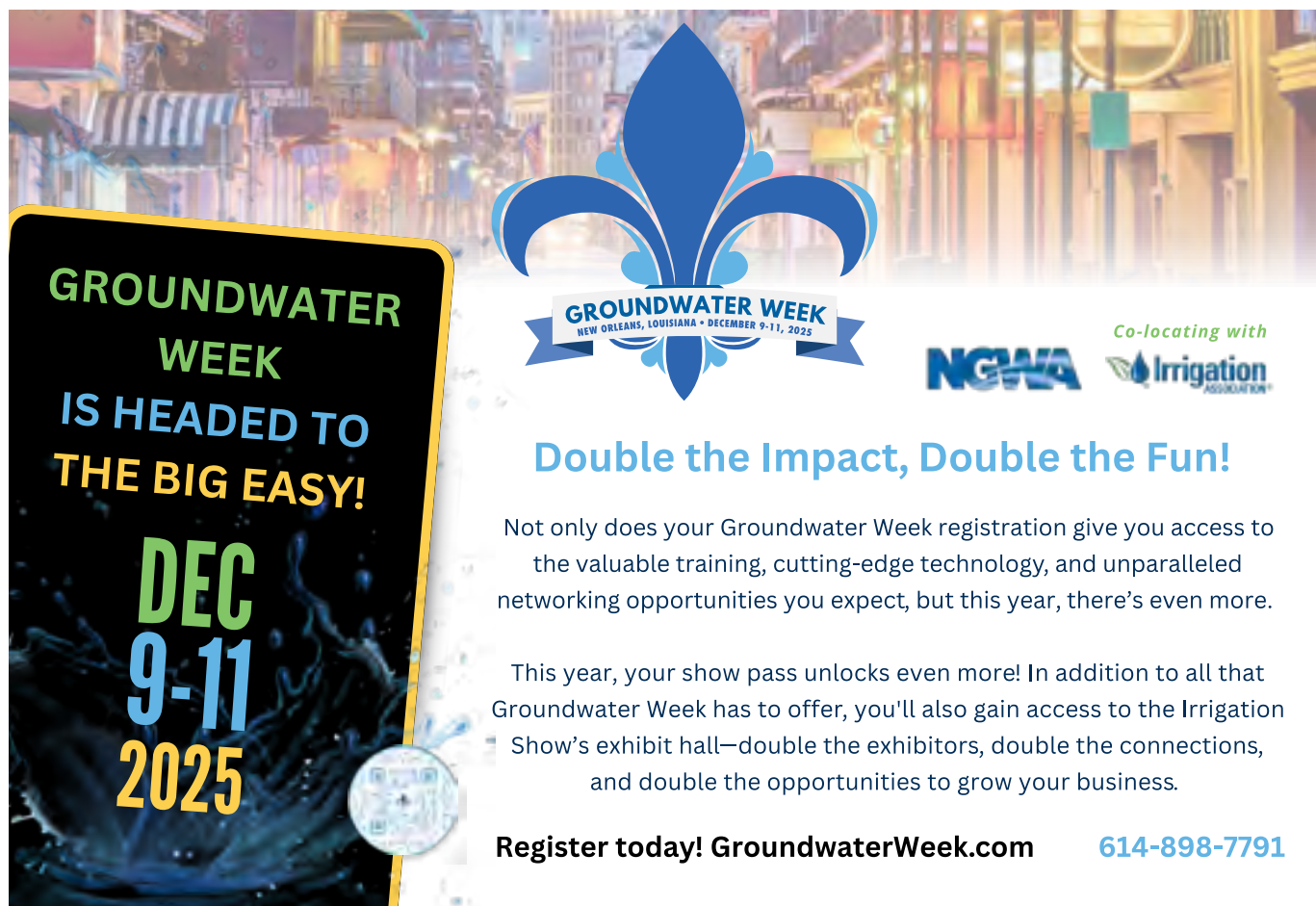
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End of an Era

On May 13, 2025, Dempsey Steel Pipe Co. in Walden, NY held its final auction, marking the end of an era for a business that had long served the community and the groundwater industry. The auction featured everything from steel and plastic culverts to forklifts and even a Triumph motorcycle - a real testament to the scale and legacy of the operation.



Dan Dempsey Jr. received the **ESWDA Ed Ebel Award** earlier this year and that was a fitting recognition of his dedication and impact. It's clear that both **Dan** and **Judi** have left a lasting impression not just through their business, but through their friendship and service.

Dempsey Steel Pipe Company, Inc., as it is now known, located on Route 17K in Coldenham, was started in 1954 as a branch yard of Dempsey Pipe & Supply of Bolivar, New York (which is approximately 275 miles west of Coldenham). The business in Bolivar was established in 1884 and is still in operation today on the same piece of property where it began 120 years ago.

The decision to open a branch yard in Orange County was made after considerable research was done regarding potential customers of what would become the company's main product: water well casing. A large concentration of water well drillers were found in the lower Hudson Valley. **Dan Dempsey, Sr.** decided to do some "missionary work" to determine if it would be worthwhile to open shop in this area. Limited success was had on a small scale by calling on well drillers and selling whatever casing could be transported on Dan's pick-up

truck. In the spring of 1954, a driller in Dutchess County ordered a truckload of well casing. Shortly after that, Dan told his father and brother he thought they should open a yard somewhere in this vicinity. Three acres of land were purchased at the corner of 17K and Maple Avenue in the Town of Montgomery. In September of 1954 business began. From that time until July of 1955 when he moved his family into a new house on Maple Avenue, Dan drove back and forth every weekend from Coldenham to Friendship, New York, where his family lived with Pat's mother. Dan worked by himself for the first two years; in October 1956 he hired his first full-time employee. In 1962, two acres of adjoining land were acquired. The business was growing, and the need for more land had become apparent. In 1964, Dempsey's became a distributor for Bucyrus-Erie drilling equipment, and for the next two years they were the #1 distributor in the United States for the sale of well drilling machines.



In 1966, Dan bought out his father and brother's share of the Coldenham operation. Now, for the first time since he started working for his father in 1946, he was on his own.

In 1968, the move was made into the present offices and warehouse. Until then, business had been conducted in an old barn, which is still standing on the original parcel of land.

Dan, Jr. joined the firm in 1970 and has since taken over the business in November 2004 with his wife **Judi**. Their youngest daughter **Mary Anne** helped to look after the day-to-day work and manage Dan's office. **George Holbrook** answered the phone, made out invoices and quoted prices to customers. **Doris Riley** was Judi's assistant in the bookkeeping department. **Steve Depew** and **Ken Cobb** did an excellent job threading the well casing that had become their trademark. **Doug Guercia** was the area driver and **Dave Correa** handled the mechanical work on all the equipment.



Now as they reach the half-century mark and look back over the years, they realize that what brought **Dan, Sr.** here in 1954, was the need for water well casing. Other lines had been added over the years, such as plastic and metal culvert pipe, small sizes of pipe, used pipe and fittings. But, well casing continued to be their mainstay. Confident, because of their success in the past, and keeping an eye to the future, they continued the tradition that made the name **DEMPSEY** synonymous with steel pipe and personalized service. 🗨️



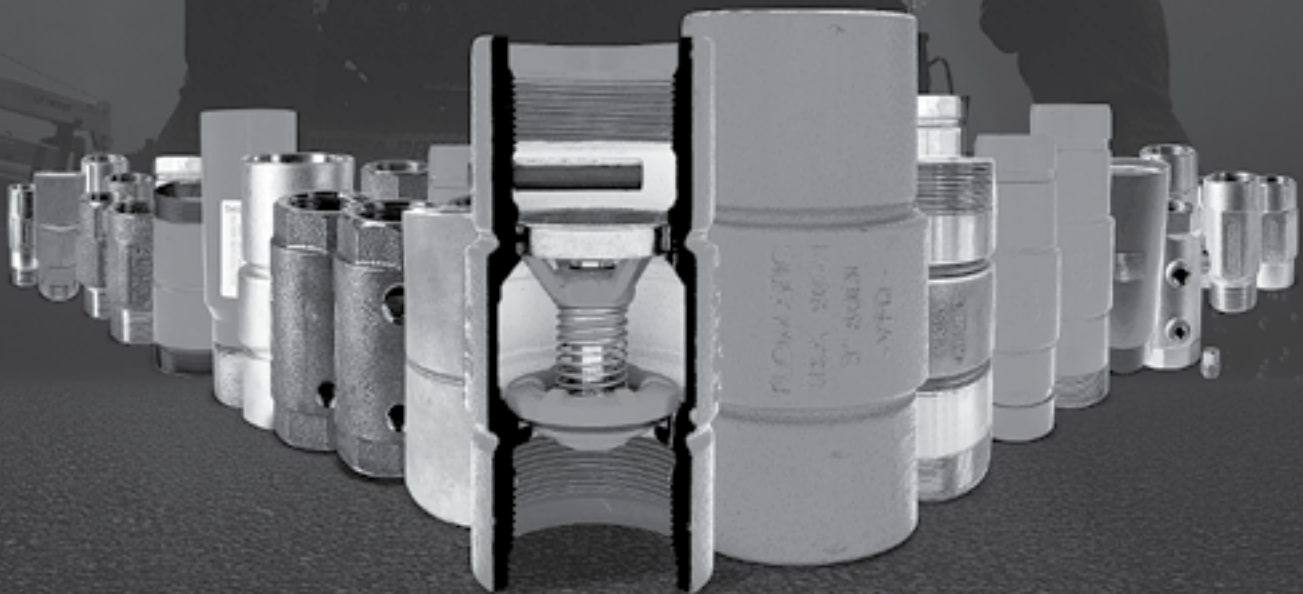


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Make A Mental Map

From NGWA Safety Facts Sheets

You're a stranger iWhen you're on an extended automobile trip, it's a good idea to keep a road map handy, especially if you're in strange territory. And occasionally you may run across a diagram on the bulletin board or in a newspaper that holds your attention. In either case, the map or the diagram assists you in finding your way around or in obtaining some other kind of information.

Rarely do you see anyone walking around at work with a map. That's because each person has a mental map of where they must go to perform their job. But, a mental map shouldn't stop at simple directions. For safety's sake, the mental map you make should carry several other important items, such as location of the first aid station, fire extinguishers and other emergency equipment. But above all, it should carry a well-defined picture of your job and the equipment you use. Here are a couple of actual cases that occurred in another part of the state which highlight the importance of mental alertness on the job:

The branch office of a bank was robbed and a sizeable amount of money was taken. The manager, in an exhibition of foolhardiness, pursued the hold-up man out the door. In the chase that followed, the manager fell down and fractured his knee. Actually, he was lucky not to have been shot.

No doubt the manager had been instructed as to how to react in a hold-up situation, and maybe he had even instructed other employees on the same subject. But, when the emergency arose, he reacted contrary to good judgment, and although he escaped unharmed in the hold-up, he was injured in the action that followed.

Apparently, he didn't have a mental map, or he got it confused with something he had seen on television. After the hold-up man left, the branch manager should have gone to the nearest telephone or alarm system. Pursuit of the hold-up man added an unsafe act to an already unsafe situation.

In another incident, a foreman was explaining the function of a die to a die-setter. While pointing, the foreman placed his finger on the die and the press accidentally cycled, amputating his finger.

In this instance, a mental lapse resulted in an accident. Needless to say, the mishap to the foreman proved to be a very realistic explanation of the function of the die.

These incidents illustrate that alertness makes a mental map readable.

Here are some items that safety experts say should be included on your mental map, in addition to your own work area and equipment:


- The closest first aid station and procedures for contacting the police and an ambulance.
- The closest fire extinguisher and fire alarm.

It's obvious why these items head the list, although the other suggestions are not necessarily of less importance in their own right.

Other items are:

- where to turn in tools for repair;
- where tools, other than the ones you keep and use at your workplace, are kept;
- the nearest water fountain;
- areas where you're most likely to encounter either hand or motorized trucks;
- areas where there may be danger from high working places or suspended loads;
- the spot where you can usually find your foreman;
- the nearest restroom and the nearest exit.

You've probably got other things in mind that could be added to the list. For instance, if you worked with chemicals, you would certainly include the closest eye-wash fountain and emergency shower.

The important thing to know is where to go and how to get there the quickest and safest way. People in pain or under stress may act unwisely. They may hurry around aggravating their problems and accomplishing nothing. This is where the good mental map comes in. It can help you react to emergency situations in the safest way as well as to perform your regular job safely. 

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New York State Water Well Contractor Exam Requirements

To meet the requirements of ECL §15-1525, an individual must take and pass, with a score of 70% or better:

- Two exams (General Drilling Exam and one additional drilling exam) for drilling; and
- Two exams (Water Systems General Exam and one additional pump exam) for pump installation and service.

The exams listed below are designed to test your knowledge in each area of expertise. Each exam consists of 50 questions (unless otherwise noted). Candidates have one hour to complete each exam. Each exam costs \$75. PSI Services LLC administers the exams by computer at test centers nationwide. All testing centers are ADA compliant. If you require special accommodations, please contact the National Ground Water Association (NGWA) at 800-551-7379.

Drilling categories:

General drilling exam
Exam A/B: Cable tool drilling
Exam C/D: Air rotary drilling
Exam E/F: Mud rotary drilling
Exam G: Reverse circulation drilling
Exam H: Jetting and driving wells
Exam M: Augering and monitoring
(75 questions)

Pump categories:

Water systems general exam
Exam K: Water systems less than 100 gpm
Exam L: Water systems more than 100 gpm

Specialty exam category:

Exam N: Well servicing and maintenance

For study materials and additional information, contact:

National Ground Water Association
800-551-7379
www.ngwa.org

Empire State Water Well Drillers Association, Inc.
Henry or Julie Boyd
845-225-3196
jewels2564@aol.com

To sign up to take the exam at a location near you, contact:

PSI Services LLC
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<https://test-takers.psiexams.com/ngwa>

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Watertown, New York 13601
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Site Name

Buffalo - Brainseed Testing Services

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New York 12053

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Gardenville Commercial Center
Buffalo, New York 14224
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Site Name

Rochester - S and S Testing Inc.

State

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3300 Monroe Ave
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State

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Site Name

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New York 18324

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625 Bomber Dr., Suite 133
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Clifton Park - HRB

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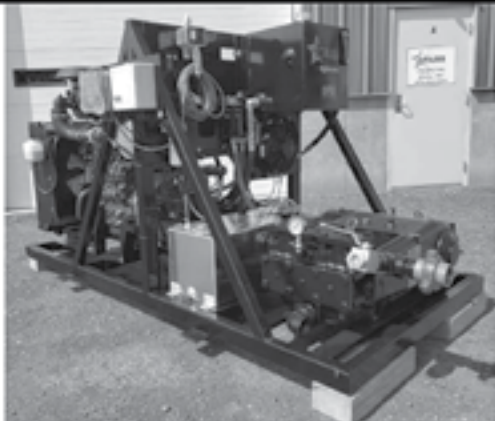
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Site Name

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Downtown**

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New York, New York 10038
USA

Site Name

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State

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Address

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USA

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State

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USA

Site Name

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State

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USA

Site Name

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- Room B**

State

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Address

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Staten Island, New York 10314
USA

Site Name

Westbury - HTC Testing Center

State

New York 13174

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Address

320 Post Ave., Suite 102
Westbury, New York 11590
USA

Site Name

Corning - Corning Community College

State

New York 12032

Active

Address

1 Academic Drive
Room 102 Chemung Hall (CHM 102)
Corning, New York 14830
USA

Site Name

Binghamton - AVNA Learning Center

State

New York 12054

Active

Address

520 Columbia Drive, Suite 101
Johnson City, New York 13790
USA

HR Corner

Jury Duty Updates

Effective June 8, 2025, New York has amended Section 519 of the Judiciary Law to increase the required compensation for jury service. Previously, employers were required to pay jurors \$40 per day for the first three (3) days of service. The amended law raises this amount to \$72 per day for the first three (3) days.

Employer Requirements

- **Non-Exempt Employees:** Employers with 11 or more New York employees must pay non-exempt employees \$72 per day for the first three (3) days of jury service. Time off beyond this period may be unpaid.
- **Exempt Employees:** Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), exempt employees who perform any work during a workweek must receive their full salary, regardless of time spent on jury duty. Employers may offset the amount paid by the state against the employee's salary.
- **Employers with 10 or Fewer Employees:** These employers are not required to provide paid jury duty leave. The state will compensate employees directly.

Employers may choose to adopt more generous policies than those required by law, such as providing full pay for the entire duration of jury service or offering pay regardless of employee count.

OSHA Extends Its National Emphasis Program on Outdoor and Indoor Heat Hazards

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has extended its National Emphasis Program (NEP) on heat hazards to safeguard

millions of workers from heat illness and injuries. NEPs are temporary programs designed to focus OSHA's resources on specific hazards and high-hazard industries, with this extension continuing until April 8, 2026.

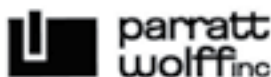
The program enables OSHA to conduct heat-related workplace inspections to prevent avoidable injuries, illnesses, or fatalities. Inspections will be conducted on days when the National Weather Service has issued a heat warning or advisory for a local area and the heat index is 80 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. The NEP specifically targets over 70 high-risk industries in both indoor and outdoor work settings, including manufacturing, wholesale trade, restaurants, retail, bakeries, landscaping, and construction. OSHA inspectors and compliance assistance specialists will also engage in proactive outreach and provide technical assistance to help stakeholders ensure worker safety. You can go to the summer 2025 issue of Hole Talk for more information on OSHA Heat Hazards.

DOL Issues Enforcement Guidance on Independent Contractor Misclassification

On May 13, 2025, the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Wage and Hour Division (WHD) issued a new Field Assistance Bulletin (FAB) offering updated guidance on how agency investigators should determine whether a worker is an employee or an independent contractor under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). This update has important implications for employers navigating worker classification compliance while the 2024 final rule remains under legal review.

DOL's 2024 final rule, Employee or Independent Contractor Classification Under the Fair Labor Standards

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Act, sought to redefine classification criteria but is currently being challenged in federal court. While this legal review is ongoing, the DOL has directed WHD investigators not to apply the 2024 rule in enforcement matters. However, the guidance notes that “the 2024 Rule remains in effect for purposes of private litigation”.

What Guidance is Being Followed?

Until the legal status of the 2024 rule is resolved, the WHD will base its enforcement on:

- Fact Sheet #13, which outlines traditional “economic realities” tests.
- Opinion Letter FLSA2019-6, which provides analysis specific to virtual marketplace platforms and other modern work arrangements.

This approach does not alter the FLSA’s current regulations but clarifies how enforcement resources will be allocated in the interim.

Key Considerations for Employers

Although still under review, it is not currently being used to assess classification in active investigations. Any conflicting direction previously provided to WHD staff is replaced by this bulletin. The Wage and Hour

Administrator retains authority to investigate individual misclassification cases deemed appropriate.

Why This Matters

HR Works, headquartered in Upstate New York, is a human resource management outsourcing and consulting firm serving clients throughout the United States for over thirty years. HR Works provides scalable strategic human resource management and consulting services, including affirmative action programs; benefits administration outsourcing; HRIS self-service technology; full-time, part-time and interim on-site HR managers; HR audits; legally reviewed employee handbooks and supervisor manuals; talent management and recruiting services; and training of managers and HR professionals.

Worker classification under the FLSA affects minimum wage, overtime, and other wage and hour protections. Misclassification of employees as independent contractors can result in significant liability, including unpaid wages, liquidated damages, and civil penalties. DOL’s clarification helps employers maintain compliance amid regulatory uncertainty and underscores the importance of correctly applying long-standing classification principles.



Condolence Corner



The ESWWDA wishes to express its sincere condolences to the family, friends and co-workers of **Danylo Orest Kulczycky**, aka “DK” of Fayetteville, NY. DK passed away at the age of 40 on June 26, 2025 following a 10 year battle with brain cancer. Danylo was President at **Parratt-Wolff** and was active with the ESWWDA

DK is survived by this wife, **Roksolana Stets** and their daughter **Kalyna** as well as his parents, a brother, a sister and several aunts and uncles

A gathering to celebrate his life was held on July 1, 2025 at **Buranich Funeral Home** in Camillus, NY. A church service took place on July 2, 205 at **St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church** in Syracuse followed by the burial.

A donation in his memory was made to **The Foundation for Metabolic Cancer Therapies**, 3213 West Main St., #262, Rapid City, SD 57702. Donations may also be made online at foundationformetabolicscancertherapies.com.

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(800) 733-9267

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Water Systems Council:

(202) 625-4387

www.watersystemscouncil.org

American Ground Water Trust

(603) 228-5444

trustinfo@agwt.org

ESWWDA: Julie Boyd

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Scholarship Money Available

As we approach the beginning of another school year, college-bound students and their families are searching for available funds to help offset the cost of further education. The ESWWDA offers a scholarship to applicants whose course of study is **related to the water well industry**. Preference is given to family members of association members and secondly to those attending 2-year programs at an accredited school.

Further information is available by contacting the **Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Jim Utter.**

Albert H. Mack Scholarship Guidelines

Guidelines for the establishment of the scholarship fund and awarding of scholarship monies for ESWWDA:

A. Scholarship Fund

1. Maximum funds available in one calendar year: \$2,500.
2. One thousand dollars per year to be set aside until the fund reaches \$7,500.

B. Awarding of Scholarships

1. Preference to be given to sons or daughters of association members.
2. Preference to be given to students attending 2-year programs.

3. Scholarships available only to persons whose course of study is related to the water well industry.
4. Persons may make application to the scholarship committee only after acceptance at an accredited school, offering a program related to the water well industry.
5. Funds may be distributed to more than one person in any one calendar year.
6. Scholarship funds are released upon acknowledgment of grades.

Daniel M. Shultes Scholarship Fund Guidelines

This scholarship is a one-time award to children of Contractor members in good standing who are attending college in a field of study outside the industry or areas not covered by the Al Mack Scholarship.

Awarding of Scholarships

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- Preference to be given to students attending minimum of a 2-year program
- Persons may make applications to the scholarship committee only after acceptance at an accredited school.
- Funds may be distributed to more than one person in any one calendar year.
- Application deadline is April 1st of each year.

- Applicants are selected via a blind selection process.
- The number of scholarships and the amount of the scholarship are at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee and cannot exceed a total of \$1000 per calendar year.
- Scholarship funds are released upon acknowledgment of grades.

For more information contact the scholarship committee or go on our website at **www.nywelldriller.org**

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Jewels2564@aol.com
or **Gramsue67@gmail.com**
no later than **November 1, 2025**,
the next **Hole Talk** deadline.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3-4, 2025

Water Systems Council 2015 Fall Members' Meeting

Hammock Beach Golf Course, Palm Beach, FL

For details www.watersystemscouncil.org

October 3-4, 2025

ESWWDA Fall Meeting and Derex Dual Rotary Demo

See front page for information.

or www.nywelldriller.org

December 9-11, 2025

NGWA Groundwater Expo and trade show,

New Orleans, LA

For details www.ngwa.org

January 13-14, 2026

ESWWDA Annual Meeting

Turning Stone Resort & Casino,

Verona, NY

Hosted by the Bates family

For details www.nywelldriller.org

March 13-14, 2026

New England Water Well Expo

Best Western, Royal Plaza Trade Center

Marlborough, MA

For more information: <https://newwassociation.org>

April 2026

Yet to be determined, details to follow

Visit www.nywelldriller.org