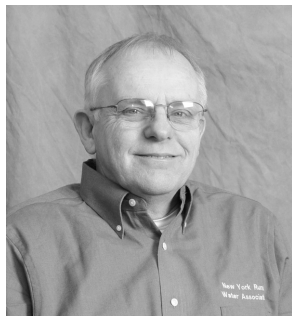


## The List . . .

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**T**he list grows longer and time to do the list grows shorter. What's on "your" list of things to do? Mine includes visit systems, plan and deliver training, plan for training at the Annual Conference, and before you know it, the year is over and it is time to start again, or is it a continuation of years past. Points

to ponder.

Each year the staff at NYRWA puts together our Annual Technical Conference, (no easy job), statewide training events and the field staff visits with systems to aid with requests for assistance. Sounds repetitious, but believe me, it's not. Each new day, new requests or issues to deal with. A good example would be a typical day in the life of traveling New York. Since I am a lumpy water guy, this will be about lumpy water.

My first plant visit is an older mode of trickling filter. They are considering changing the rock media to plastic. What's the good and bad is the question I am asked. This one is easy . . . no bad. Hard work with positive results.

Onto the second stop, an activated sludge facility with surface aerators. Their question is, how do we maintain a DO in the summer, and how do we keep the electric bill from going out of site? Again the easy answer is to switch to fine

bubble diffusers and new blowers and motors with variable speed drives.

The next plant is an RBC style with settling problems in the secondary clarifiers . . . see where this is going. Each plant is treating wastewater, but with different types of treatment options. The same, but different.

One thing that is common to all is a lack of money and budget constraints.

In previous articles, I have talked about shared services, sharing purchases to keep costs down. Little things that add up over time. Pennies saved are dollars earned. Somehow the old quotes keep coming back.

Back to a day of travel with NYRWA, the phone rings and it is a village clerk wanting assistance with a VA / ERP. Speaking of VA's / ERP's, is yours done yet? So as you see everyday something different is needed and different solutions are applied to fit the plant or issue of assistance requested.

Another facet of my job is the travel and I am frequently asked "what's my territory" and my answer is "New York State", from Plattsburgh to Niagara Falls, to Ripley, to Greenport, Long Island, that's my territory. Big state, many miles, but the one outstanding benefit is meeting and helping the operators, clerks, and elected officials that make New York special.

I must stop now, my grandson needs technical assistance with his train set, another benefit.

Nuff said, see ya. 💧