

SUMMER ISSUE | JUNE 2023

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The Official Voice for the Alberta Association of Recreation Facility Personnel (RFP)

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2023 AARFP Conference & Trade Show

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Inside This Issue

President's Report	4
Executive Director's Report	5
AARFP Arena Stream Representative	6
2023 RFP Course Schedule	7
2023 RFP Course Registration	8
Community Naturalization - Where do we start?	10
Not-so-obvious ways to reduce your chlorine usage	13
The Magic of Acoustics	17
Connecting & Re-Connecting in Recreation	18
Empowering Women in Industry	24
Documenting an Integrity Management System	28
Intelligent Rink - Energy Management Control Systems	32

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MISSION STATEMENT

Providing education, consultation and advocacy in Recreation Facility Operations.

VISION

To be leaders in recreation facility operations contributing to an active Alberta.

VALUES

- **Leadership** - Furthering our level of professionalism, integrity, and respect in the field of Recreation Facility Operations.
- **Fellowship** - Sharing knowledge, providing support and networking opportunities to our members and their communities.
- **Passion** - Passion for what we do and how it contributes to 'Active Living' in a healthier Alberta.
- **Diversity & Inclusion** - Dedicated to creating a safe and inclusive environment that embraces diversity at all levels.

OUR CODE OF ETHICS

Members shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the following:

- Act ethically and morally
- Maintain high ideals and integrity in all relationships
- Promote the Mission, Vision, Values and Goals of the Association independently, in groups and with partners
- Follow the Association's by-laws and laws of the land
- Interact with fellow members and invite prospective members
- Refrain from any activity that may disgrace or may be in conflict with the Association or employer
- In all these ways transmit this Association, not lessen but lift it, to greater heights.



We gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance from the lottery funds distributed by the Alberta Recreation and Physical Activity Division.

President's Report



Sonia Dodd – AARFP President – sdodd@stettler.net

Hello everyone,

Our Conference & Trade Show was great! Not only did the theme match, but everyone in attendance went away with something, whether it was education, new connections, or swag. This conference aligned with our values of Leadership, Passion, Fellowship and Diversity and Inclusion, alongside our theme of Re-Connecting in Recreation. I can confidently announce that we hit a home run at the conference. The hard work done by the AARFP office staff making sure all the I's were dotted and t's crossed made organizing the conference a smooth process. Chris, your team was exceptional, which can only happen when you have a leader that believes in the staff. The leadership, Chris had shown as Conference Chair, made the conference. Organizing and managing the details ensured the success of the conference. The decision that the board and office staff could run the conference was difficult, but Chris knew that we could do it. I would also like to add that many years ago Chris brought me into the world of recreation, his passion and belief in those he hires is overwhelming. With our current roles as President and Executive Director, this is an exciting opportunity for growth.

To the team that Chris has built, welcome! John started last September as the Technical Director, has a vast reservoir of knowledge regarding the recreation industry, and I look forward to what you are going to accomplish in the future. Thank you for keeping the board organized and on task during the conference. To Helena, as the Marketing and Communication Coordinator, you were hired in February, and you had so much to accomplish for the conference, and we see your abilities! Maren, our Education Coordinator, I cannot thank you enough for all your hard work. Although this was your second conference, it did not seem like it. AARFP is moving forward and thanks to the hard work in the Office, we have a new website and a membership portal. Though change is good, it is still new and there are kinks we need to work out. So, if you have any feedback or concerns, we would like to hear from you.

I would like to thank those on the board, both incoming and outgoing. Russ Tanner for the many years on the board, then stepping up yet again, your leadership and insight was appreciated. Those that let their names stand for, yet another term shows that you are committed to the mission, vision, and values of AARFP. Craig Dilts, coming forward for President-Elect, you will be huge asset on the presidential side of the organization as you were amazing as the Arena Representative. Who knew that you were never on social media before! The posts, videos and creating connections were what the arena

group wanted and needed. The Arena Survey is a great idea, and it will grow and help facility operators in the future. As part of the board, I welcome Adrian, the new Arena Representative to our team. I'm excited to see that Larry, Umesh, and Andrew, have two more years on the board, congratulations.

To our Associates, though I did make it through the Trade Show, I was amazed to see so many new associates and of course those that have been there since the beginning. We thank you. To our conference sponsors, WOW! Is all that comes to mind. For our new course sponsors, we thank you for your support and I am excited to grow our relationship.

Our Strategic Plan is focused on education, marketing, membership growth and improvement, and political growth. We are moving forward, our education has increased within the province, exceeding predictions. This growth comes from the hard work of Maren organizing and reaching out to communities and facilities, alongside Larry, our Education Representative and of course all the instructors who share their knowledge and experience. The marketing plan is well underway, I know that Helena and Chris will blow this out of the park. For membership growth and improvement, we have a new website, and our stream reps are more than ready to engage. For our political growth, we have reached out to various organizations like our sister organizations in BC and Nova Scotia, Ag societies, ARPA, AHS, RDP, AMHSA and Lifesaving Society. We will work together to educate facility operators, making facilities safer and sustainable for the future.

I would like to thank Shawntel for all the hard work she has done for AARFP. Though you are no longer working for us you will always be in touch. Congratulations on your new position with RFABC as Education Manager.

Lastly, I am humbled in receiving the Award of Merit, I thank Rob for the nomination and the Past Presidents committee. I have been on the board for over 14 years because I believe in the organization. My first course was with Don Dombrosky and from then on, I never looked back. I needed to share my knowledge with others, instructing Pool operators so that they could have a safe and inviting facility. The mentors along my journey have been exceptional. The award also goes out to my mentors. A few people stated after the banquet that they were in their current position, because of what I believed in. I thank you for those kind words. If what we can do as a recreational leader is to be an amazing mentor, DO THAT. Not everyone has the capacity to volunteer for the organization, but you can always be an amazing mentor. 

Executive Director's Report



Chris McKenna – AARFP Executive Director – executivedirector@aarfp.com


I hope you all had a great Spring Season. Summer is here. Our 2023 Conference was held at the Red Deer Resort and Casino on April 23rd – 26th. We all had a great time, and we are already working on the 2024 Conference which will be held in Lethbridge on April 21 – 24, 2024. Our next big event is our Annual Symposium, which is being held in Lacombe during the week of July 17th – 22nd. This is a great educational event, because you can take more than one course in the same location during the same week.

Our new Board is in place, led by the new President, Sonia Dodd. We will be meeting 6 times during the year, with our annual planning session in September. Please reach out to any of the Board members, or our staff, with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Just to remind everyone, we have moved our office location from Cochrane to Northeast Calgary. Please feel free to drop in at any time.

Our course schedule for 2023 continues to look good, and we hope you have a chance to attend some courses this year.

We continue our work with the Recreation Facilities Association of British Columbia (RFABC) and the Recreation Facilities Association of Nova Scotia (RFAN) on collaborating on course delivery and strengthening relationships. Three representatives from the Nova Scotia Association attended our Conference for the first time this year, and it was great to have them there. We will be going to Nova Scotia this summer to provide training in Arena Operations.

In closing, I would like to thank our AARFP Board for all their hard work and the staff for doing such a good job. 

Chris McKenna
AARFP Executive Director
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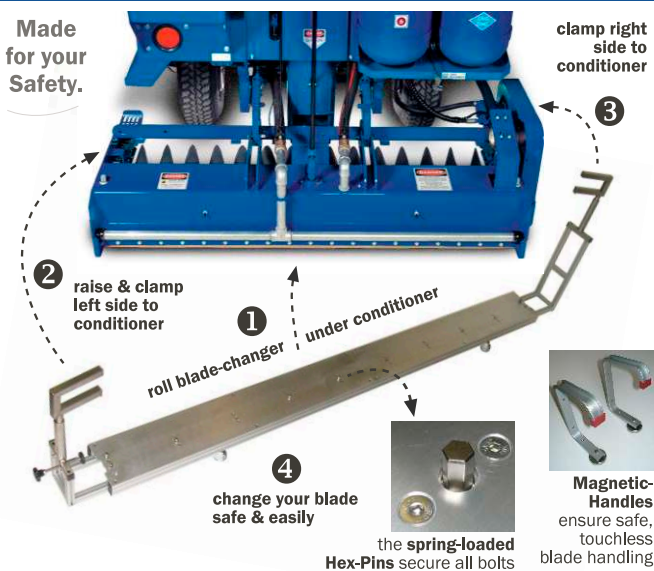
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Arena Stream Representative



Adrian Thibault | adrian.thibault@outlook.com

Hi my name is Adrian Thibault, and I was elected as your Arena Stream Representative. I am looking forward to working with the RFP board and trying my best to help the arena professionals with their issues or at least helping them access the resources that will help.

Ultimately, I am volunteering with RFP to try and make the industry, which I love, but can be challenging at times, an easier to work in. Whether it be through education, advocacy or networking we can all use a little help now and then. Most people don't know this about me; I won Male Athlete of the year in grade 11 and 12, not for my golf skill or hockey, but for my dominance in singles badminton. 🏸

15th Annual AARFP Symposium 2023 JULY 17-22, 2023

Lacombe, AB

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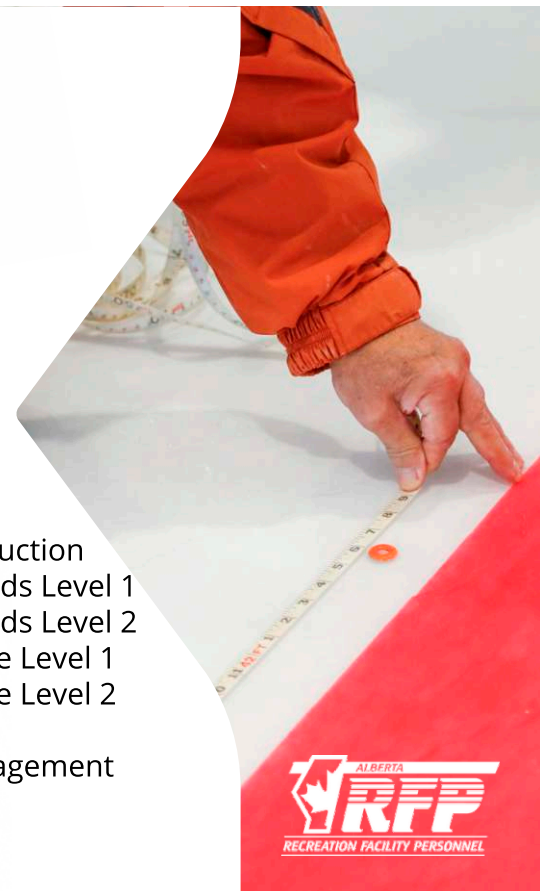
RFP Course Proposals

Interested in hosting a course:

Fill out **THIS FORM** and email it to office@aarfp.com before **August 30!** Any facility that hosts a course is entitled to **ONE FREE SPOT** in that course!

Which course are you hosting?

- Arena Operator Level 1
- Arena Operator Level 2
- Arena Maintenance
- Natural Ice Making
- Pool Operator Level 1
- Pool Operator Level 2
- Developing a Policy & Procedure Manual
- Ball Diamond Construction
- Parks and Sports Fields Level 1
- Parks and Sports Fields Level 2
- Building Maintenance Level 1
- Building Maintenance Level 2
- Leadership Skills
- Lifecycle & Risk Management



2023 Course Schedule



PLEASE NOTE FOR THE 2023 RFP COURSE SCHEDULE

Please refer to the website (www.aarfp.com) for the most current schedule of our course offerings. If there are discrepancies between the printed version and the website, the website is correct.

JUNE 2023

June 5-6 & 12-13, 2023

Pool Operator Level 1ONLINE

June 13 - 14, 2023

Pool Operator Level 1 ..Calgary\Pinnacle Aquatics

June 5 - 6, 2023

Parks & Sport Fields Level 1Hanna

June 19 - 20, 2023

Parks & Sport Fields Level 1Millet

June 21 - 22, 2023

Parks & Sport Fields Level 2Millet

June 26-29, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Leduc

JULY 2023

July 6-7, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Airdrie

AUGUST 2023

August 3-4, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Brooks

August 9-10 & 16-17, 2023

Pool Operator Level 1ONLINE

August 10-11, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Fort Saskatchewan

August 14-15, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Okotoks

August 15-18, 2023

Arena Operator Level 2Springbank

August 15-16, 2023

Parks & Sport Fields Level 1Coaldale

August 17-18, 2023

Parks & Sport Fields Level 2Coaldale

SEPTEMBER 2023

September 6-7, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Millet

September 6-7, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Valleyview

September 8, 2023

Arena Maintenance (Z)Rivière Qui Barre

September 11-12, 2023

Arena Operator Level 1Rocky Mountain House

September 11 - 12, 2023

Building Maintenance Level 1Lac La Biche

September 13 - 14, 2023

Building Maintenance Level 2Lac La Biche

September 13, 2023

Arena Maintenance (O)Rocky Mountain House

September 13 - 14, 2023

Pool Operator Level 1Three Hills

September 18-21, 2023

Arena Operator Level 2Olds

September 22-23

Custodial CareEdson

OCTOBER 2023

October 3-6, 2023

Arena Operator Level 2Beaumont

October 5 - 6, 2023

Pool Operator Level 1Lethbridge

October 17-18 & 24-25, 2023

Pool Operator Level 1ONLINE

October 16-18, 2023

Leadership SkillsCalgary - Office

October 16-17, 2023

Building Maintenance Level 1Lethbridge

October 18-19, 2023

Building Maintenance Level 2Lethbridge

October 24-27, 2023

Arena Operator Level 2Brooks

NOVEMBER 2023

November 6-7, 2023

Building Maintenance Level 1Calgary - MTC

November 8-9, 2023

Building Maintenance Level 2Calgary - MTC

November 14-16 & 21-23, 2023

Leadership SkillsONLINE

November 14-17, 2023

Pool Operator Level 2Leduc

November 15-16 & 22-23, 2023

Pool Operator Level 1ONLINE

November 24, 2023

Natural IceLake Louise

15th Annual AARFP Symposium 2023 – JULY 17-22, 2023

JULY 17-18, 2023
BUILDING MAINTENANCE LEVEL 1

JULY 18, 2023
PARKS & SPORT FIELDS LEVEL 1

JULY 17-18, 2023
POOL OPERATOR LEVEL 1

JULY 17-19, 2023
LEADERSHIP SKILLS

JULY 19-20, 2023
BUILDING MAINTENANCE LEVEL 2

JULY 19-20, 2023
PARKS & SPORT FIELDS LEVEL 2

JULY 19-22, 2023
POOL OPERATOR LEVEL 2

JULY 20, 2023
LIFECYCLE & RISK MANAGEMENT

JULY 21, 2023
CUSTODIAL CARE

JULY 21, 2023
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2023 Course Registration



CLASS SIZE:

Maximum of 20 Students

COURSE START TIME:

8:30 a.m.

FINISH TIME:

5:00 p.m. on the last day

NOTE:

* Level 2 will be required to do some after class & evening work.

- Arena Level 1
- Certified Swimming Pool Level 1
- Building Mtce. Level 1
- Building Mtce. Level 2
- Parks & Sport Fields 1
- Parks & Sport Fields 2

\$467.25 (Plus GST)

- Arena Level 2*
- Swimming Pool Level 2*

\$735.00 (Plus GST)

- Leadership Skills

\$551.25 (Plus GST)

- Arena Mtce.
- Lifecycle/Risk Management
- Custodial
- Developing a Policy & Procedure Facility Manual

\$304.50 (Plus GST)

If you are **NOT** a current member, you will need to become one before you can register for a course. Everyone has to have a current Membership to attend an RFP course. This membership provides you with benefits such as access to our quarterly newsletters, and several other online features you can check out at www.aarfp.com!

Membership Rates:

NOTE: ALL MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31st.

- Individual: \$105 – (Plus GST)
- Facility: \$441 – (Plus GST)
- Associate: \$341.25 – (Plus GST)

Pro-rated Membership Rates:

AFTER JUNE 30th
ALL MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31st.

- Individual: \$52.50 – (Plus GST)
- Facility: \$220.50 – (Plus GST)
- Associate: \$170.63 – (Plus GST)

Memberships are due at the time of purchase.

PAYMENT OPTIONS: Payment can be made by EFT, credit card, cheque, or with a purchase order.

Payment MUST BE RECEIVED one week prior to the start of the course. Payment will not be accepted at the course.

*** Please Note for the 2023 RFP Course Schedule ***

Please refer to the website (www.aarfp.com) for the most current schedule of our course offerings. If there are discrepancies between the printed version and the website, the website is correct.

Dates and locations are subject to change.

Courses may be added, rescheduled, or cancelled throughout the year.

Online Training Reminder

Don't forget that online training is available through our partners! Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP) is offering courses for the Recreation Facility Management Certificates and Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Association (AMHSA) is offering courses for the Safety Operator Certificates.

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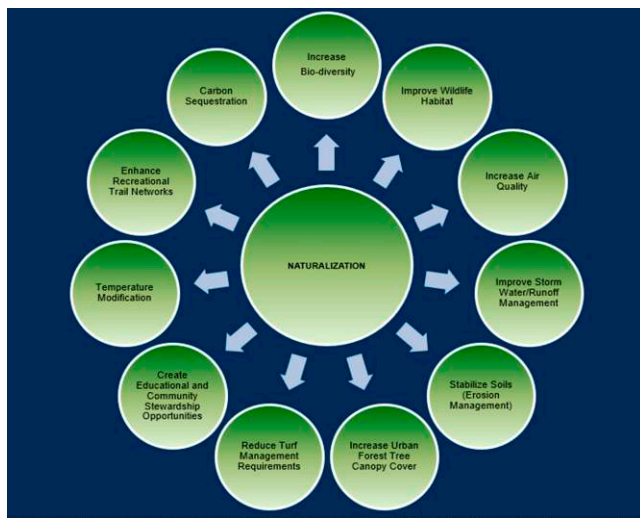
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Community Naturalization – Where do we start?

By Erin Pickard, BSc. Forestry, Bed. | Operations Supervisor – Parks, City of St. Albert

This article is based on a presentation made at the 2023 AARFP Conference

Naturalization as a management technique used for green spaces, that can elicit a variety of responses. From the negative (unkempt grass, poorly maintained area) to the positive (more wildlife habitat, more natural spaces). Regardless of how you look at it, there are a large number of benefits to increasing naturalized spaces within a community:



Techniques

Definitions of naturalization may be slightly different across municipalities. For some, it may be used to cease mowing and allow whatever vegetation is there to grow back, without ongoing turf maintenance (no-mow zones). At its most intensive, naturalization is the selection of tree, shrub, grass, and forb species that match the native plant complexes for the ecosystem being naturalized with a goal of returning targeted areas back to or like the nearby natural areas.

In St. Albert, the two main methods we focus on for naturalization are Edge Enhancement (building outwards from an existing natural area) and Turf Conversion (placing an island of naturalization within an existing turf park space). The most successful methods have been edge enhancement.

Naturalization is achieved using:

- No mow zones – the easiest and cheapest way to achieve naturalization. But it requires prep work to ensure that the location is suitable and that the high numbers of suckering or self-seeding plants are around (so only used in edge enhancement).

- Planting – generally used in small areas with the assistance of community volunteers, who often return to same or nearby sites in successive years (used for both turf conversion and edge enhancement).
- Seeding - very little of this has been done so far. Mainly due to a lack of seed for what we need (forbs and other native ground cover) and the requirements to properly prepare a site prior to seeding.

Site Selection

Determining where to naturalize is based on several different factors:

- Emerging priority area (i.e., edge enhancement for natural areas that are not doing well).
- Legacy sites for community groups (i.e., where groups want to adopt an area to come back to year after year).
- Logistics for larger events like Arbor Day (i.e., need for washrooms, access for many participants).
- Coordination with other capital projects in the area (i.e., park development or re-development, utility projects).
- Monitoring naturalized sites to see if they need additional attention or adjustments of locations based on previous experience (i.e., high competition, tough ground).

Nursery Stock

With naturalization increasingly becoming an option in municipalities, nurseries are starting to increase the amount and variety of stock available for naturalization.

Types of nurseries include:

- Seedling nurseries where seedlings come in bundles of 10, 15, or 20 plugs packed into larger boxes.
- More traditional nurseries for larger stock (including 15/24/77 styro-blocks, size 1-, 2-, and 5-gallon pots).

Plant choices and numbers for each project are based on:

- Site type (riparian, upland).

continued on next page...

continued from page 10

- Location (ground conditions, understory planting, turf planting).
- Age of group planting (children versus adults).
- Size and time schedule of group planting (generally don't go longer than three hours).
- Whether the group is bringing their own seedlings.
- If the City will be pre-augering some or all of the holes to ensure spacing is done properly and all participants enjoy the project if it's tough ground.

City Commitment

To ensure the success of a project, the city assigns a coordinator to the project to host each group on site for their project. Trees/shrubs are picked up or delivered from the nursery, and shovels, buckets, soil, mulch, and water are brought for each event. Sites are marked out with flagging tape and larger plants planted along the mowing edge, and sometimes snow fencing, if a site warrants it.

Once events are complete, City staff are notified of the new locations to avoid mowing anything over, and maps are updated in GIS.

Participants

Partnering planting with a larger festival (the City of St. Albert does Clean & Green RiverFest, a river clean up, environment fair, and free BBQ), is the perfect opportunity to connect with a wider number of groups and the general public each year. Local groups, such as Scouts, Junior Forest Wardens, Girl Guides, high schools, and local businesses can do projects throughout the city at sites that are important to them.

Challenges & Successes

Naturalization programs are not always smooth sailing, but the successes outweigh the challenges.

Competition for nursery stock means a greater need for planning, but it allows for relationship building with different nurseries on what is needed.

While most invasives are choked out over time. There is required work in the early years in most cases, especially when planting into turf or areas already being impacted by invasives. In addition, invasive, non-native species can negatively impact the site and require work to minimize those

consequences. This includes the Manitoba Maple, Elderberry, European Mountain Ash, Caragana, and Reed Canary Grass. To help with this issue, look at multi-year plans for some sites, converting some proposed naturalization sites to agriculture/turf grass first (control with mowing and/or herbicide), then native grasses, and then look at planting trees/shrubs once invasives are controlled/removed.

Considering the potential wildlife impact helps increase the success of naturalization. Mice, rabbits, beaver, porcupine are all drawn to these areas, so relocation programs for certain species (i.e. beaver, porcupine) in alignment with integrated pest management plans may be desirable. There are different cages/covers available to put around seedlings for rabbit exclusion and even planting more densely can be beneficial to increasing survival. Investing in a mix of smaller and larger stock is another method, which may delay the return on investment, but increase the amount that can be planted. On a positive note, habitat creation can bring more predators in for some of these species to help manage them.


A changing climate, especially extreme weather events and drought, can have a large impact on naturalization sites. Recent dry years have resulted in more watering of early planted sites (1-3 years since planting) than in the past to get established, and planning for plant species that can tolerate changing site conditions is important.

Increasing the presence of naturalization in policy documents like Engineering/Landscape Standards and Urban Forest Management Plans can help to solidify and justify programs.

Funding

Start small, carving off a few hundred to a few thousand dollars from within other programs may be all you need to start a naturalization program. Utilize grants available from green-focused programs like TD Tree Days, Tree Canada grants, FORTIS, or the new Two Billion Trees program.

In addition, Service Clubs or other Community Groups often have access to grants or funding municipalities don't have and can contribute plant material, volunteers, and/or dollars towards projects.

Naturalization is an important management tool for green spaces in municipalities, helping reach goals like increasing wildlife habitat, building tree canopy coverage, and creating stewardship opportunities for residents. 



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Not-so-obvious ways to reduce your chlorine usage

Original article by Andrew Gaffey info@andrewgaffey.co.uk

Edited for regionalization in Canada with permission of original author by Brent Miller brentm@automatedaquatics.com

With the increased cost of chlorine products, availability concerns and stricter safety requirements, it's a good time to take a close look at your pool operation, and some of the less obvious ways to reduce your chlorine consumption.

Encouraging your customers to take a pre-swim shower will certainly make an impact in reducing chlorine usage, and help reduce combined chlorine levels too, but thanks to recent world events your energy bill is likely to take a bit of a hit in achieving this. PWTAG (UK) recommends operating your pool at the lower end of the pH range (7.0-7.2), so that you squeeze more oxidizing 'bang-for-your-buck' out of the chlorine you use. This is due to the more effective sanitizing active chlorine compound (HOCl) being present in a greater % at lower pH values. The AB Pool Standards allow for an operating range of 6.8 – 7.6 for the pH of the water. That said, if you are using acid to correct your pH, you'll need to be wary that running at a lower pH may have a negative impact on the total alkalinity content of your pool water. This can be offset by running a more efficient dual pH feed system that doses some acid and some carbon dioxide to keep pH low but a neutral effect on alkalinity. Running a lower pH by hand dosing sodium bicarbonate to chase the alkalinity correction cycle can be a highly unsustainable practice.

There are some other ways to save chlorine that are often not fully appreciated or considered, but I can tell you from my own experience that they are well worth investigating.

Flocculation-Filtration

For pools equipped with sand or deep bed multi-layer filters, if you don't already have a flocculation system installed on your pool you are likely to be missing out on significant chlorine savings, typically a 15-30% reduction. If you already have one, then making sure that it is installed correctly, and that your pool chemistry is optimized to get the maximum benefit, it will reap big dividends. By reducing the addition of caustic hypochlorite to your pool you'll also make similar savings in pH correction chemicals, which will also help minimize your Total Dissolved Solids levels too.

There are a few rules to be followed if you want to reap the benefits of optimised flocculation-filtration:

- Flocculant should be injected and rapidly mixed/dispersed into the pre-filter pipework so that flocs can form as soon as the treated water enters the filter headspace.
- The flocculant dose rate needs to be sufficient for the bathing load but should not leave an excessive aluminium residual in the pool water which can irritate bathers. This can be confirmed using a simple tablet test with Aluminium No.1 & No.2 tablets (result should be <0.2ppm when using PAC or aluminium sulphate)
- pH must be in the range of 7.0-7.4 and the Total Alkalinity level must be at least 75mg/l for flocculation to work efficiently and quickly to prevent floc formation from occurring deep in the filter bed.
- The dosing pump used for injecting flocculant must be the correct type, capable of continuous operation at very low dosage rates. For example, a typical 25m pool may only use around 25-35ml per hour. Overdosing can damage your filter bed and cause skin irritation to bathers, apart from being wasteful.

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continued from page 13

UV treatment – chlorine friend or foe?

Whilst UV treatment does de-chloramine (reduce combined chlorine on passing the UV reactor), unfortunately it is also effective in destroying free chlorine. Just like the effect of sunlight on an outdoor pool, UV-C radiation has an oxidizing effect on chlorine. Depending on the UV dose of the system in use, typically anything from 10-30% of the pool water free chlorine content can be lost on every pass through the UV chamber. On a typical 25m pool this could equate to upwards of 1.6kg of pure chlorine per day. If you are using UV treatment on your pool, as a temporary measure to reduce chlorine loss, you could consider reducing the use of your UV system to simply 'cap' the combined chlorine reading at a manageable level (it should be less than half of the free chlorine level and never more than 1.0ppm), rather than running the system full-time to achieve the lowest level possible. You might be concerned that your exposure to cryptosporidium may increase if you don't use your UV system, however, a well operated flocculation system can be

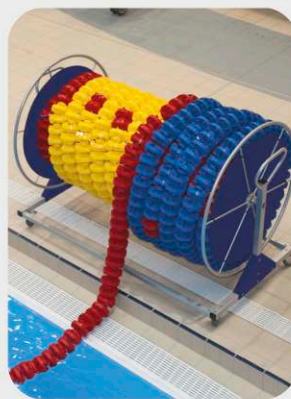
highly effective at removing Crypto from your pool, as well as helping to minimize combined chlorine levels. If you have an effective and optimized filtration system, the cryptosporidium oocyst will never make it to the UV chamber.

- Any savings in chlorine due to the reduced use of UV will almost always result in savings on pH correction chemicals too.
- With or without UV treatment, chloramines should always be controlled to ensure that the pool water and pool hall air quality is maintained at an acceptable quality for bather and staff comfort.
- The combined chlorine number in the water is only part of the picture, the true compound of concern ends up in the air as trichloramine so ongoing testing for trichloramine in the air at some regular interval should be part of every

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Not-so-obvious ways to reduce your chlorine usage . . .



Aquatics

continued from page 14

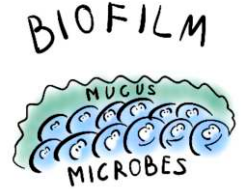
indoor pools' standard practice to ensure more problematic compounds aren't being created as a result of overdosing chlorine to compensate for the UV destruction mechanism.

Pool cover hygiene

Pool covers are an effective tool in saving energy in your pool operation, but there are some down-sides too. Pool covers are rolled-up wet and usually stored in the warm environment of the pool deck; perfect conditions for bacteria to thrive. Pool covers can be particularly susceptible to biofilm contamination in these conditions, and failure to keep on top of pool cover hygiene maintenance can have a dramatic effect on your chlorine consumption. One such unlucky public pool discovered they were using no less than 80 liters of calcium hypochlorite solution overnight. Their 33m foam cover had not been cleaned for some months and a biofilm had developed almost across the entire wetted surface. After

thorough physical cleaning and disinfection of the cover, the overnight consumption of chlorine was reduced to 6 litres.

- Biofilm loves to grow on wetted surfaces where there isn't much water friction, and, once established, is highly resistant to chlorine at normal pool levels. Pool covers, inflatables, balance tanks, and overflow channels are all susceptible areas where periodic physical cleaning is necessary.



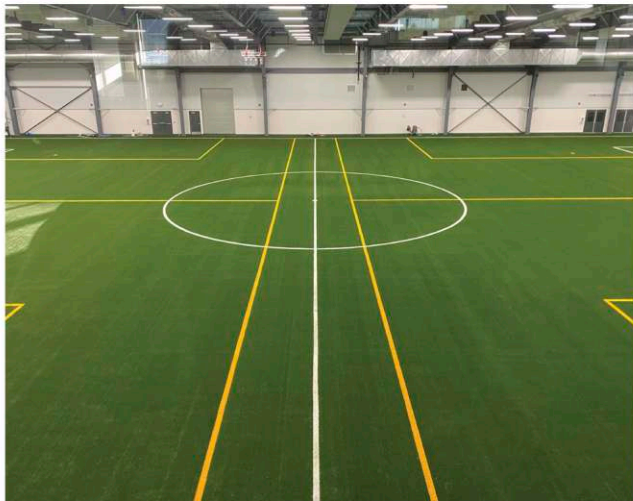
- An alternative solution to assist pool cover hygiene with reduced manual cleaning is to use a TCDO based chlorine dioxide treatment (Hydroxan®), which can be applied to the pool whilst in normal use, and is a powerful oxidizer

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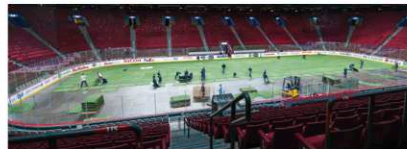
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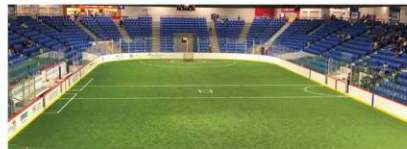
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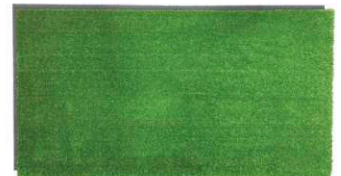
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continued from page 15

that can work with chlorine to improve its efficacy to prevent biofilm throughout the whole of the pool and filtration circuit.

Dirty Filters

Filters are the 'front line' of defense when it comes to pool water treatment. Filter sand does eventually become contaminated with oily skin secretions and sheddings which reduce its performance. Dirty filter media can hold on to bacteria and be a source for combined chlorine formation, as well as becoming a potential chlorine 'sink hole'. A few tips to keep your filters healthy and reduce chlorine consumption:

- If your filters are designed for running an air scour, run the air-scour for 10-15 minutes prior to backwashing to thoroughly loosen up the media and attached dirt if you suspect a very dirty filter. The standard few minutes of air scouring may not be long enough in heavily loaded filters, especially if there has been a lapse in the regular air scouring frequency.
- Ensure your filter/s are being backwashed at the correct speed. Most filters require, at the very least, 15 GPM/Ft² (ideally 17-18 but sometimes up to 20) of flow to begin to properly fluidize and release dirt during the backwash cycle. This is where having a filter media view window is of great value.
- Consider having your filter media chemically cleaned every 6-12 months to maintain filter efficiency in between refurbishment cycles. Chemical cleaning of filter media can usually be carried out cost effectively as an overnight treatment, minimizing facility closure. A 2 part cleaning process using a caustic degreaser and oxidizing chemicals specifically for commercial pool filters is recommended to do a proper cleaning without having adverse effects on the integrity of the filter internals.

Refurbishment opportunities to optimize your pool water treatment

If you are considering refurbishment of your pool plant, there is one area to consider which could pay huge dividends in improving the energy and chemical efficiency your water treatment system: the choice of filter design. Whilst there are several types of filtration technology on the market, there's

nothing more simple, passively efficient, or low maintenance than a well-designed and correctly installed sand filter. There are various designs of sand filter available, however, choosing one which has been specifically designed for commercial pool water treatment is key. The German standard DIN19643 is a good example, in that the design and construction of this type of filter allows for low head-loss, efficient flocculation, and superior backwash performance, easy visual inspection of the filter bed, robust construction, and hygienic internal surfaces. Correct installation technique of the pipework, pumps and filters is also essential to ensure the filtration system delivers the best possible energy efficiency and water quality.

Generate your own chlorine?

One of the best ways to ensure security of chlorine supply is to generate your own hypochlorite, on-site, using an electrochlorination system. Salt and water are precisely blended, and a DC current is passed through the solution, generating a low concentration sodium hypochlorite product. Once the preserve of large pools with a big budget, these systems are now affordable and economical for any size of commercial pool.

There are some significant benefits of using this type of system; the chlorine solution produced is of a lower concentration and not classified as a hazardous substance. Hypochlorite solution is produced on-demand and is always fresh (no chlorine lost during storage), and the raw material, salt, is inexpensive and abundantly available. ◀



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The Magic of Acoustics



Building Maintenance

By Ian Stephens | Forbo Flooring


FACT: People talk even more loudly when there is a lot of noise.

Acoustics play an important role in many sub sectors within the leisure segment, and the acoustics requirements will vary from establishment to establishment. For leisure facilities the transfer of noise to neighbouring rooms and the rooms located below has to be limited as much as possible to create the best possible environment.

Making carpet a popular choice because it greatly reduces contact noise. The disadvantage of carpet is the maintenance and cleaning required. Dirt is easily trapped in thick pile carpet, and it is hard work to remove, while moisture can also be a problem with carpets. Luckily there are various ways of keeping it clean. For example, the spray extraction method, but that is not something you want to do weekly. A possible solution is the hybrid form which is somewhere between hard and soft flooring. An example of this hybrid floor is a floor that feels soft, but it has a waterproof back, made from nylon and nylon fibres. It has the look and feel of a carpet, but is more suitable for wet cleaning, like a hard floor. Hygiene and great contact noise reduction in one package. This type of floor is increasingly used in leisure facilities because of the ease of maintenance and cleaning. As mentioned, this type of flooring helps contribute to good acoustics, especially in terms of absorption of walking noise. The greatest acoustic benefit is achieved by fitting the right walls and ceilings in such establishments.

There are plenty of agencies which monitor noise levels and can offer good advice. Check out the supply guide for some ideas! Contact noise also plays a role in food courts. The less you notice the noise of chairs being moved around or the 'click clack' of stiletto heels, holding a conversation becomes easier. Theoretically, carpet is the best option, but is not always the ideal solution in terms of hygiene or when an owner requires a different look. Once again, a hybrid product is a good compromise, being easy to clean thanks to the vinyl back and its ability to absorb noise through the textile top layer.

Lino and vinyl floors offer endless possibilities in terms of looks from wood to concrete and even colours. Virtually anything goes. It can even be digitally printed with any image, pattern, logo, or artwork of your choice. However, it is essential to keep an eye on quality. If you want to enjoy the floor for a long time, any printed images must be protected with an applied clear protective top layer, so that the floor can be easily kept clean.

Hybrid textile floors can provide a contact noise reduction of 20 dB, the average carpet tile 23 dB and the new special soft back tiles no less than 28 dB. Would you prefer a hard floor? There are acoustic versions of Lino and project vinyl, which can reduce noise transfer by maximum 17 dB. What is your experience with noise in recreation? 

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Connecting & Re-Connecting in Recreation



2023 AARFP Conference and Trade Show

The 2023 AARFP 44th Annual Conference and Trade Show was held in Red Deer; April 23-26 and the theme was Re-Connecting in Recreation. With all the changes that have occurred over the couple of years, this was the perfect opportunity to connect and share our experiences. We had over 200 delegates from Alberta, Northwest Territories and Nova Scotia, which certainly helped with connecting and reconnecting in the recreation industry!

Conference Kick-Off

It would only be fitting that a bunch of recreation professionals kicked this off with the Fun Run! The runners and walkers undertook a 5 km trail through the beautiful City of Red Deer. After the run, we kicked off the Welcome Barbeque!

Our MC, the lovely and witty Peter Brown, introduced the Opening Keynote Speaker, Olympian Alysia Rissling. She strode in with amazing sparkly boots and proceeded to talk about empowerment in women's sport, goal setting, the importance of equipment, maintenance, and track condition. But what really resonated, was how her take on failing. We all do it, but its not truly failing if learn from it. The delegates left feeling thoughtful and empowered about their career and goals.

With an epic band that entertained and with the Oilers winning their game, Conference started off just right.



Can you spot yourself at Trade Show?

Morning Keynote & Education

Not only was Peter Brown our MC, but he was also a Keynote speaker who left delegates in tears; from laughter! His topic was about the importance of humour and laughter. How it releases endorphins and elevates our mood which benefits our day-to-day life. He also talked about laughing at ourselves, and when it is appropriate to laugh, should you laugh at the expense of someone else? The day began with an insightful look at laughter and humour.

The Conference Committee put together a great program with excellent speakers! The delegates enjoyed three days of educational sessions where they chose streams such as Arenas, Aquatics, Building Maintenance, Parks & Sport Fields, Leadership & Customer Service. We would like to thank AAAP for helping us find speakers for the new aquatic stream. AAAP hosted their annual meeting – which was a success. An enormous thank you to all of our speakers for sharing their experience, talking about new trends and technology with the delegates!

Trade Show

Trade Show was an enormous success. It took place in the new G.H. Dawe Community Centre and the staff provided exceptional support and assistance! We had over 65 RFP Associate Members who came to display their products and services. The RFP Associate Members are key to the success of the AARFP Conference and Association as a whole, so thank you for your support, continued participation, and exceptional knowledge. We set up a game during Trade Show, called "Find Don Moore", to honour our sponsors and exhibitors. It provided exhibitors with additional opportunities to interact with the delegates, while ensuring a fun atmosphere. Thanks to everyone who participated in the game! The auction wrapped up Trade Show, while leaving everyone energized and excited! Our Executive Director and Past President, Chris and Rob played the part of auctioneers, with pizzazz and style becoming the auction kings. All the money raised will go back into developing our education offerings and programs. Thank you for all the support!

AGM

The AGM had amazing attendance and the AARFP Board would like to thank all the delegates for attending and participating in such an important meeting. The annual report was on each table, but it is always available on our website, along with other important documents like the Strategic Plan and Board Roles and Responsibilities. The elections that occurred during the AGM were for the Education Representative, Parks & Sport Field Representative, Client Services Representative President-Elect, and Arena Representative. Larry, Umesh, and Andrew left their names standing and were elected for another two years of service. Craig has become our President-Elect, and we have a new board member Adrian Thibault, as the Arena Representative. We would like to thank and acknowledge Russ Tanner as being a long-standing and dedicated board member.

Tuesday Activities

The Annual Skip Hayden Memorial Golf Tournament was hosted at the Meadowlands Golf Course in Sylvan Lake. The golfers received fun prizes, got to practice their swing, and competed in the tournament. Congrats to the winners, your swing was victorious. Alongside the golf tournament, delegates received a nice break from all those educational sessions. Delegates got to paint, go on a brewery tour, bowling and even visit the Sports Hall of Fame sports hall of fame! Meanwhile the staff had naps.

Awards Banquet

The Awards Banquet was a fantastic evening where we acknowledged the individuals in the recreation field for their hard work, dedication, and innovation. Awards were presented for our Top Mark Winners, the Don Moore Scholarship, Lloyd Smith Instructor of the Year, Bruce Fowlow, Charles Mousseau, William Metcalfe, Award of Merit, Memorial Plaque, Long Service, and we celebrated the individuals who received the Recreation Facility Management Certificate. Did you know that there are three individuals who have achieved the 45-year achievement (just don't ask how

old they are)? Was anyone surprised about the entertainment? We had professional party crashers who sang, danced, and got us singing with them! Occasional Notes came, conquered, and left us singing ABBA.

Keynote Speaker & End

Our closing Keynote speaker Rod Pederson shared his experiences with mental health and addiction. All tough topics that deserve attention. Rod went on to talk about his broadcasting and sport experiences. It was an interactive keynote that had gems of insightful and hilarious stories. It was the perfect way to end conference. Peter Brown was a great addition to the keynote; he was doing hot stove! Peter Brown then announced the Grand Prize Winner – Cassie Elliot! Who had won a 55" TV and a \$500 Kananaskis Nordic Spa Gift Card!

Summary

I would like to highlight the brave individuals who did Yoga at 6:15 am, and not just the savasana pose. We admire your strength. More conference photos will be on the website soon! We will also have some presentations from the conference in the membership portal, so keep an eye out for that update. We are excited to see you in Lethbridge next year, where we are celebrating our 45th on April 21 – 26! On behalf of the RFP Board and staff we would like to thank everyone for attending, supporting and being a part of conference, and we look forward to seeing you next year!

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Larry, Andrew and Richard helping with registration.

Connecting & Re-Connecting in Recreation . . .



continued from page 19



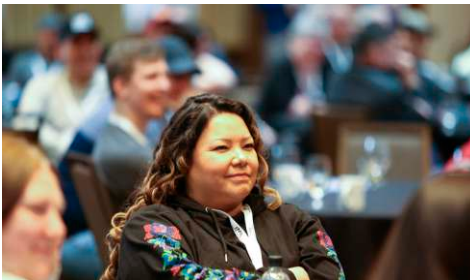
Sonia Dodd helping delegates choose some cool swag.



Chris announcing the start of Conference with a Barbeque.



Alysa Rissling starting the opening keynote.



AGM (From Left you see Rob at the time President of ARFP, Peter Brown, Russell and Aaron Singh)



End Keynote: Rod Pedersen

Peter Brown, the MC, Keynote speaker and Hot Stove.

Bldg Mtce Level 1 Top Mark Winner, Connor Lacombe with Andy Heath from McElhanney, who is our course sponsor.

Arena Operator Level 1 Top Mark Winner, Marion Cousineau with Joel Cawthorne from Startec Refrigeration our course sponsor.

Leadership Top Mark Winner, Jillian Johnston with Larry Golby, Education Representative.



Parks Level 1 Top Mark Winner, Jacklyn Hunt (M) presented by Larry Golby and Park and Fields Representative in place of course sponsor Kubota Canada.



Gerald Curran from CIMCO, with the Lloyd Smith Instructor of the Year award presented by Karen and Charlie Lloyd.



The Award of Merit winners left from right, Calvin Bennefield, Sonia Dodd and Rich Roberts. Rob Pelletier our Past President is on the far right.



Long Service Award Winner, Rex Smith with Sonia Dodd, President of RFP.



continued from page 20

Award	Recipient	Sponsor
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Arena Operator Level 2	Darien Lynch	Cimco Refrigeration
Building Maintenance Level 1	Connor Lacombe	McElhanney
Building Maintenance Level 2	Courtney Cheney	
Parks Level 1	Jacklyn Hunt	Kubota Canada
Parks Level 2	Sam Myshaniuk	
Leadership	Jillian Johnston	

Award/ Scholarship	Recipient
Don Moore Scholarship	Mike Wilkinson
Lloyd Smith Instructor of the Year	Gerald Curran
Bruce Fowlow	Kevin Olsen
Charles Mousseau	Jason Rolfe (IMI)
William Metcalfe	Sean Murphy
Award of Merit	Sonia Dodd
Award of Merit	Calvin Bennefield
Award of Merit	Rich Roberts
Honourary Life	None
Memorial Plaque	Rob McIlwraith

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15 Years

Jeff Heggie Gordon MacPherson John Napier George Duncan Philip Doerksen

20 Years

Mitch Carter Rex Smith

25 Years

Janice McKinnon Ed Peacock Sandi Stewart Russ Tanner John Dafoe (Tomko) Carol Dunnigan

30 Years

Tim Cove

45 Years

Larry Stewart Rich Roberts Calvin Bennefield
--

Recreation Facility Management Certificate

Jeremy Pifko Kevin Olsen Rena Beier Trish Cerin	JoAnna Dautel Jordan Glas Kimberley Fraser Krysta Hawboldt
--	---

Connecting & Re-Connecting in Recreation . . .



continued from page 21



Recreation Facility Management Certificate Recipients: Krysta Hawboldt, Jeremy Pifko, Kevin Olsen, Rena Beier, Trish Cerin, JoAnna Dautel, Jordan Glas and Kimberley Fraser with Red Deer Polytech Representatives Amy Whalen and Eryn Dezall and Sonia Dodd, President.



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Empowering Women in Industry

By Gillian Campbell



Companies are starting to give women opportunities to close the gender gap in the workforce, breaking down barriers, and making changes to empower women around the world. Women deserve the opportunity to build on their careers and get into leadership roles. Being a woman in a male dominated industry, has not always been easy for myself. However, when you tell me, "You will never be a supervisor, you will never get farther than being an operator," it gave me more determination and strength to keep moving forward. Finding the company, I am with today opened so many doors for me, and it has provided me the empowerment to keep moving forward.

Who am I?

I am an Arena Operations Supervisor for a global company. I am based in Red Deer, Alberta and have been located here since 2018. I have been in the Parks and Recreation Industry since 2010, and prior to that I landscaped for the family business, worked with children with special needs and I was an avid traveler. My family has been breaking down the barriers of women in industry since we moved to Canada back in 1987. It started with my mum who went into Horticulture and back then, she struggled working for companies due to discrimination, because she was that woman in a male dominated industry at that time. In 1993, she opened her own company and became a well-known stone mason, landscaper, and plant management owner/operator. My sister followed my mum's footsteps and worked for the family business, municipality and then took over the business from my mum in 2011. I was always told to strive for excellence, work hard and follow the path you are meant to follow. Never let a barrier keep you from achieving your goals.

I started off in a municipality and then in August of 2018, the private company I work for now, gave me the opportunity to Supervise an Arena Team in a brand-new facility. The team was brand new; they had no experience in arenas, ice plants or any building maintenance. I also had six months to train staff for the Canada Winter Games. At the time, I was so nervous that I would fail, but I focused on my strength and

determination. I sought out extra training for myself, and when people came to my facility, they had no faith that we would get one record on our ice. With the excuse that it was because of our machine. Never say this to a woman! I worked hard and perfected the short track speed skating ice. In total we had records broken over and over, ending with 13. This was a major turning point for me. I knew that I could create the perfect ice with the conditions I had to work with, my career was finally going in a direction I had envisioned.



Next, when I joined a program with the company, they said they wanted to get women in the industry up to 50%. Especially more into the trades side of the organization. I have always believed in empowering women, so I worked towards always having 50% women on my staffing. I have kept my word on this through the years and have maintained that over. I believe in speaking to the younger generation, about careers that

they would not typically go into. This way showing them the path to recreation training in the more male dominated roles. I believe that they can get into higher role positions and guide them through the training opportunities to achieve the goals they want to set for themselves. Connecting and supporting women within the industry is an action to be taken and to stand beside one another to excel in our careers.

Women can do anything that they put their minds to by following their dreams without abandoning their goals. It's about effectively leading change in the industry, extensive networking and building and leading teams into the next generation. There are many common barriers with women in industry, such as lack of workplace flexibility or poor work life balance. These factors can force women to choose between their families or their career. Women's advancement in the workplace can have significant barriers such as bias and discrimination. An employer needs to think about how over time generations have been changing. Younger people are not all rushing out to have children at a younger age and are looking to focus on building a career first.

continued on next page...

Empowering Women in Industry . . .




continued from page 24

Where do you begin? That choice is yours alone to decide. So, I thought this would be a great time to look at 10 different things that will help you move forward in your career.

1. Start preparing for your next role early, this way you can look for training opportunities along the way.
2. Find a mentor or champion that you can look up to. Someone you can go to and ask questions and know you will get an honest response.
3. Stick to your values.
4. Never stop learning. I feel courses and training keep you engaged, focused, and will bring determination to move forward. One year, I took 104 courses! Yes, I am crazy, but I love learning!
5. Celebrate your success. It might be something small but celebrate! You achieved something in your career, a little step forward, but you did it.
6. Have your presence seen by your colleagues. The way to move forward is not to be silent in the corner. Bring your innovative ideas forward. You never know where this might take you.
7. Do not be afraid to ask for help. Lots of people think that if they ask for help, that they have failed. This is very wrong. Asking for help shows your strength, maturity, and confidence.
8. Find opportunities from mistakes you make. This will give you time to learn and develop new skills.
9. Learn to accept all kinds of feedback. This can be very tricky to learn, as the person giving feedback could be super critical. Do not explode. Listen, then take time to reflect on your own. Go to your favorite walking spot or watch the sunset. Understand that feedback will help you move forward in your career.
10. Build your own career and make that path yours. If you are not seeing potential to move up within the organization, municipality, business that you work for, look for your next step. Doors open when you least expect it. Planning your

path, and focusing to get yourself there, is the key to success!

If you are a woman in industry, any industry whether it is recreation, power engineering, Hvac, know that you are not alone. The gender gap has been starting to shrink over the years and more and more women are starting to build on their careers. You must believe in yourself and all your abilities to be successful. The answer comes from you and what you alone want to achieve. To be successful, you need to take responsibility for your own success and hold yourself accountable. Women are empowering other women around the world to keep breaking down the barriers one industry at a time. This is my goal, and a goal I know many other women have. Focus on what you want out of your career, whether it be a supervisor, manager or even an executive role. Anything is possible, just embrace your journey. 



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Documenting an Integrity Management System

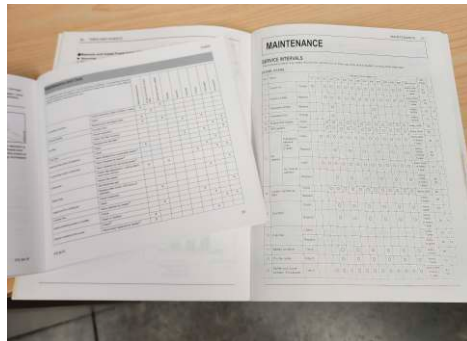
By Adrian Thibault | AARFP Arena Rep.

Writing an Integrity Management System (IMS) can seem like a daunting task. Most of us have an IMS to some degree, it just hasn't been written down or organized. Or it has been written down just not called an IMS or is in multiple documents.

Most of us have a maintenance schedule, criteria for contractors, safety programs and systems for inspection. This may seem like the basic essentials, that are needed to run a process operation, whether it is a refrigeration plant, a pool, or a sports field with maintenance equipment. However, many of us haven't heard the words "Integrity Management System" before. Alberta Boiler Safety Association came out with AB-538, "Integrity Management Requirements for Mechanical Refrigeration Systems Containing Ammonia" in 2020. All that AB-538 did was lay out the requirements for an IMS regarding refrigeration systems containing ammonia, and its subsequent revision gave the layman some guidance in how to write the document. Ultimately, more than your refrigeration system could have a form of IMS; after all, why would we not want our ice resurfer, HVAC system, or zero turn mower, to have a system that keeps its integrity, its performance for the life cycle (even increase the life of the capital item). Here is how to begin writing an IMS document, considering its life cycle.

What gets an IMS

First you must consider which equipment could stand to use an IMS. For example, an ice edger should have an IMS. Because it requires routine maintenance, has hazards associated with the operation and maintenance, and they are often an item you will need to budget for that expenditure. A lawn mower has the same criteria. A walk behind fertilizer spreader may not need an IMS. It is up to you to decide which



piece of equipment you should have an IMS for.

An IMS system does not need to be for specific pieces of equipment. But specific documents should be referenced; example being, the Standard Operating Procedure for a task using that equipment, the Owner Manual that

has a maintenance schedule in it, and the inspection log. Now you must consider what the life cycle of that equipment entails.

Once you have purchased or acquired the equipment, whether it's new or used, there are a few steps you should follow. Write down the date, make, model and serial number and start a file on that piece of equipment. Also include a purchase receipt and any

warranty documents. If it has an odometer or an hour meter, make sure that you log this number. This will be the starting point of your own maintenance log.

Assessing Hazards, Controls and Standard Operating Procedures

From this point you should read the user manual and familiarize yourself with the machine. This includes documenting all the hazards associated with operating this machine and all the controls to reduce the risk of those hazards. Remember to follow the hierarchy of control, elimination, substitution, engineering, administration, and personal protective equipment. This can be documented in a Job Hazard Assessment (JHA), a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or something that is comparable. It is a good idea to have a cross-section of your workforce involved as different people can notice different risks associated with operating that equipment. Once you have all the hazards and

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continued from page 28

controls documented, you can begin to train based on how you want the job done.

Training

You should have a comprehensive training program that focuses on safety, and it should be documented. Even if that document references an SOP, a JHA, a training video or presentation from outside sources. Once this is done, you need to make sure that it is documented and signed by the supervisor (trainer) and the staff member (trainee). Then document all refresher training sessions needed. This should also be documented with a sign off. Once you've completed the training program, the operator will be evaluated on a continual basis, we are now completing a task with this equipment.



There should be a sign off noting the date, hours, or mileage, what maintenance has been performed, anything regarding its condition and then a sign off that it's been complete.

If inspections and routine maintenance are all noted in the operator's manual, there is no need to rewrite to manual, checklist or sign off sheet; just note that it can be found in the operator's manual and what page. If you would like it in a different

format or additions, then you may want to rewrite it. It isn't advised to subtract from these documents unless there is a plan in place to cover these items elsewhere.

Repairs

The non-routine repairs are done in the same fashion as the routine maintenance. A note should be made in the log of when they were performed, how many hours or mileage, what work has been performed and who performed the work. In addition to this, an incident report involving the equipment may be kept in these records.

Be sure to incorporate a "lock out tag out" or "out of service" system for equipment that is in the process of being repaired (waiting for parts).

Decommissioning

When the equipment has reached the end-of-life cycle, and there is a plan to replace it (or not) and if you are no longer using the equipment, document what maintenance has been performed to prepare it for storage or sale. If it's being sold or given to someone else give them all the maintenance records and then also log that.

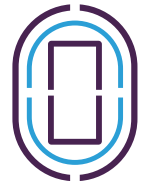
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Equipment Inspection

Periodically, at intervals determined by management, the equipment should be routinely inspected. This interval can be noted in the operator's manual. Often a pre-trip inspection is what the operator's manual sets out, but a more comprehensive inspection may be called for. Ad hoc inspection of equipment may be necessary when it is brand new and when it is in the later stages of life span. There should be a checklist for pre-trip and routine inspections, and it should be documented. This schedule should also line up with a maintenance schedule.

Maintenance

Routine maintenance can be performed by a staff member with suitable knowledge or by a certified mechanic. If you aren't sure which of the maintenance the staff can perform, check the maintenance schedule or operator's manual as it will show whether it can be done by a staff member by a mechanic, and how to perform the maintenance. Maintenance should be planned, so parts can be available.



Arenas


continued from page 29

Program Review

You should set up a timeline on when the program should be reviewed and then, you guessed it, document it. Have a log of when the program has been reviewed and maybe what changes have been made. Aim for a review every two years, if it doesn't happen every two years then three is still good. The first time you write this won't be the last time so don't worry if you've missed something, because you can add it as you go or at the time of review.

This may seem like a lot, as I said at the beginning, you have a lot of this already with maintenance schedules and inspections, you just formalize it. The best way to make it easy and adaptable to different



pieces of equipment is by only making the IMC as specific as it needs to be and reference the user manual and other reputable documents as often as you can. There is no need to re-write something if it is already there. The best thing you can do is start, even if it's just putting ideas on paper. Then you can organize those thoughts, add, and delete them, a build upon it. This won't be the last time you do this as you'll schedule reviews and updates so don't feel so much pressure to do it 100% right the first time. The important note is to document and have the responsible management or staff sign off that it's been done. Then nothing is left to guesswork. 



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10	PERIOD 2	7
PENALTY	1:08	PENALTY
0:30	SHOTS ON GOAL 35 21	1:58

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Building (Automation) Efficiency in Rinks

Everyone is talking about it, so let's talk about it now. Energy Efficiency. How about a step further, Building (Automation) Efficiency. New construction projects are very efficient with some buildings rated LEED certified and even some stating being net zero ready. But what about existing buildings with a limited budget and little to no automation? Does that sound like your facility? Let's step further again.

Simple Building Automation Systems controlling HVAC only is a great start and will still provide savings, but the savings are limited. Even setting back the schedule and setpoints in a simple furnace or roof top unit will help! This work can be completed in a phased approach. Advanced Building Automation Systems are larger and more complex, however by controlling all HVAC, mechanical, refrigeration and electrical systems will provide increased savings. In recreational facilities that have rinks, we typically find that the HVAC automation and the ice plant Automation are separate. This may cause mechanical and electrical equipment and systems to 'fight' one another. Let's say the ice/slab is higher than normal above setpoint, so why is the Dehumidifier or bleacher heaters running when the ice plant needs to pull the ice/slab down? Or what potential heat recovery in the ice plant - is any of that waste heat being recovered - or are we just rejecting it outside? Having your facilities systems integrated and working together is the key.

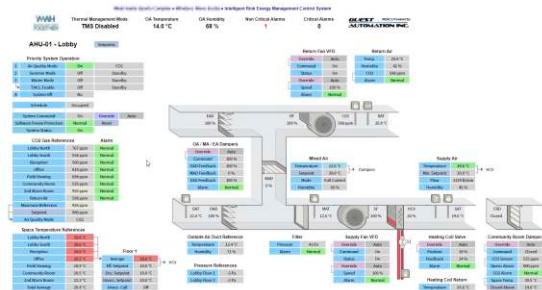
I've mentioned the ice plant and phased approach. Not all customers can afford to automate all or even the majority of mechanical, electrical, refrigeration systems in one phase, but there should be a focus of taking control of the biggest consumer in a hockey or curling rink, the ice plant. Done properly, there can be between 15-40% savings by automating the Ice Plant alone.

Advanced Building Automation Systems can also produce significant energy savings from utility meters and Intelligent logic. Peak demand limiting, load shifting and demand response curtailment to name a few, have proven to dramatically lower energy usage while, intelligently, not affecting the user conditions (customer comfort and ice quality). Recent projects have been operating at 16 ekW/ft2 while projects that started up in the Fall 2022, are operating at ~ 10 ekW/ft2. Impressive.

So, the next time you think about energy efficiency, look closely, you might be closer to your goal than you realize.

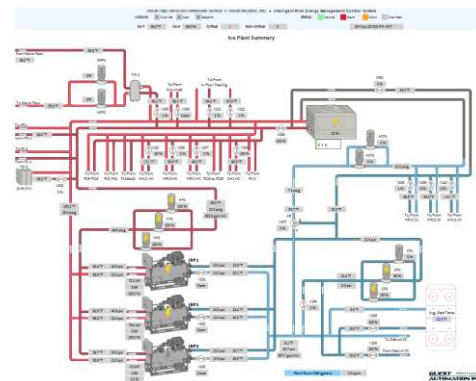
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IoT - Internet of Things
Many different manufacturer's equipment
integrated and working together



Intelligent Rink - Energy Management Control Systems . . .

continued from page 32

Integration is so important and is quite frankly the key to success. The floor plan graphic and the energy flow of the system, the R on the left stands for refrigeration and the refrigeration plant itself, from here Heating, Cooling and Dehumidification to the rink space. Continuing to move to the right, heat to the Common Areas, offices, meeting rooms, and community rooms. Still passing 100% recovered heat to the turf field, which is extremely efficient! If the ice is out (like it is today) we have smart, integrated water heaters to heat only loads that require it from the Thermal Management System. We've all heard of the IoT, or the internet of things. This facility is completely integrated with several different manufacturer's equipment working and communicating together on a single platform, with complete mobility and access from any smart device, no plug ins or applications are required. Just simply log into your system, from any browser, from anywhere, to monitor and control your facility. The floor plan graphic also shows all space temperatures, humidity and air quality levels with a spectrum graphic quickly indicating if temperatures are at, above or below setpoint. Other graphics show the hot water system and the intelligent water heaters. Main Air Handling Unit graphic with a (Heated from the Ice Plant) Glycol heating coil instead of the traditional natural gas fired appliance.

Not only can you integrate building equipment but also building systems. There are ways to integrate two systems to provide facilities with information they need to make decisions. Which includes energy costing information, providing lifecycle planning, asset performance/efficiency and hidden energy cost. 

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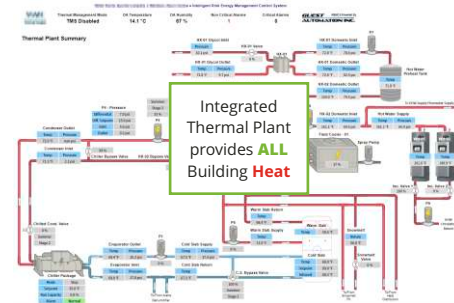
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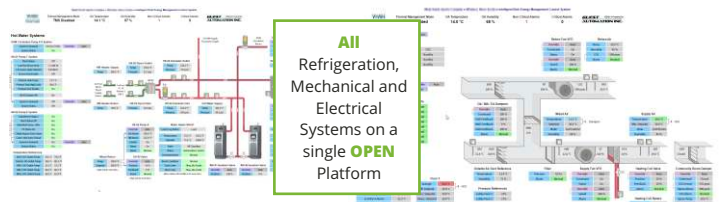


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