March 10, 2020

Dear Utility Friends,

As the news of the coronavirus (COVID-19) is weighing on our minds, I want to remind you that the work you do helps to decrease the spread of this virus and the effect it may have on our communities. At this time, existing safe management techniques in both drinking water and sanitation apply to COVID-19. Extra measures are not needed. In particular, disinfection treatment processes will facilitate more rapid die-off of the COVID-19 virus. Provision of safe water, sanitation and hygienic conditions play an essential role in protecting human health during all infectious disease outbreaks, including the current COVID-19 outbreak.

The National Rural Water Association and the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water continues to monitor the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and recommends all water and wastewater utilities review the best and latest information on the following trusted websites:
• OSHA: www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/controlprevention.html#solidwaste
• CISA: www.cisa.gov/insights

Frequent and proper hand washing is one of the most important prevention measures for COVID-19. Good and consistently applied hygiene in communities, homes, schools, workplaces, marketplaces and health care facilities will further help to prevent human-to-human transmission of COVID-19.

This outbreak continues to evolve and information changes daily. Similar to past viral outbreaks of this magnitude, COVID-19 is something to be taken very seriously. We will continue to monitor the situation and will be following the guidance of leading health authorities. Any impact to technical assistance, training programs, meeting and/or conferences will be posted prominently on our website.

Keep up the great work and thank you for what you do every day in this industry.
Our very best to you,

Sincerely,

Connie Stevens
Executive Director