

# waterrings

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## How to Identify a NWWA Employee

Sometimes it is necessary for one of our employees to make a service call to your home or business. More often than not one of our Customer Service Representatives would have contacted you beforehand so that you would be expecting us. But in any case, you can be sure that North Wales Water Authority employees are always easy to identify.

In almost all cases, employees travel in a clearly marked Authority vehicle. The majority of our trucks are white and have either the Water Wizard or a NWWA logo on it.

All our inspection, metering and service crew employees would be in uniform and would be wearing a shirt with the NWWA logo on it.

If there's ever a question, ask to see their employee ID. All employees carry Authority-issued photo ID cards.

If you're still not sure or feel uncomfortable, please call our office at 215-699-4836 to verify that an employee is in your area.

## 2007 Water Quality Reports Now Available

In May and June 2008, copies of the North Wales Water Authority's 2007 Water Quality Report were mailed or hand-delivered to all North Wales Water Authority retail customers. The annual report is provided to customers in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The report includes important information about your drinking water. It includes details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares with the standards mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection



Agency and the Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection.

We are proud to report that in 2007 the water delivered to our customers met, and in most cases, greatly exceeded all current federal and state regulatory requirements.

Copies of the Water Quality Report are available online in the Resources and Literature section at [www.nwwater.com](http://www.nwwater.com).

Or you may call our office to request a copy.

## Help Us Keep Your Water Safe

The service area of the North Wales Water Authority covers over 50 square miles in Montgomery and Bucks counties. Within this area we have 23 facilities including well houses, pump and transfer stations and above ground storage tanks.

Even though our employees cover much of the territory daily, there still remains the chance that we might not be aware of mischief or vandalism.

You can help by being our eyes and ears in your area. If you notice anything suspicious happening on Authority property **please notify us immediately at 215-699-4836**. If you call after-hours we have a 24-hour emergency answering service who will handle your call.

Thank you for partnering with us to keep your water supply safe and secure!



# NWWA

North Wales Water Authority

PO Box 1339  
200 West Walnut Street  
North Wales, PA 19454-0339  
215-699-4836  
[www.nwwater.com](http://www.nwwater.com)

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## Rain Barrels - Help Your Wallet and the Environment

Did you know that during the summer months the average homeowner uses 40 percent of their household water in the yard? This may lead to a beautiful yard, but it also means that a lot of treated drinking water is wasted.

We are fortunate to live in a part of the country where rainfall is plentiful, so rain barrels are a perfect way for you to save some money by collecting and recycling rainwater while at the same time keeping excess water out of the sewer system.



Rain barrels are large plastic or wooden containers that you connect to your roof gutter downspout. Rain barrels vary in size from 50-250 gallons and can range in price from \$75 to \$350. To find rain barrels locally, inquire at your local home and garden supply store, garden center, nursery or hardware store. On the Internet you can find free instructions for building your own barrel.

To maximize the benefits of rain barrels you can put one at each downspout or even link two or more together as shown in the picture below.



Rain barrels have a spigot located near the bottom so that it's easy to fill your watering can. You can also connect a soaker hose to the spigot to water the shallow rooted plants in your yard.

Watering with rainwater will make your garden smile since rainwater is soft and free of dissolved minerals. This water is also great for indoor plants or even washing your car. If you already use a rain barrel, we'd love to hear your success stories. Email us at [wizard@nwwater.com](mailto:wizard@nwwater.com).



**Q:** *I own a swimming pool and sometimes need to drain it to clean it. Can I direct the drainage to a storm sewer?*

**A:** No! Pennsylvania has a Clean Streams Law that prohibits the discharge of chlorinated water to storm sewers. Property owners and pool companies that violate the law may be prosecuted and penalized for damages.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) reports that almost every spring there are fish kills in local streams that could have been prevented by proper disposal of chlorinated water. This happens because the untreated water enters a storm sewer and quickly makes its way into a stream or other body of water. Aquatic life may be damaged or even killed.

How do you dispose of your swimming pool water? Contact your local municipality to see if it is permitted to discharge the water into the local sanitary sewer system. If sanitary sewers cannot be accessed, the water should be hauled off-site for disposal at an approved treatment facility.

In the event that sanitary sewers cannot be accessed and the water cannot be hauled away, PA DEP offers detailed guidance for on-site treatment and disposal of water containing chlorine or chemicals used to clean pools. You may contact the Water Management Program in PA DEP's Southeast Regional Office at 484-250-5970.

To learn more about how chemicals in stormwater can impact our streams and lakes, visit the PA DEP website at:  
[www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us), keyword:Stormwater.