

2010

North Dakota Water Education Foundation Summer Water Tours

The 2010 water tours offer a firsthand look at North Dakota's critical water issues. Water supply and quality, environmental restoration, fish and wildlife, flood management, water conservation and more are illustrated and addressed by a wide variety of speakers representing different viewpoints during these one-day tours. Individual registration is \$15 per person and includes tour transportation, meals, refreshments, informational material, and a one-year subscription to the North Dakota Water magazine.

Devils Lake Solutions—June 23

The Devils Lake outlet is now complete however it remains a critical and controversial component of the state's three-pronged approach to flood relief for the Devils Lake area, which also includes upper basin storage and infrastructure protection. The city of Devils Lake once again faces another dike raise in order to protect the city. This tour focuses on the numerous water-related issues in Devils Lake and the surrounding areas including the outlet, fish and wildlife, water quality, agriculture, recreation, infrastructure and economics. The tour begins and ends in Devils Lake.

Irrigation on the Missouri—July 8

This tour is in partnership with the Missouri Slope Irrigation Association and focuses on irrigation-related stops on the western side of the Missouri River. Participants will travel the Lewis and Clark trail on Highway 1806 via motorized coach with stops that include the corn maze south of Mandan, a farming operation with a remote monitoring and operating irrigation system, Standing Rock Farms, Prairie Knights Casino, Northern Lights Dairy, and other areas of interest. This tour will begin and end in Mandan.

North Central/Minot Area—July 14

The Northwest Area Water Supply (NAWS) is a regional water system for northwestern and north central North Dakota utilizing Missouri River water for municipal, rural and industrial (MR&I) purposes. Current configuration includes 15 cities, plus three existing and four proposed rural water systems, serving approximately 75,000 people. This tour begins and ends in Minot and will showcase the high service pump station in Minot, which is the heart of NAWS, pumping water to the communities and rural water systems, as well as the impact that receiving water has had to the cities of Berthold and Kenmare. Participants will stop at the Mouse River Park Flood Control System in Mohall and finish the tour back in Minot with a look at the local waste water treatment system.

Northwest Oil Impact Tour—August 17

Northwestern North Dakota's increasing water needs are a growing concern. This journey begins and ends in Watford City and will take you through areas around the northwest region to look at the oil-impacted areas in McKenzie and Williams counties. Participants will go on-site for a drilling rig tour and see a presentation on the process of hydraulic fracturing near an ongoing well fracture. This tour will show firsthand some of the infrastructure impacts that come with oil development as well. Learn how water supply projects are working together with the oil industry to meet the critical water needs of booming energy development. This tour will also head to Lake Sakakawea to see current lake levels and how this impacts area businesses, irrigation, ag research, water use and management.

Rugged and Regal: Sites of the Southwest—August 19

This tour will begin and end in Dickinson. The Southwest Pipeline Project began back in 1983 in southwestern N.D., and is now nearing completion. Join us as we highlight some of the facilities and needs that have been met with a clean supply of quality water. Participants will tour the Southwest Water Authority headquarters and O&M center for a telemetry demonstration. The tour then moves east to Richardton for a tour of the Red Trail Energy ethanol plant and the Assumption Abbey where participants will tour the inspirational St. Mary's church. The final stop will be near the city of Dodge to see a newly constructed water depot project. Come see the sites in southwest North Dakota that define it as both rugged and regal!

Understanding Garrison Diversion and MR&I—September 16

The Garrison Diversion Project has changed since its 1944 inception in the Flood Control Act. The passage of the Garrison Diversion Reformulation Act in 1986 and the Dakota Water Resources Act in 2000 placed emphasis on municipal, rural and industrial (MR&I) water supply. Tour participants will depart from Bismarck and have the opportunity to visit and learn about the Snake Creek Pumping Plant, Lake Sakakawea, Audubon National Wildlife Refuge, Brekken-Holmes Recreation Area, McClusky Canal, Turtle Lake Irrigation District, local farms and Lonetree Wildlife Management Area. They will also see how the change in Garrison Diversion has led to benefits for multiple areas and interests across the state.