

# ***Then & Now:***



***Changes in Tank Design and Operations to  
Maintain Chlorine Residuals***

# 1994 TANK RULES

1. Bigger is better
2. Single inlet/outlet
3. Keep the tank full

THE RULES HAVE CHANGED



# Outline

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1. Regulations
2. Understanding Water Quality
3. Understanding Tanks
4. What is the Problem?
5. Best Practices – AWWA M-68
6. Case Studies
7. What's Everyone Else Doing?

# 1. Regulations Then...

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EPA 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act  
1986 Amendment

PA DER

1971 Chapter 109 Safe Drinking Water Code  
PA DEP wasn't established until 1995



# PA DEP Requirements Now...

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## Currently:

SW/GUDI sources

Disinfectant residual in system: **0.02 mg/L**

## Starting April 29, 2019:

New Disinfection Requirements Rule from  
Chapter 109

Disinfectant residual in system: **0.2 mg/L**

## 2. Water Quality

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### Three Determinants

1. Source Water
2. Treatment
3. Distribution System



# Water Age

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What is it?

- General indicator
- Average time from treatment facility to any point in the distribution system
- Water quality tends to deteriorate with increasing water age



# Water Age

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What is ideal?

Depends on...

- Source, Treatment, Distribution System
- System Goals
- 5 days (120 hours)



# Water Age

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Can it be truly measured?

- No
- Can be approximated with varying degrees of accuracy
- Hydraulic Modeling, Tracer Studies, Measured Data





# Reduce Water Age in System

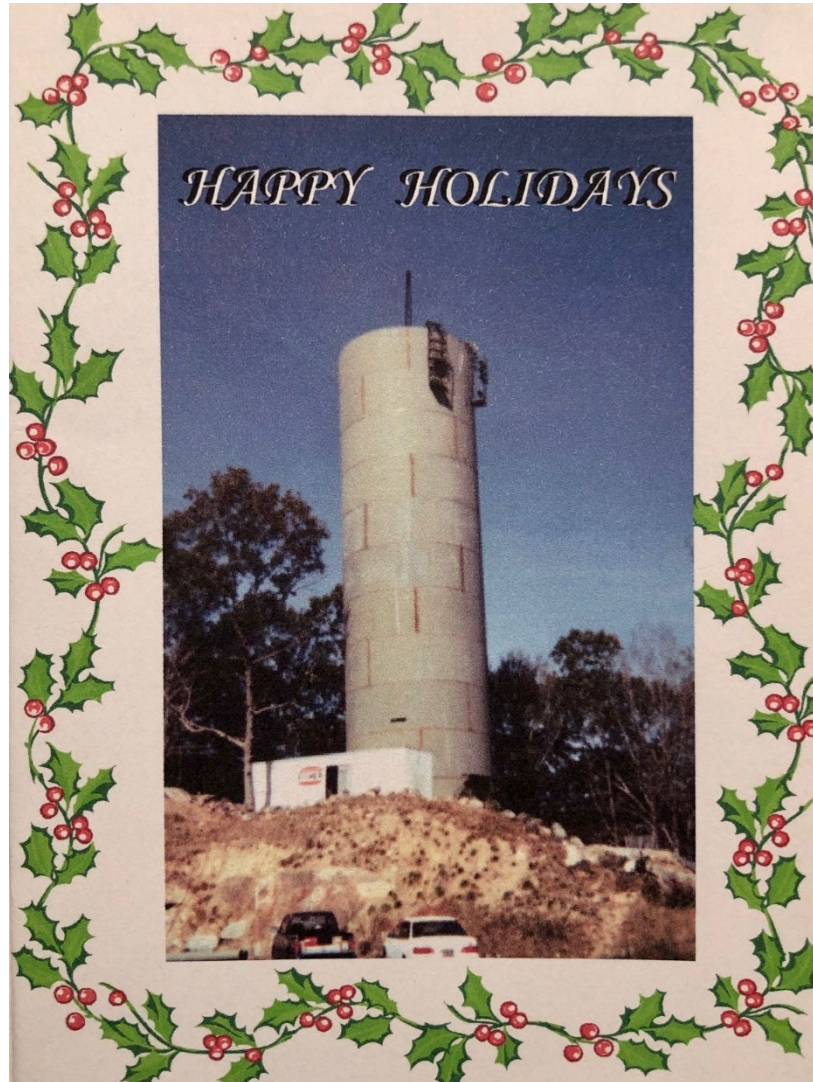
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1. Increase demand (i.e. flushing)
2. Reduce volume in the system



# 3. Understanding Tanks

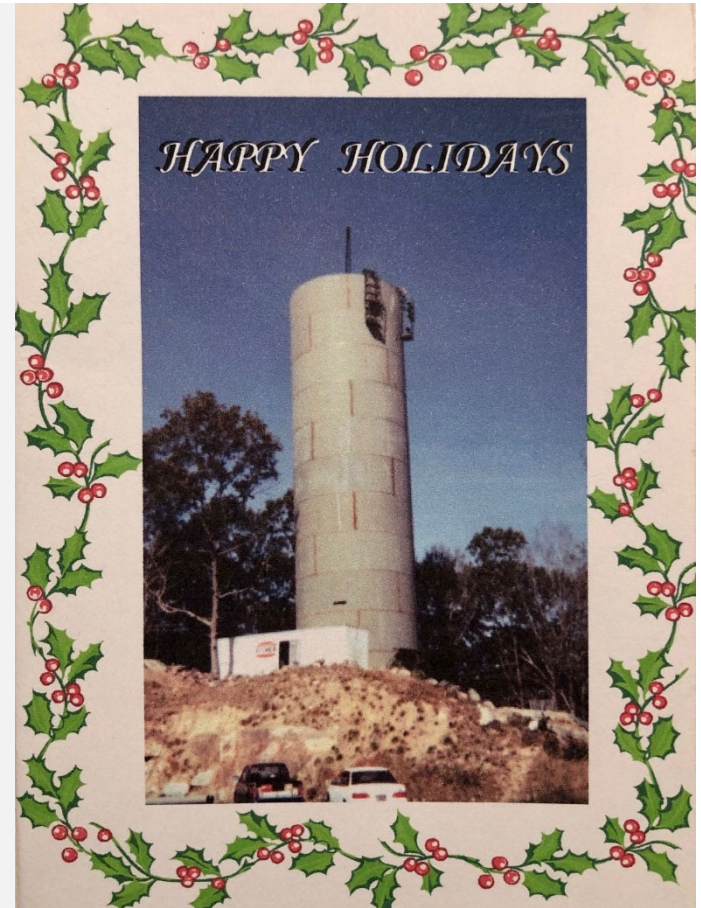
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# Tank Design Then...

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- Hydraulic requirements
- Equalize pressure
- Balance water use during the day
- Emergency storage, fire protection
- Bigger is better
- Future growth



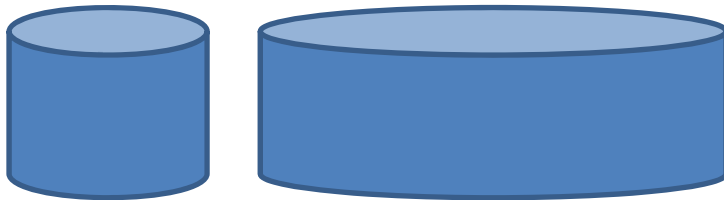
# Tank Design Mixing

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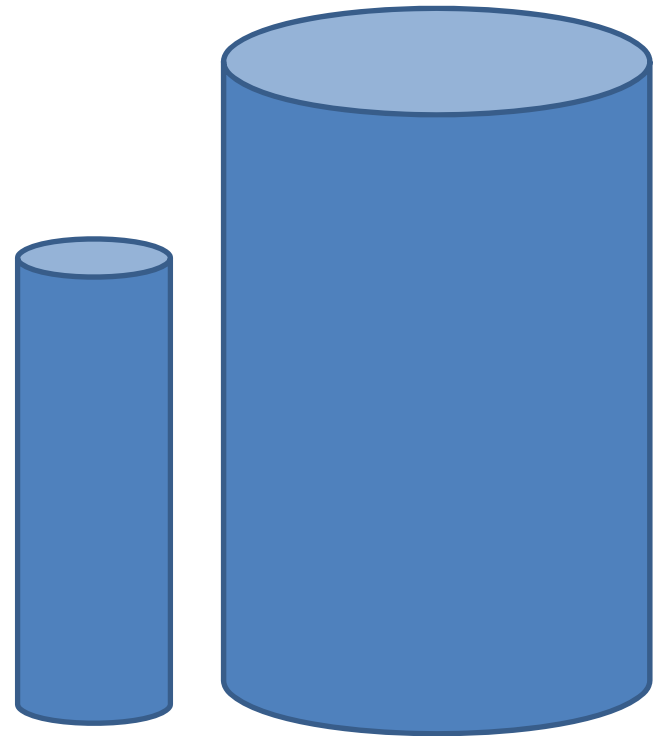
**EASY**



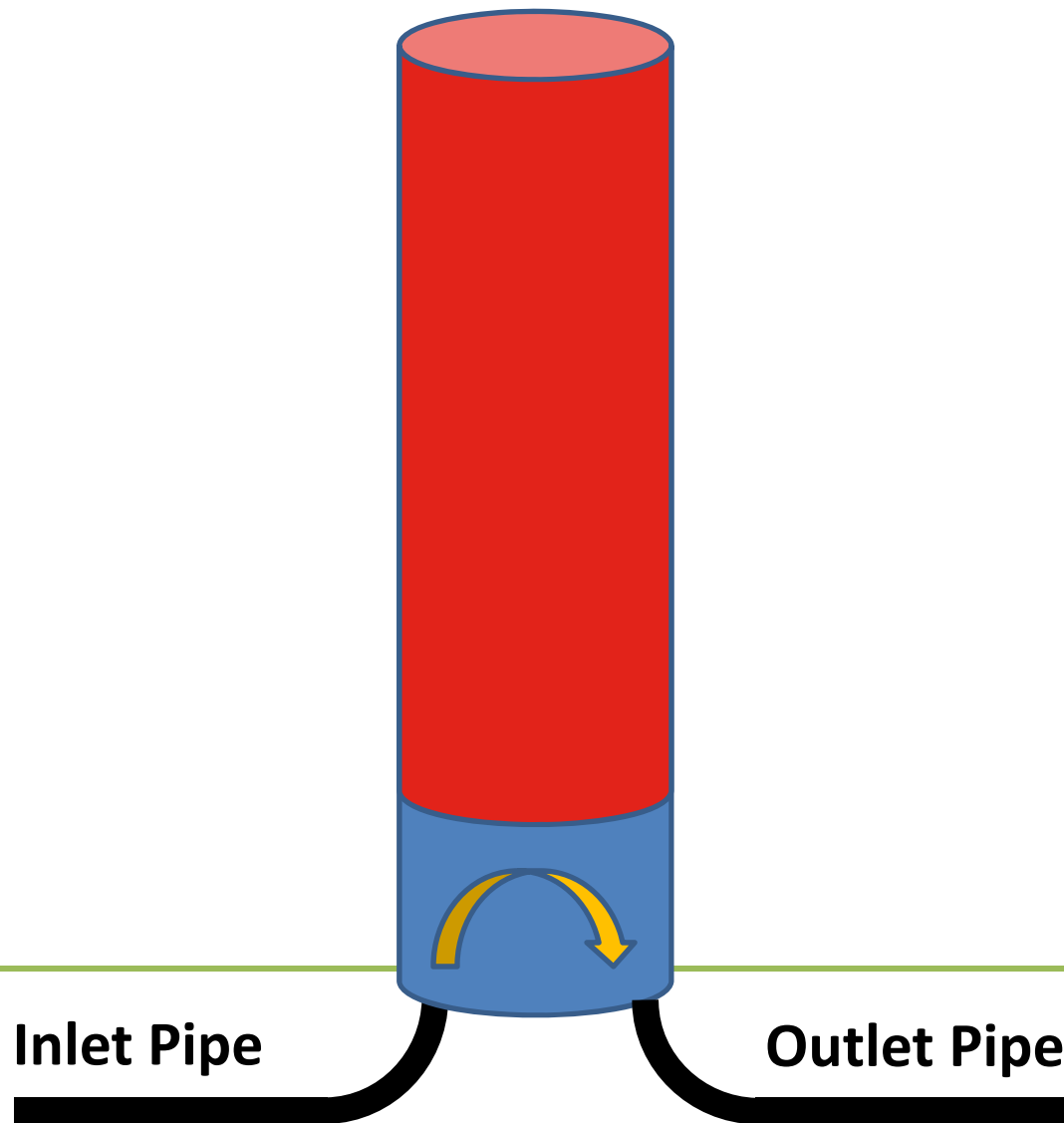
**HARD**



**Reservoirs**



**Standpipes**



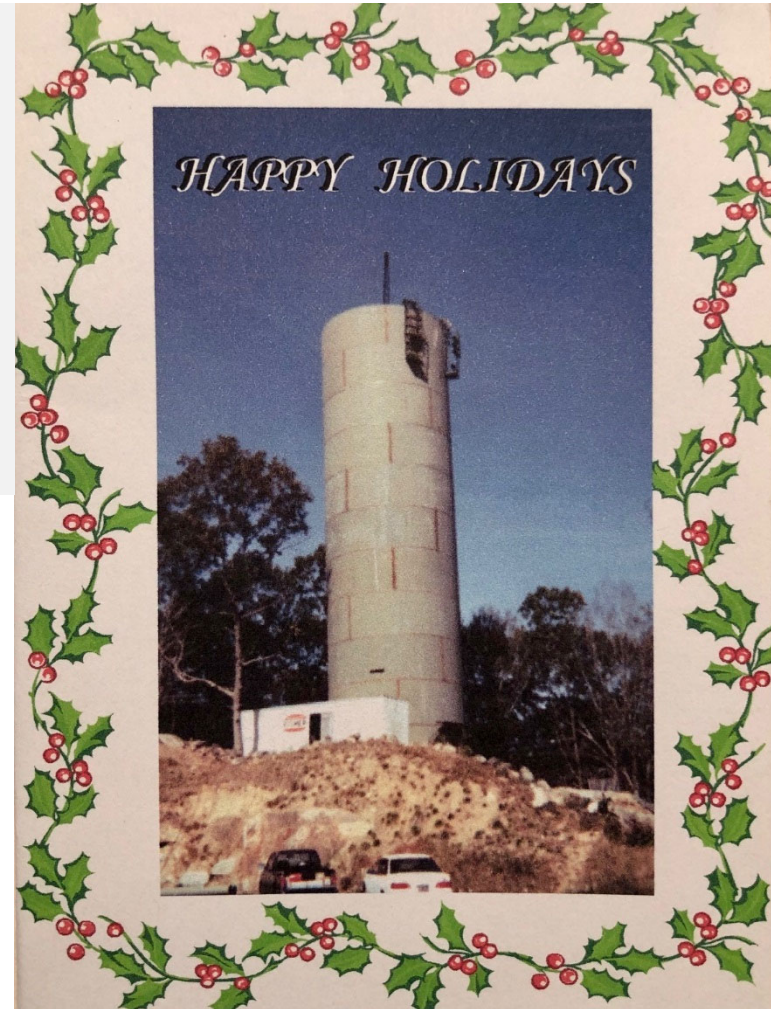
***Standpipe***



# Tank Design Now...

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- Hydraulic requirements
- Equalize pressure
- Balance water use during the day



# Tank Design Now...

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- Find alternate solutions for fire protection.
- Right sized is better
- Demo old tanks
- Elevated tanks, not standpipes
- Don't build assuming future growth
- Usage still decreasing





# Mixers Then...

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# Mixers What can they do?

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- ☒ Move water in the tank
- ☒ Inject chemicals
- ☒ Prevent or minimize freezing
- ☒ Reduce water age

## Don't Forget Your PA DEP Permits!!

- Permit for mixer
- New higher fees
- Permit for changes in treatment
- Delays in Permit review?

# Mixers Now...

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- Most tanks – old & new
- Passive and active
- Costs have gone down
- Options have grown\*
- Still in its infancy





# Operations Then...

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# Operations Now...

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- DON'T keep the tanks full only
- Inspect tanks regularly, drain and clean out as needed
- Consider how and when pumps run to fill tanks

# 4. What is the Problem?

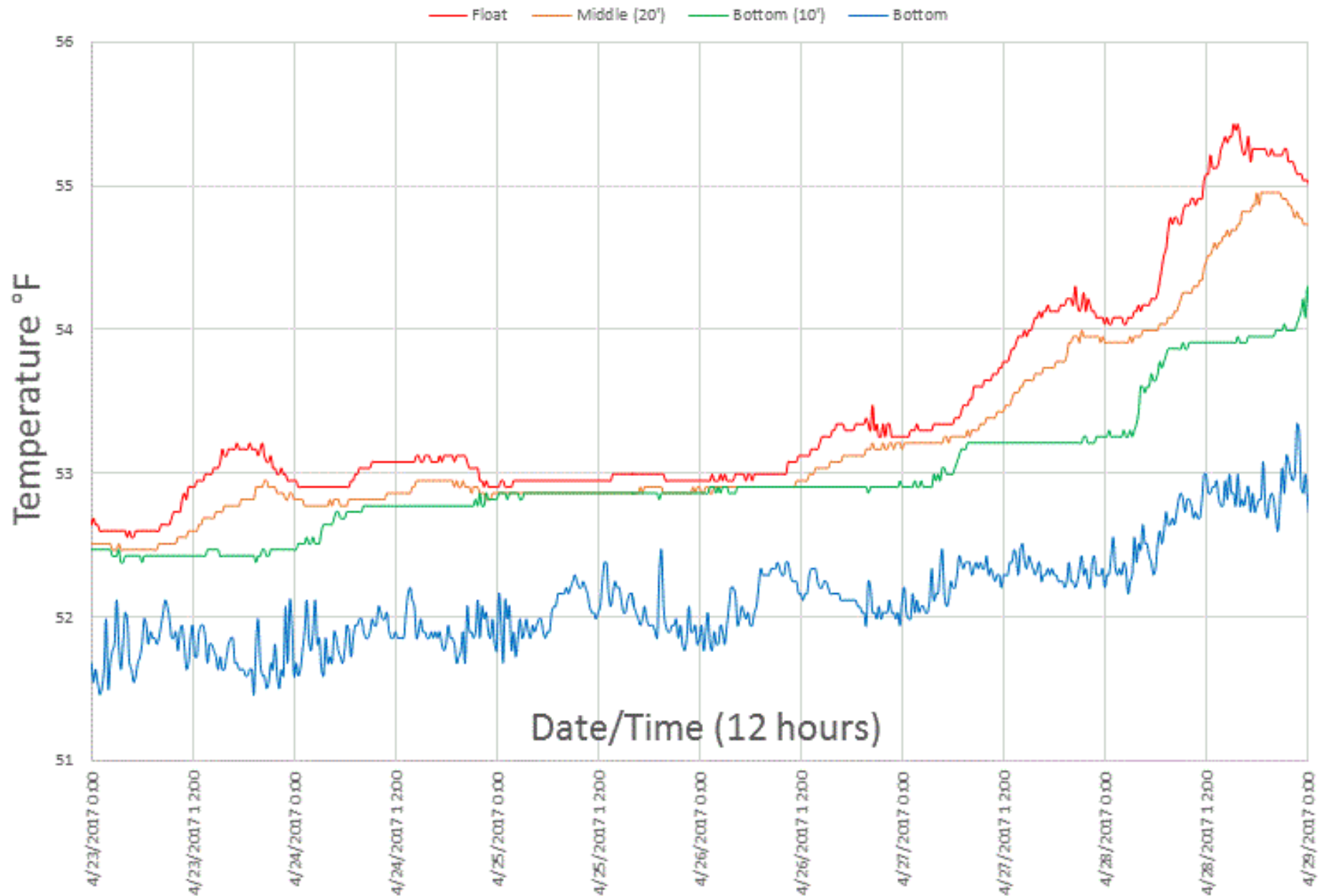
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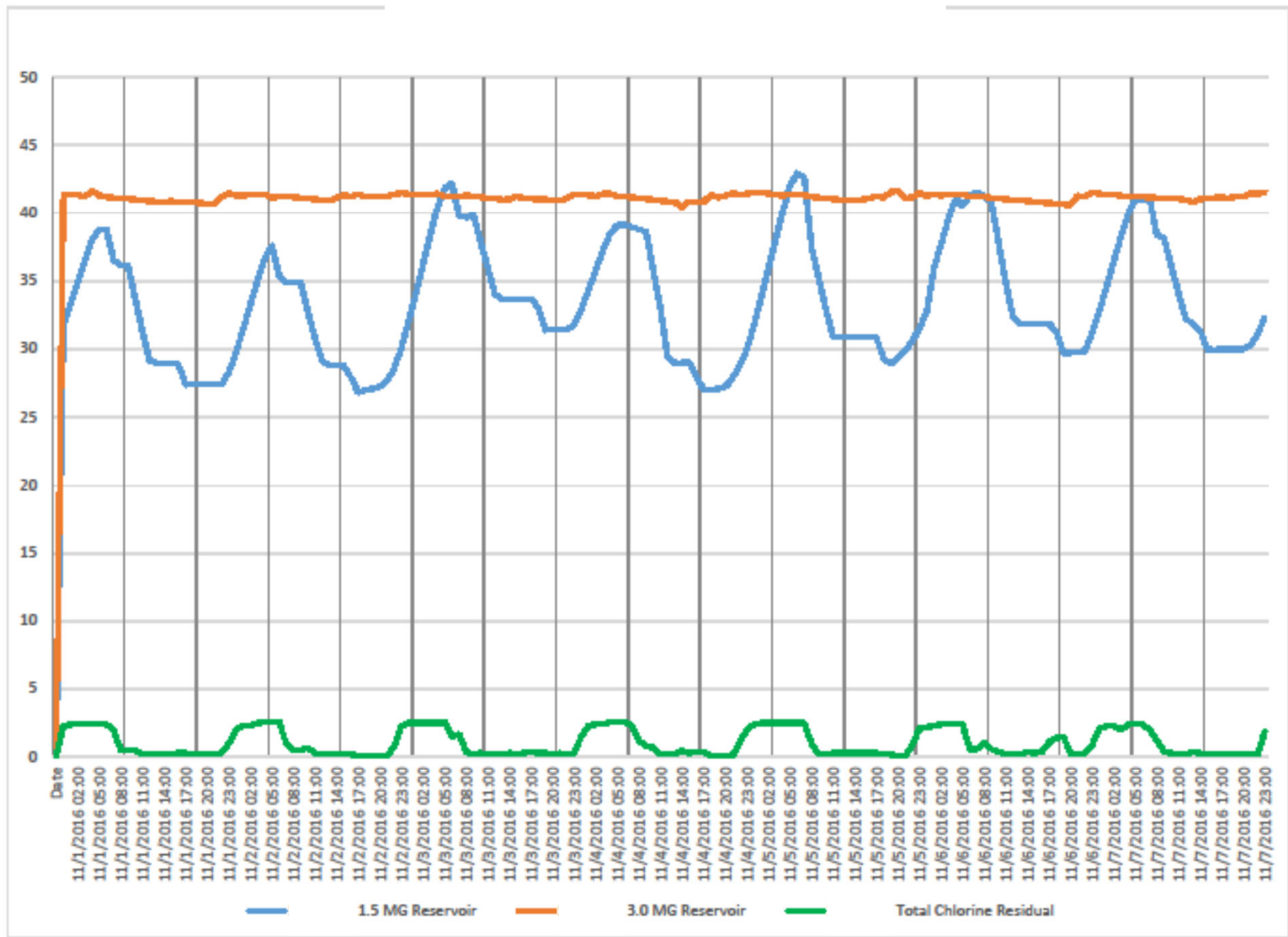
## Data

- Need baseline measurements
- Accuracy – critical to modeling
- Over time



# 1.5 MG Six Day Temperature Trends



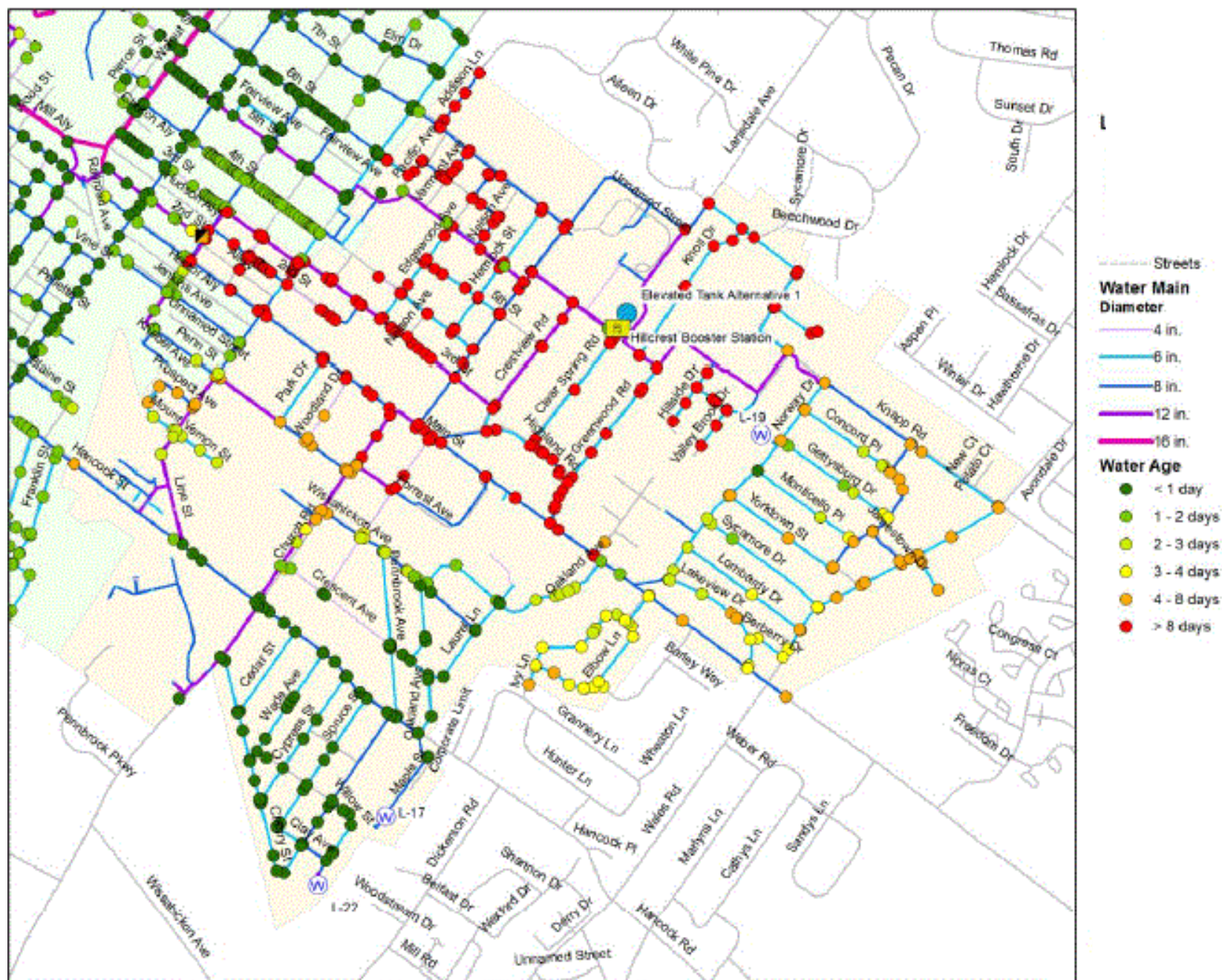






**1.25 MG**









**1.25 MG**



**0.25 MG**

# Help from the PA DEP

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I'm serious!!

**Justin Blashaw –**

PA DEP Technical Assistance Program

Distribution System Optimization Program

- Assistance to systems to improve water quality
- Focus on operational changes and best management practices

# Tools

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## Storage Tank Assessment Spreadsheet

- Mixing performance and tank turnover
- Impact of operational strategies
- Basic BASIC analysis



# Tools

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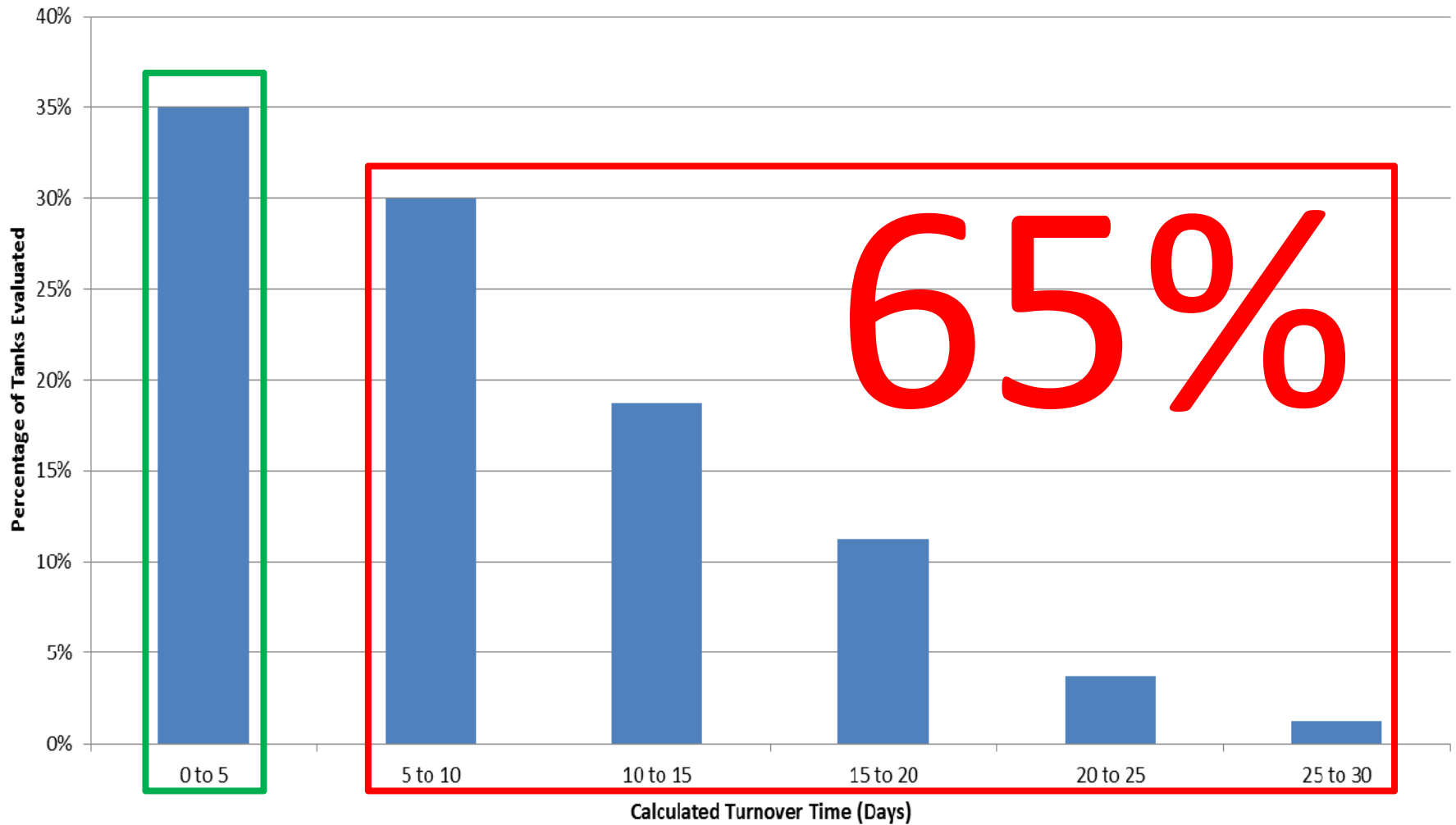
## Field Assistance

- In-tank water quality monitoring
- Temperature data loggers to assess thermal stratification
- Continuous disinfectant residual monitoring

What's the cost?

**IT'S FREE!!!**

# Tanks Assessed



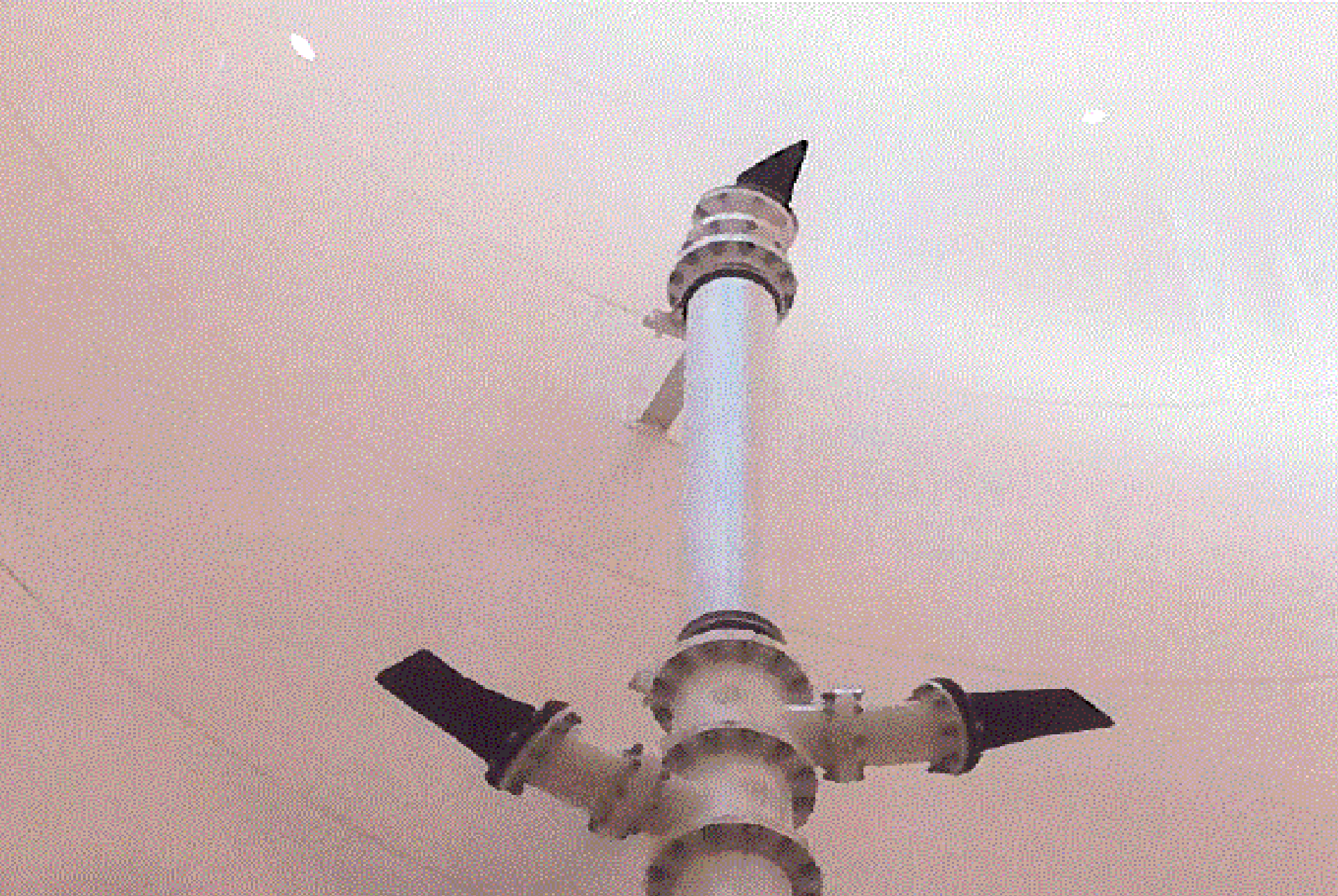




1.0 MG Gallon  
No Mixer

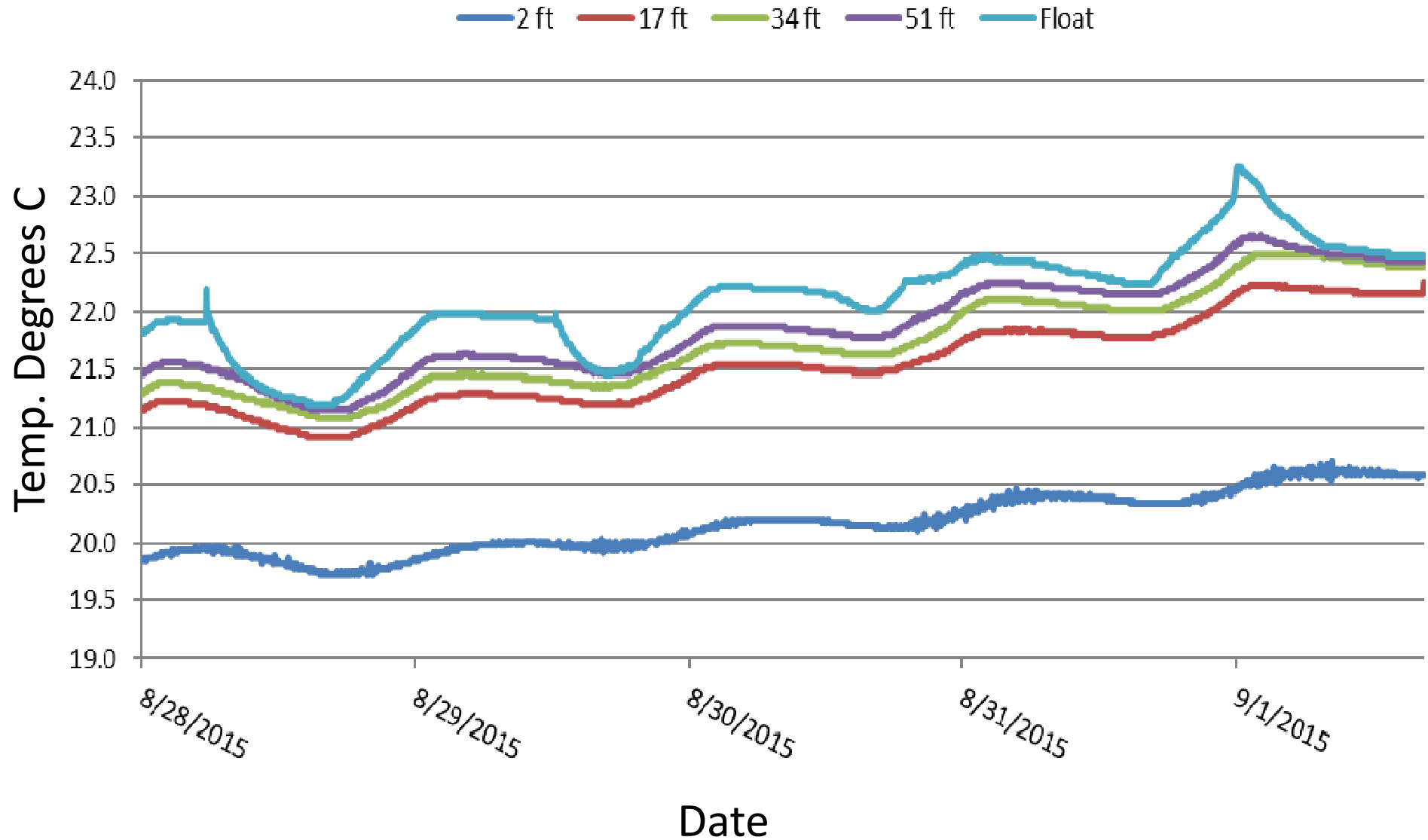
0.25 MG Gallon  
With Mixer





Entech Engineering was NOT the mixer designer.

# 0.25MG Temperature Trends







1.0 MG Gallon  
No Mixer

0.25 MG Gallon  
With Mixer

Pump: 350 gpm

# What's Important? Mixer Design

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- Select the Right Mixer for Your Tank
- Accurate Design Data
- Qualified Installer
- Qualified Inspection



Need Help?

PA DEP Technical Assistance Program

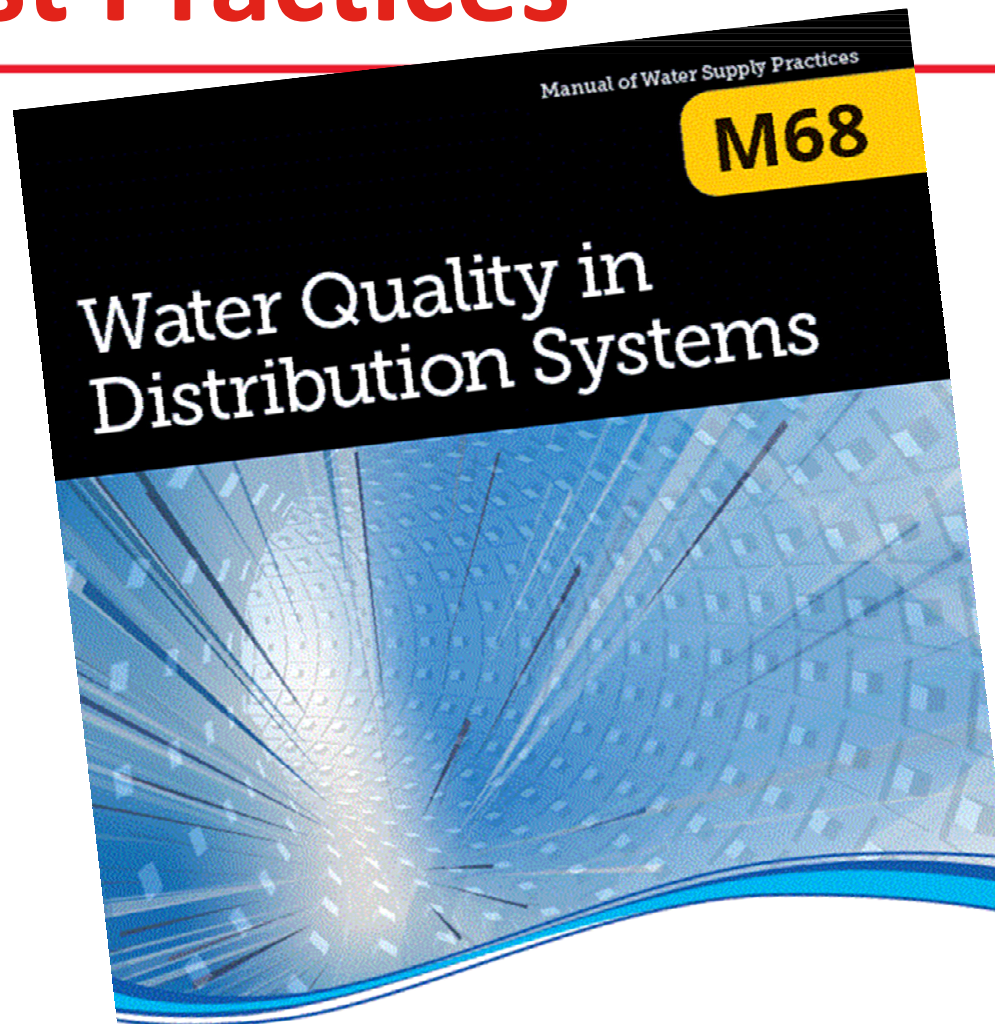
**Justin Blashaw**

(717) 783-3900

jblashaw@pa.gov

# 5. Best Practices

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# AWWA M-68

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Who wrote it?

Our colleagues

What is it for?

Best Practices, as a first step

Who is it for?

Owners, Operators, Engineers

What components are included?

Pumps, tanks, mains, fittings



# AWWA M-68 Chapters

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- 2. Capacity & Water Age
- 3. Understanding & Managing Biofilm, Coliform Occurrence, & the Microbial Community
- 6. Nitrification
- 7. Disinfection & Disinfection By-products

# **AWWA M-68** Chapter 2

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## **Capacity & Water Age**

- Determining Capacity
- Determining Water Age
- Ways to Balance Capacity and Water Age
- Best Practices
- Case Studies
- References







## What Does the Owner Need?

- Both tanks rehabilitated?
- Both tanks torn down, and a new tank built?
- A combination?

# Plan

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1. Obtain & Analyze Data
2. Hydraulic Modeling
3. Evaluate Water Quality Issues
4. Review Scenarios
5. Assess Costs
6. Formulate Long-Term Plan



# Case Study #2

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# TTHM Issues

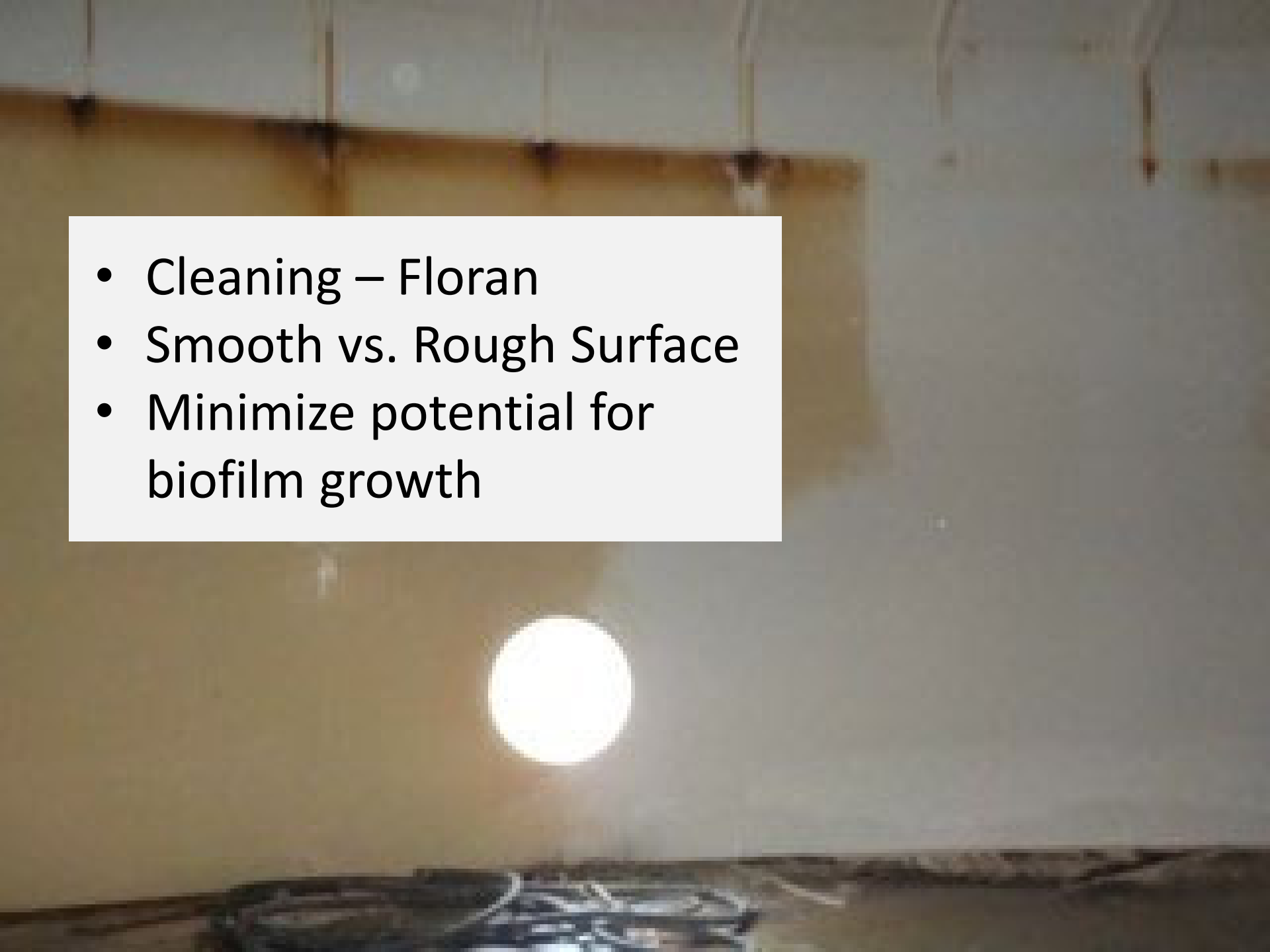
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1. Obtain & Analyze Data
2. Hydraulic Modeling
3. Evaluate Water Quality Issues
4. GridBee mixers with spray aeration
5. Multiple Owners report seeing more than 60% reduction

# Case Study #3

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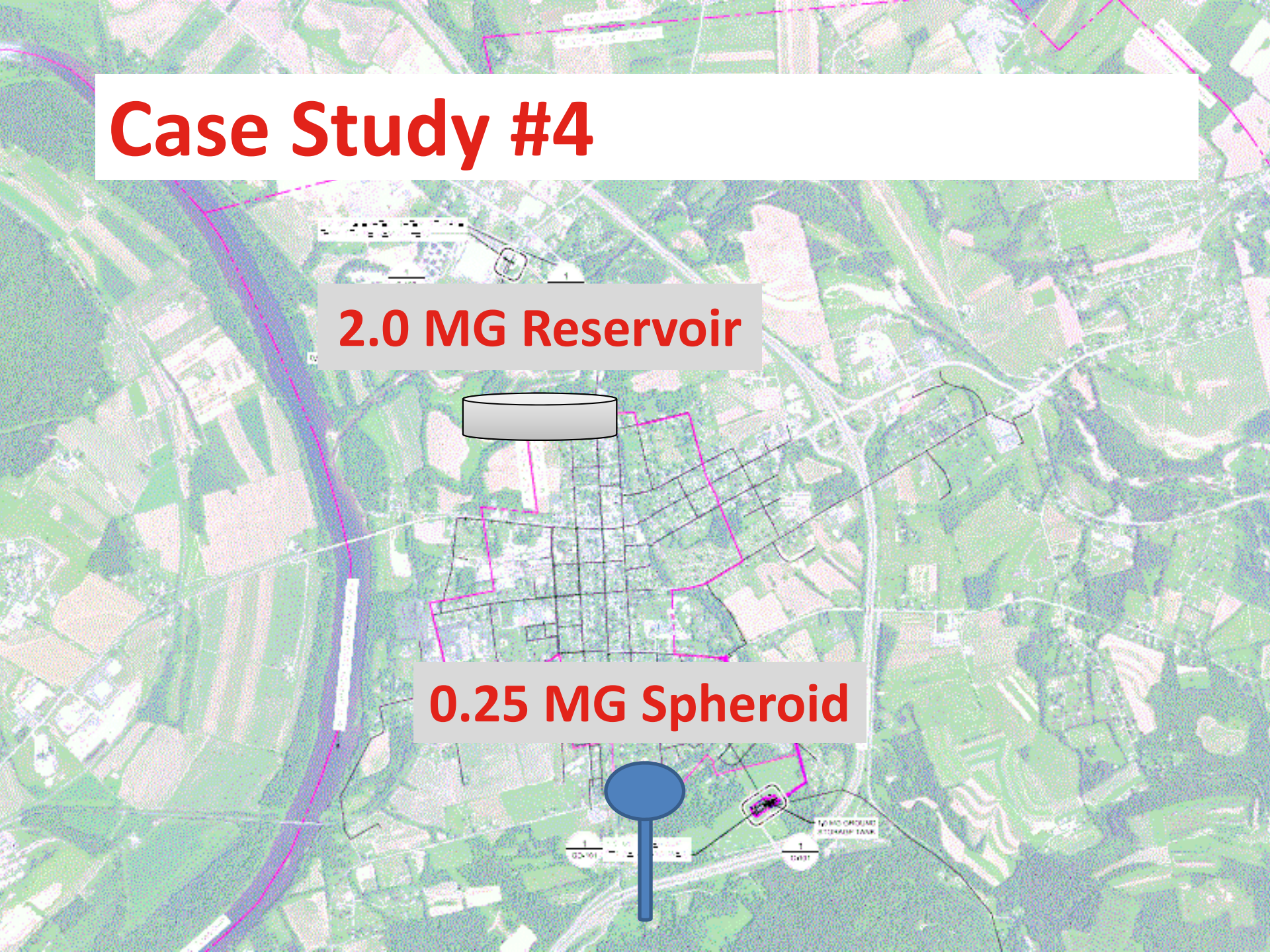
- 
- Cleaning – Floran
  - Smooth vs. Rough Surface
  - Minimize potential for biofilm growth



# Case Study #4

2.0 MG Reservoir

0.25 MG Spheroid





## POTABLE WATER QUESTIONNAIRE

Please enter as much information as possible in the boxes below, then email this form to [INFO@MEDORACO.COM](mailto:INFO@MEDORACO.COM), or fax to 701-225-0002.

### A. TANK LOCATION AND OWNER INFORMATION

RESERVOIR OR TANK OWNER, and CITY and STATE

CONTACT NAME	Christine Gunczallus
ORGANIZATION	Entech Engineering

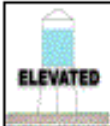
# Accurate Data

### B. CITY WATER SYSTEM OVERVIEW

TYPE OF DISINFECTANT BEING USED IN THIS WATER? ( CHLORINE, OR CHLORAMINE, OR OTHER)  
IS THE SOURCE WATER FROM SURFACE (RIVER AND IMPOUNDMENTS,) OR WELLS  
EXISTING TANK, OR NEW TANK BEING CONSTRUCTED  
THIS TANK'S MAIN FUNCTION, SUCH AS GENERAL STORAGE, CT TANK, CLEARWELL, OTHER  
EXISTING AND/OR EXPECTED WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS IN THIS TANK  
PROJECT OBJECTIVES: GENERAL MIXING, THM REMOVAL, CHLORINE BOOSTING, ICE PROTECTION  
MOST STATES REQUIRE A PERMIT FOR MIXING OR THM REMOVAL IN A TANK, DOES YOURS


Chlorine
River
Existing
General Storage
Want to maintain chlorine levels; no TTHM problems
General mixing, ice protection
yes

### C. TANK DESCRIPTION AND DIMENSIONS (PLEASE FILL OUT THE PERTINENT SECTION BELOW)

 PUT "X" IN ONE:

<input type="checkbox"/> Spheroid	<input type="text" value=""/>	RATED VOLUME, GALLONS	<input type="text" value=""/>	RISER DIAMETER, <u>INCHES</u>	<input type="text" value=""/>	ROOF SHAPE	<input type="text" value=""/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydropillar	<input type="text" value=""/>	TANK DIAMETER, FEET	<input type="text" value=""/>	WET RISER OR DRY RISER?	<input type="text" value=""/>	CONSTRUCTED OF	<input type="text" value=""/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cylindrical	<input type="text" value=""/>	TANK HEIGHT, FEET	<input type="text" value=""/>	RISER HEIGHT, <u>FEET</u>	<input type="text" value=""/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="text" value=""/>	DISTANCE, TANK BOTTOM TO GROUND	<input type="text" value=""/>			ERIOR OBSTRUCTIONS	<input type="text" value=""/>
		HATCH: UNOBSTRUCTED L X W, INCHES	<input type="text" value=""/>	LOCATION OF HATCH(S)	<input type="text" value=""/>		

OR

 PUT "X" IN ONE:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Above Ground	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RATED VOLUME, GALLONS	<input type="text" value="1,500,000"/>	ROOF SHAPE (FLAT, DOMED, OTHER)	<input type="text" value="domed w/ knuckle"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Part Underground	<input type="text" value=""/>	For round TANKS: DIAMETER, FEET	<input type="text" value="56'"/>	CONSTRUCTED OF (STEEL, CONCRETE, OTHER)	<input type="text" value="steel"/>
		HEIGHT, FEET	<input type="text" value="80' HwL"/>	OBSTRUCTIONS (COLUMNS, BAFFLES, OTHER)	<input type="text" value="n/a"/>
>>> PUT "X" IN ONE:				HATCH 1: UNOBSTRUCTED L X W, INCHES	<input 24""="" type="text" value="24" x=""/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cylindrical Shape	<input type="text" value=""/>	Rectangular TANKS: LENGTH, FEET	<input type="text" value=""/>	HATCH 2: UNOBSTRUCTED L X W, INCHES	<input round"="" type="text" value="Tank #2 only - 24"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Rectangular Shape	<input type="text" value=""/>	WIDTH, FEET	<input type="text" value=""/>	LOCATION OF HATCH(S)	<input type="text" value="partway up roof / TK#2 nr,ctr"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Irregular Shape	<input type="text" value=""/>	HEIGHT, FEET	<input type="text" value=""/>	APPROXIMATE YEAR TANK WAS BUILT	<input type="text" value="1971 / 1989"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Standpipe	<input type="text" value=""/>			TANK MANUFACTURER	<input type="text" value="PDM / CB&amp;I"/>

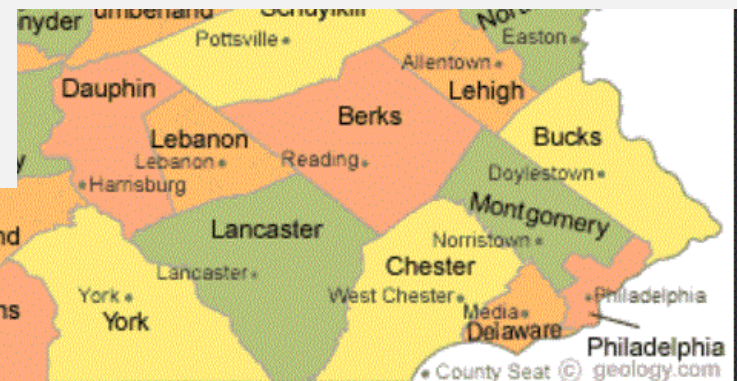
### D. FLOWS. OPERATING DEPTH. INLET-OUTLET. POWER

# 7. What's Everyone Else Doing?

## Western & Central PA

- Full-time flusher
- Raised chlorine levels at plant a tiny bit; monitoring changes for at least a month
- Incremental chlorine dose at key points
- Sodium hypo at 5 pump stations without it

Discount



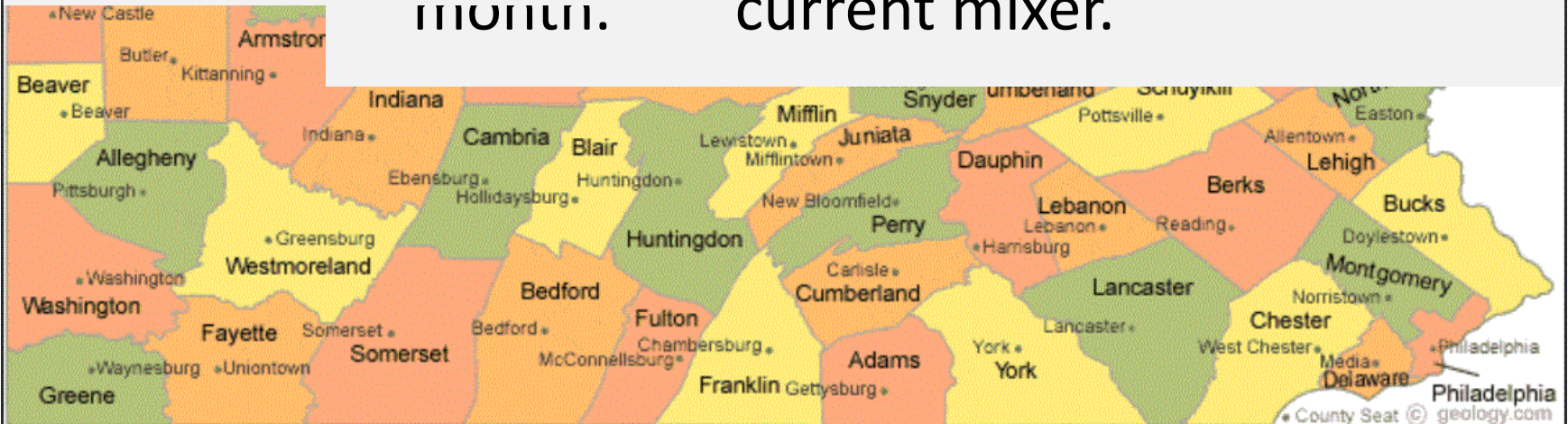
# 7. What's Everyone Else Doing?

## Western PA

- Changed location of chemical injection, from base to where mixer is now.

## Eastern PA

- Dropping temperature probes into tank for a month to gauge effectiveness of current mixer.

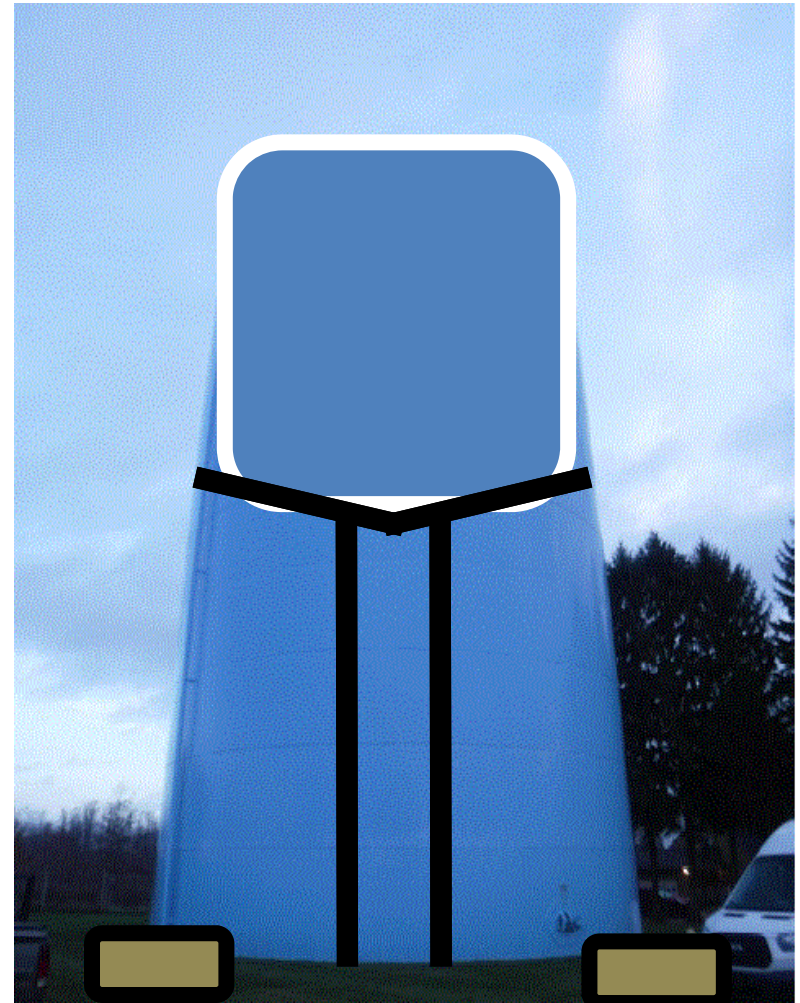




# What's Everyone Else Doing?

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## Turn a Standpipe Into an Elevated Tank



# What Are YOU Doing?

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# Conclusions

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- Can't design or operate tanks like we did 25 years ago.
- Know what problem you are solving.
- Get accurate data.
- Mixers do not improve water age.
- Help is out there
  - PA DEP – Justin Blashaw
  - AWWA M-68
  - Your colleagues



Check out our website:  
[www.entecheng.com](http://www.entecheng.com)

Connect with me  
on LinkedIn

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Cell: 484-354-9201  
[cgunsallus@entecheng.com](mailto:cgunsallus@entecheng.com)

**Questions?**

