Mark your calendars for Wednesday, August 23 for the annual picnic and discussion organized by the WI AWWA Research Committee. The event starts at 9 in the morning and runs to 2 or 3 in the afternoon. The event is casual and held in the gardens on the campus of Process Research Solutions on Madison’s west side (1430 West Skyline Drive). A picnic lunch is served.

The day involves group discussion about the state of the drinking water industry, identifying areas where the industry is lacking in information that could be filled with research. There are also some short, informal presentations.

This year, there will be a presentation by the 2017 Research Award Winner, Jill Jonas, ex-director of the WI Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater. Then, Attorney Lawrie Kobza, legal counsel to municipalities and water utilities, will explain the many aspects of a very active drinking water-related legislative year and lead the discussion on the topics including high capacity wells, phosphorus discharge, and lead service line replacement. Jennifer Warner, Water Research Foundation representative, will present an update of research strategies at the Foundation. Finally, we feature all of the participants in an informal discussion of interesting projects they are involved in and everyone’s thoughts about knowledge gaps in the drinking water field.

Besides the discussions, this is a nice environment in which to talk to interesting people involved in the many facets of providing drinking water. Attendees include water utility managers and operators, engineering consultants, professors and other research scientists and engineers, representatives of equipment manufacturers, and regulators and other government officials.

The cost is $20 to cover lunch. Students may attend for free. On-line registration is posted on the WI AWWA website. Please register on-line (including students) so we can plan for the correct number of lunches.

Come join in the discussion and share what is on your mind about drinking water.

Credits for operator (CEUs) and engineering (PDHs) licenses will be provided.