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Water Partnership for Northwest Missouri

PRESS RELEASE



PBS Documentary Spotlights U.S. Water Infrastructure

Maryville, MO, September 29, 2008: When people need access to clean and safe water, it can be as simple as turning the knob of a kitchen sink faucet. It's so easy, in fact, that the average person in the U.S. thinks little about the 100 gallons per day he or she consumes. However, many residents across northwest Missouri are starting to realize that inexpensive, abundant drinking water is not something to be taken for granted.

The Water Partnership for Northwest Missouri, now in its third year, has been working to get that very message out. The Partnership was created to develop options that would ensure every water provider in a 12-county northwest Missouri area has access to a reliable source of wholesale drinking water. Currently, the Partnership is completing a feasibility study outlining a network of raw water sources, treatment and storage facilities, and transmission lines that could meet that goal. Before such a system can be constructed, however, the public must be made aware of the significant challenges to drinking water, both today and in the near future. To that end, the Partnership is actively promoting a new resource developed to address water infrastructure in America.

A new documentary film produced by Penn State Public Broadcasting, is aiming to make people think more about drinking water, and how to ensure its future viability. The 90-minute documentary [Liquid Assets: The Story of Our Water](#) is scheduled to air nationwide starting October 1. At a time when experts are warning that water infrastructure is in dire need of repair, the film highlights the essential role that water infrastructure plays in protecting the public health, promoting economic prosperity, and ensuring good quality of life. *Liquid Assets* shares the tale of the U.S.'s distressed infrastructure systems: drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater. It addresses the history, engineering, and political and economic challenges associated with water infrastructure by highlighting the stories of cities and towns that are dealing with these issues. In conjunction with the airing of the documentary, Penn State Public

Broadcasting is encouraging environmental and civic groups, service organizations, and government officials to show a DVD of the documentary and use a toolkit, available online, for community outreach.

The documentary trailer and community toolkit can be found at <http://liquidassets.psu.edu>, or through the Water Partnership Website at <http://water.nwmorcog.org>.

For more information or story quotes, contact:

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