

# Message from the President



by Florence Braunius,  
*NYRWA President*

Spring is here! What seemed to be a colder than usual Winter is behind us and now we are enjoying the longer days, the warming rays of the sun and thinking ahead to Summer. Here are some of the things I look forward to as we approach the Summer season.

New York Rural Water Association's 31st Technical Conference will be taking place at the Turning Stone Resort May 24th through May 27th and this is promising to be one of the events you will not want to miss. Hopefully you are all registered and I will see you there. This year, someone will be fortunate enough to go home with the 2008 Yamaha Grizzly ATV. Good luck everyone!

I would also like to congratulate Pat Scalera for her 30 years affiliation with NYRWA. Pat has been with this organization since its inception. Her knowledge and devotion has meant so much to the success that we all see today. Pat has "led the charge" on so many of the issues and we owe her a big thank you for those years of service.

Graduations and the end of the school year is always something our family has looked forward to. We have a large extended family, so someone is always graduating from something, somewhere. Our local school encompasses grades Pre- K through 9th grade. The Junior High Science classes have our wastewater treatment plant as a regular stop on their things to do before school gets out. It is always a pleasure to have these kids tour our plant. It is always an opportunity too for Rob, Jim and I to make sure our "spring cleaning" is done and everything looks its best. I also invite anyone who is visiting in the Speculator area to stop by. Being a tourist oriented community, we have become quite accustomed to visitors.

Summer projects always are on the list. Over the Winter months, something usually happens that makes us think "if we had done such and such, we wouldn't have to be doing this now when it is cold outside". There is

always an improvement we think of over the Winter that will make things easier for next year. We had over an inch of rain in January, as well as, a power outage a week later with below zero temperatures. One project we will work on this Summer is some type of auxiliary heat for our well control building. The emergency generator does not help when your heat is propane and the vaporizer is not working. Fortunately we did not have any frost damage to the piping inside the building.

Another Summer project we have is to make some improvements to our gate at our land application site. Our site is owned by the Village and part of its design included creating an open space for wild life. This has also become an attraction for those who are looking for that same wildlife during hunting season, so we need to make this site a little less accessible. Somehow the posted signs and the locked chain across the entrance just aren't doing the job.

And to include what I look forward to most is finding time to spend with friends and family doing what I like to do. Take time for some relaxation and enjoying what you like to do. Getting things done should not come at the expense of your health and happiness. I plan to spend some extra time camping on the shores of the St. Lawrence River, paddling my kayak, reading a good book in my hammock, and spending sometime with my first grandchild!

So my advice to everyone is, to get out there and have some fun this Summer! See you all at the Turning Stone Resort in May and we will kick off the Summer season.

Enjoy!

Florence Braunius, President  
NYRWA Board of Directors