NOWRA Onsite Wastewater
Mega-Conference
Springfield, Missouri
2022

Looking Back

8

**Moving Forward** 

NOMEA

"The opinions expressed in this presentation and on the following slides are solely those of the presenter and not necessarily those of NOWRA.

NOWRA does not guarantee the accuracy or reliability of the information provided herein."







# Looking Back Legacy Systems



#### Rural Electrification Administration

# The Goal? Sewer the entire country



# In 1976 EPA's letter to Congress says: We can't do it....and

We must rely on decentralized onsite systems to fill the needs of rural America

And this created "Legacy Systems" and an opportunity for our industry

When these legacy systems were first built, common practice was to install the least costly solution, which was not necessarily the most appropriate solution for the conditions

## EPA Estimates that 10 to 20 percent of onsite systems are failing







Using data we have if 15% are failing that is 4.6 million failing systems – or 92,000 failing system in each state

# Neglecting the "past" would be missed opportunities



Looking Forward

LOTS

Large Onsite Treatment Systems

# WAC 246-272B-01000 Purpose and objectives.

(1) The purpose of this chapter is to protect public health and the environment by establishing a comprehensive framework for statewide management of LOSS.



Looking Forward
Water Shortages Across Our Country

#### Is this really a problem?

and

How can this benefit our industry?



Lake Mead

#### Yes!!





Lake Powell

#### It is a problem

Lake Oroville

#### How Much Water Do We Have?



70% of the earth is covered in water BUT 97% Saltwater 3% Freshwater AND 2% is ice 0.98% Groundwater 0.02% Lakes & Streams

## Missouri Gov. Mike Parson issues drought alert for almost half of Missouri counties







#### Ogallala Aquifer

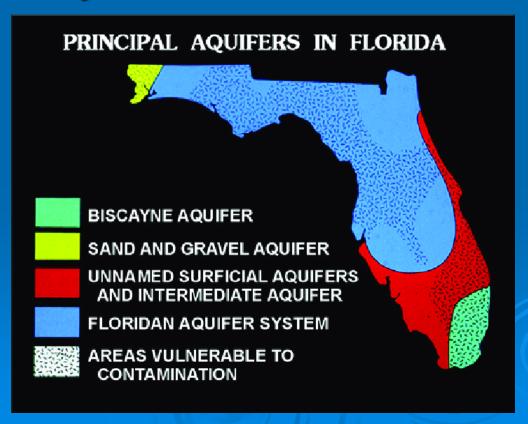
In Kansas "Day Zero" – the day wells run dry – has arrived for 30% of the aquifer



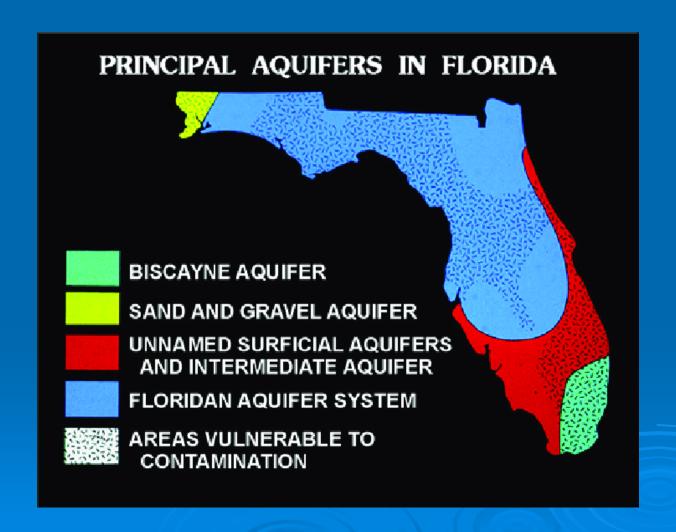


#### Biscayne Aquifer

## Primary source of drinking water for Miami / Dade County



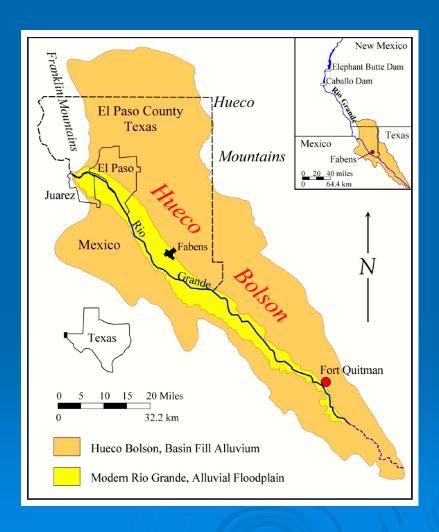
#### Floridan Aquifer



#### Sparta Aquifer

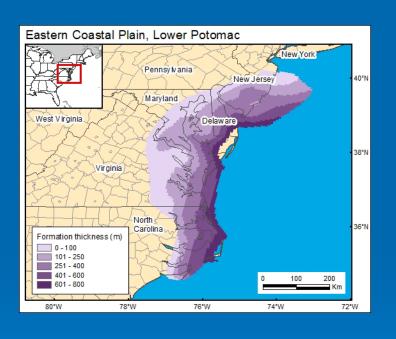


#### Hueco Bolson Aquifer



City of El Paso recharges 12 million GPD of treated wastewater

#### Potomac Aquifer



- Homes and businesses in the Hampton Roads region are drawing groundwater faster than it can be replenished.
- In some areas the earth is sinking.
- They are pumping 1 million GPD of treated wastewater into the aquifer



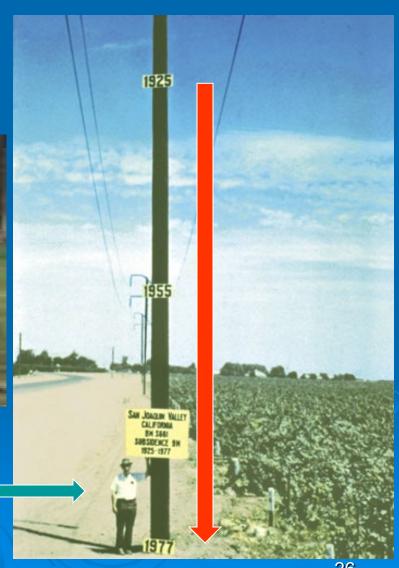
Orange County
California
Groundwater
Replenishment
System

Treating 100 million GPD of wastewater to be put back into the aquifer

#### The Water Crisis



Dr. Joseph Poland Stanford University



# How much can the onsite systems in the US contribute to our dwindling aquifers?

11.1 Billion gallons per day
or
4 Trillion gallons per year

#### Maybe we should take a lesson from Israel

90% of Israeli wastewater is purified and used in irrigation...The world leader and four times more than any other country



### Questions?

# MARA