

# Valve Exercising, Tools & Data Collection



Presented by:

Kevin Waugh, Manufacturer Representative

US Saws, Kupferle, RyMar Innovative Products

# \*Valve Exercising, Tools & Data Collection

## \*Agenda

- \*Why exercise a valve
- \*Planning for an Exercise Program
- \*What Counts as an Exercised Valve
- \*Tools of an Exercise Program
- \*Collecting The Data
- \*Questions

\*Working Knowledge of Distribution System

\*Asset Management

- General Maintenance
- Location of Assets
- Emergency Use
  - Leaks, Breaks, Fires, Illegal Access containment

**Why exercise a valve**

In May 2007, The department of homeland security and EPA jointly published the  
**“Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources  
Sector-Specific Plan as input to the  
National Infrastructure Protection Plan”**

**Which specifically states to:**

**Identify Assets, Systems, Networks, and  
Functions**

In other words,

**“know where your assets are!”**

**Why exercise a valve**

- \* Working Knowledge of Distribution System
- \* Asset Management
  - General Maintenance
  - Location of Assets
  - Emergency Use
    - Leaks, Breaks, Fires, Illegal Access containment
- \* Identify problems
  - Closed Valves
  - Non-working valves
  - Replace / Repair
- \* EPA REQUIREMENT

# Why exercise a valve

Per AWWA G200-15 Distribution Systems Operation and Management, section 4.2.5, a valve exercising program is to follow AWWA Manual M44 and the manufacturer's recommended procedure and include at least the following elements:

- 1) A goal for the number of transmission valves to be exercised annually based on the percentage of the total valves in the system.
- 2) A goal for the number of distribution valves to be exercised annually.
- 3) A goal that 100% of the valves are tested within a certain time frame (recommend 1x/5 years).
- 4) Measures to verify that the goals are met and written procedures for action if the goals are not attained.
- 5) Critical valves in the distribution system shall be identified for exercising on a regular basis. Potential water quality and isolation concerns shall be recognized. The program shall track the annual results and set goals to reduce the percent of inoperable valves.
- 6) The valve-exercising program may be implemented in conjunction with the systematic flushing program.
- 7) A goal of replacing the inoperable valves identified during the operation and maintenance process shall be established as part of the exercising program.

#### Determining which valves are critical

- Transmission mains affecting service to large groups of customers
- Distribution valves necessary to maintain service to critical customers such as: hospitals, dialysis centers, nursing homes, medical facilities, manufacturing facilities, downtown/high density areas, and service connections where loss of flow could impact human health due to catastrophic events (Waste water treatment plant critical processes or loss of cooling water to processes where it is critical)
- Areas prone to main breaks
- Areas of infrastructure approaching the end of its useful life
- Areas around road or other utility re-construction areas

#### Frequency of exercising

- Critical valves - annually
- Non-critical valves:
  - Rate of deterioration known to occur in the distribution system.  
Systems should operate a representative sample annually to determine rate of deterioration
  - Consequence of failure or delays in being able to close the valve

September 7, 2018

September 7, 2018



# Valve Exercising Program

# Goals

Per AWWA G200-15 Distribution Systems Operation and Management, section 4.2.5, a valve exercising program is to follow AWWA Manual M44 and the manufacturer's recommended procedure and include at least the following elements:

- \* 1) A goal for the number of transmission valves to be exercised annually based on the percentage of the total valves in the system.
- \* 2) A goal for the number of distribution valves to be exercised annually.
- \* 3) A goal that **100%** of the valves are tested within a certain time frame (recommend **1x/5 years**).
- \* 4) Measures to verify that the goals are met and **written** procedures for action if the goals are not attained.
- \* 5) Critical valves in the distribution system shall be identified for exercising on a regular basis. Potential water quality and isolation concerns shall be recognized. **The program shall track the annual results and set goals to reduce the percent of inoperable valves.**
- \* 6) The valve-exercising program may be implemented in conjunction with the systematic flushing program.
- \* 7) A goal of replacing the inoperable valves identified during the operation and maintenance process shall be established as part of the exercising program.



# Valve Exercising Program

## Determining which valves are critical

- \* • Transmission mains affecting service to large groups of customers
- \* • Distribution valves necessary to maintain service to critical customers such as:
  - \* hospitals, dialysis centers, nursing homes, medical facilities, manufacturing facilities, downtown/high density areas, and service connections where loss of flow could impact human health due to catastrophic events (Wastewater treatment plant critical processes or loss of cooling water to processes where it is critical)
- \* • Areas prone to main breaks
- \* • Areas of infrastructure approaching the end of its useful life
- \* • Areas around road or other utility re-construction areas



# Valve Exercising Program

## Frequency of exercising

- \* Critical valves - annually
- \* Non-critical valves:
  - \* Rate of deterioration known to occur in the distribution system. Systems should operate a representative sample annually to determine rate of deterioration
  - \* Consequence of failure or delays in being able to close the valve

\* EPA  
Valve Exercising Program

Exercising Extends the life of moving parts for:

Valves

Hydrants

Gates

Pumps



Why exercise a valve

What you really need to get started:

## The Big Picture

A valve exercising program is more than just a T-handle and spare time.

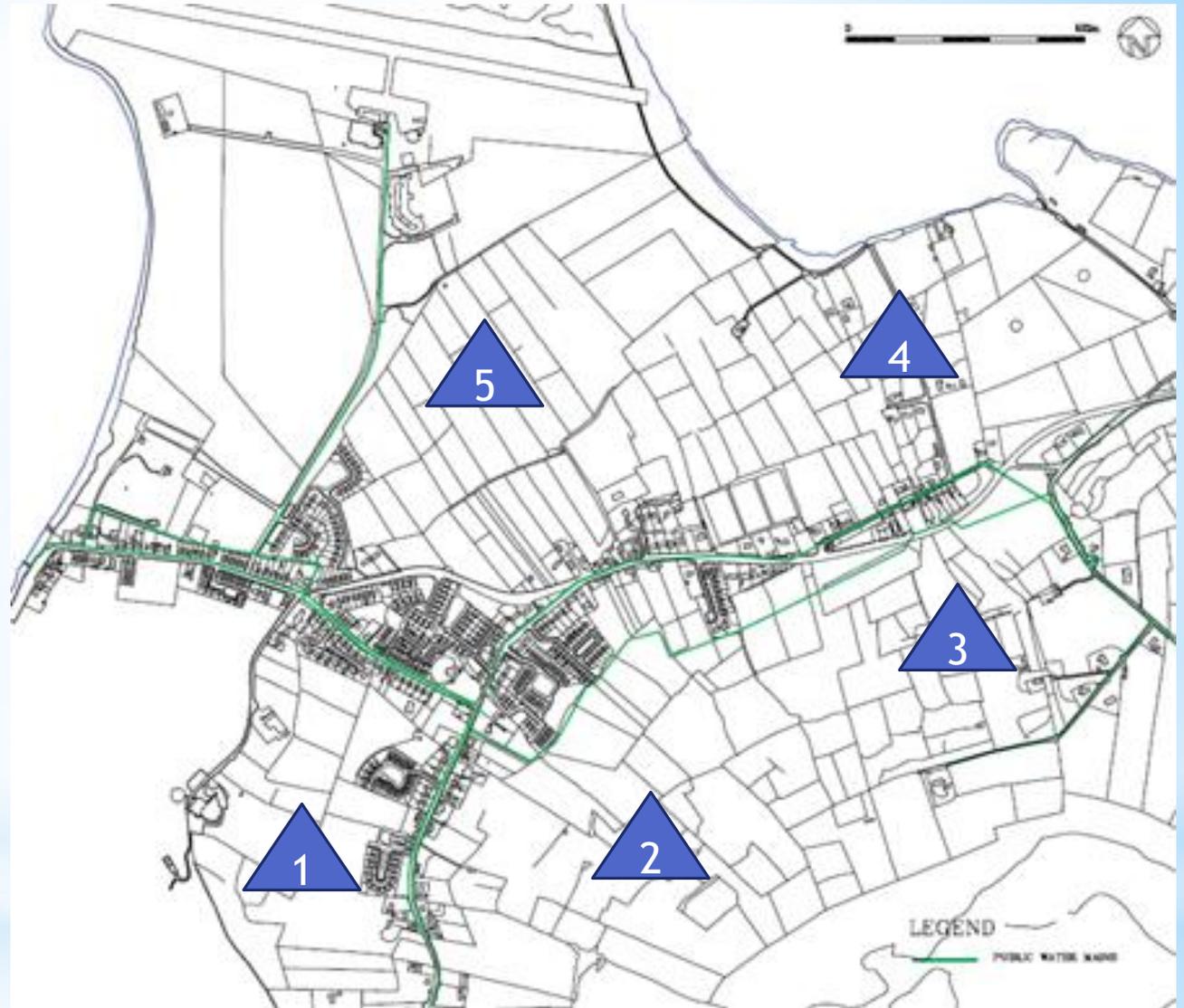
Very specific tools and resources will need to be allocated to properly implement an exercising program

# Planning an Exercise Program

- \* Start Small and Collect the DATA
- \* Mapping out your system
  - \* Create Zones
    - \* Old Meter Read Routes
    - \* Hydrant Flushing program
    - \* Snowplow routes
  - \* Identify Critical vs. Non-Critical
  - \* Separate non-Critical into 5 zones (years)
- \* Budgeting
  - \* Labor needs
  - \* Tool needs
  - \* Time Needed

# Planning an Exercise Program

Map Zones ▲  
Find Valves  
GIS Location



# Planning an Exercise Program

# \* Budgeting



Valves	Critical %	Critical	Valves / Hour	Avg Salary
15,000	15%	2,250	2	40,000

Valve Exercising						
Non-Critical Valves	Years	Valves / year	Valves/ hr	FTE	Valve / FTE	
12,750	5	4,800	2	2	2,400	1200 hrs / yr

Costs	
-------	--

Employees		
Avg Salary	Employees	Annual Salary
45,000	2	90,000

Employees	
Base	40,000
Misc	5,000

Initial Cost				
Vehicle	Tools	Crews	Fuel/Misc	Total Cost
35,000	40,000	2	16,144	126,144

Repair Parts	
Parts	250
Labor hrs	1.3
Labor Wage	21.63

Valve Repair Replace				
10%	Repair 90%	Material	Labor	Total
480	432	108,000	12,113	120,113

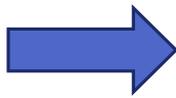
Valves	
12"	1700
8"	700
avg	1200
Labor hrs	5
Labor Wage	21.63

800 hrs / yr

Replace 10%	Material	Labor	Total
48	57,600	5,192	62,792

# Planning an Exercise Program





Valves	Critical %	Critical	Valves / Hour	Avg Salary
300,000	15%	45,000	2	40,000

# \* Budgeting

Valve Exercising						
Non-Critical Valves	Years	Valves / year	Valves/ hr	FTE	Valve /FTE	
255,000	5	96,000	48	24	4,000	

## Costs

Employees		
Avg Salary	Employees	Annual Salary
45,000	24	1,080,000

Employees	
Base	40,000
Misc	5,000

Initial Cost				
Vehicle	Tools	Crews	Fuel/Misc	Total Cost
35,000	480,000	24	193,728	1,513,728

Repair Parts	
Parts	250
Laborhrs	2
LaborWage	21.63

Valve Repair Replace				
10%	Repair 90%	Material	Labor	Total
9600	8640	2,160,000	373,846	2,533,846

Valves	
12"	1700
8"	700
avg	1200
Laborhrs	6
LaborWage	21.63

Replace 10%				
Replace 10%	Material	Labor	Total	
960	1,152,000	124,615	1,276,615	

Annual Costs					
	Year 1		Year 2		
Upfront Costs	1,623,648	Valves	Annual Costs	193,728	
Salary	1,080,000		Salary	1,080,000	Valves
Repair	2,533,846	8640	Repair	1,931,928	6,588
Replace	1,276,615	960	Replace	973,354	732
	<u>6,514,110</u>			<u>4,179,011</u>	

Year 3		
Annual Costs	193,728	
Salary	1,080,000	Valves
Repair	1,472,997	5,023
Replace	742,133	558
	<u>3,488,858</u>	

Year 4			
Annual Costs	193,728		
Salary	1,080,000	Valves	
Repair	1,123,085	3,830	
Replace	565,838	426	
	<u>2,962,652</u>		

Year 5			
Annual Costs	193,728		
Salary	1,080,000	Valves	Total Valves
Repair	856,295	2,920	27,000
Replace	431,423	324	3,000
	<u>2,561,446</u>		30,000

Total	<u><u>19,706,077</u></u>
-------	--------------------------



300,000 Valves

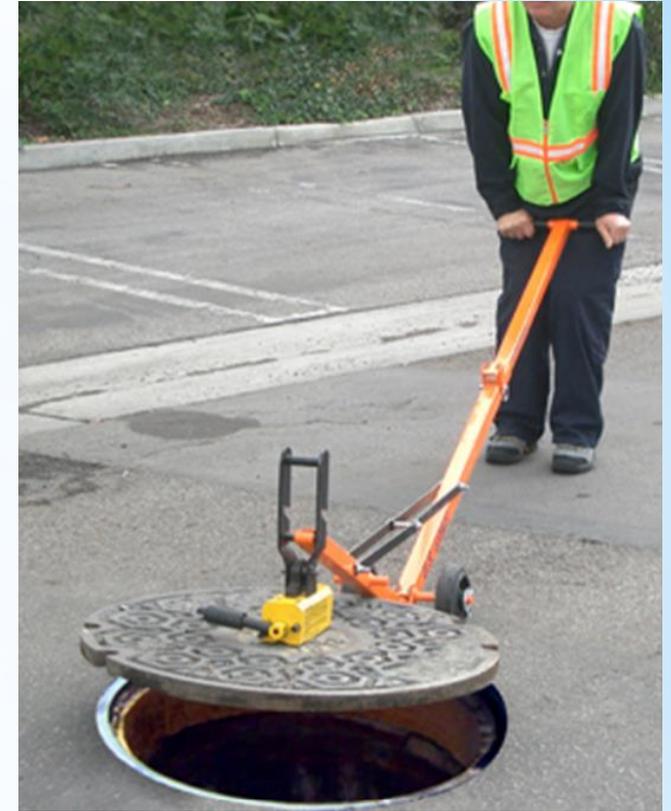
24 Crew Members

Total Cost  
\$19,706,077

## What you really need to get started: The Big Picture

- 1) Locating equipment to find the riser or lid if buried
- 2) Riser clean out tools, auger, clean out shovels, vacuum truck, magnets
- 3) Marking buttons, Maps, layouts, GPS, and methods to document locations and other information
- 4) Valve key, Valve machine, towable or dedicated truck mounted rig

# Tools for Exercise Program



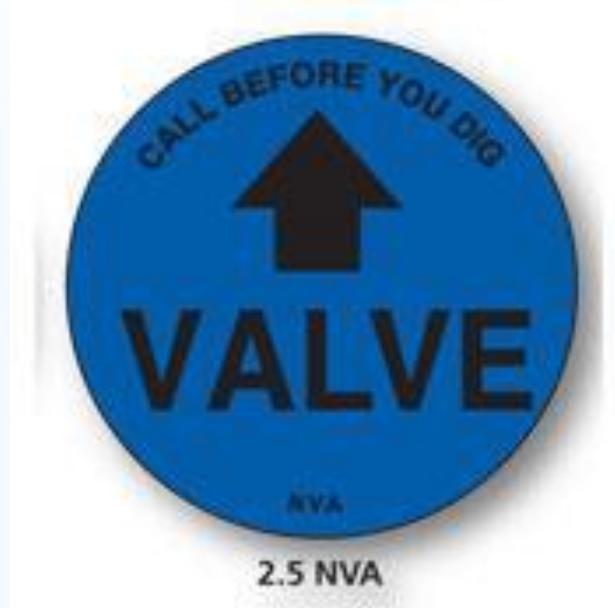
### Safer Lifting Methods

- Lessen workload
- Lower risk for Injury
- Easy to remove & Replace

# Tools for Exercise Program



cleanout



Location/ Marking



GPS/ Locating

# Tools for Exercise Program



Clean-Out Methods

- Vac out water
- Clear view of valve
- Better operating Conditions

# Tools for Exercise Program



Manual

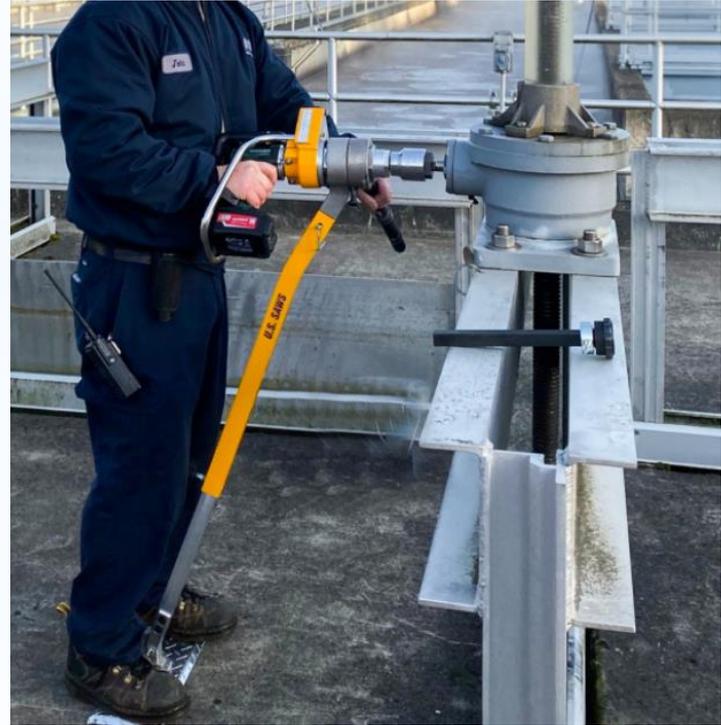


Powered



Truck/ Trailer Mount

# Tools for Exercise Program



## Other Powered Uses

- Gates
- PIV's
- Hydrants

- \* Closing or opening a valve for any reason
  - \* Did you Turn it and RECORD the data (Date/Time/Operator)
  - \* Water line Breaks - valves should be turning
  - \* Hydrant Flushing Crew - Maintenance/Service
  - \* Tapping for new Services
- \* Best Practices
  - \* Begin Slowly at lower torque settings
  - \* Get at least 5 - 10 turns
  - \* Reverse (open) for 2 - 3 turns
  - \* Reverse (close) for 5 - 10 turns
  - \* Repeat until fully closed
  - \* Open 2 - 3 turns to flush debris
  - \* Close and Open full (slowly)
  - \* Turn back  $\frac{1}{2}$  turn from full open

\* **What Counts as an  
Exercised Valve**

## \* RECORD THE DATA

\* This is most important step

- \* Valve ID (#)
- \* Coordinates
- \* Turns
- \* Torque Setting
- \* Date
- \* Time

	<u>Valve</u>	<u>Coordinates</u>	<u>Turns</u>	<u>Torque</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

# \* Collecting the Data

# \* RECORD MUCH MORE DATA



**BEDFORD**  
Water Department

\* Date **Valve Exercising**

\* Employee

Street:  
\* Asset Number

* Date	Employee(s)	Asset Number	Valve Type	Original Position	Final Position	Closes L/R	Number Turns	Number Cycles	Torque lbs.	Valve Size	Sound	Condition	GIS
* Valve Type													
* Valve Size													
* Original Position													
* Final Position													
* Closes L/R													
* Number of Turns													
* Number of Cycles													
* Torque lbs													

**NOTES :** ( REFER TO ASSET # )

\* Sound

\* Conditions

\* GIS

# \* Collecting the Data

Can I break a valve stem?

Yes! - Most manufactures publish maximum stem torque. Older systems are at greater risk. Determine your maximum torque values so damage does not occur. (you can choose to have a lower amount than the manufactures values)

Can I break a valve stem in the closed position?

Yes! - Do not slam a valve shut. Slow and steady. With a counting device you should have awareness of the valves cycle position.

Do you have an emergency plan if you cut off the West side of towns water supply?

# Questions

How do I get a valve started?

Getting old valves moving depends on several fundamentals that must be understood.

- 1) Carefully! - Forcing a valve to move that has been frozen for years requires patience. You should expect to open and close the valve in small increments to clear the running surfaces and threads of debris.  
**CAUTION** moving a valve quickly can cause surge and spikes of water hammer that can damage components up and down stream of the valve. An 8" valve should take upward of 30 seconds or more to complete an open or closing cycle.
- 2) Slowly! - There is no need to hurry the job. If the valve binds or seizes the valve from an external machine can damage a valve stem.
- 3) Know when to say when! - Over-torquing a frozen valve can lead to permanently damaged parts or a valve stuck in the wrong position. Check with the valve manufacturer for a maximum torque specifications.

# Questions

## \* Possible tools needed for Repairs

### \* Nut Replace Kits



### \* Valve Repair Parts

# Questions

- \* Possible tools needed for Repairs

- \* Saws - Air / Hydraulic / Gas

- \* Chain / Belly / Chop

- \* Safety concerns first

- \* Access to Air or Hydraulics vs. Gas



**Questions**

## \* Possible tools needed for Repairs

### \* Trench Safety

- \* Egress - Ladders, Steps, etc.

- \* Boxes

  - \* Rental Offices

  - \* Neighboring Municipality

  - \* Personal Portable Units

    - \* 1 person can set up in 10 - 15



# Questions

<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Depth</u>
2/17/2020	Licking County, OH	39 year old	Working on Drainage	10 Foot Depth
4/10/2019	New Plymouth, ID	59 year old	Working on Irrigation	7 Foot Depth
4/10/2019	New Plymouth, ID	53 year old	Working on Irrigation	7 Foot Depth
4/8/2019	Marysville OH	34 year old	Working on Culvert	20 Foot Depth
4/6/2019	Sugarcreek TWP	49 year old	Working on Sewer Line	8 Foot Depth
4/2/2019	Spencer, TN	31 year old	WATER LINE LEAK	?

2017 - 2019	46 Trench Related Deaths	
2019	10 Trench Colapse	2 in OH
2018	10 Trench Colapse	
2017	15 Trench Colapse	1 in OH
2013-2017	45 Trench Related Deaths	5 in OH

<https://www.osha.gov/fatalities/reports/archive>



\*Trench Safety

In Conclusion:

Over time a valve maintenance program will help keep moving parts operating efficiently and help to make locating valves easier.

There are many variables in every system, and we hope you have learned a few basics to implement your own program.

**Good Luck!**

**Why exercise a valve**

# Utility Solutions, Inc.



**U.S. SAWS**



327 Curtis Street  
Delaware, OH 43015

Cell Phone : 740-972-6359  
Email : [kevin@utility-solutions.com](mailto:kevin@utility-solutions.com)