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## **New employees' diverse backgrounds benefit communities**

NEW PRAGUE, Minn., July 17, 2009 – Midwest Assistance Program, Inc.'s client communities in Missouri will benefit from the diverse backgrounds of two new resource development advisors serving them. John MacEachen's career has focused on drinking water and wastewater management, while Michael Brownfield has devoted his career to recruiting and retention for the Missouri Army National Guard.

As a chief wastewater operator and water and sewer superintendent, MacEachen has experienced first-hand the operation and management of community systems. He also has supervised staff, worked with elected leaders and developed innovative programs such as converting wastewater sludge into usable compost. For the past 15 years, MacEachen has served as enforcement unit chief for the public drinking water branch of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Brownfield began his military career in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and Missouri National Guard in 1983. His key role in the National Guard was enlisting new and prior-service people into the Guard. He also focused on retention, community awareness, benefits, rules and regulations. Four years prior to his retirement in 2009, Brownfield was assistant non-commissioned officer in charge.

Dennis Siders, MAP regional director, says that MacEachen will work in central Missouri with water and wastewater systems that are near or out of compliance. Brownfield will work with communities and water districts in northwest Missouri and northern Kansas that are applying for and/or have obtained USDA Rural Development funding. "We're fortunate to have them on our staff," he adds. MacEachen can be reached via e-mail at [jmaceachen@map-inc.org](mailto:jmaceachen@map-inc.org); Brownfield's e-mail is: [mbrownfield@map-inc.org](mailto:mbrownfield@map-inc.org).

"MAP welcomes John and Mike to our organization," says MAP CEO Martha Cashman. "The communities we serve will benefit from their experience, leadership and ability to work closely with others to achieve results."

Midwest Assistance Program, Inc., is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping rural communities in a nine-state area improve their environment, quality of life and achieve self sustainability. MAP helps revitalize small communities by working with them to find solutions for their infrastructure, enterprise development, aging, technology or training issues. It's a member of the Rural Community Assistance Partnership, a national, rural community development network. MAP is an equal-opportunity lender, provider and employer.