



KANSAS
RURAL
WATER
association

Quality water, quality life

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**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 31, 2007**

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Gardner water judged “Best Tasting In Kansas”

WICHITA, KANSAS -- Drink up! It's "Quality on Tap!" The best tasting water in Kansas is produced by the City of Gardner, Kan. So says the team of professionals who judged water from Gardner as the *Best Tasting Water in Kansas* this past week. The contest was held in conjunction with the 40th Annual Conference & Exhibition for water and wastewater utilities sponsored by the Kansas Rural Water Association at the Century II Convention Center in Wichita. Nearly 2200 people from 300 cities and 185 rural water districts attended.

A City of Gardner water sample will be entered with winners from other states at the "Great American Water Taste Test" to be held in Washington, DC on May 1 in conjunction with the National Rural Water Association Rally. Officers of the Kansas Rural Water Association will attend. In 2003, the Kansas winner, Public Wholesale Water Supply District No. 4 at Big Hill Reservoir near Cherryvale, went on to win the national taste contest.

The Gardner Water Department operates a 4 million gallon per day treatment facility that utilizes Hillsdale Lake as its water source. The City of Gardner is committed to: providing an adequate supply of safe drinking water for all citizens; protecting the environment through effective wastewater treatment, water conservation and infrastructure maintenance; providing quality customer service and affordable water and sewer services; maintaining full compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements while managing natural resources cost-effectively.

The Association has more than 775 municipal and rural members and 280 industry members. The Association provides training and technical assistance to water and wastewater utilities statewide and also supports the popular KAN STEP program through the Kansas Department of Commerce.