



July 27, 2015

Public Education on the Operation & Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Systems is the Key to Industry Sustainability

Whenever we hear about onsite wastewater systems failing, the solution always seems to be to bring in a centralized wastewater collection system. The reality however, is that it is not financially feasible in many instances to provide centralized sewers in rural areas. In many rural communities, there is not enough population density to support the construction of such systems let alone to pay for ongoing operation and maintenance.

In fact, onsite wastewater systems are an effective and sustainable solution to managing wastewater in rural areas. Onsite wastewater systems provide many advantages:

- More cost effective than centralized systems
- Ease of maintenance
- Long term sustainability
- Ensures maintenance of the hydraulic cycle

The caveat here is that in order to provide the above advantages, onsite wastewater systems must be designed, installed, operated and maintained properly. Of course even if the system is designed and installed properly, once the contractor leaves the site the system is in the hands of the homeowner whose responsibility it is to operate and maintain the system.

This is the point at which education becomes critical. Prior to leaving the site, the contractor should sit down with the homeowner and review the operation and maintenance requirements of the system. All systems require maintenance. If the homeowner is aware of the proper use and care of this critical infrastructure, it can save them time and money down the road.

The contractor should provide the homeowner with an operation and maintenance manual. The manual should include simple dos and don'ts along with a maintenance log for keeping track of maintenance that has occurred on the system and when the next maintenance is due.

Contractors can access preprinted homeowner manuals from the association or direct homeowners to our website www.mowma.org. Manitoba Conservation also prints a detailed homeowner manual that is available on their website: http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envprograms/wastewater/pdf/homeowner_manual_2011.pdf

At the end of the day, if we work to educate the homeowners it will help to reduce system failure due to poor operation and maintenance habits and that is good for the credibility and sustainability of our industry in the long term.

New Benefit Contact Information: Grand And Toy

Members wishing to take advantage of OfficeMax/Grand & Toy – Western Canada Onsite Wastewater Management Association Supply Program should note the company's contact information has changed. Their new number is 1-866-391-8111.

If you are not currently a member of MOWMA, why not take a moment to review the many benefits of joining the association: <http://www.mowma.org/members/membership-benefits/>.

Western Canada Water Association

Annual Convention and Trade Show
September 15 - 18, 2015
Winnipeg, MB

<http://wcwwa.ca/events/wcw-annual-conference-exhibition/wcw15/>

Ground Disturbance Trench & Excavation: Competent Person Training

This one day (8 hour) course is designed for persons who will be supervising, planning, executing, or participating in any ground disturbance activities in Manitoba.

The course is designed to focus on effective communication between all levels of workers, identify specific responsibilities adhering to the relevant legislation, and classify potential hazards using hazard assessments and control measures for safe excavation and the prevention of underground facility damage.

Course dates and locations are available on the United Rentals Training Academy website.
<http://unitedacademy.ur.com/trench-excavation-cpt-manitoba>

Installer Training for Onsite Wastewater Management Systems

Red River College, Winnipeg, MB
October 26 – 30, 2015

To register or inquire about upcoming courses contact:

Red River College Civil Engineering Technology Department
A131-2055 Notre Dame Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0J9
204.632.3017 t
www.rrc.mb.ca/techsolutions

Call for Papers: 2016 WWETT Show

COLE, Inc is now accepting proposals for seminars to be presented at the 2016 WWETT show in Indianapolis February 17-20, 2016. Those interested should send a completed seminar proposal form no later than August 1, 2015. You can complete the form at [wwettshow.com/CFP](http://www.wwettshow.com/CFP).

Accepted submissions will receive four (4) full registration passes to WWETT 2016. Presentations should be 60 minutes in length and cover topics from a neutral, "non-product-specific point of view."

They are accepting submissions on the following topics:

- Septic collection, treatment, and disposal
- Grease collection, treatment, and disposal
- Municipal collection, treatment, and disposal
- Onsite systems – installation, components, and maintenance
- Sewer & drain – cleaning, inspection, repair, relining, locating, and detection
- Dewatering, biosolids, treatment, and technology
- Portable sanitation – special events and restroom service
- Business – marketing, financials, and social media
- Safety
- Trucks & service vehicles – DOT regs, service and maintenance,
- Technology and software
- Excavation methods

For more information contact Julie Gensler at julieg@colepublishing.com or call 866-933-2653.

Association of Manitoba Municipalities

Annual Convention & Trade Show

November 23 – 24, 2015

Brandon, MB

<http://www.amm.mb.ca/events/category/tradeshaw/>

2016 Manitoba Water and Wastewater Association

Annual Conference and Tradeshow

January 31st 2016 - February 3rd 2016

Victoria Inn Airport, Winnipeg, MB

<http://www.mwwa.net/>

Did you know...?

...you can sign up to receive the MOWMA newsletter by email? It's easy. Just go to: <http://eepurl.com/bqC8zj>. Don't miss an issue as we switch to monthly publications.