

2017 CONVENTION RECAP—

How to score a “silent impact” on the lives of others

Presented by Joe Schmit, KSTP TV Sportscaster



“People don’t remember what you say — they remember how you make them feel,” KSTP sportscaster Joe Schmit told the MOWA audience. And helping people feel good about themselves doesn’t

happen by accident, it happens when you live your life with purpose, persistence and passion, he said.

“Survey yourself and focus on something you can improve in yourself... align your day-to-day actions with your values,” Schmit said. “Praise more, condemn less. You never know when something you say might have a profound impact on someone. No matter who the other person is, you can always find something nice to say about them.”

As an example he told a story about a boy named Mark Eklund and one of the teachers he had growing up in Morris, Minn., Sister Helen Mroska. Mark was likeable but frustrating because of an inability to stay quiet in class. One day Sister Mroska asked the class to write down each student’s name and something nice about that person. Years later, she heard Mark had died in Vietnam and she attended his funeral. Mark’s family showed her the piece of paper from Mark’s school days listing the kind remarks other students had written about him. He had carried this list in his wallet until the day he died. Sister Mroska learned other students had also saved their pieces of paper from that day and how much the comments made by their peers meant to them.

Along with purpose, persistence and passion, Schmit said preparation is important if you are going to be successful at what you do. As if to illustrate Schmit’s point, Murphy’s law suddenly kicked in when Schmit tried to play a video that stubbornly refused to play. Without missing a beat, Schmit showed his preparedness by launching into a backup story that neatly filled the time allotted for the video.

When it comes to interacting with others, Schmit said, “It’s not about them liking you, or you liking them. It’s about you helping them like themselves.” That, he said, is the secret to having a “silent impact” on the lives of others.

In this Little Digger

Convention ReCap: Silent Impact....	Pg. 1
Convention ReCap: MPCA Awards..	Pg. 2
Executive Director’s Column	Pg. 3
Calendar of Events	Pg. 3
Convention ReCap: MPCA Updates Pg.	4
Convention ReCap: SSTS Issues	Pg. 5
MPCA Hires	Pg. 5
Convention ReCap: In Photos	Pg 6-7
Scholarship Fund Vendor Thanks!....	Pg. 8
Scholarship Fund Sponsor Thanks! Pg.	9
Save The Date: Summer Seminar...Pg.	11
NOWRA Legislative Summary	Pg. 13
Mega-Conference Notice	Pg. 14
Marketing Online.....	Pg. 15
2017 OSTP Training Schedule	Pg. 17
2017 MOWA Membership Form	Pg. 19



Visit our website for posted Convention presentations: www.mowa-mn.com

Convention ReCap: Kudos and Highlights!

Lifetime achievement awards to Mark Wespetal & Barb McCarthy



They wrote the book!

Recent MPCA retirees Mark Wespetal and Barb McCarthy hold a copy of the Minnesota rules pertaining to septic systems they helped write—just one of many accomplishments for which they were honored with MOWA lifetime achievement awards in Duluth.

Presenters highlighted Mark's integrity and commitment to basing rules on the best science available and Barb's low-key but persistent efforts to build a top-notch SSTS program for Minnesota. The word "persistent" was emphasized (just like in Joe Schmit's presentation!). Joining them were two others retired from the MPCA SSTS program, Gretchen Sabel and Pat Shelito.

MPCA staff (l. to r.) Lifetime achievement recipients Mark Wespetal and Barb McCarthy, and MPCA retirees Gretchen Sabel and Pat Shelito.

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"Where Quality is a Standard Not an Extra"



From MOWA's Executive Director

By Pat Martyn, MOWA Executive Director

We hope you enjoyed the Convention in Duluth as much as we did. It was so great to see some old friends, and it was very exciting to see the vitality of the membership. The annual meeting at lunch was a special time, as we were able to report that MOWA is as healthy financially and in terms

of membership, it as strong as it has been in more than a decade. We were also pleased to honor our new Lifetime Members Barb McCarthy and Mark Wespetal

We are off and running again with a new Board of Directors, and have added three terrific operators: Mike Capra, Stacey Feser, and Chris LeClair. We also have to say goodbye to some who served with encouraged to of those folks if about MOWA brought forward. like to be on a contact the Chair the MOWA office set up. We have succeeded in our goal to improve the volunteer experience inside of MOWA, and your ideas and time are much appreciated.

Now, on to thanking the people who put this Convention together. A round of applause, please, for the Convention Committee that did such a good job organizing the 2017 MOWA Convention. It was a great few days during which we had the MPCA, excellent speakers, social events, and terrific exhibitors. Of course, the attendees drive the show, and the evaluations were really good. Thanks to all who participated.

And, you might be interested in knowing that we raised over \$8,000 for the scholarship program—a record amount! Thank you to all who donated and who bid for your generosity and to the great volunteers who worked so hard to add new sponsorship opportunities this year. Make sure you look at the Tony Ruppert scholarship program that is offered on our website.

Now, we are moving on to the next annual MOWA Event—our 2017 Summer Seminar. Save the Date for this year's Seminar: Friday, July 21st at Flygare Excavating in Annandale. We will be bringing back the successful format we offered last year of two daytime tracks followed by an evening cookout. We look forward to seeing you there!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MOWA Events

July 21, 2017—2017 Summer Seminar at Flygare Excavating in Annandale. Visit our Website for details: www.mowa-mn.com.

Industry Events

October 22-25, 2017—2017 NOWRA/NAWT Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference at Dover Downs Hotel & Casino, Dover, Delaware. For more details regarding the conference as it becomes available, visit www.nowra.org/2017mega

MOWA

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MPCA—MOWA Conference Keynotes In Brief

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Convention Update

Presented by Jim Ziegler, MPCA

“The MPCA is actively working to hold all qualified professionals accountable for their quality of work.”

Ordinance adoption—All counties have updated their SSTS ordinances to reflect current state rules and regulations. Of the approximately 141 cities, townships and special purpose local governmental units, 105 have updated their ordinances while another 20 are working through the ordinance adoption process.

Grants—The MPCA awards incentive grants to counties that have provisions in their ordinances that go above and beyond the minimum program requirements. The MPCA has been working with counties through the SSTS Implementation and Enforcement Task Force to identify the most beneficial ways to use incentive grants (\$195,000 awarded in 2016) to accelerate SSTS compliance across the state. Information on the next round of grants will be sent to counties in May.

Licensing and certification—In the past, Ziegler says, work in this area focused mainly on ensuring that SSTS installers were qualified and properly licensed for the work they were doing. But, he adds, it's important to ensure all SSTS work is done by qualified individuals. “Those who review designs, issue permits and inspect systems for local programs play a critical role in maintaining the integrity of the SSTS program.” To that end, Ziegler said it is important that a ‘qualified employee’ with the appropriate training signs-off on statements that certify work is being completed in accordance with requirements.

“These statements are an important way for us to know who is accountable for the work that’s being done,” Ziegler says. They

are required on design reports, as-builts, inspection reports and compliance management reporting. The MPCA is actively working to hold all qualified professionals accountable for their quality of work. Please notify SSTS regional staff if you suspect that someone is working without a license, outside of their authorizations, or has quality of work issues.



Jim Ziegler, MPCA

Ziegler expressed appreciation to MOWA members who have worked on the Need-to-Know process for SSTS specialty areas, “especially steering committee members who have volunteered many hours to dig into the weeds on a number of issues. The MPCA is committed to this process as the way to periodically update and align the job tasks, curriculum priorities and exam competencies that warrant certification for SSTS professionals.” Since 2013, six of nine task analyses and validation surveys have been completed and five of nine exams have been updated and piloted.

Enforcement—The MPCA was granted ticketing authority in 2014. Twelve citations were issued during 2015/16. Nine were for failure to submit as-builts, four for unlicensed work violations and three for not acquiring a needed permit. Some citations included multiple violations. The 2015/16 citations resulted in a total of \$6,500 in penalties.

Volunteer recognition—“The SSTS program is nothing without its stakeholders,” Ziegler said. “We are so fortunate to have such committed partners in the delivery and improvement of this program.” More than 50 SSTS professionals contributed at least 2,000 hours serving on the SSTS Advisory Committee, Technical Advisory Panel, Implementation and Enforcement Task Force and Need-to-Know/Exam Development efforts.

“This contribution is the equivalent of one full-time employee,” Ziegler said, “a ‘super’ FTE with 50 different brains, perspectives and viewpoints.” More volunteer opportunities are available. Contact Aaron Jensen or Nick Haig at the MPCA if you would like to explore where the current needs are.





MPCA—MOWA Conference Keynotes In Brief

Emerging Issues in SSTS

Presented by Dave Gustafson, University of Minnesota Onsite Sewage Treatment Program



Dave Gustafson jumped right into his talk with a reference to how the outcome of the recent election could provide opportunities for the SSTS. “As an industry we need to be ready to be part of the push for upgrading the nation’s infrastructure. It’s coming and we don’t want to miss that. We need to be ready to talk about how onsite are a positive and affordable choice for wastewater infrastructure. That voice needs to be at the table of wastewater infrastructure discussions. And we need to be at the table in a positive way... we need to do a better job of discussing issues so that everyone is part of the ‘win.’”

Stormwater—Gustafson said climate change is bringing heavier rains and higher groundwater levels. “We need to follow our codes, protecting to worst case scenarios... A focus on stormwater will provide opportunities for stormwater services and have an impact on our designs. Maintenance issues will become a bigger thing... as an industry we need to help our customers better maintain their systems.”

Water softeners—When it comes to the impact water softeners have on septic systems, Gustafson said it’s clear that it makes a difference what kind of water softener home owners pick. “Good” water softeners don’t have a negative impact on soil absorption. By good he means systems that recharge based on flow/usage, not time, as excessive/unnecessary discharges are mainly the issue, not chemistry when it comes to water softeners posing a problem to septic systems. He added some advanced type IV systems shouldn’t have softener recharge go into them

and so water softeners shouldn’t be used with advanced systems.

Flushable wipes -- “Companies say THEIR wipes are not causing the problem. They need to be kept out of the system.”

Restaurant system upgrades – “Work with restaurants on getting practices changed to correct problems before upgrading and then work with them to evaluate, select and implement the right system for a particular site,” Gustafson said. Adequate testing is required to help designers and customers come up with the right solution.

Finally, Gustafson said because of issues like drug-resistant bacteria, SSTS professionals need to be careful how they work and practice safe habits when exposed to septage, such as during land application.



Recent MPCA SSTS staff Hires!

(clockwise from top left) Theresa Haugen, C/E Supervisor - Brainerd; Cody Robinson, Soil Scientist - St. Paul; Sadie Wunder, C/C - Brainerd; and Nicholas Kramer, C/E - Detroit Lakes

Convention ReCap: Members network before season start



With hints of an early start to the season, the MOWA Conference was a welcome opportunity for members to network, work on their licensure and relax. Overall, over 200 members, industry professionals, speakers and exhibitors were in attendance over two action-packed days.

Volunteers (left to right) Teri James, Cindy Tiemann, and LeeAnn Weigt working hard to raise a record-setting amount of money for the Tony Ruppert Scholarship Fund.



From early morning registration (shown left) to end of the evening prizes and auction items (shown Pg. 7, lower left), the MOWA Conference gave everyone something to take home and use!

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Convention ReCap: MOWA broadens reach of members



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SAVE THE DATE!

**Minnesota Onsite Wastewater Association (MOWA),
in association with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA),
is pleased to announce the 2017 Summer Seminar:**

◆ Friday, July 21, 2017 ◆

Registration from 7:30 to 8:00 am

◆ Flygare Excavating ◆

9595 67th Street, NW ◆ Annandale, MN 55302

MOWA's 2017 Summer Seminar offers the opportunity for SSTS professionals to gain "hands-on" experience, earn continuing education credits and network with other professionals. The day will end with a cookout featuring fun, food, and prizes!

Track 1 – Soils 6.0 Soils CEUs*

8:00 - Noon Classroom Session.

Noon -1:00 Lunch (provided by MOWA)

1:00 – 3:30 Field Session: Critique and group discussion of soil pits.

Bring your:

- Munsell Color book
- Spray water bottle
- Small shovel or knife to removal sample from pit face
- Tape measure
- Sunscreen/bug spray
- Rain gear

Track 2 – Technology/Tour & Competition 6.0 Non-Soils CEUs*

8:00 - Noon "Sept-a-Thon": Friendly onsite-related small group competition. Prizes will be awarded

Noon -1:00 Lunch (provided by MOWA)

1:00 –5:00 Onsite Technology Demonstration: A chance to get your hands on and see some of the latest innovative onsite products and tools.

*Schedule subject to change; CEUs are anticipated, based on MPCA approval

5:30 – 7:00 "Second Annual Bellyachers Pig-Out" Cookout

7:00 - ? Games, Prizes, Fun! Including Texas Hold 'Em, Bean Bag Competition

EVENT HOST

**Thank You to Flygare Excavating for
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The National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) is making significant progress in Washington toward equal federal funding and policy changes that encourage the use of onsite treatment around the country.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN WASHINGTON

- Established the **Decentralized Wastewater Recycling Caucus** as an official organization in the House of Representatives with 10 members.
- **Language placed in the FY 2017 Appropriations Bill** requiring the EPA to provide more resources to support decentralized wastewater treatment.
- Met with the **U.S. Census Bureau** and gained support from the EPA to add a question about wastewater infrastructure (sewer or onsite) to the Census' American Community Survey.
- Persuaded **EPA** to catalog all current sources of industry funding and to recommend new sources of financing.
- Tom Fritts, NOWRA Past President, **testified on Capitol Hill** in support of the onsite wastewater industry, speaking before the House Appropriations Committee Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies.



NOWRA MEMBER SERVICES



- **Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference**, the largest national gathering of industry leaders and practitioners. Next: Oct 22-25, 2017 in Dover, DE
- Free listing on NOWRA's **Septic Locator**, a searchable online directory of industry professionals and businesses.
- NOWRA **works with affiliates** to support its state organizations in a variety of ways: training discounts, Roe-D-Hoe® support, meetings with state leaders, data/web services and much more.
- NOWRA has established the **Installer Academy** as the national educational entity for the decentralized wastewater industry to ensure that quality training programs are available for all industry practitioners. NOWRA acquired **BlueSky training software** providing secure online education and training.

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Network NOW: Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference

2017 Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference October 22-25, 2017

Dover Downs Hotel & Casino, Dover, Delaware

The 2017 Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference is hosted by NOWRA and NAWT, with three state associations as co-hosts: DOWRA (Delaware), MOWPA (Maryland), and POWRA-PA (Pennsylvania).

Attend this Conference for the Value— Networking, Education

Onsite wastewater industry professionals—contractors, engineers, designers, regulators, and educators—will benefit from attending this conference.

In addition to the educational sessions and the expo, “The great value of the conference is in the networking,” said Mega-Conference committee chair Tammy Trantham, Missouri Small Flows Association. “This is the place to bounce ideas off each other and to get together and look at solutions. Why reinvent the wheel if someone else has worked through the same obstacle,” Trantham said.

Among issues to be discussed, the conference will examine nutrient management and removal, an especially critical issue on the East Coast said Trantham.

Many places along the East Coast have nutrient management and removal programs that other locations can emulate, Trantham said. Conference participants will be able to return home with solutions in mind for their own back yards.

Brian Carbaugh is president of the Delaware Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (DOWRA), one of the state affiliates co-hosting the 2017 conference. “We are happy to be here and to co-host the conference.”

To do their jobs, onsite professionals must understand all aspects of nutrient management, including basic scientific principles, Carbaugh said. Attending the Mega-Conference is one-stop learning.

Meet Your Continuing Education Requirements

In most states, the conference curriculum will qualify for credit hours in licensing or professional certification programs. Attendees will learn from these opportunities:

- General Session featuring nationally-known speakers with a bird's eye view of industry issues
- Multiple tracks in concurrent sessions, covering new technologies, regulatory and policy developments, case studies, and topics of importance to professionals working in Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania
- Field trips illustrating models worthy of emulation
- An expansive expo hall for those looking for technologies and services
- Social events for networking.

Location Enhances Value of Attending

“We have good, active state affiliates represented and are sure to have good conversations of value to attendees. You can never learn too much,” Trantham said. “We expect a good turnout.”

“This is the first time the conference has been held in the Northeast in several years. I urge members to take advantage of the location,” Carbaugh said. “It's conveniently located to several states. We look forward to being part of the cooperative programs.”

Delaware was an early adopter of some systems being used for onsite wastewater technology today. “Delaware has done a little bit of everything in wastewater treatment,” Carbaugh said, “so attendees can talk with counterparts from the Mid-Atlantic and learn about the region's systems and technologies.” *For more details regarding the conference as it becomes available, visit www.nowra.org/2017mega.*

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Marketing Ideas for Onsite Professionals

With everything you have to do, getting the word out is still important!

How's business for you? Hopefully it's good, or at least improving, but if you aren't getting the results you want, you might wish to take a look at how you're marketing your services. Perhaps it's time to shake things up a bit.

There are a number of ways to approach how you market your business. In fact, there are so many they are really beyond the scope of a single column, so this is part one of a 3-part series of marketing tips for onsite industry businesses. The focus here will be on electronic marketing, but before doing so, a few words about the importance of having a marketing plan.

People don't plan to fail; they fail to plan. The first and most important component to effectively marketing your business is to have a plan of action -- in writing. A good marketing plan doesn't need to be fancy or elaborate. One page will probably do it, but it does need to contain the following elements:

- Define your objectives. Is your goal to increase new installation business? Repair and replacement? Keeping existing customers? Promoting a new service? Each question will likely generate a different set of goals for you.

- Marketing budget and a timeline of activities you will pursue. Your marketing budget doesn't need to be large. However, as a rule of thumb, the less money you spend means a greater investment of time on your part. If your budget doesn't have a monetary component, make sure it reflects the time you need to invest to make it effective.

When writing your plan, think about what you will do to evaluate its effectiveness. A marketing plan is not a static document. Each time you draft one, it should build on the successes created from the previous one.

Online marketing tactics for you to consider.

Website. If you don't have a website, for many people, you don't exist. This is especially true for Generation X, which grew up online and is rapidly becoming the largest segment of new homeowners. More people use Google to research products and services than any other method. Setting up a website today is cheap and easy. No special programming

Marketing Online, Continued on Page 16



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Marketing Online, Continued from Page 15

knowledge is necessary; everything you need to have a web presence can be done via point and click of a mouse. Companies like GoDaddy and Intuit offer low cost options, as little as \$5/month. Wordpress lets you build a website for free.

Facebook. Setting up a Facebook page for your company is a great way to stay connected to your current customers. It doesn't cost anything, but it does require regular attention to keep your name in front of your followers. Not sure how you might use such a page? Lots of septic companies already have Facebook pages and the good ones have many followers. Simply type "Septic" into the search box at the top of any Facebook page and you will get literally hundreds of results -- and ideas of strategies which might work for you. Facebook also has good information to help small businesses make the most of their pages.

E-mail. This can be an effective and inexpensive method for reach both current and potential customers. Building a good email list takes time, but as your list grows, your results should generate increasing numbers of inquiries.

There are many ways to use email to keep current customers and get new business:

- [Create a newsletter](#). This doesn't need to be fancy, but

it does need to contain news. The more you can provide your reader with information which is interesting and useful to them, the more effective it will be.

- [Send out consumer focused articles](#) on maintenance, what is and isn't flushable, landscaping, etc. Another useful tactic here is send an email when weather events such as freeze, drought or floods are affecting your customers' systems.
- [Reminders](#) about scheduling service calls, maintenance visits, contract renewals.
- [Thanking your customers for their business](#) -- and perhaps asking them to recommend you to their neighbors or forwarding a helpful email to them.
- [Promotion](#) of new services, awards your company receives, company milestones, etc..

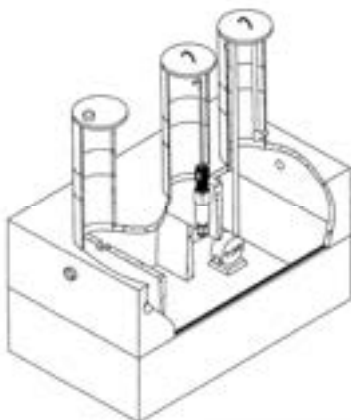
One key to effective email mail is to not overuse it. A quarterly message won't turn off many people; daily emails probably will. Also, always offer a way to unsubscribe from your mailing list.

Eric Casey is Executive Director of the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association, the only national organization representing all segments of the onsite wastewater industry. www.nowra.org

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2017 OSTP Certification Course Descriptions and Offerings

Introduction to Onsite Systems (15 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$360

Exam: Yes

This 15-hour workshop is the foundation for all SSTS certification courses and is best completed prior to the other workshops. It prepares participants for the Basic exam and provides an overview of onsite treatment options and concepts. Enrollment in this workshop includes a copy of the Manual for SSTS Professionals in Minnesota.

Topics include:

- Treatment of wastewater
- Site evaluation
- Wastewater characteristics
- Soil treatment systems

10-2	Grand Rapids - Sawmill Inn	4/24-26/17	Deadline: 4/17/17
10-3	St. Cloud - Moose Lodge	11/13-15/17	Deadline: 11/6/17

Installing Onsite Systems (12 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$265

Exam: Yes

This 12-hour workshop prepares attendees for the Installer exam and provides information about proper installation practices.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Onsite Systems

Topics include:

- Construction planning
- Tools for installing
- Construction practices
- Pipelayer certification

112-2	Grand Rapids - Sawmill Inn	4/27-28/17	Deadline: 4/20/17
112-3	St. Cloud - Moose Lodge	11/16-17/17	Deadline: 11/9/17

Basic Design of Onsite Systems (21 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$440

Exam: Yes

This 21-hour workshop teaches attendees to properly design various septic systems in preparation for the Basic Designer exam. Enrollees must have the current manual to use during the workshop. Onsite Manuals are available for \$50.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Onsite Systems

Topics include:

- Flow determination
- Tank design
- System design
- Pumps and pressure design

20-2	St. Cloud - Moose Lodge	5/2-5/17	Deadline: 4/25/17
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Inspecting Onsite Systems (12 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$265

Exam: Yes

This 12-hour workshop identifies Minnesota requirements for existing and new system inspections and prepares participants for the Inspector exam.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Onsite Systems.

Topics include:

- Administrative requirements
- New system inspection
- Existing system inspection
- Tools and procedures

30-1	Alexandria - Douglas County Public Works Building	6/6-7/17	Deadline: 5/30/17
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Installer Continuing Education (12 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$265

Exam: No

This 12-hour workshop will meet the continuing education requirements for any certification but is specifically tailored for Installers. All information will be provided from the perspective of a system installer.

Topics Include:

- Construction safety
- Keys to proper installation
- Pumps and dosing
- Rule change implications

69-2	Mankato - Morson-Ario VFW	4/3-4/17	Deadline: 3/27/17
69-3	Grand Rapids - Sawmill Inn	11/29-30/17	Deadline: 11/22/17

Maintaining Onsite Systems (15 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$310

Exam: Yes

This 15-hour workshop gives participants an overview of system management, the federal requirements for land application of septage, and prepares people for the Maintainer exam.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Onsite Systems

Topics include:

- Land application rates
- Record keeping
- Maintaining Type I SSTS
- Soil survey use

415-1	Alexandria - Douglas County Public Works Building	3/22-24/17	Deadline: 3/15/17
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Service Provider (21 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$490

Exam: Yes

This 21-hour workshop prepares attendees for the Service Provider exam and offers an in-depth look into the care of all system types.

This course is based on the National O&M Service Provider materials and will include a field component. It is intended for system maintainers, designers or MPCA certified operators who need training for soil-based system management.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Onsite Systems

Topics include the management of:

- Type I systems
- Type IV systems
- Cluster systems
- System troubleshooting

49-1	Mankato - Morson-Ario VFW	4/18-21/17	Deadline: 4/11/17
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Soils (15 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$310 or \$475 with

Munsell Color Guide

Exam: Yes

This 15-hour workshop prepares attendees for the Soils exam and provides participants with a detailed understanding of how particular soils affect the treatment of sewage. Participants will also receive instruction at a field location. Munsell Color Guides are available for \$165 and Sand Cards for \$10. This class does NOT meet the 6-hour soils continuing education requirement for all Designer and Inspector categories.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Onsite Systems

Topics include:

- Percolation testing
- Soil characteristics
- Field evaluations
- Soil survey use

515-1	Farmington - Dakota County Extension Office	5/23-25/17	Deadline: 5/16/17
515-2	Alexandria - Douglas County Public Works Building	6/28-30/17	Deadline: 6/21/17

Pipelayer Certification (2 Direct Credits, 1 Related Credit)

Course begins at 1:00PM

Exam: Yes

Fee: \$75

This 3-hour workshop is once again offered this year to accommodate a change in the Minnesota Plumbing Code that requires all septic system installers be either certified pipelayers, licensed plumbers, or registered apprentices in order to install sewer or water service pipes outside of a building in Minnesota.

Topics include:

- MN Plumbing Code
- Pipelaying
- Code compliance bond packet instruction

92-2	Mankato - Morson-Ario VFW	4/4/17	Deadline: 3/28/17
92-3	Grand Rapids - Sawmill Inn	11/30/17	Deadline: 11/23/17

Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

2017 OSTP Certification Course Descriptions and Offerings

General Continuing Education (12 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$265 Exam: No

This 12-hour workshop is designed to meet the continuing education requirement for SSTS professional registration. The topics will be varied to give a wide range of information for SSTS professionals.

Topics include:

- Rule change implications
- Pressure distribution
- Working on difficult sites
- MPCA update

60-2	Cloquet Forestry Center	3/30-31/17	Deadline: 3/23/17
60-3	Mankato - Morson-Ario VFW	11/2-3/17	Deadline: 10/26/17
60-4	St. Cloud - Moose Lodge	12/12-13/17	Deadline: 12/5/17

Maintainer Continuing Education (12 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$265 Exam: No

This 12-hour workshop is specifically designed as continuing education for those involved in maintaining septic systems.

Topics include:

- 503 regulations
- Troubleshooting
- System care
- Other establishments

46-1	Alexandria - Douglas County Public Works Building	3/28-29/17	Deadline: 3/21/17
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Field Troubleshooting Systems Continuing Education

(6 Direct Credits) Fee: \$240 Exam: No

This 6-hour workshop combines a classroom and field component to give all septic professionals additional knowledge about troubleshooting systems that are experiencing problems.

Topics include:

- Homeowner use issues
- Hydraulic and organic overload
- Afternoon field visit
- Evaluating soil treatment systems

64-1	Chaska - MN Landscape Arboretum	6/8/17	Deadline: 6/1/17
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Design/Inspector Continuing Education (12 Direct Credits)

Fee: \$265 Exam: No

This 12-hour workshop is designed to meet the continuing education requirement of SSTS professional holding a designer and/or inspector certification. The course will focus on design and inspection issues.

Topics include:

- Rule/policy updates
- Commercial systems
- How to add capacity
- Challenging inspections
- System design with new forms

82-1	Alexandria - Douglas County Public Works Building	4/5-6/17	Deadline: 3/29/17
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Soils Continuing Education (6 Soils-Specific Direct Credits)

Fee: \$240 or \$405 with Munsell Color Guide Exam: No

This 6-hour course couples classroom and field training to meet soils-specific MPCA continuing educational requirements for designers and inspectors. Munsell Color Guides are available for \$165 and Sand Cards for \$10.

Topics include:

- Regional geology and soils
- Local soil hydrology information
- Soils observations
- System siting and design

55-1	Cologne - Carver County Public Works	5/18/17	Deadline: 5/11/17
55-2	Little Falls - Initiative Foundation	6/13/17	Deadline: 6/6/17
55-3	Bemidji - Beltrami Electric Co-op	6/22/17	Deadline: 6/15/17
55-4	Cook - VFW Post 1757	7/27/17	Deadline: 7/20/17
55-5	Alexandria - Douglas County Public Works Building	8/8/17	Deadline: 8/1/17
55-6	Lamberton - SW Research and Outreach Center	8/31/17	Deadline: 8/24/17
55-7	Austin - Holiday Inn	9/19/17	Deadline: 9/12/17

**Classes are filled on a first-come,
first-served basis.**

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The is a bi-monthly publication of the Minnesota Onsite Wastewater Association

Editor: Carla Tourin E-mail: MOWAcarla@aol.com

The articles printed in the publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this organization. Readers are encouraged to respond to the articles with their own points-of-view. We welcome industry-related comments or articles. Information or inquiries should be sent to any of the following: MN Onsite Wastewater Association, MOWA, 5021 Vernon Ave, So., Suite 241, Edina, MN 55436 Phone: 612.801.5897 Fax: 952.487.4447 Website: www.mowa-mn.com



2017 MOWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership:
☐ **Renewal**
☐ **New Member**
☐ **Individual Member**
\$240 (1 person)

☐ **Business Group /Government Unit**
\$340 (up to 5 people; \$100 /person after 5)

☐ **Student**
\$140 (1 person)

☐ **Life-time**
☐ **Honorary**

Note: Your MOWA Membership includes one NOWRA membership

Memberships are based on calendar year - After July 1st, new members pay \$140-individual / \$190-business or gov't groups for remainder of 2017

Individual/Group Contact: This person will be listed as the NOWRA member on the Septic Locator website. They will be listed first in all MOWA publications. Please print clearly.

• **1st Member** _____ **Company Name** _____
 Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
 Title _____ Phone _____ Mobile/800# _____ Fax _____
 Email _____ Website _____ County _____

Circle the counties you work in: *Needed for Directory and Website.*

Statewide 88	Clay 14	Hubbard 29	Marshall 44	Pipestone 59	Steele 74
Aitkin 1	Clearwater 15	Isanti 30	Martin 45	Polk 60	Stevens 75
Anoka 2	Cook 16	Itasca 31	McLeod 46	Pope 61	Swift 76
Becker 3	Cottonwood 17	Jackson 32	Meeker 47	Ramsey 62	Todd 77
Beltrami 4	Crow Wing 18	Kanabec 33	Mille Lacs 48	Red Lake 63	Traverse 78
Benton 5	Dakota 19	Kandiyohi 34	Morrison 49	Redwood 64	Wabasha 79
Big Stone 6	Dodge 20	Kittson 35	Mower 50	Renville 65	Wadena 80
Blue Earth 7	Douglas 21	Koochiching 36	Murray 51	Rice 66	Waseca 81
Brown 8	Faribault 22	Lac qui Parle Lake 37	Nicollet 52	Rock 67	Washington 82
Carlton 9	Fillmore 23	Lake 38	Nobles 53	Roseau 68	Watsonwan 83
Carver 10	Freeborn 24	Lake of the Woods 39	Norman 54	Scott 69	Wilkin 84
Cass 11	Goodhue 25	Le Sueur 40	Olmsted 55	Sherburne 70	Winona 85
Chippewa 12	Grant 26	Lincoln 41	Otter Tail 56	Sibley 71	Wright 86
Chisago 13	Hennepin 27	Lyon 42	Pennington 57	St. Louis 72	Yellow Medicine 87
	Houston 28	Mahnomen 43	Pine 58	Stearns 73	

Information: (Check all that apply)

☐ Installer ☐ Pumper ☐ Designer ☐ Inspector ☐ Gov't Regulator ☐ Educator ☐ Service Provider ☐ Student
☐ Soil Scientist ☐ Professional Engineer ☐ Manufacturer ☐ Operator/Maintenance ☐ Supplier ☐ Other: _____

Additional Business/Government Members:

• **2nd Member** _____ Title _____ County _____
 Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ Mobile/800# _____ Fax _____ Email _____

• **3rd Member** _____ Title _____ County _____
 Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ Mobile/800# _____ Fax _____ Email _____

(Please list additional business/government group members on separate sheet with complete contact information.)

Publications: Would you prefer receiving 'Little Digger' newsletters via ... ☐ Regular Mail ☐ Electronically

We currently send one publication per address to business/government groups. Contact the MOWA office if you'd like additional copies.

Additional NOWRA Memberships: MOWA membership fees include one NOWRA membership per company/organization. List names of members who want additional NOWRA memberships here: **Cost - \$40 per person.**

2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____

Payment:

(Please print)

MOWA Membership \$ _____ + Add'l NOWRA Memberships = **Amount: \$** _____

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Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Note: Dues payable to MOWA are not deductible as a charitable contribution but may be deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense.



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