

yowa

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Yankee Onsite Wastewater Association Newsletter – Summer 2006

Welcome Note from John Higgins – Interim President:

On behalf of the interim officers and Board of Directors, we welcome you as a member of the Yankee Onsite Wastewater Association (YOWA). You are now part of the new, evolving professional leadership for the onsite industry here in New England. YOWA is the organization that will represent your interests as the official northeast affiliate of the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA).

Mark your calendars, Wednesday, October 18, 2006 first Official YOWA Meeting!

YOWA Membership Meeting

The first official Yankee Onsite Wastewater Association Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at the Millbury Training Center in Millbury, MA. Directions to the training center are posted at <http://www.mwpc.org/directions.htm>. Refreshments will be at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will run from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Come shape the future of YOWA. The agenda will cover the formation of committees, annual operating budget, training needs, and the election of official YOWA officers and board members. We are looking for volunteers for the Membership Committee and the Conference Planning Committee. All members are invited to attend but must RSVP due to space requirements. If you are interested in being part of or forming a committee, running for an Officer/Board position or plan on attending the meeting you **must RSVP** by email to John Higgins at septicssystem@comcast.net by Wednesday, October 11, 2006. The inclement weather date will be on Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. If a larger turnout is expected we will secure function space in the nearby area and notify everyone.

Current YOWA members as of 8/23/06 = 62

Conference Planning:

Volunteers are being sought for the Conference Planning Committee. Responsibilities will include the Third Northeast Onsite Short Course in 2008 and a yet to be established training workshop in Vermont this fall.

Who is NOWRA and what do they do?

NOWRA is the largest national organization representing all sectors of the onsite/decentralized wastewater industry (i.e., pumpers, contractors, installers, regulators, designers, engineers, manufacturers, and educators). Providing education and training programs to professionals within this industry, to policy officials, the public, and system owners is the driving force of this organization. Through education, NOWRA provides a leadership role in state and federal legislative initiatives to protect water quality and public health.

Importance of joining YOWA:

By joining YOWA, you have become a member of the only regional and national organization that represents all of the professional sectors of the onsite/decentralized wastewater industry. Being a member of an organization representing the collective professional interests of practitioners within the onsite industry is an investment in your future. We believe that by working together, with a strong and united voice, we can truly make a difference in the development of future programs, events, and legislation affecting the onsite industry while also protecting the environment.

Have you visited SepticLocator.com?

The Septic Locator is an online directory and search engine designed to allow you to easily find a local product supplier, service provider or individual industry practitioner in your area. The Septic Locator is created and maintained by NOWRA, by joining YOWA you are listed in the locator. No other site on the web offers this kind of direct access to onsite wastewater professionals and products.

Below is a listing of some current news and events from the New England States:

Connecticut

Soil Training Program

The Department of Public Health (DPH,) Environmental Engineering Program conducted its second Soils Training Workshop on June 6-7 in Hebron and Marlborough. The workshop was broken into two days with the first day consisting of lecture and the second day consisting of field training. The lecture portion of the workshop showcased many different presenters and a wide variety of soils related topics. The field component of training consisted of four pre-dug test pit locations, one well siting and transit demonstration and a hands-on soils texturing demonstration. A third Soils Training Workshop is tentatively scheduled for October 17 & 18. If you are interested in attending please contact Yaritzi Myers at the CT Department of Public Health at (860) 509-7997. This workshop is filling up fast so you are encouraged to sign up early.

Maine

Site Evaluator Rule Changes Adopted

The Department has adopted changes to CMR 245 – Rules for Site Evaluators of Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Systems. The major changes are:

- Application fee - \$25
- Written exam - \$25 per exam session

- Field Exam - \$75 per exam session
- License renewal - \$100/2 year license effective with renewal in March 2007.
- Continuing education - 12 PDH per year commencing with the 2007/2009 license period.
- Applicants can take either the written or field exam first but must pass both for licensure.

To assist Site Evaluators, the Division has assembled a list of programs and seminars that are known to us. The Division will also consider other training on a case-by-case basis as they are presented to us.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Title 5 Revisions and Changes

During April 2004 under an agreement with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) began coordinating the Massachusetts Title 5 Onsite Wastewater Training and Examination of Soil Evaluators and System Inspectors. There are plans to hold both courses this fall throughout Massachusetts, visit <http://www.neiwpcc.org/> for course locations and schedules.

Massachusetts revised Title 5 on April 21, 2006. To view the revised Title 5 visit <http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/regulations/310cmr15.pdf>

One major revision to Title 5 is the renewal of licenses for all Soil Evaluators and System Inspectors. NEIWPCC is responsible for coordinating the renewal process for all Title 5 Soil Evaluators and System Inspectors. A renewal fee of \$95 is required for all Soil Evaluators and System Inspectors who wish to renew. Starting January 1, 2007 these renewals will be valid for a 3 year cycle. NEIWPCC will be contacting all approved SE's and SI's next month with renewal information. Ten Training Contact Hours (TCHs) will be required for the renewal cycle of January 1, 2007 to January 1, 2010. If questions, contact Rosemary Decie, NEIWPCC at 978-323-7929.

To view a list of approved I/A technologies in Massachusetts visit:

<http://mass.gov/dep/water/wastewater/genralap.htm>

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has developed a new Guidance document and two new fact sheets.

Groundwater Discharge Permitting Guidance Document for Recharging Aquifers with Reclaimed Wastewater:

http://www.des.state.nh.us/dwspp/pdf/groundwater_discharge.pdf

Arsenic Removal and Disposal for Public Water Systems:

<http://www.des.state.nh.us/factsheets/ws/ws-3-22.htm>

Methods to Reduce the Concentration of Radionuclides in Drinking Water and Radionuclide Waste Disposal Criteria:

<http://www.des.state.nh.us/factsheets/ws/ws-22-21.htm>

To view a list of approved I/A technologies in New Hampshire visit:

<http://www.des.state.nh.us/factsheets/ssb/ssb-12.htm>

Rhode Island

Orenco Systems, Inc. (OSI) is in the process of phasing out the AdvanTex-RX30. The AdvanTex-AX20 and AdvanTex-AX100 have been approved as an equivalent nitrogen reducing system.

To view a list of approved I/A technologies in Rhode Island visit:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/permits/isds/pdfs/ialist.pdf>

Vermont

To view a list of approved I/A technologies in Vermont visit:

<http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ww/Innovative.htm#approvals>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 28-31, 2006: NOWRA 15th Annual Technical Education Conference and Expo, Denver, CO

September 13-15, 2006: 44th Annual Yankee Conference, Portsmouth, NH

October 18, 2006: YOWA Membership Meeting, Millbury Training Center, Millbury, MA, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. (RSVP now)

November 1-3, 2006: Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA) Annual Conference, Hyannis, MA

November 14 -15, 2006: New England Residuals and Biosolids Conference, NEWEA, Wells, ME

December 4-6, 2006: NOWRA 2nd Annual Installer Academy, Las Vegas, NV

December 12-13, 2006: Maine Rural Water Association Annual Water and Wastewater 26th Annual Technical Conference, Freeport, ME

March 10-15, 2007: NOWRA 16th Annual Technical Education and Exposition Conference and First International Program, Baltimore, MD

October 20-24, 2007: ASABE 11th National Symposium on Individual and Small Community Sewage Systems, Warwick, RI

March 11-13, 2008: Third Northeast Onsite Wastewater Treatment Short Course and Equipment Exhibition, Groton, CT

Watch for an upcoming YOWA training in Vermont this fall.

Comments/Suggestions on topics you would like to see addressed in the YOWA newsletter or trainings you would like to see sponsored by YOWA. Send comments and suggestions to the YOWA address or by email to John Higgins at septicssystem@comcast.net.

Regional and National Websites of Interest:

National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA):

- www.nowra.org

Connecticut Environmental Health Association (CEHA):

- <http://www.cteha.org/>

Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists:

- <http://www.mapss.org>

Maine Department of Environmental Protection:

- <http://www.state.me.us/dep/index.shtml>

Maine Division of Environmental Health:

- <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng>

Maine Rural Water Association:

- <http://www.mainerwa.org/>

Massachusetts Title 5:

- <http://mass.gov/dep/water/wastewat.htm>

National Environmental Services Center (NESC):

- <http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/>

New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC):

- <http://www.neiwpcc.org/>

New England Water Environment Association:

- <http://www.newea.org>

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services:

- <http://www.des.state.nh.us>

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management:

- <http://www.dem.state.ri.us>

University of Rhode Island (URI) Onsite Wastewater Training Center:

- <http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/owtc/html/owtc.html>

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation:

- <http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec>