

TOM GROVES

From: YOWA formerly MAOWP <yankeeonsite@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:27 AM
To: TOM GROVES
Subject: The YOWA newsletter with all the links now available on the website



Yankee Onsite Wastewater Association Newsletter



Spring 2018

President's Message

Welcome to the spring issue of YOWA's newsletter. As we gear up for a busy and productive year, I want to alert you to some specific items that the YOWA board is focusing on for 2018.

Training - We plan to continue our efforts to make regularly scheduled training programs offered directly by YOWA. Our next training program is being held on May 15, 2018 in Hadley, MA and will focus on I/A technologies basics for Massachusetts local officials. We hope you can join us. Also keep an eye out as we are beginning our planning for the fall workshop. YOWA plans to sponsor annual spring and fall training programs.

In addition to our sponsored trainings, YOWA also works closely with many state and regional organizations to co-sponsor trainings. This information is always listed on the YOWA web site under the "What's New" section.

We are especially proud of our approval of NOWRA's Overview A to Z program in the states of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and

IN THIS ISSUE

- [President's Message](#)
- [YOWA Training](#)
- [MassDEP Title 5 Update](#)
- [Septic Smart Week](#)
- [MA Legislative News](#)
- [NOWRA Fly-In](#)
- [NOWRA MegaConference](#)

Maine for online training credits. If you don't have enough time to attend one of our trainings or only need a few hours of training, you can also support YOWA by using the [Online Learning Academy](#) offered by our national organization, NOWRA. And remember, all YOWA memberships include a NOWRA membership.

Membership - We have continued to build our membership through 2017 due to our training programs and other activities. We look to continue that trend in 2018 in the hopes of reaching an interim goal of 100 members. As of April our membership is 58. Please consider forwarding this newsletter along to friends and colleagues and encourage them to join. We are the only organization in the region that represents the onsite industry. Also, we are always looking for additional volunteers to assist us with our activities, so if you are interested and can spare a few hours a month, please consider joining our Newsletter, Training, or Membership committees.

National Representation - As most of you are aware, YOWA is the regional group of the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA). NOWRA is working on many things of interest for the industry, such as a legislative fly-in, participation with the US EPA MOU Partnership, SepticSmart week, continuation of online training program development, and working with EPA and the Census Bureau on including a question on septic systems added to the national census.

As you can see, 2018 will be a busy year for YOWA and we hope we can count on you to continue to support us and/or better yet, get involved.

Sincerely,
YOWA
Thomas Groves, YOWA President
781-939-5710
yankeeonsite@gmail.com

YOWA Training Opportunities

Massachusetts I/A Septic System Basics for Beginners

May 15, 2018 - Hadley, MA

This one-day workshop is intended for Board of Health Agents, personnel and others who would benefit from an introductory session on the different types of I/A systems that are approved by DEP in the State of MA. You'll learn what is required for review of these systems; what to look for during installation of I/A systems; and what to expect from operation and maintenance reports during the life of the system. 6.0 Credit Hours for Massachusetts Title 5 SE/SI



SPEAKERS

Roland Dupuis, PE-Retired DEP staff and currently owner of DCubed, an environmental engineering company; designer of numerous I/A systems including certification as a designer of Bottomless Sand Filter approved in Massachusetts

QUICK LINKS

[YOWA Website](#)

[Join/Renew Your Membership](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Contact Us](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Massachusetts I/A Septic Basics for Beginners

May 15 - Hadley, MA

Learn the basics about I/A Septic System from requirements, installation, operation and maintenance.

[Register >>](#)

MA Title 5 Approved Technology Seminar

May 30 - Taunton, MA

Learn about Title 5 approved technologies and nitrogen removal & monitoring.

[Register >>](#)

Alyssa Rusiecki, RS- 20 years of experience in Title 5 as a Municipal Health Agent and currently the Assistant Director of Environmental Health Services, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

Steve Nelson-Owner of Clearwater Recovery, an approved I/A technology in MA and O&M provider for all types of I/A systems throughout Massachusetts.

Cost: Members \$60; Non-members \$75; Non-members (incl. 2018 membership) \$110

[REGISTER ONLINE >>](#)

Technical Seminar on MA Title 5 Approved Technologies

May 30, 2018 - Taunton, MA

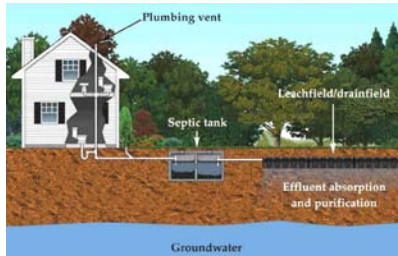
YOWA is co-sponsoring NEIWPC's Training Course that will include presentations on Title 5-approved technologies and nitrogen removal and monitoring. MassDEP staff will also discuss the latest developments related to Title 5 and the most recent Title 5 approvals. 6 TCH for WW, 6 TCH for SE/SI.

Cost: \$150 (\$135 MWPCA or YOWA Members)

[REGISTER ONLINE >>](#)

MassDEP Title 5 Advisory Group

YOWA continues to participate in DEP's working group to review possible adjustments to Title 5 and to the Groundwater Discharge Regulations. A meeting was held in March where several areas of focus were discussed. Among these were: remote trailside composting toilets (known as mouldering toilets) for wilderness camping, seasonal campground design flows, unused capacity at existing large treatment and dispersal systems and water table offset beneath a soil absorption system. Subgroups were formed around many of these issues to better provide input and guidance to the DEP.



Participation in this group is important to the profession and YOWA remains committed to being the conduit for the onsite wastewater industry. Any discussions in this group will be reviewed and vetted by MassDEP and, if they chose to do so, would go to hearing for possible adjustments to Title 5 or the Groundwater Discharge regulations.

Save the Date: September 17th-21st will be Septic Smart Week

**DON'T FORGET
RENEW TODAY!**

Have you renewed your membership for 2018?

[Renew online](#) and pay by credit card.

Can't renew online? Fill out the [membership form](#) and send payment

Remember membership in YOWA includes membership in NOWRA.

*Membership Period:
January 1-December 31*

OUR MISSION

To provide knowledge, grow the profession, and educate the membership of the designers, installers, service providers, system owners and regulators to protect the environment and public health and to promote sustainable onsite wastewater systems in Massachusetts and beyond.

USEPA is continuing their ongoing work to engage and educate homeowners, wastewater professionals as well as state and local officials on being septic smart.



Through SepticSmart week, USEPA is able to provide the necessary tools for onsite septic systems to operate properly and to protect public health. Everyone has a role to assure that proper installation and maintenance occurs for all onsite septic systems. Are you doing your part?

YOWA's specific support activities are in development and will be announced in the near future. YOWA will continue to offer our members trainings throughout the year to raise septic awareness and provide additional septic education. More information regarding SepticSmart Week can be found by visiting: <https://www.epa.gov/septic>

MA House May Legislate Relationship Between Installers and Inspectors

On April 4th, the House Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and State Licensure recommended to the Committee on Ways and Means enactment of the legislation below. The legislation specifies limits on the relationships between installers and inspectors of onsite septic systems and requires municipalities to provide lists of licensed installers. Because of its potential significance we provide the bill in its entirety. As the Legislature considers this bill, YOWA will keep its members informed of further developments.

HOUSE No. 4358 An Act to create a statewide septic license

SECTION 1. Chapter 21A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 13A, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following:

Section 13A. No individual shall be approved by the department of environmental protection as a system inspector of on-site sewage disposal systems who is also approved as a disposal system installer or has a financial interest in the work of any other approved disposal system installer, including but not limited to a partner, employer, employee or co-worker of said system inspector.

A system inspector who performs an on-site inspection of a sewage disposal system pursuant to the state environmental code, shall not recommend a specific disposal system installer to perform any work related to the replacement, repair, alteration or design of said system; provide, however, that all system inspectors shall, at the time of inspection, provide to the property owner a list prepared by the local board of health of local disposal system installers who are approved to perform such work; provided, however, that no disposal system installer may be approved as such if the installer is also approved by the department of environmental protection as a system inspector of on-site sewage. Each board of health shall prepare and make available a list containing the name, address, and phone number of at least 5 such installers who request to be included on such list.

A violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.

DID YOU KNOW?

We've changed our name back to Yankee Onsite Wastewater Association (YOWA)

Initially we'll focus our organizational efforts primarily in Massachusetts but our membership is actually regional and our goal is to expand activities throughout New England.

News from NOWRA

Your national organization - the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA, membership in which is included for all YOWA members) - is hard at work for you and our industry. Here is an update on their most recent activities which impact all of us!

5th Annual Legislative Fly-In

More than 85 million Americans - more than one-quarter of the country - live in properties which utilize onsite septic systems. Despite this incredible fact, the industry gets a minuscule share of the federal funds that are distributed each year for new facilities or upgrade/replacement of existing wastewater treatment and management facilities. For nearly 30 years our industry has been virtually ignored at the federal level by a system that many believe is rigged in favor of central sewer systems.

For the last four years, and again on April 11, 2018 representatives of the onsite wastewater system industry have travelled to Washington D.C. to meet with legislators. Sponsored by NOWRA, the baseline objective of these visits is to educate representatives and senators (and their staffs) on the benefits and advantages of onsite and decentralized wastewater treatment and to encourage them to enact laws and policies which will benefit the onsite wastewater industry. NOWRA's specific goals for the visit have been to secure a larger share of existing federal funding for use in onsite/decentralized wastewater treatment and dispersal applications, to get more US House members to join the Decentralized Wastewater Recycling Caucus, and to work with the EPA and other federal agencies to develop policies which will promote the use of onsite/decentralized technologies.

This year more than nineteen industry representatives and NOWRA members travelled from all over the country to attend these meetings on April 11. With the help of NOWRA's national lobbying firm, attendees held a number of individual and group meetings with members of the House and Senate and their staffs, including many with members of the four committees which regulate and provide funding for water and wastewater: the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, and both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. Several Fly-in attendees also participated in meetings with EPA's Office of Wastewater, USDA's Rural Utilities Service(RUS), and the President's Council on Environmental Quality (they coordinate Administration environmental policy across all federal agencies).

Over the last 30 years Congress and the EPA have given states more than 100 billion dollars in grants and loans to address wastewater treatment issues. Unfortunately, 99.7% of this money has been directed to centralized (big pipe) sewage collection and treatment systems. NOWRA is committed to working to change this reality. In doing so, they work to support YOWA.

SAVE THE DATES: October 21-24 -- NOWRA Annual Conference 2018

NOWRA will hold its fourth annual "mega conference" in Minneapolis, Minnesota this year on October 21-24, 2018. It is called a "mega conference" because it is a collaboration between several national and state onsite-related organizations.

This year NOWRA will team with NAWT - the National Association of Wastewater Technicians, SORA - the State Onsite Regulators Association, and MOWA - the Minnesota Onsite Wastewater Association to sponsor an

event filled with opportunities to learn and enjoy. Following committee meetings on Sunday, October 21, general sessions will run all day Monday and Tuesday, October 22-23. These sessions feature experts in the industry sharing their experience on virtually everything and anything in which one might have an interest. Wednesday, October 24 is slated to include a variety of field trips, which will focus on various treatment and dispersal products and systems actually in use in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. The entire conference is centered around the large exhibit hall, which is loaded with information and opportunity.

Clearly Minneapolis is a bit of a trip for YOWA members. However, it has been the experience of nearly all of the members of the YOWA Board of Directors that this annual trade show/meeting/conference is well worth the trip in many ways. It provides a unique opportunity to learn in an atmosphere of enjoyment and comradery. We urge you to consider attending!

Yankee Onsite Wastewater Association,
10 Tower Office Park, Suite 601, Woburn, MA 01801

SafeUnsubscribe™_tgroves@neiwppcc.org

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by yankeeonsite@gmail.com in collaboration with



Try it free today