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CWP of Kentucky & Tennessee (CWP-KY/TN)

In lieu of their annual Water Professionals Conference, the Clean Water Professionals of Kentucky and Tennessee hosted a series of free webinars through the spring and summer to provide professional development and continuing education to their membership. Since March, over 20 webinars have been offered on a wide range of topics from pumping design to address wipes to a three-part series on NPDES permitting. Webinars will continue through the fall with upcoming topics including successful approaches to control infiltration and inflow on October 8th and a pretreatment webinar series starting on October 13th. If members were unable to attend the live events, most webinars were recorded and hosted online for playback anytime.

For more information and to see upcoming webinars from CWP-Ky/Tn, click here.

New England WEA (NEWEA)

On Thursday, September 10, 2020, NEWEA held its first ever Virtual Collection Systems Conference. Approximately 200 people attended the virtual conference, which included:

- Coffee & Networking Online Chat - attendees could log on and network while enjoying their favorite cup of coffee from their home or office
- Opening Session and Welcome Remarks - from NEWEA president, Jennifer Lachmayr, and Collection Systems Committee chair, Scott Lander
- Virtual Exhibit Hall – a list all vendors and live chat opportunities were available

Morning Technical Session “ANALYSIS THIS” focused on Prioritization and Cost Savings During Challenging Times:
- Utility-Wide Data Analytics for O&M and CIP Prioritization of Sewer Systems
- A Visual Representation of a Utility Master Plan in Gloucester, MA
- Overcoming COVID-19 Challenges of Limited Staff & Guarding Against SSOs
- Managing Flows with Mixed Size Pump Selections in Trumbull, CT

Spotlight Presentations were presented by exhibitors during the lunch hour:
- Negative Pressure Wastewater Conveyance Systems and Pandemic Safety
- Accurate Rain Rates over each Sewer shed: Individual Catchment Rain Rates
- Chat Rooms - Breakaway Chat rooms were available for those attendees interested in different committee topics

Afternoon Technical Session "FIX THAT" focused on Innovative Approaches to Formidable Challenges in Upgrading Infrastructure:
- Pipe Jacking vs Microtunneling—A Story of Crossing the Connecticut River and Poor Ground Conditions
- CSO Mitigation, Wet Weather Flows, and Regulatory Compliance—A Look into Fitchburg’s Collection System Rehabilitation
- Unintended Consequences of Sewer Separation in Portland, ME
- River Avenue Force Main—A Successful Emergency Rehabilitation and Partnership in Norwich, CT
- Training contract hours (TCHs) and PDH were awarded for participating states
- Presentations were pre-recorded and all speakers were available live for questions

NEWEA’s 2021 Annual Conference & Exhibit will be virtual and the Collection Systems Committee is hosting four technical sessions:

Collection System 1: Masks Required: The New “Norm” in Wastewater Monitoring
- Wastewater Surveillance for Covid-19 Disease in Detroit
- From Sunshine State to Bay State - How the COVID-19 Pandemic Changed Wastewater Trends
- Reducing Overflows During the CV-19 Pandemic Using IoT and Machine Learning Smarts

Collection System 2: If You Fix It, It Will Flow: Implementing the Plan
- What Came First? The Pump Station or the Shopping Plaza?
- Major Sewer Pump Station Replacement in Fall River
Collection System 3: Modeling – Not Just for Runways: Using Analysis to Facility System Operation Improvement
- Prioritizing Sanitary Sewer Collection System Repairs on an Aging System
- Implementation of an I/I Reduction and Hydraulic Modeling Program to Optimize Collection System Capacity for Future Development
- Developing Early Warning Sensor for Chemical Anomalies in Wastewater Collection Systems

Collection System 4: When Wastewater Hits the Fan
- When an Existing Force Main Becomes a Cascading Waterfall
- Engineering a Solution to Remediate FOG, Prevent Concrete Corrosion and Treat Odors in Pump Stations and Wastewater Plants Using Hydroxyl Radical Technology
- Addressing a Growing FOG Issue: Designing Treatment Improvements to Address Residential FOG Issues in the City of Gloucester, Massachusetts

Central States WEA (CSWEA)
With the Central States WEA conference going virtual, they have been honoring their 2020 Award Winners on social media. A big congratulations to the 2020 CSWEA Collection Systems Award Winner, Joan Hawley. Joan has been a member of WEF since 1986 and a member of CSWEA since 1990. She has been an active member of CSWEA WI Section serving on the Collection Systems Committee.

Virginia WEA (VWEA)
The Virginia Section of the American Water Works Association and the Virginia Water Environment Association, 2020 Joint Annual Meeting was held September 14 through October 2, 2020. WaterJAM 2020 will provide numerous technical growth opportunities (including continuing education credits) covering the latest industry trends in a virtual exhibit hall as well as a variety of social activities. You can expect outstanding presentations and workshops, along with fun virtual events that will provide opportunities for networking with friends and colleagues. Whether through technical training and workshops, a virtual exhibit hall, virtual plant tours, membership appreciation and awards meetings, or a number of networking opportunities.

Collection Systems Awards
In each issue we like to recognize professionals and/or utilities in your Member Association (MA) who received a distinguished award in collection systems. Please contact Bri Nakamura at bnakamura@wef.org if you would like to contribute.

Central States WEA (CSWEA)
With the Central States WEA conference going virtual, they have been honoring their 2020 Award Winners on social media. A big congratulations to the 2020 CSWEA Collection Systems Award Winner, Joan Hawley. Joan has been a member of WEF since 1986 and a member of CSWEA since 1990. She has been an active member of CSWEA WI Section serving on the Collection Systems Committee.

Virginia WEA (VWEA)
Congratulations to VWEA’s 2020 Golden Manhole Award winner, Jeff Griffiths. The Golden Manhole Award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the advancement of wastewater collection systems, including Design, Education, Training, Certification, Construction, Operations, Maintenance, and Management.
COLLECTION SYSTEMS 2021—Goes Virtual!
March 23-26, 2021

With your health and safety as our top priority, WEF has decided that Collection Systems 2021 will be a fully virtual conference, with no in-person component.

Collection Systems 2021 is shaping up to be an interactive online experience that will include innovative topics, virtual peer to peer networking opportunities, informative sessions from forward-thinking leaders in the water sector, and the ability to earn continuing education units from developed online programming. The virtual format allows you to create a customized experience suited to your needs, schedule, and location.

We’ll miss seeing you in person, but we are equally excited to build a flexible and convenient virtual space that continues WEF’s tradition of delivering high-quality water education to our collection systems community. Save the date for the fully virtual Collection Systems 2021, scheduled for the week of March 23. More details about education, networking, sponsorship, and exhibiting opportunities are coming soon, and updates will be posted to www.wef.org/collectionsystems.

Congratulations—2020 Collection Systems Award Winner—Barry Orr

Barry Orr

The Collection Systems Award is presented to an individual for contributions to the advancement of the state-of-the-art wastewater collection. Over the past 25 years, Barry Orr has dedicated his life to protecting sewer system infrastructure and the environment as a member of London, Ontario’s Environmental and Engineering Services Division. He played a leading role in an International Standards Organization task group working to define the term “flushable” and expanded his influence on the United States, Asia, Australia and Europe. He was the lead Canadian expert during the development of the International Water Services Flushability Group’s Publicly Available Specification documents, which are now being used as the basis for legislation in Canada, the United States, and Australia.

Orr’s efforts on policy and innovation have contributed to his global reputation, but his ability to reach the public and communicate the importance of sewer-related issues is perhaps his greatest strength. He continuously promotes the professional recognition of the collection system field during his numerous podcasts, interviews, and television appearances. Whether the discussion is about toilets, grease, wastewater, stormwater, fatbergs or so-called “flushable” products, Orr is pivotal in the conversation. He has tirelessly increased the awareness of and respect for sewer collection systems and personnel.

WEFTEC 2020—Ops Challenge Goes Virtual!

This year’s Operation Challenge competition, adapted to an online format for the first time in its 33-year history, and featured modified versions of three classic Operations Challenge events: Process Control, Laboratory, and Collections Systems.

27 teams, each representing a WEF Member Association, completed the Process Control event simultaneously on Monday, October 5. Then, during hour-long time slots throughout Tuesday and Wednesday, teams completed the Laboratory and Collections Systems events. Each team competed live from their home facilities via webcam in front of expert judges and crowds of virtual spectators. This year marks the first time Operations Challenge has ever included video streams of each performance openly available to the public.

This year’s winner’s included:

Division 1:
- 1st Overall—Controlled Chaos, WEA of South Carolina
- 2nd Overall—Poseidon, WEA of Texas
- 3rd Overall—Surprise Turbologist, Arizona WEA

Division 2:
- 1st Overall—Blue Ridge Brwalers, Virginia WEA
- 2nd Overall—Women of Wastewater, North Carolina WEA
- 3rd Overall—Force Maine, New England WEA

Division 3:
- 1st Overall—Peel Wastewater Connoisewers, WEA of Ontario
- 2nd Overall—Smooth Operators 1, North Carolina WEA
- 3rd Overall—Smooth Operators 2, North Carolina WEA

CSC WEBINAR RECAP—August Webcast Explores Smart Sewers

The WEF CSC Webcast Subcommittee hosted an August webcast entitled, “The Future of Sewers—Get Smart! Control and Optimization Strategies for the 21st Century”. The webcast drew a great audience with over 300 registrants and 256 attendees! Thanks to WEF CSC leaderships for helping identify the topic and speakers for volunteering. Thanks to moderator, Eric Harold of Carollo Engineers who helped guide us through some amazing presentations from speakers:

- Wolfie Miller, Louisville MSD and Diana Tao, Tetra Tech (Protecting Community Waterways: Applying Analytics, Optimization, and Real Time Control for the Efficient Operation of Sewer Networks);
- John Abrera and Joshua Balentine, Brown & Caldwell and Tasha King-Davis, City of Memphis (Real-Time Monitoring of Industrial pH Discharges in Collection Systems); and
- Shawn Dent, Carollo (Real Time Modeling, Smart Systems and System Optimization).

If you missed it, you can find an archived version, by clicking here. Remember, webcasts are free for WEF members and a small fee for non-members. Stay tuned for the December webcast which will continue our focus on Smart Sewers. It is sure to be another hit!
NASSCO UPDATE—NASSCO Announces PACP™ 7.0.4

NASSCO’s Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP) continues to grow in a variety of ways. To date, NASSCO trainers have certified nearly 40,000 individuals in the proper assessment and coding of conditions, defects and other miscellaneous features. The COVID-19 pandemic presented the opportunity to expand PACP to include virtual classrooms, enabling students to become certified in PACP as well as ITCP™ (Inspector Training Certification Program) from the comfort of their own homes or offices. NASSCO is also expanding courses in South and Central America, as well as Canada and beyond.

This growth demands continual improvements PACP and ITCP. NASSCO released PACP version 7.0.4 on October 1st and is busy planning for PACP version 8.0. Other activity includes updating ITCP for CIPP and Manhole Rehabilitation and revising NASSCO’s licensing and certification procedures for software vendors. Below are a few highlights of recent (or planned) updates to NASSCO’s PACP and ITCP:

Pipeline Assessment Certification Program

PACP Version 7.0.4 includes minor updates along with the inclusion of both imperial and metric measurements to address a growing international audience. Spanish and French translations of this revision are in progress. A timeline has also been established for the release of PACP Version 8.0 in early 2023. NASSCO has gathered suggestions and recommendations to improve the Program to meet the ever-changing needs of the industry, including new codes, grade alterations, new photos, etc.

Inspector Training Certification Program

NASSCO is also updating the ITCP for CIPP and ITCP for Manhole Rehabilitation manuals and training materials. With the help of multiple NASSCO committees including Health and Safety, Operations and Maintenance and Manhole Rehabilitation, as well as valuable input from Trainers, NASSCO hopes to release new materials sometime next year. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding either Program, please email heather@nassco.org. NASSCO’s Infiltration Control Grouting Committee is also working on curriculum for a new ITCP for Grouting to bring this important technology to the forefront.

Software Licensing

NASSCO regularly works with companies that provide tools, including software, for the industries we serve, and we seek to encourage innovation that support the efforts of our members, clients and constituents. However, we must protect and ensure the proper use of our intellectual property rights and the quality of products that use NASSCO condition assessment codes. If you are a software vendor with products that use PACP, LACP™ or MACP™ codes, please be sure to obtain a license by emailing heather@nassco.org.

Welcome New CSC Members!

We would like to recognize the newest members to the Collection Systems Committee (CSC)! If you are interested in joining or learning more about the CSC, click here.

- Kristi Steiner, Pacific Northwest CWA
- Ashok Perera, WEA of Texas
- Sara Ferrance, Chesapeake WEA
- David Hamberlin, Kansas WEA
- Weston Haggen, Florida WEA
- Julia Matton, Rocky Mountain WEA
- Joshua Muskopf, Oklahoma WEA

A “Flushable” Wipe Exists! - Albaad’s HydroFine S2F Meets all Three Internationally Recognized Flushability Standards

The nonwoven innovation HydroFine ® S2F from Albaad Group meets all three internationally published test protocols for flushability of wet wipes. This makes HydroFine ® S2F the first flushable nonwoven fabric that passes all relevant test protocols, which include the INDIA-EDANA Guidelines for Assessing the Flushability of Disposable Nonwoven Products (GSD), the requirements of the International Water Services Flushability Group (IWSFG) and the "Fine to Flush" specification of Water UK for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The IWSFG is a group of water associations, utilities, and professionals who developed the international flushability specifications after a joint standard with wipes manufacturers could not be developed.

For more information about the IWSFG, click here.

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This issue is brought to you by:...

**WEF CSC MA Outreach E-Newsletter Team**

- Stephen King, Member Services Chair, Alabama WEA
- Chip Smith, North Carolina AWWA-WEA, South Carolina WEA, Georgia AWP
- Stuart Bowens, Kentucky-Tennessee WEA
- David Brown, North Carolina AWWA-WEA, Virginia WEA
- Ted DelBoda, Chesapeake WEA
- Jane McLamarrah, WEA of South Carolina
- Jerome Ilits, WEA of Texas
- Jimmy Stewart, Alabama WEA, Chesapeake WEA, Georgia AWP
- Kara Keleher, New England WEA
- Roger Lehman, Pennsylvania WEA
- Kimberly Martin, Kentucky-Tennessee WEA
- Rosalene Nogle, New York WEA
- Karyn Stickle, Michigan WEA
- Ron Thomann, Kansas WEA
- Heather Veal, GAWP

**WEF CSC Leadership and Support**

- Jim Hewitt, Chair, Ohio WEA
- Srinivasa Vallabhaneni, Chair-Elect, Indiana WEA
- Jimmy Stewart, Vice Chair, Alabama WEA, Chesapeake WEA, Georgia AWP
- Kevin Waldron, Past Chair, Kansas WEA, Missouri WEA
- Bri Nakamura, WEF Staff Manager