Florida WEA (FWEA)
The Florida WEA Annual Conference or FWRC 2017 will be held on April 22-26, 2017 in West Palm Beach, FL. Jointly held with Florida Water Pollution control Operators Association (FWPCOA) and the Florida Chapter of AWWA (FS/AWWA) this year’s conference includes many different tours, workshops, a jam packed technical program, along with forums for young professionals and women in water.

This is one of Florida’s don’t miss events! Be sure to register online by April 15, 2017. For more information and to register for the event, click here.

New England WEA (NEWEA)
The NEWEA Annual conference was held in Boston on January 22-25, 2017. The three Collection System Sessions at the NEWEA Annual Conference included the following:

Collection Systems 1: Make Construction Great Again
- Management and Response Action for Catastrophic Sewer Force Main Failures in Plymouth, Massachusetts
- Beach Community has its own “Point Break” – Hampton, NH – How a Thriving Beach Community Handled a Coastal Sewer Force Main Failure and Emergency Repair
- Pump Station Replacement Overcomes Obstacles to Address Reservoir Contamination Potential
- Warwick Sewer Authority Main Influent Sewer Rehabilitation

Collection Systems 2: A Trenchless Revolution is Coming
- Design/Build for Trenchless Rehabilitation – Find and Fix: Lessons for Success
- Force Main Slip Lining – Critical Pipe Rehabilitation Under Interstate Highway

Collection Systems 3: I’m With Innovation
- Detect Growing Blockages, Monitor CSOs and Conduct Micro-metering with an Innovative Parabolic Depth Sensor
- Educational Outreach – Kitchen BMP at Local High Schools and Testing of a Novel Protein-based Degreaser
- The Main Interceptor Project – An Engineered Approach to Innovative Pipeline Rehabilitation

CSC Awards: Two collection system committee members received awards at the annual conference - Bob Domkowski and John DiGiacomo both received Golden manhole awards.

The attendance was close to 2,000 attendees.

Upcoming Events:
- Joint Sustainability/Collection System Conference is scheduled for May 1, 2017 in Westborough, MA. Topic is Collection Systems – Sustainability.
- NEWEA 2017 Spring Meeting is scheduled for June 4-7 in North Falmouth, MA.

North Carolina WEA (NC AWWA-WEA)
NC AWWA-WEA will be holding their first Collection & Distribution School of 2017 on March 13-17, 2017 at Carteret Community College in Morehead City, NC. The objective of these schools is to REVIEW the basic concepts in the proper operation and maintenance of water distribution and wastewater collection.
systems. The curriculum will provide information that should be helpful in preparing a participant for the mandatory certification exams in Water Distribution, Backflow/Cross-Connection, and Wastewater Collection.

Available classes include topics on shoring, backflow, collections and distribution.

For more information on the Collection & Distribution School and to register for the event, click here.

Ohio WEA (OWEA)

Call for Abstracts—2017 Collection Systems Workshop!

The OWEA Collections Committee is soliciting presentations for the 2017 Specialty Workshop being held May 2nd, 2017.

The Specialty Conferences is anticipated to cover a wide variety of topics in Collections Systems. Please let us know what you would like to share with other environmental professionals from around the State of Ohio.

Suggested subjects:
- Alternate Collection System Projects and Operational Experiences
- Green Infrastructure Projects and Maintenance
- CSO and SSO Long Term Control Plans
- G.I.S. and information transfer in Collection Systems
- Asset Management of Collection Systems
- Pump Station Rehabilitation
- Collection System Maintenance
- Pump Station Flow Analysis
- High Efficiency Pumps
- Odor Control at Pump Stations and in Collection Systems
- Pump Station Controls and SCADA including VFD’s
- Fats, Oils, and Grease Handling in Pump Stations and Collection Systems
- Pump Station Maintenance
- Force Main Air & Vacuum Release Maintenance and Design
- Electrical Safety

The deadline to submit abstracts is March 3, 2017. This is an opportunity to share experiences and knowledge with fellow environmental professional around the State of Ohio. For more information on the upcoming 2017 Collection Systems Workshop, click here.

WEA of Ontario (WEAO)

WEA of Ontario: Year in Review:

In April at the WEAO Technical Symposium in Niagara Falls, ON, the three (3) Collections/Stormwater sessions were well attended, with a variety of topics including aftermath/response to the Burlington flood, temporary bypass pumping, emergency outfall repairs in the Niagara gorge, CSO tunnels in Toronto, and the need to address I/I from new subdivisions. During the awards luncheon, the Golden Manhole award was presented to Mr. Larry Thompson, who for over 30 years has devoted his academic and professional life to the field of collection and conveyance systems, and has been a long-standing active WEAO member and volunteer.

WEAO Annual Technical Symposium

The WEAO Annual Technical Symposium is being held in our Nation’s Capital Ottawa on April 2-4th, 2017. The abstract call response was outstanding yielding four (4) solid sessions devoted to collections/conveyance and stormwater.

Planning is underway for our 2017 Fall Workshop, with the theme of “Urban Flooding: From Floodplain to Floor Drain”. If you are interested in participating and/or have suggestions for specific topics within the theme, please contact committee chair Dave.Eadie@stantec.com.

WEAO is looking forward to supporting the WEF Collections Modelling Technical Practice Group initiatives in 2017.

WEA of South Carolina (WEASC)

The 27th annual South Carolina Environmental Conference will be held March 12-15, 2017, at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

This year’s conference, appropriately themed “For Our Water”, will feature an extensive technical program, an opening general session featuring Kevin Mills of the South Carolina Aquarium, the kick off to the Operations Challenge season, and much more!

It is not too late to register for this exciting event! For more information and to register, click here.
CSC Modeling Subcommittee Releases "Rainfall Derived Inflow and Infiltration Modeling" Fact Sheet

The Collection Systems Committee Modeling Technical Work Group is excited to release a new fact sheet on "Sanitary Sewer Systems: Rainfall Derived Infiltration and Inflow (RDII) Modeling".

RDII simulation models are commonly used as one of the key tools in characterizing system wet weather response, evaluating needs, and predicting performance within I/I reduction and remediation programs.

The new fact sheet serves as a resource and reference guide for utility managers, practitioners and educators.

Click here to download the RDII Modeling Fact Sheet.

Also, visit the Collection Systems Topic Page for more CSC references and fact sheets!

Call for Operator's to Review OWWLs (On-Demand Wastewater Library)

Looking for a quick and easy engagement activity? WEF's Collection Systems Committee (CSC) is looking for eager and knowledgeable operators to assist in the review of our OWWL's.

OWWL's (On-Demand Wastewater Library) are part of WEF's operator initiative and are developed for operators to use as a quick reference. The CSC O&M subcommittee has been working to develop several Collection Systems OWWLs and we have a number of OWWLs that are in need of immediate review.

Since these short references are made for operators, we are looking for operators to help review the content! Review of the OWWLs is only a 1-2 hour commitment and technical expertise in the subject is not required. The CSC currently has five (5) OWWLs in need of operator review:

- Force Main Cleaning: Ice Pigging
- Acoustic Pipeline Inspection Pigging
- Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Pigging
- Force Main Rehabilitation
- Force Main Transient Pressure Monitoring Pigging

If you know of any operators who would like to volunteer for the initiative, please have them reply to this email or contact Michel Wanna at mwanna@maconwater.org.

LIFT SEE IT Scholarship Winners Announced

Eleven public water resource recovery facilities were awarded travel scholarships for utility staff under the LIFT Scholarship Exchange Experience for Innovation & Technology (SEE IT). The scholarship program, launched in 2016, is a joint initiative spearheaded by the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), and the Water Environment & Reuse Foundation (WE&RF). As a part of the Leaders Innovation Forum for Technology (LIFT), SEE IT provides scholarships for utility personnel to visit other utilities that are using innovations of interest and share their experience with peers. The awardees are staff from:

- City of Boulder, CO
- City of Jackson, MO
- City of Raleigh, NC
- City of San Luis Obispo, CA
- Greeley Water Pollution Control Facility, CO
- Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District, KY
- Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati, OH
- San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, CA
- Soquel Creek Water District, CA
- Trinity River Authority, TX
- Washoe County Community Services, NV

Staff from the awarded facilities will travel to utilities across the country and abroad to learn about new technologies and processes, as well as gain new perspectives that will enable them to accelerate innovation and adoption at their own facilities. LIFT SEE IT provides the tools to help transform water resource recovery facilities into utilities of the future. A new round of applications will open this fall.

NASSCO Inspector Training & Certification Program for CIPP

NASSCO is offering Member Associations the opportunity to host a 1.5 day interactive program to learn about cured in-place piping (CIPP).

The program will be lead by field experienced CIPP professionals, who will incorporate interactive discussions on project issues, new products and technology advancements.

Students will learn:

- Project applicability and technology standards
- Technology materials & processes. What affects the 50 year plus design and service life and what needs to be inspected?
- Observing, identifying, inspecting, testing & documenting all key product requirements before, during and after construction.
- Review of potential defects & proper repair.
- Importance of product installation documentation
- Key components of a performance specification
- Other lining technologies & replacement technologies

Once the program has been completed and participants have passed the certification exam, they will walk away with:

- Certificate of completion and personal photo ID cards
- Fully illustrated technology training manual
- Guidelines For The Use and Handling of Styrenated Resins in Cured-In-Place Pipe
- (TAG-R) – A technology decision tree software program
- 1.35 Continuing Education Units!

If your MA is interested in hosting a program, contact Jimmy Stewart at Jimmy.Stewart@puretechltd.com.
Registration is Open—CS 2017 in Omaha, NE!  
**May 21-24, 2017 in Omaha, Nebraska**

Join us for the 2017 Collection Systems Specialty Conference in Omaha, Nebraska on May 21-24, 2017. Appropriately, themed "Collections in the Heartland—Collecting Today for a Cleaner Tomorrow", this year’s program includes a great collection of technical sessions, mobile sessions, workshops and tours!

To ”kick-off” the conference, the Nebraska Water Environment Association (NWEA) will be hosting a reception at the Lauritzen Gardens Botanical Center on Sunday, May 21, 2017. The social event will provide an avenue for networking as well as food, beverages, and entertainment. The current plans include an open bar, buffet dinner, and tram rides through the gardens. For more information and to register for the event, click here.

Be sure to book your room at the Hilton Omaha by April 30, 2017 to get the group rate. Reservations are on a first come first serve basis.

To register for CS 2017, click here. Be sure to register by April 21, 2017 to receive the Super Save Discount!

For more information about the upcoming Collection Systems 2017 conference, click here.

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**Save the Date—WEF Member’s Only Event**

**March 15-16, 2016 in San Francisco, California**

**Water Innovation 2017: Transforming Ideas into Practice**

This exclusive, two-day meeting, run in collaboration with ImagineH2O and California WEA, will bring water sector leaders together for discussions on how to move innovation into practice.

The technical program includes invigorating and interactive panel discussion on:

- Driving Innovation with Regulation
- Putting it into Practice: Operations and Maintenance
- Financing Infrastructure at the Utility of the Future
- Harnessing Utility/University Partnerships
- Implementing Change: Real World Stories and Challenges of Starting Up Innovation Programs
- Exploring the Future: Roundtable with Start Ups
- Creating the Future: A Discussion with Tomorrow’s leaders

This meeting will be a great way to interact with your peers and learn about how we can all help promote accelerated development and innovation in our industry.

For more information and to register for the event, click here.

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**Save the Date—Water Week 2017**

**March 19 – 24, 2017 in Washington, DC**

**National Water Policy Forum, Fly-In & Expo 2017**

March 21 – 22, 2017 in Washington, DC

Hosted by WEF, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, and the Water Environment Research Foundation, this event will be held in March in Washington, in conjunction with Water Week 2017. The annual event helps inspire local, state, and national leaders and demonstrates the considerable value the water sector brings to environmental protection, economic development, and job creation. To register for Water Week 2017, for click here.

Visit the the Water Week website for more information on the week including the National Water Quality Fly-in & Expo and the Rally for Water.

**2017 WEF Awards Nominations are Due April 1st**

Were you aware that WEF’s Honors and Awards Program provides the opportunity to recognize contributions made by both individuals and publications relating to the advancement of wastewater collection and transportation? Well, it does; after all, without pipes what else could be accomplished?

As a member of the Collection System profession, you are surely aware of an exceptional individual worthy of the Collection Systems Award or an outstanding publication deserving of the Collection Systems Published Contributions Award (additional details and nomination forms may be accessed from each webpage).

Please take the time to nominate a professional or publication dedicated to the field of Collection Systems – their outstanding achievements/service/efforts should be recognized. Nominations may come from WEF Members, Committees, or Member Associations. The process is simple but must be completed by April 1, 2017!

Questions? Contact Kelsey Hurst at khurst@wef.org or 703-684-477.

**WEF and DC Water Announce Inaugural National Green Infrastructure Program**

In January, DC Water and the WEF announced the issuance of the first certifications under the National Green Infrastructure Certification Program (NGICP). The NGICP is designed to verify that the inaugural group of 62 certificants have successfully demonstrated competency in the foundational knowledge, concepts, and terminology required to perform tasks related to green infrastructure (GI) construction, inspection, and maintenance.

As a part of the pilot phase of the program, the inaugural NGICP exam was administered on December 13, 2016. The exam and the first award of certifications are major milestones for the program, which was announced as a collaborative effort between...
WEF News (continued)

DC Water and WEF in February 2016.

The exam, currently offered through the NGICP Partnering Organizations, tested applicants on their knowledge of GI fundamentals, construction methods, and maintenance procedures. Additional pilot NGICP training sessions are expected in the spring and fall of 2017 with exam dates anticipated in June and November. Program administrators are using the results of this operational pre-test, which contains 141 questions, to create a 100-question standardized exam form that will be used for the national rollout in 2018.

For more information, please visit www.ngicp.org or send an email to ngicp@wef.org.

Mid-Year 2017 Re-Cap: Another Beautiful Florida Event!

By: Kevin Waldron, CSC Vice-Chair

WEF’s Midyear meeting was held in Coral Gables, Florida, January 25 – 28, 2017, at the Westin Colonnade Hotel.

The Collection Systems Committee (CSC) meetings were held on Thursday, February 26, 2017. The Steering Committee met from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the general CSC membership met from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Forty-three (43) members attended the CSC general meeting, including six first-time attendees.

This year was the second time that the new leadership structure of a Chair, Chair-Elect and Vice-Chair has been fully in place. In addition, the revised meeting format was continued this year, with the goal of keeping the meeting interesting, making it go smoothly and keeping it on time as much as possible.

After introductions, Keith McCormack, CSC past-Chair, member of the nomination committee, and member of the Committee Leadership Council, reported that there were two applications for the position of Vice-Chair and the nominations committee decided to nominate Jim Hewitt to begin service as the next Vice-Chair starting at WEFTEC 2017.

CLC Update – Joan Hawley, CLC Past Chair and Past CSC Chair provided a brief update on CLC activities and initiatives. Key initiatives were:

- “Bite Sized Projects”, including a new standard of practice (SOP) for producing Fact Sheets (2-4 pages), White Papers (5-20 pages), Proceedings Digests (3 to 8 papers)
- CLC Webcast SOP with key assistance from CSC Webcast subcommittee.
- The new WEF.org website has been released and is ‘live’.
- Need to fill 3 CLC Community of Practice Director positions.

Member Services – Jimmy Stewart, Chair, delivered a full subcommittee report for the member services subcommittee (MSC). MSC’s primary responsibilities are engagement of new/recent members; continue increasing the content and quality of the MA Exchange; and maintaining CSC membership roster and activity records. Goals for the current term included continued understanding of personnel and manpower needs for each project and subcommittee and providing staff placement, where needed; tracking Member Association activities and contact information; identifying existing CSC members currently not active and CSC projects.

Further details of the Member Engagement process were presented, beginning with initial interest questionnaire at acceptance to membership and alternative assignment to Mentorship program for those not finding suitable assignment in the first 3-6 months. Also, procedure for non-engaged members was presented, beginning with letter of interest request, leading to assignment, inactive status or removal from member roster. Recent new member additions appear to complete resource/staffing needs for the subcommittee, but input/content from CSC members for the Exchange publication is always welcome.

Modeling Technical Practice Group – Chris Ranck, Chair of Modeling TPG, gave a full summary of the group’s roster, current activities and ways to engage other interested CSC members. Currently, the roster stands at 26 members, with dual vice-chairs: Carl Chan and Susan Musio. The group is comprised of 5 different deliverable teams, including:

- I/I Modeling Fact Sheet: Adrien Comeau, Lead. A final draft is now complete; final production and release is pending.
- Modeling Manual: Gunilla Goulding, Lead. Currently the outline of content is being revised/re-purposed; future steps will include Fact Sheet, White Paper and/or Benchmarking Utility Modeling Standards.
- CIWEM Coordination: Nancy Schultz, Lead. Next step is to review 2017 guidance.
- WEFTEC 2018 Workshop: Carl Chan, Lead. Just getting under way, but soon will identify/refine topic(s). Additional members are needed from CSC for this effort: 1 or 2 more, preferably.
- Potential New Deliverable: Webinar. Needs a leader from existing members or from CSC at large.

Also, some discussion of GIS & Asset Management Integration initiative, lead by Sam Shamsi, that could potentially become a new Technical Practice Group.
The big close included a difficult quiz question regarding the identification of a “hydraulic bore”.

**I/I Technical Practice Group** – Srinivasa Vallabhaneni, Chair provided a full summary of the group’s organizational structure, accomplishments and goals/objectives for 2017. With Vice Chair, Phil Hubbard, the group is organized into six (6) Focus Groups:

- Program Management
- Flow Monitoring and Analysis
- Asset Management Approach to I/I Reduction
- Private Property I/I
- Condition Assessment Investigations
- Sewer Rehabilitation

In the last year, the group has delivered two I/I workshops: one at Collection System Specialty Conference in Atlanta and the other at WEFTEC.

Goals and Objectives for 2017 are:

- Deliver two workshops
- Complete two Fact Sheets in process.
- Complete two Fact Sheets in process.
- Deliver two webinars on private property I/I
- Initiate efforts toward I/I Program Management Manual of Practice or Special Publication.
- Initiate a new Fact Sheet.

**Forum #2** – Another engaging small-group exercise, led by Jon Schotthoefer, exploring the challenges in cleaning large diameter sewers.

We wrapped up the meeting with reports from our CSC leadership and some really great networking. Thank you to all members who attended the Mid-Year meeting and we hope to see everyone in Omaha!

**Did You Know?**

**Pirate Printers: Shirts and totes printed directly from manhole covers**

Walking around the streets of Germany, you might spot German artist Emma-France Raff “printing” shirts, totes, or sweatshirts off of manholes and utility covers. Emma is founder of the Berlin based artist collective Raubdruckerin (pirate printer) which is an experimental printmaking project, that uses urban structures to create unique graphical patterns on streetwear. Although most prints are from Berlin, the collective has also traveled to Amsterdam, Lisbon, and Paris.

Raubdruckerin sees the art as a way to highlight unobserved parts of cities that are full of history, diversity, and creativity. Some may also consider it as “reversed street art”.

Some of the most popular and interesting covers that they’ve used and can be seen around Berlin include:

- ‘Berlin Mitte’ - made by the manhole cover of the local water company ‘Berliner Wasserbetriebe’. It displays some of Berlin’s most famous landmarks, making this print a very popular and authentic souvenir. You can find it in major public plazas like Alexanderplatz. We mostly prefer to print it in the historic Nikolaiviertel.
- ‘Neukoelln’ - a cover in Emma’s local neighborhood, produces the most hip image, consisting of a geometrical pattern and the inscription Neukölln. It belongs to the local district heating plant.

Raubdruckerin’s main focus is to explore the surfaces of cities, searching for overlooked, seemingly insignificant details on the pavement, which turn out to be true urban design pieces. They also give back by introducing the community to these overlooked details through workshops.

To learn more about the Raubdruckerin project and to purchase items, [click here](#).