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Member Association News

Alabama WEA (AWEA)
The AWEA Collection System Committee hosted a workshop on June 28th at the Montgomery Water Works and Sanitary Sewer Board’s new main office in Montgomery. Ninety-six (96) water professionals attended the workshop focusing on Sanitary Sewer Overflow Response Plans (SSORP). As the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) is requiring all utilities to develop a SSORP within 120 days of NPDES permit renewal, this is a hot topic in Alabama. The workshop included the items below:
- Presentation by Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)
- Panel discussion with audience participation
- Hands-on math class to help operators calculate SSO volume

The next AWEA Collection System Committee (CSC) workshop will be in September.

Hawaii WEA (HWEA)
Call for abstracts! Individuals desiring to present a paper at the 2019 Pacific Water Conference, February 20-21, 2019 in Honolulu, HI must submit an abstract, limited to 2,500 characters or less (with spaces), describing their presentation in sufficient detail to allow evaluation of the proposed topic. Presentations will be in 45 minute blocks - 30 minutes for presentation and 15 minutes of questions and answers. This conference will address a wide variety of topics related to the water and wastewater industry, including topics on collection systems condition assessment/rehabilitation, trenchless sewers, and inflow/infiltration.

Abstracts must be submitted by October 10, 2018 to pwc.technical@gmail.com. For more information, click here.

Indiana WEA (IWEA)
Please join the IWEA Collection Systems and Stormwater Committee October 11th, 2018 at the FORUM Event Center (Fishers, IN) for The Collection Systems & Stormwater Specialty Conference.

This year’s conference will focus on innovative O&M solutions for stormwater and wastewater collection systems. These may include innovative projects that were designed with long-term O&M benefits in mind, everyday O&M practices that may be considered innovative ways of doing things to save time and money, or innovative ideas for implementing regulatory requirements.

For more information click here, and download the flyer for a complete schedule and presenter listing.

New England WEA (NEWEA)
The NEWEA Collection Systems Specialty Conference occurred on Monday, September 10, 2018 in Boxborough, Massachusetts. This one-day specialty conference, with over 130 attendees, benefited collection systems operators, managers, engineers, and members of the regulatory community and highlighted the following topics:
- Private Infiltration and Inflow
- Maintenance – Non Dispersibles / FOG
- Regulatory Requirements
- Sewer Flow Monitoring
- Sewer Rehabilitation

The presentations include the following:
- Moving Beyond the I/I Control Plan
- Evolution of a CMOM Program in Waterbury, Connecticut
- Scattergraphs Used to Reduce Scattered Results
- Private Inflow: Best Practices for Access and Source Identification
- Trimming the Fat (Part 2) – Over a Decade of Progress
- Improving Private Inflow Inspection & Data Management with GIS
- Stacey’s Brook Comprehensive Sewer Rehabilitation – A Phased Approach to Reduce Collection System Infiltration and Improve Surface Water Quality
- Prevention of Fat, Oil, and Grease (FOG) Buildup in an Explosion-proof Pump Station Environment through Consistent Dosage of a Plant-based Formulation by Means of a Pump-less Liquid Dispensing System

www.wef.org/WEFCSCMAOutreach
The workshop will cover:
- Advances in inspection techniques
- New approaches to planning, policy and implementation
- Maximizing use of technological developments
- Where the industry is headed

This workshop provides an opportunity to discuss issues and experiences, and to exchange ideas with colleagues at the forefront of the industry.

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

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.

Virginia WEA (WEA)

Congratulations to TJ Johnson, Delta Systems Environmental for winning the 2018 Golden Manhole Award at the annual Virginia WEA Water Jam conference that took place September 10-13, 2018 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

The Golden Manhole Award is a method to recognize those individuals who are significant contributors to the advancement of the Systems Design, Education, Training, Certification, Construction, Operations, Maintenance, and Management of Wastewater Collection Systems.

Technical News

WEF and LIFT release report on Deep Tunnels: Lessons Learned from Around the World

On April 12, 2018 WRF, WEF, and PUB held a Deep Tunnels Workshop in conjunction with WEF’s Collection Systems Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Deep Tunnels Workshop and this follow-up report provide a great deal of information on design, construction, operations and maintenance, and resilience of five significant deep tunnel systems in service in the world.

Large-scale deep tunnels are increasingly used to address conveyance and storage for water, wastewater, stormwater and combined sewer systems around the world. While these mega infrastructures with 100-year plus service lives are among mission-critical assets of many utilities, there isn’t a global platform for information sharing to benefit from the science and technology as well as the innovations and lessons-learned thus far.

The Water Research Foundation (WRF), and Water Environment Federation (WEF) along with Singapore’s Public Utilities Board (PUB) National Water, have recognized the gap in the industry and kicked off a special-purpose Deep Tunnels Workshop toward discussion and evaluation of design, construction, operation, and resilience of these integrated infrastructure systems.

Click here to download the report. For more WEF factsheets and technical reports, click here.

EPA Releases Report on Digital Water and CSOs/SSOs

In August 2018, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), released the Smart Data Infrastructure for Wet Weather Control and Decision Support.

This document focuses on how municipalities, utilities, and related organizations can use advances in technology to implement “smart data infrastructure” for wet weather control—that is, how they can use advanced monitoring data to support wet weather control and decision-making in real time or near real time.

It also includes an introduction to smart data infrastructure technologies, real-time control systems, data management and sharing, and data analytics. Case studies are also provided from utilities across the US including Buffalo (NY), Falcon Heights (CA), and many others.

For more information and to download the report, click here.

Metropolitan Council (MI) Outreach Tools for your I/I Program

The Metropolitan Council, a regional policy-making body, planning agency, and provider of essential services for the Twin Cities metropolitan region, is pleased to announce a website launch to help communities with outreach to the public and local officials about inflow and infiltration (I/I) of clear water into the wastewater system. As the regional wastewater service provider for the Twin Cities, we are working - like all wastewater utilities - on reducing clear water into our systems. Since we’re all in this together, we made all of the outreach available for download by anyone.

On the website you will find:
- Videos about I/I, and inspection and repair of home sewer lines
- Downloadable graphics and information in the form of public service announcements
- Newsletter inserts
- A detailed handout
- A photo gallery

Because trusted local sources are the best way to get information to property owners, we encourage you to use these materials in your communications platforms to the public. We will also use the materials in social media and in our newsletter over the coming year and will be updating content regularly.
WEF News

The WEF Collection Systems specialty conference is looking for sponsors for 2020 and beyond. In conjunction with your state member association, this national conference could be coming to you. This unique experience provides the opportunity to show off your City and share your knowledge and experience with peers from across the country and internationally. Gather, network, and learn alongside top professionals and experts from around the country who share a common interest in upgrading and improving collection systems. The Host City will assist in planning the conference lead by WEF staff and volunteers. All you need to get started is a letter of interest from your state member association and City officials. If you are interested in hosting a future Collection Systems Conference, please contact Laura Childs for additional information at lchilds@wef.org or (703) 684-2400, extension 7010.

Highlight your City – This conference brings international and national attendees and provides the host City an opportunity to showcase unique features in the area.

SAVE THE DATE!
Collection Systems 2019
Indianapolis, Indiana
June 4-7, 2019

Educational Opportunities – The conference provides a wealth of technical knowledge and educational opportunities, including hands on workshops, technical speaker sessions, mobile sessions with exhibitors, and exhibitors to present new and effective technologies. These sessions provide attendees with innovative ways to manage common problems that all systems experience. In addition, the Host City will have an opportunity to share innovative approaches utilized in managing their collection system.

Networking – The vast group of attendees will provide you with contacts that may provide valuable assistance on current or future efforts to update and improve your system. In addition, there are many social events and opportunities to meet your peers and share information.

FUN – In addition to the education and networking attendees always leave time to enjoy themselves. There are social events and happy ours that allow peers to interact and relax in the host City.

NASSCO News

NASSCO Introduces Online Tool to Make Connecting with Members of Congress Fast and Easy

NASSCO, Inc. (National Association of Sewer Service Companies) is 501 c (6) not-for-profit trade organization designed to set standards for the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure and to assure the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies.

One of the greatest impacts NASSCO—as well as organizations such as WEF, NASTT, NUCA and others—can make is through a unified voice, communicating to Members of Congress the importance of proper funding for the rehabilitation of our aging underground infrastructure.

The problem, of course, is that many of our association members are in the field or busy running their businesses and find it difficult to stay on top of the most current issues on Capitol Hill that impact our industry. To allow these constituents the ability to learn about current bills and upcoming elections, understand NASSCO’s federal relations position policy and so much more, we have recently launched an online tool to serve as an important resource to keep our members informed.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of this online tool is the ability for our members and all visitors to our website to quickly and easily identify their representatives, send an email with a pre-written communication, hit the send button and be heard! It takes less than two minutes to send your email, please join us today by taking these simple steps:

1. Visit nassco.org and select the “Government Relations” option under “Get Involved”
2. Click the TAKE ACTION button
3. Enter your home address and zip code
4. Complete all required contact information
5. You will see the names and photos of your representatives. The letter has been written for you and will pre-populate with each representative’s name, as well as yours, before sending each email. You have the option to change the letter if you so desire, but it’s good to go “as is”.
6. Click the SEND button and your emails will be on their way!

Whether you are a NASSCO member or not, we encourage you to join us in communicating the critical importance of funding for our industry, because it impacts all of us and, most importantly, our communities.

www.wef.org/WEFCSCMAOutreach
Collection Systems Committee Meeting at WEFTEC

September 30, 2018 from 2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Join “seasoned”, new, and potential Collection Systems Committee volunteers at the WEFTEC CSC meeting on Sunday, September 30, 2018 from 2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m. This year’s meeting will feature updates from several CSC Subcommittees, a technical presentation, and the always fun roundtable/debate discussion. Hope to see you there!

For more information on the Collection Systems events at WEFTEC, click here.

Don’t miss the Collection Systems Luncheon!

A can’t miss event, this year’s luncheon, on Tuesday, October 2, 2018, features a presentation by Tony Parrott, Executive Director of the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) in Louisville, Kentucky!
Water Utilities Recognized for Transformational Initiatives

Thirty-two water utilities are being recognized for transformational work in community engagement, watershed stewardship, and recovery of resources such as water, energy, and nutrients.

The Utility of the Future Today recognition celebrates the achievements of water utilities that transform from the traditional wastewater treatment system to a resource recovery center and leader in the overall sustainability and resilience of the communities they serve.

These utilities are being recognized for the first time: Beckley Sanitary Board (W. Va.), Benton Harbor St. Joseph Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (Mich.), Carroll County Water Resources Coordination Council (Md.), City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (Mich.), City of Grandville Clean Water Plant (Mich.), City of Tallahassee (Fla.), City of Wooster (Ohio), Delta Diablo (Calif.), Evesham Municipal Utilities Authority (N.J.), Fort Wayne City Utilities (Ind.), Great Lakes Water Authority (Mich.), Houston Water (Texas), Kenosha Water Utility (Wisc.), Lafayette Renew (Ind.), Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (Boston), Metro Wastewater Reclamation District (Denver) Napa Sanitation District (Calif.), Queensland Urban Utilities (Australia), Region of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada), Renew, Water Resources (Greenville, S.C.), Spokane County Environmental Services (Wash.), Toho Water Authority (Kissimmee, Fla.), Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (Laurel, Md.), Water Environment Services (Oregon City, Ore.), Western Monmouth Utilities Authority (Manalapan, N.J.), Western Virginia Water Authority (Roanoke, Va.).

These utilities are being recognized for a second year but for a new area of performance: Charlotte Water (N.C.), Clean Water Services (Hillsboro, Ore.), Columbus Water Works (Ga.), St. Cloud Public Utilities (Minn.)

These utilities are being recognized for a third year and in a new area of performance: City of Fayetteville (Ark.), DC Water (District of Columbia)

To learn more, visit https://www.wef.org/utility-of-the-future

WEF Launches New Series of Training Resources for Operators

WEF has released a line of training tools to equip operators with 21st century wastewater treatment methods and practices. The series helps prepare operators for the first three levels of certification examinations and qualify for continuing education credits (CEUs).

The first publication in the series, Wastewater Treatment Fundamentals I: Liquid Treatment, covers all aspects of liquid treatment processes. The book’s format provides a clear, easy-to-understand reference to the latest guidance on procedures to ensure compliance and equipment efficiency. Wastewater Treatment Fundamentals II: Solids Handling and Support Systems is expected to be published in 2019.

Highlights of the Wastewater Treatment Fundamentals series include: Peer-reviewed, Easy-to-read format, Detailed visuals and infographics, Comprehensive math examples, Practice questions for each module with lots of variety.

Highlights of the online course include: Final exam and CEUs, Immediate feedback on practice test questions, Chapter-level practice tests (unlimited retakes) to prepare for final exam, Explanatory videos, Excellent topic and word searchability, Accessible via mobile devices.

For more information, or to order a copy, visit www.wef.org/WWTF

Did You Know?

Now in its 25th Year, Sewer History Exhibit Looks to the Future

Since its start in 1993, the sewer history exhibit has traveled the country, appearing at more than 75 conferences, trade shows, and other sector events. It includes rare wooden, clay, and cast-iron pipes as well as historical documents and sewer artifacts, and continues to evolve.

Twenty-five years later, this sewer history exhibit involves much more than photos and has traveled the country, appearing at more than 75 conferences, trade shows, and other sector events. It has been the subject of a 2006 episode of “Modern Marvels” on the History Channel. Jon Schladweiler, co-chair of the committee and amateur history buff, also has developed a 90-minute presentation covering 5500 years of sewer history that begins by discussing the exhibit.

Some elements of the exhibit continue to be favorites. They include a rare piece of handmade clay pipe from the Spanish San Luis Rey Mission in Oceanside, Calif. and an early 20th century flushing valve, and a photo tribute to Ed Norton, who starred as fictional sewer worker in the movie adaptation of Jackie Gleason’s television series, The Honeymooners.

Click here to read more about the evolution of the sewer history exhibit and be sure to visit them at Booth #355, Hall B1.