



This Issue

Member Association News (Pages 1)

- ◆ Alabama WEA
- ◆ Florida WEA
- ◆ Georgia AWP
- ◆ North Carolina WEA
- ◆ WEA of Ontario

Technical News (Pages 2)

- ◆ EPA—CSO Discharges to Great Lakes Basin
- WEF News (Page 3-4)

- ◆ Save the Date—Mid-Year 2017 in Coral Gables, FL!
 - ◆ CS 2017—Call for Mobile Session Presenters
 - ◆ Call for Innovative Presentations for IR2
 - ◆ Save the Date—WEF Webcast “What to Expect in the Trump Era and 115th Congress”
 - ◆ Save the Date—Water Innovation 2017
 - ◆ Nominations for WEF Fellows Program
 - ◆ New WEF Website!
 - ◆ NASSCO Update—Rehab Zone
- Did You Know? (Page 5)

- ◆ City of Perry (GA) Paints Manholes to Promote Public Awareness

Member Association News



Participants at the AWEA Workshop. Photo : Stephen King

Alabama WEA ([AWEA](#))

The AWEA Collection System Committee held their third workshop of 2016 on December 8th at the Huntsville Maintenance Complex in Huntsville, Alabama. Twenty-five water professionals attended the workshop where the following sewer assessment tools were discussed:

- ◆ Sewer Line Rapid Assessment Tool (SL-RAT by Infosence)
- ◆ Smart Ball (Pure Technologies)
- ◆ Accurate Mapping Probe (AMP by QUEs)

After the presentations, a live demonstration of the SL-RAT technology was demonstrated in the field.

The AWEA Collection System Committee (CSC) plans to host an additional workshops in Montgomery prior to the AWEA annual conference in April of 2017.

Florida WEA ([FWEA](#))

Join the Florida WEA Collection System Committee for their regional seminar titled: *Extreme Makeover: Optimizing, Operations, Maintenances and Rehabilitation of Lift Stations and Force Mains* on **February 9, 2017** in Orlando, Florida.

This seminar will feature great presentations on both optimizing and rehabilitating your pump stations, lift stations, and force mains. You won't want to miss presentations like *Shake Your Body, Not Your Pumps—An Innovative Vibration Solution* by Jody Barksdale.

Registration is now open! For more information about the

seminar and to register, [click here](#) or contact [Joan Fernandez](#) for more information.

Georgia AWP ([GAWP](#))

The Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) held its 2016 Fall Conference in Dalton, Georgia on November 15th and 16th. The conference was well attended at over 650 attendees. Highlights of the Conference included:



GAWP Executive Director Pam Burnett, Dan Murphy, Keith Watkins, Nathan Brooks, Jeremy Eaves, Jeff Callaway, Srinivas Jalla – Manhole-In-Charge, GAWP President-Elect Ernie Earn. Photo : Heather Veal.

2016 Golden Manhole Society Induction Breakfast – Selection for membership into the GMS is considered a high honor and recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the art and science of Collection System operations. The 2016 Induction Breakfast was held in Dalton, GA where five new members

were inducted; Keith Watkins with Clayton County Water Authority, Dan Murphy with Brown and Caldwell, Nathan Brooks with Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority, Jeremy Eaves with Cobb County Water Systems, and Jeff Callaway with Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources. The new members collected donations to be given to the GAWP Scholarship Fund and set a record with their collections of almost \$1,000.

Collection Systems Excellence Award - The purpose of this award is to recognize those utilities that strive to continually improve their systems through proper management, maintenance, and operation. To obtain the GOLD Award, a utility must receive a score of 95% or higher. Those utilities with a score of 90% to 94.9% receive the Silver Award. The Collection System

Member Association News (continued)

Excellence Award also includes a PLATINUM Award. This award is given to the utilities that have scored gold level for 5 consecutive years. The utility will maintain its platinum level as long as the utility scores gold level each subsequent year. This year there were seven utilities that received the Platinum Award and four that received the Gold Award.

Platinum

- ◆ Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources
- ◆ Cobb County Water System
- ◆ Columbus Water Works
- ◆ Clayton County Water Authority
- ◆ City of Perry, ESG Operations
- ◆ Henry County Water Authority
- ◆ Macon Water Authority

Gold

- ◆ Dalton Utilities
- ◆ Douglasville-Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority
- ◆ Fulton County Public Works
- ◆ Marietta Water

Technical Sessions – The CSC organized two sessions for the Conferences with the first session focusing on sewer cleaning and the second session included several different topics including rehabilitation methods and infiltration reduction. The sessions were well attended with over 50 conference attendees.

North Carolina WEA ([NC-AWWA/WEA](#))

The North Carolina Collection & Distribution Committee held its final meeting of the year on Tuesday November 15 at the Raleigh Convention Center during the NC AWWA/WEA Annual Conference. The purpose of the meeting was to review progress made over the past year, set the schedule and educational topics for the new year, acknowledge the out-going Chair and elect the new committee leadership for 2017. Jim Perotti (Brown & Caldwell) completed his term as chair overseeing a year of great progress for the committee. Jim will continue his leadership role as chair of the Member Engagement subcommittee. For 2017, the committee elected the following members for its leadership:

- ◆ Chair- Mike Borchers (City of Greensboro)
- ◆ Vice-Chair – Chip Smith (WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff)
- ◆ Secretary – Corey King (Kimley-Horn)

The following Collection System Awards were presented during the Annual Conference:

- ◆ Golden Manhole – Dan Anderson (Frazier Engineering)
- ◆ Collection System of the Year
 - ◆ Large System – Charlotte Water
 - ◆ Medium System – Town of Mooresville
 - ◆ Small System – Town of Hillsborough

The committee meets six times per year at different locations around the state. Each meeting includes an education topic or panel discussion on current issues or industry trends affecting waste water collection and water distribution systems in order to encourage participation and information sharing.

WEA of Ontario ([WEAO](#))

Join the WEA of Ontario for their Collection Systems Seminar on *Wastewater Upstream Activities and Its Impacts Downstream*, on **January 19, 2017** at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters (CCIW).

Participants will explore how collection systems impact wastewater treatment as well as learn about:

- ◆ On-site Wastewater Treatment
- ◆ An Integrated Approach to Wastewater Asset Management
- ◆ Projects that Demonstrate how Collections Affects Treatment
- ◆ Pollution Prevention and Sewer By-Laws

For more information and to register for the event, [click here](#).

Let us highlight what your MA is doing in the realm of collection systems. Share any successes, milestones, events, initiatives, innovations, fun ideas, etc. with all in our collection systems community by emailing a short summary to Bri Nakamura at bnakamura@wef.org

Technical News



EPA—CSO Discharges to Great Lakes Basin

On December 16, 2016, Administrator McCarthy signed the attached pre-publication version of the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM). The NPRM, when finalized, will implement Section 425 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-113), which requires EPA to work with the Great Lakes states to establish public notification requirements for CSO discharges to the Great Lakes. The proposed requirements address signage, notification of local public health departments and other potentially affected public entities, notification to the public, and annual notice provisions. In addition, under the proposal, NPDES permittees with CSO discharges to the Great Lakes Basin would develop and submit to the NPDES permitting authority a public notification plan within six months of

publication of the final rule. Prior to submitting their plans to the NPDES permitting authority, permittees would be required to seek and consider input from local public health departments and other potentially affected entities whose waters may be potentially impacted by their CSO discharges.

The proposal has a 60 day comment period which starts when the notice is published in the Federal Register. Comments on the proposal should be submitted to Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2016-0376 on the *Federal eRulemaking Portal*: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

The pre-publication version of the NPRM and other information on CSO discharges to the Great Lakes Basin is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/combined-sewer-overflows-public-notice-requirements-great-lakes>.

Save the Date—Mid-Year 2017 in Coral Gables, FL!

The 2017 Midyear meeting will be on **January 25-28, 2017** at the Hotel Colonnade in Coral Gables, FL.

The Collection Systems Committee meeting will be on Thursday, January 26, 2017 with the CSC subcommittee meetings occurring in the morning and the general CSC meeting in the afternoon.

This year's CSC Mid-Year meeting will consist of subcommittee updates from Member Services, the I/I Technical Work Group, and the Modeling Technical Work Group. We will also have a discussion on archiving sewer testing data and the challenges of cleaning large diameter sewers.

Registration is still open, for more information about the event, [click here](#).



Save the Date—CS 2017 in Omaha, NE!

May 21-24, 2017 in Omaha, Nebraska

"Collections in the Heartland—Collecting Today for a Cleaner Tomorrow"

The [final technical program](#) is now out for CS 2017 in Omaha, Nebraska. Join the CSC and fellow wastewater professionals for a great week of workshops, tours, technical sessions, and discussions.

For more information about the upcoming CS 2017 conference, [click here](#).

New—Call for Mobile Session Presenters at CS 2017

The [Mobile Session Call for Presentations](#) is now open.

This will be the third annual mobile session held at the Collection Systems 2017 conference in Omaha, NE. These sessions, which are focused around specific topics, allow WEF to bring attendees to selected booths to hear and see technical and educational presentations combined with equipment or hands-on visuals. This session is open to any exhibitor who can address the subject matter.

This session will be held immediately after the Opening General Session and lasts 80 minutes. During that time, presenters are expected to give three 25-minute presentations back-to-back simultaneously with 3-4 other exhibitors.

This year, we are presenting an opportunity exclusive to technology providers to submit a proposal join the mobile session. For more information about being a mobile session presenter, [click here](#) or contact Laura (Herman) Childs at Lherman@wef.org. The deadline to submit a proposal is **January 25, 2017**.

Call for IR² Innovative Technology Presenters

[The Leaders in Innovation Forum for Technology \(LIFT\)](#) seeks cutting-edge water technologies that improve resource (water,

energy, or nutrient) recovery at municipal or industrial wastewater, stormwater, and water reuse facilities. Accepted technologies may be highlighted at a 2017 Intensification and Resource Recovery (IR²) Forum sponsored by the [Water Environment Federation \(WEF\)](#) and the [Water Environment & Reuse Foundation \(WE&RF\)](#).

This year's IR² Forum taking place **August 10-12, 2017** at Manhattan College in New York City.

The IR² Forum is an intensive three-day session focused on innovations in wastewater and water reuse. The Forum will be attended by 150+ leading experts and practitioners from utilities, consulting firms, universities, and other key representatives in the industry. Technologies or processes of interest to this group must demonstrate a significant advancement over existing operations. This can be reductions in capital costs, O&M costs, volume/footprint, or enhanced recovery of water, energy, or nutrients.

Submissions for Technology Scans are due no later than **5:00 p.m. ET on Tuesday, January 17, 2017** if you wish to be considered for the IR² Forum. There is no cost to apply. To apply please visit <http://liftlink.werf.org>, log in using WE&RF credentials, and then press the 'Apply' button at the top. Should you need to create a log-in, please go to www.werf.org and create a user profile (user name/password) direct link. For more information, contact the WE&RF Technology and Innovation Manager Dr. Aaron Fisher at afisher@werf.org.

Save the Date—WEF Webcast "What to Expect in the Trump Era and 115th Congress"

January 25, 2017 from 12:30 PM—2:30 PM EST



The results of the November 2016 General Election are likely to have substantial effects upon the nation's policies and priorities, none more than potential impacts to the water sector. President-Elect Trump has made it clear that he plans to make major investments in the nation's infrastructure, while rolling back many of the Obama Era environmental policies. The incoming 115th Congress will be pushing forward the Trump Agenda, but changes to leadership of key committees will likely mean changes to the legislative process. This webcast will dive into what the potential policy goals of the Trump Administration and Congress will be in 2017, and how that process will likely play out.

For more information and to register for the webcast, [click here](#).

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](#).

Nominations for WEF Fellows Program

The WEF Fellows Program recognizes the professional achievement, stature and contributions of WEF Members to the practice areas served by WEF.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2017 WEF Fellows class. All applications/nominations must be submitted by **February 1, 2017**. [Click here](#) for the online application.

Eligibility Criteria:

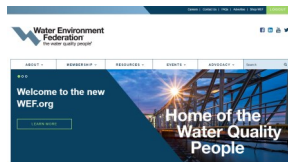
- ◆ Member of WEF for a minimum of five consecutive years
- ◆ Completed and signed WEF Fellows application providing:
- ◆ Documentation for a minimum of ten years of professional experience
- ◆ Documentation of professional achievement/stature and contributions to preserving and enhancing the global water environment, in the practice areas served by WEF
- ◆ Documented contributions to the member's profession through participation in professional organizations and community involvement (include examples of work which convey the impact made in relevant practice area)
- ◆ Supporting letters from WEF members (maximum of 5, minimum of 3—two letters must be from peers in relevant practice area and not employed at the same organization as the applicant)

Application Process:

- ◆ Applications are accepted from any current WEF member as a self-nomination or a nomination of another WEF member
- ◆ Applications must be typewritten
- ◆ Individual WEF members and MAs may submit applications nominating WEF members for Fellow status

For more information about the WEF Fellows Program, [click here](#) or contact Kelsey Hurst at khurst@wef.org.

WEF Launches New Website



In December 2016, WEF announced the launch of its new and improved website. The new website, which was collaboratively designed by both WEF staff and members, features an improved design, better search function, and exclusive member content.

Take a tour of the new website at: <http://www.wef.org/tour/>

NASSCO Update—Rehab Zone

Last-minute planning is nearing completion for the 2017

RehabZone, part of the annual Underground Construction Technology International Conference & Exposition (UCT) scheduled **January 31, 2017 – February 2, 2017**.

UCT will be held at the Fort Worth Convention Center, the first time the event has been held in this Texas city.

The RehabZone is a “show within a show” on UCT’s exhibit floor with a unique “no selling” approach that provides objective information about rehabilitation of sewer infrastructure. The basic format and layout of the “Zone” will be similar to past years, said Andy Rothenberg, 2017 RehabZone chairperson. The RehabZone is funded by sponsoring organizations and participating companies as a benefit to industry personnel.

“There will be some updates to the transitional items between sections of the Zone as well as the addition of interactive displays inside the Zone. This is the 15th RehabZone, so we are theming the popular RehabZone T-shirts around that.”

Also, guided tours through the RehabZone can be arranged for groups, he said.

Rothenberg is president of Primeline Products Inc. He praised the volunteers who give their time to plan and make the RehabZone a success, many of whom are competitors in the marketplace, but set aside their individual business interests to make the no-sell format a success.

The unique and interesting Historic Sewer and Pipe Artifacts Exhibit will be just inside the Zone’s entrance. For UCT, the entire exhibit will be brought with many items not seen at other events.

After walking through the History Exhibit, attendees will then move on to information stations that include closed circuit television (CCTV), bypass pumping, sectional CIPP lining, joint and seal repairs, water main lining, lateral lining, grouting, root control, manhole linings and coatings, emerging technologies, and the NASSCO Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP) and Inspector Training Certification Program (ITCP).

Each station is manned by industry professionals who present objective, generic information without selling or promoting individual brands or products.

At finishing the tour through various information/display stations, attendees will then have the opportunity to witness the live demonstration area. Details of demonstration sponsors and topics will be posted online soon. Each user also receives a complimentary Technology Guide which also serves as a valuable, practical tool for contractors, owners and engineers.

The final stop near the exit is where visitors who have completed tours pick up commemorative t-shirts.

Sponsors of the RehabZone include NASSCO (National Association of Sewer Service Companies), Underground Engineering and Surveying Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Water Environment Federation’s Collection System Committee and Underground Construction magazine.

More information is available on the UCT website (uctonline.com), RehabZone web site (rehabzone.org) or by contacting Heather Myers at NASSCO (heather@nassco.org), (410) 442-7473.

Did You Know?

City of Perry (GA) Paints Manholes to Promote Public Awareness

In 2012, the Mayor and Council of the City of Perry (GA) visited another City and had seen storm drain basins that were painted or had designs in the steel covers. One of our Council members reached out to the City of Perry Arts Center and came up with the idea of painting manhole lids in the historical downtown district. The idea was a success, as we had participation from all age groups.

To begin the painting process, ESG staff members would apply corrosion inhibitor to each manhole lid, and have them at the art center available to the public for painting once the designs and themes of their conceptual drawings were approved by Mayor and Council. They then reached out to Bob Taylor, the City of Perry's Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor, whom is an excellent fabricator. He was able to design us a safe stand, capable of holding 4 each manhole lids that were prepped in advance with corrosion inhibitor and primer. The public would then paint their manholes, and we let them select the location they wanted it installed. They used ESG staff to move and install lids for public safety, so nobody was injured during step one through completion. The rack designed by Bob Taylor made it very user friendly and safe for the public. Once the manholes were completed, they were sprayed with clear coat to seal, and installed in the desired location.

The paints chosen were designed to last more than one year, so it's really worked well and drawn exposure from the public. ESG staff members then designed a map with each new addition to the manhole tour, listing the painters name and design. These designs were placed in the City of Perry's customer Service Office, as well as on the City's website, so visitors were able to find them. The City of Perry and ESG continue to update as new ideas come forward. It's been really popular with Perry's youth and brought light to public education.



Above are pictures of the City of Perry's "Manhole Tour Map", various painted manholes, as well as artist Alicia McMurrin completing one of the approved manhole covers. *Photos: Sharon Kelly.*

This issue is brought to you by...

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