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### Member Association News



#### California WEA ([CWEA](#))

Join the CWEA Collection System Committee for their annual summer meeting, this time as a virtual meeting. The virtual meeting will be on **July 23, 2020 from 9:00-10:30 AM PST**. The meeting will consist of:

- 1) Open forum – NGOs discussion
- 2) CSC business meeting

The Committee welcomes all members to join them for a relaxed and interesting discussion about non-governmental organizations, their role in State regulations and some tactics to use when NGOs come knocking.

Then the Committee will hold their regular business meeting with some important updates and votes on the Collection System awards and educational planning efforts.

Must be a CWEA or WEF Members to join. For more information and to register, [click here](#).



#### Hawaii WEA ([HWEA](#))

On November 19-21, 2019, the HWEA Collection Systems Committee and the Western Chapter of the North America Society for Trenchless Technology (WESTT) held an exciting and informative joint conference. The half-day pre-conference event was held on November 19 and included tours of the CCH-CSM Baseyard in Halawa (and the new Kapolei Business Park sewage pumping station). The main conference was attended by a record 250 attendees and 20 vendors and was followed by a full day of trainings by WESTT on November 21. The program consisted of two sessions: New Installation Methods, and Rehabilitation Methods. Thank you to the Collection Systems Committee led by Jon Nishimura for an excellent conference.



Pre-conference attendees on facility tours  
(Photo: HWEA LuaLine—Winter 2020 Edition)



#### Missouri WEA ([MWEA](#))

The Spring 2020 edition of MWEA's *Current magazine*, they highlighted the **Protecting Your Ratepayers from Sewer Backups** by CSC Member Ron Thomann. The article, starting on page 18, highlights steps that municipalities can take to implement sewer backup prevention programs. To read this article and the latest edition of Currents, [click here](#).



#### New England WEA ([NEWEA](#))

The NEWEA Collection System Specialty Webinar is scheduled for **Thursday, September 10, 2020**. Two-hour sessions are planned for the morning and afternoon.

The presentations will include the following:

#### Morning Session - **ANALYZE THIS: 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 - Pipe analysis reduces cleaning schedule in San Diego, CA
- ◆ Managing Flows with Mixed Size Pump Selections in Trumbull, CT

#### Afternoon Session - **FIX THAT: 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 Plan
- ◆ Unintended Consequences of Sewer Separation in Portland, ME
- ◆ River Ave Force Main – A Successful Emergency Rehabilitation and Partnership in Norwich, CT

## 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](mailto:bnakamura@wef.org) if you would like to contribute.

### California WEA (CWEA)

CWEA is proud to announce the state winners of the [Annual Awards program](#). These individuals and agencies were selected by CWEA's Committees from over 300 applications. Collection Systems related awardee's include:

- ◆ Collection System of the Year Large (Over 500 miles) - [City of Riverside](#)
- ◆ Collection System of the Year Medium (250–500 miles) [City of Santa Barbara](#)
- ◆ Collection System of the Year Small (0-249 Miles) [City of Pacifica](#)
- ◆ Collection System Person of the Year [Joseph Hilliard, Goleta West Sanitary District](#)
- ◆ Collection Systems: Ambassadors, Golden Manhole Golden Manhole Society [Sam Rose, South Placer Municipal Utility District](#)
- ◆ Collection Systems: PICK- Professionalism, Ingenuity, Contribution, Knowledge
- ◆ PICK Award – Professionalism, Ingenuity, Contribution, Knowledge [Dindo Carillo, Orange County Sanitation District](#)  
[Daniel Dyer, Inland Empire Utilities Authority](#)  
[Tyree Albert Jackson, City of Oakland](#)  
[Dorien McElroy, Irvine Ranch Water District](#)  
[Chris Newton, South Coast WD](#)  
[Jennifer Rojas, Long Beach Water Department](#)
- ◆ Gimmick/Gadget of the Year (Collection Systems) [Troy Minnick, City of Barstow "Chemical Dosing"](#)

### Kansas WEA (KWEA)

Kansas WEA is now seeking nominations for all KWEA awards and honors. This includes the:

- ◆ **Collection Systems Award**, which is presented to a

collection systems individual or municipality for an outstanding and significant contribution in the area of wastewater collection, including operation/maintenance, safety/training, improvements/innovative ideas, planning/design, and service. Nominations are due on **July 15, 2020**.

- ◆ **Golden Manhole Society Award**, which recognizes and honors both individuals and their employers for their combined contributions which promotes increased professionalism in the collection systems field. Nominations are due on **July 31, 2020**.
- ◆ **Raymond E. Stillwell Award**, which recognizes a prolonged history of outstanding efforts in the operation, maintenance, management or design of a wastewater collection system, and in the individuals commitment of KWEA and all of it's related activities. Nominations are due on **July 31, 2020**.

For more information and to submit a nomination visit: <http://kwea.net/about/awards-clubs/>.

### New England WEA (NEWEA)



At the NEWEA Awards Ceremony and luncheon held on January 29, 2020 in Boston, MA, **James Barsanti**, Water and Wastewater Director for the City of Framingham, MA, received the James J. Courchaine Collection Systems Award.

### WEA of Texas (WEAT)

WEAT is proud to announce the state winners for their annual awards program. This includes Collection Systems related awardee's:

- ◆ Sidney L. Allison Award—**Ron Patel**, who is recognized as someone who has made significant contributions to engineering, science & operations and maintenance of wastewater collections.

## Welcome New CSC Leadership!

We would like to recognize the Collection Systems Committee (CSC) members who have recently taken on leadership positions within the committee!

- ◆ **Paul Costa**, 2020-2021 Incoming CSC Vice Chair
- ◆ **Jennifer Welsch**, 2020-2022 Specialty Conference Chair
- ◆ **Diane Grossenheider**, 2020-2022 Specialty Conference Vice Chair

New appointees to the CSC Strategic Subcommittee:

- ◆ **Alan MacDonald**
- ◆ **Chip Smith**
- ◆ **Dave Brown**
- ◆ **David Garcia**
- ◆ **Scott Belz**

## 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](#).

- ◆ **Angela Suarez**, *New York WEA*
- ◆ **Ashok Perera**, *WEA of Texas*
- ◆ **Christopher Kyea**, *Hawaii WEA*
- ◆ **Kevin Draganchuk**, *New York WEA*
- ◆ **Kristi Steiner**, *Pacific Northwest CWA*
- ◆ **Lani Good**, *California WEA*
- ◆ **Pradyumna Kshatriya**, *Arizona WEA*



**SAVE THE DATE—Collection Systems 2021 Conference Announced!**

We are excited to announce that the Collection Systems 2021 Conference will be held in **Detroit, Michigan** on **March 23 – 26, 2021**. The conference will include oral presentations, interactive discussions, pre-conference workshops, exhibits, mobile sessions, opportunities for networking in dynamic settings, as well as virtual components. Save the date and plan to experience a robust program highlighting continued advances in the wastewater collection systems sector.

The call for abstracts will open in mid-July and close **September 15, 2020**. Potential speakers are invited to submit an abstract for podium presentation, workshop, virtual presentation, or exhibitor mobile session.

[Click here](#), for more information about the 2021 conference.



**SAVE THE DATE—WEFTEC 2020 is Going Virtual with WEFTEC Connect**

**Live Programming:** October 5-9, 2020  
**Registration Opening:** July 13, 2020

WEFTEC 2020 will be a fully virtual event on the WEFTEC Connect online learning platform that offers attendees interactive education, an exhibitor showcase, and networking experiences.

Our new virtual event, WEFTEC Connect, delivers the high-quality education, professional development, access to exhibitors, and networking opportunities that have come to define the WEFTEC experience.

**CSC WEBINAR RECAP— May Webcast on Beating I/I**

The WEF CSC Webcast Subcommittee hosted a May webcast entitled, **"Beating I/I With Effective 21st Century Sewer Rehabilitation – Good Ideas And Successful Outcomes"** and had its largest participation in several years. The webcast was based around principles outlined in the WEF CSC Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Fact Sheet issued in 2017. There were 322 total registrants and 277 attendees!

Thanks to WEF CSC leadership for helping identify the topic and speakers. Thanks to moderator, **Tim Sumner** of Crawford, Murphy and Tilley Engineers & Consultants who rallied the

excellent and informative speakers which included: **Nick Domenick** of Columbus Ohio Department of Public Utilities (Reducing I/I from Lateral Sewers); **Ted DeBoda** of Baltimore County, Maryland (An Overview of Sewer Rehabilitation Methodologies); and, **John Matthews** of Louisiana Tech (Assessment of Life- Cycle Performance of Trenchless Technologies Used for Rehabilitation of Pipelines).

If you missed it, you can find an archived version by signing onto WEFCOM and searching the online webcasts. Stay tuned for the August webcast which will focus on Smart Sewers. It is sure to be another hit!

**CONFERENCE RECAP—CS 2020 Went Virtual!**

The Virtual Conference for Collections Systems 2020 provided a lot of relevant content thanks to the hard work of all our WEF and WEAT volunteers. The 2020 Virtual Collections System Conference offered 18 virtual presentations, a live panel discussion, a virtual tour and live mobile session. As we wrap up the 2020 conference we are looking forward to the Collections System conference in Detroit Michigan March 23-26, 2021.

**Washington State High School Student Wins 2020 US Stockholm Junior Water Prize**

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) proudly announces that **Zoe Gotthold** is the winner of the 2020 U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP), the nation's most prestigious youth competition for water-related research.



Gotthold, a student at Richland High School in Richland, Wash., developed prototypes of devices that promote oil flocculation at the surface and increase the efficacy of traditional oil spill remediation techniques. She won \$10,000 and will represent the United States at the international competition in August.

Gotthold's winning project, "P.E.N.G.U.I.N.S: Promoting Emulsion Nullification Greenly Using Innovative Nucleation Surfaces (A Simple Solution to Oil Spill Emulsions)," noted that one of the most dangerous components of oil spills is the emulsion that forms between spilled oil and surrounding seawater. It can persist for years and is difficult to remediate. Gotthold identified substances that speed up the separation of those emulsions and used those properties to develop her prototypes. Gotthold is exploring six different applications of her research, which she said can be used to limit the dangers posed by oil spill emulsions without the harmful environmental impacts caused by chemical surfactants.

To read more about Zoe's winning project and to view SJWP state winners, [click here](#).

*Keep reading and keep sharing!*

*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](mailto:bnakamura@wef.org)*



## Technical News

### With More People Staying Home—Reminder, Don't Flush Wipes!

As the world adapts to dealing with coronavirus — social distancing, working from home, and self-quarantining if ill — the perceived hoarding and scarcity of toilet paper has emerged almost as a joke. But, if people start flushing unsuitable materials, the results will be anything but funny.

"If kitchen towels, baby wipes or industrial papers are used as a replacement for toilet paper, our sewage systems could readily become blocked with the resulting chaos and increased health risks associated with this," said Professor Richard Wilding, Professor of Supply Chain Strategy at Cranfield School of Management (Bedford, U.K.), in a release.

Stories like Professor Wilding's have continued to appear in the media as a rise in toilet paper replacements and clogs have sprung up. Here are a few more stories about how utilities and public agencies are reminding people that all that should be flushed are the 3P's and the negative impacts that flushing other things can cause.

Check out these stories!

[Water Sector Request: Flush Wisely—WEF](#)

[Crews spend hours unclogging wastewater pumps of flushed wipes, latex, rags—CBS 4 Local News, El Paso \(TX\)](#)

[Public Advised to NOT Flush Disinfecting Wipes, Paper Towels Down Toilet – Throw Them Away Instead—CWEA E-Bulletin Highlights](#)



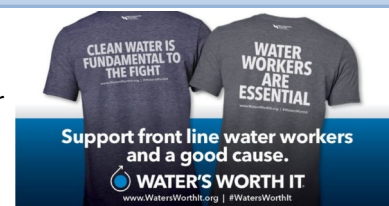
## Did You Know?

### Highlighting Our Essential Personnel and Working in Collections!

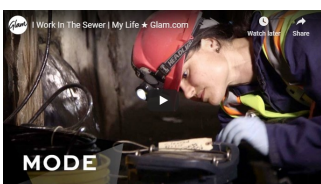
In these uncertain times, the coronavirus pandemic has provided an urgent reminder that water and wastewater services are essential and fundamental to all aspects of life and society. Every day, communities rely on the expertise of water professionals to protect public health, the environment, and economy.

This essential work is carried out by skilled workers with quiet consistency and is largely invisible. A crisis such as the coronavirus pandemic reveals the critical nature and true value of reliable water and wastewater services. Like many other critical professions, water workers are on the front lines of the global response to coronavirus. None of them do it for recognition but they deserve our appreciation.

The Water Environment Federation family salutes the men and women who are working tirelessly to ensure water services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Please join us in recognizing and supporting our water workers, who are in every city and town serving all of us.



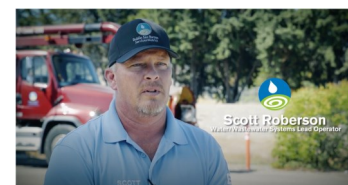
*WEF has released a new line of T-shirts that recognize the role of clean water and essential workers. All proceeds will be donated to charity. [Click here](#) to purchase a shirt.*



Want to share what it means to be a #SewerRat, check out these videos:

◆ Glam, Inc. shared the story of **Megan Abadie**, Collection Systems Division (CSD) Assistant Engineer at San Francisco Public Utility Commission (SFPUC). Titled, "[I Work In the Sewer](#)", Megan gives an insider look into the San Francisco sewers and how her work affects the public health and San Franciscan's quality of life. [Click here](#) to read more about Megan and her journey.

◆ Meet California WEA Member Scott Robinson, Water/Wastewater Systems Lead Operator at Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) as he describes what it's like managing DSRSD's Collection System. [Click here](#) to hear his view on working in field operations.



*This issue is brought to you by...*

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

- ◆ Chip Smith, Member Services Chair, *North Carolina AWWA-WEA, South Carolina WEA, Georgia AWP*
- ◆ Stephen King, *Alabama WEA, Kentucky-Tennessee WEA*
- ◆ Stuart Bowns, *Kentucky-Tennessee WEA*
- ◆ David Brown, *North Carolina AWWA-WEA, Virginia WEA*
- ◆ Ted DeBoda, *Chesapeake WEA*
- ◆ Jane McLamarrah, *WEA of South Carolina*

- ◆ Jerome Iltis, *WEA of Texas*
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- ◆ Ron Thomann, *Kansas WEA*
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