



2020 Onsite Wastewater Mega Conference Call for Papers



The **2020 Onsite Mega-Conference** will be held in Hampton, Virginia! It is a combined effort between the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA), the National Association of Wastewater Technicians (NAWT), the State Onsite Regulators Association (SORA), and the Virginia Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (VOWRA). The Mega-Conference is the largest event of its kind and offers decentralized professionals the highest quality education and training available. The 2020 event will be held October 25-28 at the Hampton Convention Center. Education sessions will be held October 26 and 27. Field trips and a **Research Needs Symposium** focused on onsite wastewater treatment will be held on October 28.

Paper and Presentation Options

Your presentation can fit into one of three categories. Please strongly consider writing a paper to serve as long-term documentation of the conference and progress made in the decentralized industry. However, all organizations involved wish to encourage speakers from all aspects of the industry and are offering the following three options to attract presenters:

- 1. Oral research-based presentations.** These researches may be related to new technologies, monitoring, extension education, field assessment, or any topic that are related to onsite wastewater treatment.
 - A presentation could come **with or without including a paper.**
- 2. Oral non-research related presentations.** These presentations could be about any onsite wastewater treatment-related topic including installation, maintenance, science about onsite wastewater treatment, maintenance, environmental impacts, and related topics. Presentations must be clearly non-sales oriented.
 - A presentation could come **with or without including a paper.**
- 3. Poster presentations** on a research or non-research related topic about onsite wastewater treatment and recycling. The posters will be displayed on one day of the conference in a prominent location.

Paper and Presentation Review

The presentation slides and the paper that will be included in the Conference Proceedings should comply with formatting requirements and will be reviewed by the Education and Technical Practices Committee of NOWRA.

- **The primary author of a presentation that includes a paper will receive a \$50 registration discount**

Abstract and Paper Deadlines

- 1. May 15, 2020:** Abstracts submittals are due. Beginning March 1, abstracts could be submitted to the Mega-Conference Abstract Portal at the following web address: http://www.nawt.co/call_for_papers.html
- 2. June 14, 2020:** Individuals will be notified of the Education Committee's selection and provided with instructions regarding paper, presentation, and poster criteria and format.
- 3. July 31, 2020:** Draft paper manuscripts due for review by the NOWRA Education Committee.
- 4. August 7, 2020:** Draft presentations due.
- 5. August 28, 2020:** Comments and/or edited papers returned to the author. If re-review is required, they will be due on September 11, 2020.
- 6. September 25, 2020:** Final papers and presentations must be submitted in electronic format to be included in the proceedings and conference. If the paper is not received by this date, the topic and speaker will be removed from the agenda.

Questions about a Topic or Conference?

- ◆ Please discuss questions about the applicability of topics for the conference with Education Committee Chair, Sergio Abit, by email at osusepticwater@okstate.edu.
- ◆ Please send questions about the conference in general to NOWRA's Executive Director, Eric Casey, by email at executivedirector@nowra.org.

Instructions about the Abstract:

The abstract can have a maximum of 250 words and ideally would include the following:

- A sentence or two to introduce the topic and briefly state why it is important
- The objective(s) of the presentation/research
- Around three sentences of methods or what has been done
- Highlighted results and then end with a final statement

Potential Topics

Most presentations will be allocated either a 25 or 50-minute presentations. When submitting your abstract please indicate which of these categories your topic fits (please specify as many as are applicable):

1. Technical

- Challenging waste streams including wineries and distilleries
- Linkages between storm water and decentralized system design
- Water and waste constituents of concern such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products
- Treatment processes: process level understanding of commonly used wastewater treatment components
- Modeling the fate of wastewater constituents: treatment processes and soil environments
- Innovative products, technologies, and solutions for wastewater treatment
- Nitrogen related research and case studies
- Cluster system design and management
- Reuse case studies and research
- System performance evaluation
- Soil and site evaluation research and evaluation
- Effects of sea-level rise on system function/design
- Septage treatment facilities unit processes, engineering, innovative technologies, quality sludge

2. Installation

- Safety and security
- Best practices in installation of tanks, controls, compressors, and pumps
- Best practices in installing plumbing and electrical components

3. Policy

- Data and technology reciprocity
- Comprehensive wastewater planning, policy and case studies
- Risk assessment
- Standards, regulations and policy
- Legislative initiatives
- Compliance and enforcement
- Cluster systems
- Performance standards
- Reuse of water
- Septage treatment facility economics and regulations
- Education, training and certification

4. Management/Maintenance

- Comprehensive management, finance, policy
- Management entity sustainability
- Management strategies supporting performance
- Tools and technologies to assist with management
- Management and maintenance related case studies
- Extreme weather maintenance issue

Abstract Submittal Requirements

Please submit the following information regarding your paper or presentation:

1. Abstract Type:

- Technical
- Policy
- Management
- Installation

2. Format for presentation:

- Presentation with a paper

b. Presentation without a paper

c. Poster

3. Title of Paper/Sessions

4. Abstract -250-word maximum description of the proposed paper and presentation/session

5. Name of lead author, presenter or session organizer including email and affiliation

6. A short bio of the lead presenter (250-word maximum) which includes education and relevant onsite/decentralized industry experience.

Presenters MUST be registered for the conference and are responsible for covering their own registration and travel expenses to attend the conference