



National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association

P 800.966.2942

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March 2010 e-News

Help NOWRA spread the word! If you know of anyone not receiving the NOWRA e-News, please forward this on and have the request to join our mailing list.

NOWRA e-News - March

Thank you to all who contributed stories and ideas. This member communication belongs to each of us, so keep the news and ideas coming.

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Successful Installer Academy and Roe-D-Hoe Held in Kentucky

Installer Academy:

The fifth annual NOWRA Installer Academy was held February 22-23, 2010, in Louisville, Kentucky, prior to the COLE Pumper Show. The conference provided great networking opportunities for those who were seeking additional educational opportunities prior to the days of walking the exhibit hall floor during the Pumper Show and checking out the trucks, equipment, and latest innovative technologies in the industry.

Septic Locator

NOWRA's Septic Locator will connect you with a wastewater professional in your area and our membership list.

[Begin Here!](#)

2010 GOLD BUSINESS BENEFIT MEMBERS:

Bio-Microbics, Inc.
913-422-0707
<http://www.biomicrobics.com>

Bord na Mona
336-547-9338
<http://www.bnm-us.com>

Infiltrator Systems, Inc.
860-577-7106
<http://www.infiltratorsystems.com>

Onsite Installer
800-994-7990
<http://www.onsiteinstaller.com>

Presby Environmental
800-473-5298
<http://www.presbyenvironmental.com>

The conference began with a keynote talk by former NOWRA and NAWT President Tim Frank on "Professionalism Through Education." Following the opening session, there were three concurrent tracks held over the two-day period with class sizes kept small to maximize interaction between speakers and attendees.

NOWRA would like to thank **COLE Publishing** for offering us the opportunity to provide this training at the Pumper Show, and to **Zoeller Company** for their lunch sponsorship. Also, thanks to our conference sponsors - NOWRA's 2010 Business Benefit Program members.

In addition to the NOWRA training at the Installer Academy, Sara Heger and Tom Fritts also represented NOWRA during the Pumper Show Education Day by providing a condensed version of NOWRA's A to Z course to a packed room.

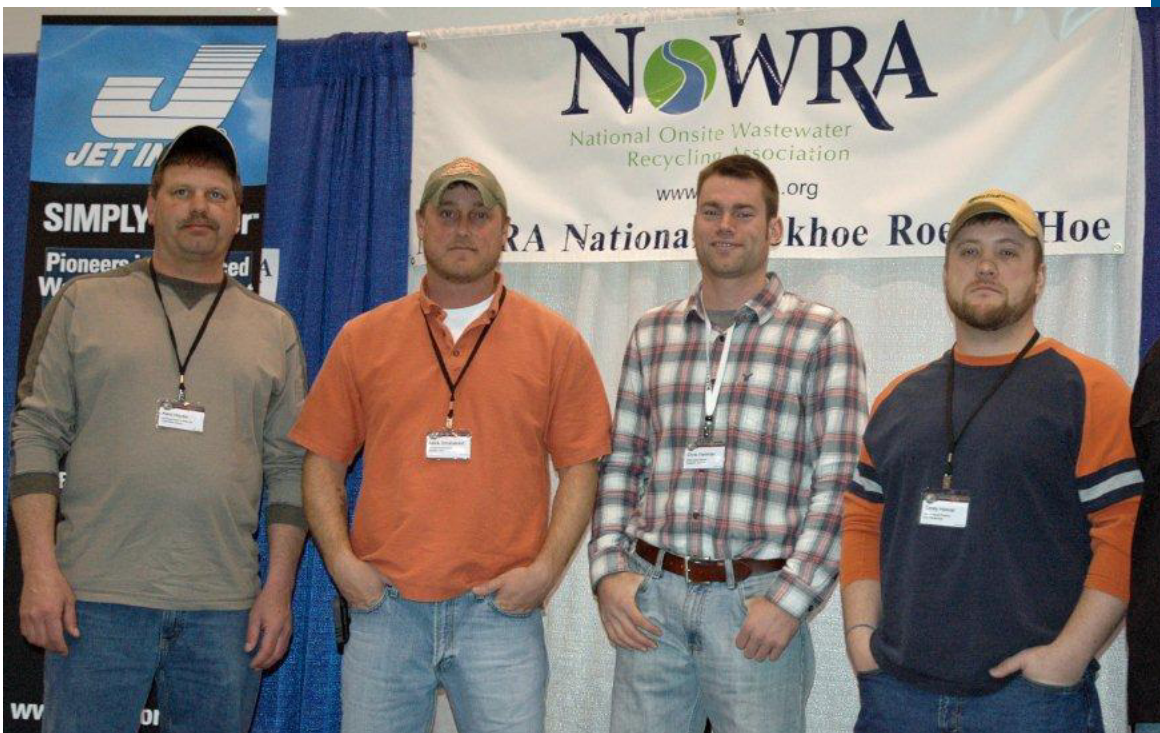
The fifth year of the Installer Academy was such a success that 2011 planning is already underway.

Backhoe Roe-D-Hoe:

The annual NOWRA National Backhoe Roe-D-Hoe was also contested at the Pumper Show immediately following the NOWRA Installer Academy on February 25th, 26th and 27th. Hootin' and hollarin' was heard throughout the exhibit hall as 76 contestants on Thursday and 85 contestants on Friday competed to be one of the top 5 to return on Saturday morning for the finals and a chance to win \$1,000.

Competition was brisk both days with sharp operators demonstrating several creative approaches at the three different events. The events included basketball, bowling and golf. The course was set up by **IHI Compact Excavator Sales LLC**. Thanks to IHI for their donation of the equipment for the event and to **Jet Inc.** for the \$1,000 first-place prize.

The grand prize winner for 2010 was Corey Hoover from Erie, PA, who saved the fastest time of the competition for the finals. Great job, Corey!



The top 5 finalists from NOWRA's 2010 Backhoe Roe-D-Hoe are (from left to right) Kent House (Indiana), Runner-up Mike Smallwood (Ohio), Chris Hartman (Kentucky), Grand Prize winner Corey Hoover (Pennsylvania), and third place winner Vincent Sullivan (Texas).

(Photography by Ed Wodalski, COLE Publishing)

For a complete listing of the Roe-D-Hoe times and some more photos, check out the NOWRA Installer Academy web page at <http://www.nowra.org/academy.html>.

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New Homeowner Folders Available

The NOWRA Technical Practices, Education, and Marketing Committees have joined forces to revise the popular NOWRA Homeowner's Onsite System Guide and Record Keeping Folder. This folder is ideal for file cabinet storage and is the perfect place for a homeowner to keep all of their paperwork and documents in reference to their onsite system.

In addition it provides the user with a basic septic system education, a list of "Dos and Don'ts", and a comprehensive inventory of what is included at a site. The new folder includes an area on the back page for the inclusion of contact information for an organization, service provider, pumper, installer, etc.

Download a PDF version of the homeowner's folder - or an order form - on the NOWRA web site at http://www.nowra.org/onsite_guide.html.

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New WERF Reports Available on Decentralized Systems

Non-traditional Indicators of System Performance (DEC2R06) assesses on-line sensing and data acquisition technologies applicable for decentralized wastewater treatment systems to provide real-time information on performance and operation. The results of the study can provide guidance to wastewater facility managers, operators, and designers when selecting real-time sensors and SCADA systems for decentralized facilities. Improved remote monitoring can provide a cost-effective means to manage and improve the performance of decentralized wastewater treatment plants. The study involved five main areas of investigation including a literature and technical review, development of monitoring needs, identification of sensor capabilities, identification of SCADA capability, and identifying research needs. Published by WERF. 268 pages. Online PDF. (2010)

To download the report, click here:

<http://www.werf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&Template=/CustomSource/Research/PublicationProfile.cfm&id=DEC2R06>

Decentralized Case Studies Provide Examples of Success

Across the U.S., researchers, private companies, advocates, and state regulatory agencies are developing innovative ways to advance the decentralized wastewater treatment approach. These practices provide "building blocks" for future success in the sector. A new WERF funded report includes examples of best practices in decentralized wastewater treatment success cited in the newly issued Case Studies: Building Blocks for Decentralized Wastewater (05DEC3SGb).

This document is one of four products issued as an update to the Advanced On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Management Market Study conducted in 2000. The reports were developed and produced by the Coalition for Alternative Wastewater Treatment, which is one of WERF's partners on the National Decentralized Water Resources Capacity Development.

Collectively, these reports provide updated decentralized market information regarding the

status of regulations, management, technology use, funding, training programs, and research and demonstration projects in each of the 50 states. A state-by-state literature review was conducted and individual state reports are provided. The white paper identifies a number of strategies for expanded use of advanced decentralized designs.

To find out more about the report, click here:

http://www.werf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Decentralized_Systems&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=13559

New Onsite Installation Guidance Provides Best Practices

A new WERF-funded training guide will help ensure utility managers properly install onsite wastewater treatment systems to avoid potential operational problems or failures.

The training program, (DEC10SG06) provides best practice standards for onsite wastewater treatment system installation processes. It covers guidance on key planning decisions, such as materials and equipment selection, as well as soil and site concepts, to help managers learn how to protect the site during installation and inspections.

This product was developed and produced by The Consortium of Institutes for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment (CIDWT), which is one of WERF's partners on the National Decentralized Water Resources Capacity Development Project (NDWRCDP). This training program was piloted by CIDWT at the 2007 and 2008 NOWRA Installer Academies in Las Vegas, and most recently utilized as part of the 2010 Installer Academy in Louisville, KY.

To find out more about this training guide, click here:

http://www.werf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Decentralized_Systems&CONTENTID=13478&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm

For more information about any of these WERF projects, please contact WERF Senior Program Director Jeff Moeller at jmoeller@werf.org.

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Marketing Committee Needs Your Help

NOWRA is seeking volunteers with any combination of marketing, copy writing, graphics, and/or web experience.

NOWRA Marketing Committee

Role: Develop effective communications and promotional strategies with external partners and other interests that achieve greater public awareness of NOWRA's programs and work on behalf of the onsite industry.

Responsibilities: Work with the Executive Director and the NOWRA Board to implement identified strategies that showcase the achievements of NOWRA, its members, and its national leadership in water quality protection through production of the Association's publications, website, and homeowners' educational materials.

To join this committee, please email your contact information to info@nowra.org.

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New Secretary/Treasurer Announcement

The NOWRA Board would like to give recognition and thanks to our past Secretary/Treasurer,

Brian McQuestion. Brian, for the past 5 years, was instrumental in keeping NOWRA afloat through not only these current tough economic times, but also through changes in the association's management.

In early 2010, Brian moved on from his post as the NOWRA Secretary/Treasurer position and we wish him well.

Greg Graves, who was an existing NOWRA Board member and Chair of the Finance Committee, has assumed the role of Secretary/Treasurer. The NOWRA Board endorsed and approved Graves' appointment at the February Directors meeting.

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WEF Leadership Training Available for NOWRA Leaders April 7

NOWRA's affiliate organizations have an exciting opportunity for leadership training that is a direct benefit of NOWRA's newfound relationship with the Water Environment Association (WEF).

WEF is providing a leadership training event as part of their Member Association (MA) Leaders Summit in Alexandria, VA on April 7, 2010. A similar workshop will be held during the annual conference at WEFTEC in October in New Orleans, LA. Attendance is mostly comprised of leaders in the position of an Executive Director, association administrator, Association Board members, i.e. Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and committee chairs from all over North America. **WEF is pleased to offer this to NOWRA's leaders as space allows.**

WEF typically canvases their leadership and asks what is on their mind. How can they be of help? This year there were 6 topics that the leaders across the board stated they would like to have WEF provide sessions on. These topics are:

- Volunteer Leadership Training
- How to Obtain/Retain Board Members and Committee Chairs
- Board Assessments - How to Evaluate and Plan for Improvement
- Succession Planning
- Marketing Association Activities
- Managing Revenue to Sustain and Grow your Association

This opportunity is ONLY available to NOWRA's currently committed 2010 affiliate organizations. There is no cost for this training and you will need to pre-register with WEF for this event. Space is limited and is on a first come, first serve basis. WEF will verify the requested attendees with NOWRA to confirm affiliation status. For more details on attending this special opportunity for NOWRA affiliates from WEF, you must contact the NOWRA office at (800) 966-2942.

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There is Still Time to Sign Up to be a 2010 Business Benefit Program Member

Thank you to the 2010 Business Benefit Program (BBP) sponsors. A complete list of our 2010 BBPs can be found on our website: <http://www.nowra.org/sponsors.html>, and at www.septiclocator.com

Still looking to renew or sign up your company as a NOWRA BBP? Hurry and be listed

on the next Onsite Journal! Call Ann Gryphan at NOWRA Headquarters today at (800) 966-2942!

New Business Benefit Program members since the last issue of E-News include:

Loyal Supporter – Delta Environmental
Loyal Supporter – Jet, Inc.

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Reduced Individual Membership Rate

At the December 2009 Board of Directors meeting, the NOWRA Board approved a reduced individual, non-government membership rate for 2010 of \$95. This membership is available to those individuals who do not belong to a NOWRA affiliated association.

For a listing of the current NOWRA affiliates or for information on obtaining membership, please visit our membership web page at <http://www.nowra.org/join.html> or call the NOWRA office at (800) 966-2942.

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Online NOWRA Resource Library & Volunteer Opportunity

The NOWRA Executive Committee has appointed a Task Force to develop an on-line Resource Library concerning onsite and decentralized wastewater treatment. This project was included in the 2008 NOWRA Strategic Plan as an essential service that NOWRA will provide to its members and affiliate groups. Some sections of the resource library will be open to the general public, but the majority of information included can only be accessed by NOWRA members.

The Library will include NOWRA conference materials, presentations, and white papers and other available research and case study materials as well as links to other information such as NOWRA affiliate newsletters, state/local regulations and informational/educational web sites, homeowner educational materials, training opportunities and manuals, septage disposal information, university resource materials, and national and regional U.S. EPA onsite information.

Abstracts from 2008 and 2009 published literature sources concerning decentralized wastewater treatment technologies, management, fate of pollutants, gray water use, and financing will be also be available.

In addition, educational information concerning products and services of NOWRA Business Benefit Sponsors will be featured in the Resource Library.

We need your help to make this Resource Library serve your needs and want to hear from you about what you would like to see included in the Resource Library.

Please help us also in the following areas:

- 1) Identify links to information that could be included on the web site (we will seek approval for links before we add them to the site).
- 2) Provide informational and educational resources that could be directly included on the web site (with consideration of copyright laws).

Please send your information and comments to Judy Sims, Task Force Chair at

judith.sims@usu.edu.

Thanks for your support with this project. The Resource Library will be on-line within the next several months.

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April Issue of OSJ Coming Soon

The NOWRA Board of Directors and Editorial Board are very pleased to once again team up with COLE Publishing and the Onsite Installer magazine for the upcoming April issue. Plans are already underway for the July issue, so if you have any suggestions, please send them to info@nowra.org and include "OSJ Editorial Board" in the subject line.

The April issue of the Onsite Journal will only be sent to the 2010 NOWRA membership, so if you have not renewed your membership or if your state is no longer affiliated with NOWRA, don't miss an issue. Sign up for your 2010 membership today. Check out the new reduced rate of \$95!

Both NOWRA and COLE Publishing are also very interested in your feedback on this collaboration, so please also send any comments or suggestions to us at info@nowra.org.

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Call for Papers, St. Louis Conference

CALL FOR PAPERS - Surface Discharge: Challenges and Solutions

The National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) welcomes abstracts for papers to be presented at the NOWRA 19th Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri on October 25-27, 2010. Hosted by the Missouri Smallflows Organization, St. Louis will serve as a great location in the heart of the U.S. on the Mississippi River. This conference will highlight issues related to Surface Discharges: what can be done, what are some appropriate technologies, and what are some successes as documented with case studies.

The NOWRA annual conference serves as the premier conference for the conveyance of new research, regulations and policy, experience and practices in the decentralized wastewater industry.

NOWRA's 19th annual conference will be focusing on surface discharging issues, but abstracts covering the broad range of topics relating to onsite/decentralize wastewater treatment are encouraged. The deadline for submission of abstracts is April 15, 2010.

For more information on the Call for Papers or to submit your abstract online, see the NOWRA website at http://www.nowra.org/annual_conference.html or contact Sara Heger at sheger@umn.edu.

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About NOWRA

The National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) is the largest organization within the U.S. dedicated solely to educating and representing members within the onsite and decentralized industry. NOWRA has Affiliates, with constituent local groups throughout the U.S. and Canada.

This e-mail was sent by: **NOWRA**
16 N. Carroll St., Suite 900, Madison WI 53703

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