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November-December 2010 e-News

From the NOWRA Marketing Committee - *Thank you to all who contributed stories and ideas. This member communication belongs to each of us, so keep the news and ideas coming.*

People Caring About Water

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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 Board Election Results

Congratulations to NOWRA's new members of the Board of Directors. There were five new board members elected: Robert Rubin (Academic/Researcher category), Eugene Bassett (Installer/Contractor), Michael Hines (Engineer/Designer), Eric Larson (Service Provider), and Robert Mayer (Supplier/Vendor). Each new director will begin their three-year term starting December 1, 2010.

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New NOWRA Executive Committee

December 1, 2010 also marks the beginning term of NOWRA's new leadership team. Dick Otis will serve as President, Tom Fritts will serve as

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

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>

Vice President, Greg Graves will continue as Secretary/Treasurer, and Tom Groves will move into the Past President position. Jerry Stonebridge rotates off the Executive Committee after having served two-year terms as Vice President, President, and Past President. Thanks Jerry for all of your hard work and the many hours you contributed as a leader of this association during a very challenging period!

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2010 Annual Conference Wrap-up

More than 150 professionals gathered in St. Louis October 25-28 for NOWRA's 19 Annual Technical Conference. The conference theme of "Surface Discharge: Challenges and Solutions" was addressed in several ways. The opening General Session brought several perspectives on the issue of surface discharges in the Midwest. Alex Owutaka, an official from EPA Region 7, and Morris Beaton of EPA Region 5 shared how their regions are working to reduce surface discharges. Rep. Mike Tryon of Illinois discussed in detail the new legislation in Illinois intended to drastically reduce surface discharges in that state. The session concluded with a panel which included Dan Olson (Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources), Nathan Johnson (Ohio Dept. of Health), and the previous speakers on a wide ranging panel discussion on the topic. A more detailed summary of the issues addressed in the General Session will appear in a later edition of this newsletter. In addition, there were several presentations on the topic of surface discharge, and a full-day Contractor Track to help installers, designers and service providers better understand how sub-surface discharging systems work. The latter, full-day session consisted of technical presentations from NOWRA BBP partners who manufacture either treatment or dispersal systems, plus moderated roundtable discussions on those technologies.

Other highlights of the conference included a Tabletop Expo in which nearly two dozen companies participated, a field trip showing a number of onsite system installations on challenging sites in St. Charles County, MO, and the Annual Business Meeting (the [business meeting presentation is available by clicking here.](#))

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Mark Your Calendar for NOWRA 2011!

Plan to join your industry colleagues in Columbus, Ohio June 17 - 20, 2011 for NOWRA's 2011 Annual Technical Conference. This conference will be held jointly with the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) and the State Onsite Regulators Alliance (SORA). Much of the onsite/decentralized educational program will be developed jointly between the three groups, and the exhibition will be a joint effort between the three organizations as well. Information and registration materials will be available shortly, so watch your mailbox for more details!

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2011 Business Benefit Program Information Available

Does your company provide products or services to the onsite wastewater community? If so, you should consider becoming a Business Benefit Program partner with NOWRA. BBP partners gain tremendous exposure and access to NOWRA's members across a wide variety of services – at a cost that is less than half of what a company would pay to obtain those services on an individual basis. In fact, many opportunities aren't even available to companies which are not BBP members. In addition, when NOWRA introduces new programs, such as the Contractor Track at the Annual Conference (see above), BBP partners are first in line to take advantage of those opportunities. [For more information, click here.](#)

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Dues Restructuring Task Force Being Formed – Volunteers Needed

At its meeting in St. Louis, the NOWRA Board of Directors determined that it would be worthwhile to take a close look at the NOWRA's dues structure and determine if changes would be beneficial. The Board designated Past President Tom Groves to head a task force which will focus on this question, and we are seeking volunteers interested in serving on the task force. The ideal candidates would include current or former leaders from state affiliate organizations or those with experience in examining the dues structure of other organizations; however, any NOWRA member wishing to participate will be considered. If you are interested in participating in this task force, which will begin and end its work during the 2011 calendar year, please contact Executive Director Eric Casey no later than December 13, 2010, at 800-966-2942 or email him at wecasey@nowra.org

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Free Decentralized Wastewater Seminars

A series of six one-hour webinars on individual and clustered (decentralized) wastewater system design, management, and use in protecting surface and ground waters is still underway, with the final two sessions of this program being held on December 7 and December 14. The training sessions are open to consultants, design engineers, service professionals, and regulators at no cost through a university-based watershed management webinar program.

The US Environmental Protection Agency, the Conservation Technology Information Center, and Purdue University are co-sponsoring the training to improve the level of understanding and knowledge on how conventional and high-performance treatment systems work, how they're designed and managed, and how to incorporate them into a wastewater management program. The focus of the December 7 session is Management Approaches for Decentralized Systems, and the December 14 session will explore Integrated Water Resource Management. Webcasts will be held at 12 noon EST. Registration information and the full schedule is posted at <http://ctic.org/resourcedisplay/384/>

Past webinars are archived (slides and audio) at Purdue University's Watershed Leadership Program web site: <https://engineering.purdue.edu/~iwla/webinars/wastewater2010/index.html>

For more information, contact Angie Williams at williams@ctic.org

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News Roundup

Here is a short sampling of industry related articles which recently appeared in the general news media.

Bellingham, WA -- [Septic system inspections turn up problems in Whatcom County](#)

Harrisburg, PA -- [Pennsylvania Invests \\$174 Million For Statewide Water Infrastructure Projects](#)

Ft. Walton Beach, FL -- [Fight against septic inspections is not over](#)

Delaware -- [DNREC asks public help on environmental priorities](#)

Brewster, MA -- [Should wastewater planning be regional or local](#)

Virginia -- [Virginia Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan Submitted](#)

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Help Your Customers Help Themselves with NOWRA's Homeowners Folders

A new and updated version of the popular NOWRA Homeowner's Onsite System Guide and Record Keeping Folder is available.

The Homeowner Folder is the perfect place for your customers to keep and store all of their paperwork and documents related to their onsite system.

- * It's easy to store – fits in any standard file cabinet
- * It gives the homeowner a basic education about their septic system – what it is and how it works
- * It provides them with a list of do's and don'ts to help them preserve the life of their system
- * It includes a place for including all critical information specific to the homeowner's onsite system – permits, system description, an inventory of

key components and dispersal methods.

Plus, it includes a place for you to include your contact information.

You can download a PDF version of the homeowner's folder on the NOWRA web site, http://www.nowra.org/onsite_guide.html. Better still; download a copy of the order form from the website to order a quantity of these sturdy folders from NOWRA. Quantities up to 25 copies are just \$.75 each. Discounts apply to orders of more than 25. Order 100 or more copies of the folder and pay just \$.40 each! Shipping is extra.

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If Your State Is Not a NOWRA Affiliate, You Can Still Be a NOWRA Member

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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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 groups throughout the U.S. and Canada.

This e-mail was sent by:

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