

NOWRA E-News November 2012



Published by the National Onsite Wastewater
Recycling Association

November, 2012

EPA Rolls Out SepticSmart Homeowner Education Program

If your company provides onsite wastewater products or services for homeowners, you now have more weapons in your arsenal for educating homeowners about proper operation and maintenance of septic systems.



The Environmental Protection Agency has just rolled out **SepticSmart**, a long-awaited national program to promote proper septic system care and maintenance by homeowners. Full details can be found at the [EPA's SepticSmart web page](#)

This program, which was initially suggested by NOWRA and other members of EPA's Decentralized Wastewater Management Partnership, provides a range of tools (including many in Spanish), for industry practitioners and local governments to help educate homeowners. Some of the tools in the kit are designed to be printed and distributed locally. Others are electronic-based.

If your company has a website, you should consider downloading the graphic above and linking it to the [EPA's SepticSmart web page](#). ***This will help to reinforce the communications you have with homeowners about proper care and maintenance of their systems, and will lend credibility to your message and to your business.***

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Septic Locator

NOWRA's [Septic Locator](#) will connect you with a wastewater professional in your area.

NOWRA's 2012 Gold Business Benefit Program Partners

[Bio-Microbics, Inc](#)
913-422-0707

[Infiltrator Systems, Inc.](#)
860-577-7106

[Rid-X® Septic System Treatment](#)
973-404-2628

[Onsite Installer Magazine](#)
800-994-7990

New Members Elected for NOWRA's 2012-2015 Board of Directors

Results are in from NOWRA's 2012 -2015 Board of Director Elections, and the winners are:

1. Robert D. Himschoot, President, Crews Environmental, Ft. Myers, FL (Installer Category)
2. James Vincent. Liquid Waste Specialist, New Mexico Environment Department, Santa Fe, NM (Regulator Category)
3. David Ritchie, Zaring Septic and Drain Service, Crestwood, KY (Service Provider Category)

Each newly-elected member's term will be for three years and will start December 1, 2012. Congratulations!

In addition, Allison Blodig of Bio-Microbics, Inc, Shawnee, KS was appointed by the NOWRA Board to fill the remainder of Bob Mayer's term. Mr. Mayer, one of two representatives in the Manufacturer Category, was appointed to the Executive Committee.

New NOWRA Leadership Begins Term

Effective December 1, NOWRA's new leadership will begin its term:

- **Tom Fritts** of Residential Sewage Treatment Co. in Grandview, MO will become **NOWRA President**.
- **Greg Graves** of Norweco in Norwich, OH will be **Vice President**.
- **Robert Mayer** of American Manufacturing Co., Inc. in Elkwood, VA will serve as **Secretary/Treasurer**.
- Outgoing President **Richard Otis** (Otis Environmental Consultants in Madison, WI) will become the **Immediate Past President**.

The leadership team for NOWRA serves as the association's Executive Committee. They meet monthly to address policy and management issues. Their term is for two years.

Many thanks to Tom Groves for his service on the Board and Executive Committee. His term as Immediate Past President concludes November 30.

In addition, NOWRA expresses its appreciation to the members of the Board of Directors whose terms also expire November 30:

- Tony Birrittieri, Petersen Resources, LLC, Fredonia, WI
- Brent Reagor, Eastern Seaboard Strategic Solutions, Charleston, SC
- Doug Jatcko, Front Range Precast Concrete, Inc, Boulder, CO

EPA Position Papers on Benefits and Advantages of Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Now Available

The EPA Decentralized Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Partnership has developed a series of four fact sheets that highlight

[PPG Accu-Tab Wastewater Tablets](#)
800-245-2974
[Geomatrix, LLC](#)
860-510-0730
[Presby Environmental](#)
800-473-5298

how decentralized wastewater treatment systems can be sustainable and appropriate options for communities and homeowners. [They can be downloaded by clicking here.](#)

The fact sheets are intended to provide information to the public and to state, local, and industry officials on the benefits and types of decentralized wastewater treatment systems. Each fact sheet focuses on one of four topic areas, demonstrating how decentralized wastewater treatment can be: (1) a sensible solution; (2) cost-effective and economical; (3) green and sustainable; and (4) protective of the environment, public health, and water quality.

EPA Releases Draft Model Program to Assist State Septic Programs in Managing Water Quality Impacts in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

EPA has released a [draft 'Model Program for Onsite Systems Management in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed'](#) for public comment.

The draft provides technical information regarding the elements of a model program for onsite wastewater treatment systems, incorporating key recommendations to effectively and efficiently manage nitrogen treatment systems. The document is part of EPA's effort to collaborate with state and local partners in promoting nitrogen reductions from onsite systems. **EPA is seeking public comment on the draft model program until December 28, 2012.**

NOWRA members are encouraged to review and comment on this document. While the specific scope of this document only addresses the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, many elements of this document may be included in EPA actions related to other watersheds across the US.

According to EPA, the draft model program will help provide state onsite programs with the tools that they need to more effectively manage nutrients entering the Bay from onsite systems, which will help improve water quality in the Bay. Development of the draft model program is part of the Agency's efforts to implement Executive Order 13508 on Chesapeake Bay Protection and Restoration, issued on May 12, 2009, which renewed the federal commitment to restoring and protecting the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

For additional information go to:
<http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net/>

Upcoming Events

62nd Michigan Onsite Wastewater Conference

Jan 8-10, 2013
East Lansing, MI
[Details](#)

2013 IOWWA Annual Conference

Jan. 9-10, 2013
Des Moines, IA
[Details](#)

WPCA Winter Convention

Jan 15-16, 2013
Middleton, WI
[Details](#)

OOWA Annual Conference and Trade Show

January 15-16, 2013
Columbus, OH
[Details](#)

CPOW 2013 Educational Conference

January 17-18, 2013
Denver, CO
[Details](#)

17th Annual MSO Convention

January 22-23, 2013
Columbia, MO
[Details](#)

WOWRA/WLWCA Winter Conference

January 24-26, 2013
Stevens Point, WI
[Details](#)

WOSSA 17th Annual Conference

January 25-26, 2013
Yakima, WA
[Details](#)

MOWA 2013 Annual Convention and Exhibitor Showcase

January 29-31, 2013
Alexandria, MN
[Details](#)

KSFA 2013 Annual Conference and Backhoe Roe-D-Hoe®

February 6-8, 2013
Hutchinson, KS
[Details](#)

WEF Disinfection and Public Health Conference 2013

February 24-26, 2013
Indianapolis, IN
[Details](#)

2013 Pumper and Cleaner Environmental Expo

February 25-28, 2013

Indianapolis, IN

[Details](#)

About NOWRA

NOWRA is the only national organization which represents all segments of the onsite wastewater industry. For more information or to join, visit www.nowra.org or call 800-966-2942.

Contact Information

Questions about NOWRA? Call Executive Director Eric Casey at 800-966-2942 or email to wecasey@comcast.net

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