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May 2011 e-News

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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.*

Five Great Reasons to Attend the Onsite Wastewater Systems Summit!

If you haven't yet made plans to attend the Onsite Wastewater Systems Summit, June 17-20, 2011 in Columbus, this is an excellent time to make your plans! Here are five great reasons to attend:

- **You'll come home with ideas you can use.** It really only takes one really good idea you can implement to justify your investment in conference attendance, and most studies show that attendees typically walk away with at least three ideas they can put into practice right away. Whether it's through the classroom, a conversation with an exhibitor, or a hallway chat with a colleague, you will get ideas that will help you.
- **You'll expand your network of contacts.** This will be the largest national meeting addressing onsite industry issues in 2011. This combined conference is the national meeting for NOWRA, NEHA, and SORA, providing you with the chance to widen your network.
- **You'll stay on top of the latest developments in state and federal regulations.** SORA is bringing dozens of top state regulators from around the country to the conference to discuss challenges and new initiatives in onsite system regulations. EPA will also be strongly represented at the meeting.
- **You'll find education to meet your needs.** No matter your specialty, the education program is packed with sessions that will broaden your knowledge and understanding of key issues.
- **You'll see the folks with whom you do business.** Industry manufacturers know that the "Wastewater Alley" section of the exhibition is their best opportunity to connect with industry

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**[2011 GOLD BUSINESS I
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Presby Environmental
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<http://www.presbyenvironmental.com>
Rid-X Septic System Treat
973-404-2628
<http://www.rid-x.com>

leaders like you. You'll see the latest innovations in onsite systems in the exhibit hall.

You can get full details and [register for the Summit by clicking here](#). Don't delay! Spaces are filling up and airfares will rise shortly (see next article)

Not a member of NOWRA, but want to attend the Summit? Join NOWRA before the OWS Summit and you will save \$150 on your registration! NOWRA individual memberships are just \$95; the NOWRA member discount to register for the Summit is \$150! You do the math. Take advantage of a year of membership in NOWRA and save money at the same time? Friends, this is known as a no-brainer. To join NOWRA, simply fill out [the membership application](#) and return it to NOWRA with payment.

Note: If you are a member of one of these [state organizations](#), you are already a member of NOWRA and you will save \$150 on your Summit registration. And if you live/work in a state which is affiliated with NOWRA, but you aren't a member of the state association, by joining now, you will save \$150 on your OWS Summit registration. In most cases, state dues are less than the registration discount, which means you get membership in **two** organizations and still save money! That's known as a double no brainer!

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Tips for Cheap Air Travel to the OWS Summit. Book NOW!

There are two main ways to get to Columbus, driving or flying. Fifty percent of the US population lives within a day's drive of Columbus, so that might be your best option. However, if you plan to fly, here are a few ways to save on airfare (courtesy of FareCompare.com):

- **Book now.** Airfares for most flights go up within 14 days of departure. **You should book by June 2 if you plan to arrive in Columbus on June 17.**
- Tuesday afternoon through Thursday afternoon is the best time to book.
- **The cheapest travel days are Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday.** Friday, Sunday and Monday are the most expensive days.
- **The cheapest flights** tend to be very early in the morning, right after lunch, and during the dinner hour.
- **Airlines typically announce sales and discounts on Monday evening.** During the course of the next day, other, competing airlines will match price discounts. As a result, the greatest inventory of cheap seats tends to occur around 3 pm on Tuesday afternoon. Airlines typically yank their sale prices Thursday evening, so you have a short window in which get the best prices.

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NEW! NOWRA Member Benefit – Discount Equipment Financing

NOWRA has partnered with Wells Fargo to provide NOWRA members with discounts on interest rates and document fees for equipment purchases in excess of \$50,000.

Wells Fargo's Specialty Vehicles Division is offering NOWRA members a quarter percent discount. (25 basis points) off of the prevailing interest rate for purchases of vehicles or related equipment which are financed through their division. If the going rate is 6%, NOWRA members will be able to apply for a loan at a 5.75% rate. In addition, Wells Fargo will reduce its document fees charge from \$500 to \$350.

Over the life of a \$50,000 loan financed for five years, the savings for NOWRA members would be approximately \$500.00. As with any loan request, applicants must still qualify for financing under the terms and conditions of the lending authority.

This membership benefit is unique for NOWRA members. No other onsite association is able to offer this discount to its members.

It's easy to take advantage of this program. Simply email NOWRA's Executive Director at wecasey@comcast.net and he will forward the special application and address to which your application should be sent.

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News from the EPA Decentralized MOU Group

Two developments of interest to NOWRA members are expected to emerge as a result of efforts of the EPA Decentralized MOU Group of which NOWRA is a member:

- **Public Relations Campaign.** EPA is moving into the marketing test phase of a campaign to educate consumers about how to manage their septic systems. The campaign consists of a series of illustrated messages and a link to a section on the EPA website about properly caring for septic systems. NOWRA is working with EPA to ensure that its members who work with homeowners have access to these tools
- **Position Paper on Decentralized Systems.** Following up on WERF's multi-year effort to develop decentralized tools and research, the EPA MOU Group is working on a position paper to help educate key stakeholders – communities, regulators, engineers and others – about the multiple benefits decentralized wastewater treatment systems can provide.

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Wastewater Education & NOWRA To Offer Distance Learning Seminars on Innovative Onsite Wastewater Financing and Management Programs

Wastewater Education, in partnership with NOWRA, will be offering two web-based, interactive and real-time distance learning seminars on June 13.

Both seminars will be case studies of innovative approaches to addressing problems which many communities face: How to better manage individual onsite wastewater systems within their jurisdiction, and how to help homeowners finance needed repairs/replacement of failing onsite systems.

The first seminar will look in depth at the Otter Tail Water Management District, a small regional program in Western Minnesota which is an excellent example of an affordable and effective program for managing both individual and cluster onsite wastewater systems. This session will be led by Sara Heger, an

extension engineer with the University of Minnesota's Water Resource Center (and past chair of NOWRA's Education Committee). **This seminar will be held June 13, 2011, at 1:30 pm EST.**

The second seminar will examine Enterprise Cascadia's Hood Canal Septic Loan program. The program is a region-wide effort serving several counties adjacent to Washington's Hood Canal and is intended to provide a straightforward way for low and middle income homeowners to secure grants or loans to repair or replace failing septic systems. Cascadia is a non-profit financial institution – funded by both private and public capital – which oversees all aspects of homeowner financing of septic systems, from initial underwriting/risk assessment to billing and collection. Terry Hull, who runs the septic loan program for Enterprise Cascadia, will lead the session and offer suggestions about how to replicate it elsewhere. **This seminar will be held June 13, 2011 at 2:45 pm EST.**

There is no cost to participate in these sessions, and *NOWRA members are encouraged to invite officials from their local communities to attend these sessions as well.* To reserve your space and to get more detail regarding the program, contact Dendra J. Best at 231-233-1806 or send an email to info@wastewatereducation.org.

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Land Application Demonstration Workshop to Be Held June 22-23

The National Association of Wastewater Transporters, in cooperation with NOWRA's affiliate POWRA and four other organizations, will be hosting a Land Application Demonstration Workshop June 22-23 in Carlisle, PA. The workshop is geared to present local government officials how land application is done safely, effectively and economically. It is also designed to give the practicing professional vital information about how to stay in compliance with EPA 503 regulations. Topics include: Regulations and Land Application, Biosolids and Septage, How to treat before application, Derry Township's successful Class A program, an Onsite Application Demonstration, Choosing a Site, Crop Selection, Soil & Site Characteristics, and Loading Rates and Recordkeeping. The cost for the two-day program is \$150. For more details, please visit www.nawt.org or [click here](#).

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News From Around the Nation

Florida: Legislation to repeal Florida's septic tank inspection law does not pass. However, the moratorium on inspections is extended for an additional year. [More:](#)

California: [Commentary: Water board to consider new approach on septic systems](#)

Montana: Interesting article on how small communities in Montana are dealing with aging onsite and centralized wastewater infrastructure. [More](#)

National: Great article for local officials considering decentralized wastewater solutions. [More](#)

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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:

National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association

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