FOWA Re-Affiliates with NOWRA

The Florida Onsite Wastewater Association's Board of Directors recently voted to re-affiliate with NOWRA as a Supporting Affiliate. According to Roxanne Groover, FOWA's Executive Director, FOWA felt it was important for their organization - one of the largest in the industry - to be engaged at a national level on issues which have an impact on the industry.

"NOWRA is delighted to welcome FOWA back into the organization, and we look forward to working with them on issues of mutual interest, both nationally and within Florida," said NOWRA President Dick Otis.

FOWA will host their 2012 Convention & Trade Show August 2-4 in Daytona Beach, FL.
Details

Call for Candidates 2012-2015 NOWRA Board of Directors

Interested in serving on NOWRA's Board of Directors? NOWRA is accepting nominations for open seats on its board for the 2012 - 2015 term. There are three seats open in this year's election: Service Provider, Compliance Monitor/Regulator, and Installer. All NOWRA members in good standing are eligible to serve. However, you must submit your candidate application no later than August 10, 2012 in order to have your application considered. Details.

NOWRA Affiliates Are Eligible to Participate in

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
- PPG Accu-Tab Wastewater Tablets

Details
WEFTEC 2012 Leadership Training

As part of NOWRA’s partnership with the Water Environment Federation, Volunteer leaders from any of NOWRA’s state affiliates are eligible to attend and participate in WEFTEC 2012 Leadership Day. Registration is free for NOWRA members. Full program details are still pending, but you learn more by visiting here.

NOWRA to Provide Advanced Designer Training

In response to a request from its Maryland affiliate MOWPA, NOWRA is developing a program for advanced designer training. The MOWPA program will be a three-day course involving a combination of classroom and field work, and will include both printed course materials for students and a test of knowledge. However, the curriculum can be lengthened or shortened depending on local needs, and includes a section on state/local regulations affecting system design. If you or your organization is interested in having NOWRA produce a similar program for your area, please contact Executive Director Eric Casey at 1-800-966-2942, or email at wecasey@comcast.net.

Lessons Learned -- Design Changes

Industry professionals need to be aware of the types of risks they face in their day-to-day activities and how they can protect themselves and their businesses in case something really bad happens. In this installment of an occasional series from Alteris on risk management, we discuss the need to involve all parties affected by a change to a septic system design -- local regulator, homeowner, and builder -- and how neglecting to do so can lead to liability exposure. This article is provided by Alteris, which is the endorsed NOWRA provider of the SeptiCover Errors and Omissions Insurance for Designers and Inspectors.

Read the article

Funding for Onsite Systems

One of the bigger challenges facing the industry is securing the funding needed to help repair or replace septic systems which are no longer operating properly. The links below outline funding approaches in two states, along with information from EPA on current potential sources for funding.

Minnesota:
The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has issued more than 5,000 loans for septic system improvements through the Agricultural Best Management Practices (AgBMP) Loan Program. The program provides low interest loans to qualifying farmers and landowners to help finance projects that prevent or reduce water pollution.

More

Ohio: Because decentralized systems fall under the Environmentally Innovative Green Project Reserve category of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Ohio Department of Health was able to secure $3.2 million in funding for the repair/replacement of 470 home
wastewater systems across Ohio. Details can be found here

EPA has recently published a list of funding opportunities from various sources. Roughly $167 million in funding opportunities are identified here.

**September 11, 2012 is National Protect Your Groundwater Day**
The National Ground Water Association has named September 11 as National Protect Your Groundwater Day to bring attention to actionable steps that every person is able to take to protect groundwater supplies and to conserve water usage. Among the steps it advises is to encourage homeowners to ensure that their onsite systems are functioning properly and being well-maintained. More information can be found by visiting their webpage.

**Upcoming Events**

**FOWA 2012 Annual Convention & Trade Show**
August 2-4, 2012
Daytona Beach, FL
Details

**WEFTEC 2012**
September 30-October 3, 2012
New Orleans, LA
Details

**VOWRA Fall Conference & Trade Show**
October 7-9, 2012
Williamsburg, VA
Details

**DOWRA Annual Technical Conference**
October 15-16, 2012
Dover, DE
Details

**MOWPA 2012 Annual Conference**
November 5, 2012
Annapolis, MD
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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