

Happy Holidays



We wish all our members a wonderful holiday

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COWRA Brochures are available to our members at \$50.00 per 100, including shipping



CONNECTICUT ONSITE WASTEWATER RECYCLING ASSOCIATION
SUPPORTING CONNECTICUT AND OUR ENVIRONMENT
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December 2016

Season's Greetings

Letter from the President

Dear COWRA Members,

I would like to thank all our COWRA Member who attended our annual meeting held at the Manor Inn in Plantsville this year. I would also like to thank our sponsors Infiltrator Systems, Blake Equipment, Polylok, and Eljen Corp, for their generous support of our organization at our annual meeting.

I would like to remind our members that, beginning in 2017, the Technical Standards will be revised, our members will be aware of these changes as they begin their 2017 spring installs.

COWRA will be holding our 6-week installer course beginning January, 2017. This is a great refresher course for some of us and also can prepare any of your employees for the 2017 state exams.

I wish all of our members a Happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,
Frank R. Talarico

New Members Profile

Brenda Stepule, of Stepules Sanitation Service, Inc. joined us. Brenda is the owner of her company. Stepules Sanitation Services is located in Glastonbury, CT. Brenda's services include, pumping/cleaning, septic repairs, septic installs both commercial and residential and septic inspections. Brenda has been in business since 1993. To learn more about Stepules Sanitation, visit them on the web at www.stepules-sanitationservice.com.

New Members Profile - Continued

Chris Barcello, owner of CDB LLC, has re-joined us this year. Chris originally was a student in our 2000 Installer course and has held his license since then. He recently took the Pumpers course in 2015 prior to opening Barcello and Son Septic Service this fall. His business has expanded into pumping and cleaning tanks. His services include septic installation, repairs, inspections, and cleanings, as well as all types of excavating, grading, drainage, foundation work, oil tank removal, and environmental remediation's. He also offers complete stump removal, and excavation. He is an accredited installer of geothermal heating and air conditioning services. CDB LLC and Barcello and Son are located in Easton CT.

You can visit Chris on the web at:

www.amercanstumpremoval.com

www.barcelloseptic.com

Christopher W. Kerr is joining us; he will be our first 2017 new member. Chris took our 2015 installer course. He is the owner of C. W. Kerr LLC. His company is located in Old Lyme CT. His services include septic system installations, excavation, foundation work and construction. C. W. Kerr LLC. has been in business for four years, though he has worked in the septic industry for many years. To learn more about C.W. Kerr LLC please contact Chris at: chriswkerr@att.net

Article Concerning Septic Tank Depths

NOW IS THE TIME TO IMPROVE ON A GOOD IDEA

By: David Litchfield

A few years ago, the Department of Public Health made an attempt to improve the ease with which septic tanks can be serviced by setting a requirement that septic tank lids be brought to within one foot of the surface. While this requirement is laudable, one unexpected consequence of this regulation was the assumption that all septic tank lids would be in compliance of this regulation. Our field experience shows that this is often not the case. There is a need to revise the Connecticut Technical Standards to require septic tank lids to be brought to the surface. Doing so will have a positive impact on environmental issues while reducing costs for both the customer and our companies.

Need to Know They Are There

Septic tanks not easily accessed at the surface stand in direct contrast to the public's interest in the proper maintenance of small onsite wastewater systems and defeat many of the goals of our industry. By bringing tank lids to surface homeowners will be aware and reminded of their septic system and components. In the case of septic systems, out of sight is truly out of mind. Problematic systems will be easily identified, monitored and in turn remedied. Equally important, technicians will be able to quickly and safely provide services regardless of the seasonal conditions. Our industry's goal of consistent care, proper maintenance, and effective

diagnosis of issues related to septic systems will only be successful if septic tank lids are brought to the surface enabling their proper inspection and cleaning.

Costs Are Real

For the septic service industry, buried lids actually drive-up costs; they are not profit generators. Costs rise for both customer and company when tank lids need to be located and then dug. The extra time spent locating and digging reduces profits and passes on additional needless costs to the consumer. How much money is lost as a result of having to turn away service technicians from jobs where tanks cannot be located? This happens often due to lack of compliance with the regulation to be within one foot of the surface as well as inadequate/missing as-builts. Both issues are solved when lids are at the surface.

Finding the Unknown

As companies servicing tanks know, the search for unknown tank locations often take so long that it throws off their remaining scheduled service route. Additionally, very expensive trucks sit idle while employees search an often wrongfully believed tank location. Also, leaving covers to be dug exposes service technicians to the potential of injury and therefore their companies subjected to workmen's compensation claims.

Arguments Against

Arguments against placement of lids to surface have historically included: costs, potential odors, and issues of aesthetics. However, these arguments can easily be discredited. Today there are products available that make the cost of raising the openings the extra twelve inches insignificant. We now have properly fitting riser materials with gaskets that keep odors from migrating out of the system. Many new covers are designed to blend in with lawns which along with creatively designed islands and using simple mulch coverings can offer inexpensive and aesthetically pleasing landscapes.

In Everyone's Best Interest

The positive environmental impact of routinely cleaning and inspecting septic tanks and the reduction of costs to customers using these services are compelling reasons for revising the state standards that currently require all septic tank lids to be only within one foot of the surface. As a member of this association, I would like to ask that we lobby for a revision to the Connecticut Technical Standards thus requiring tank lids to be brought to the surface and have our representatives who sit on the Department of Public Health's Environmental Engineering Program's Code Advisory Committee support and lobby this at their next meeting. By revising the standards and requiring that septic tank lids be brought to the surface, we can improve our environment while reducing costs for service companies and customers alike.

Sincerely,
David Litchfield
The Christopher Bryant Company

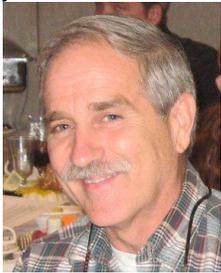
COWRA's 2016 Annual Meeting



On October 8, 2016 COWRA held its Annual Meeting at the Manor Inn in Plantsville CT.

Our members enjoyed a wonderful meal in the company of friends and associates. Members were able to visit with

our vendors, who spent time explaining their product lines. Our vendors generously offered products and gifts to add to the door prizes offered at our annual meeting. A brief business meeting was held to discuss the new Technical Standards that will be in place in January 2017 and other events of the past year.



Frank Talarico spoke briefly on current topics being discussed at the Code Advisory meeting and proposed changes to the 2017 Technical Standards.

David Evans spoke briefly regarding the Connecticut Legislature agenda affecting the Wastewater Industry. For many years, David Evans has watched over and guided COWRA through the legislation proposed for the wastewater industry.



Annual Meeting Vendors

COWRA would also like to thank the following vendors who sponsored this year's meeting and displayed their products for our members. Vendors kindly gave their time to discuss with our members their products lines. We are very thankful for their support for our organization and for their generous donation of door prizes.



We would like to thank Donna Fiorentino, and Mike and Kristin McLaughlin of Infiltrator Water Technologies, Inc. who sponsored our meeting.

Infiltrator Water Technologies products and services improve the performance of onsite systems by delivering greater infiltrative capacity, ensuring higher quality installations and making more efficient use of space. Their systems are approved in all 50 states and all 10 Canadian provinces with up to a 50% smaller footprint, as compared to stone and pipe systems. There are over 3

million Infiltrator Water Technologies systems installed and more than 25 million chambers in-ground worldwide. Their systems have stood the test of time with a history of performance since 1987. Today, nearly 5 of 10 onsite systems installed in the U.S. and Canada last year used Infiltrator products.

Infiltrator's trained sales reps work in the field to provide product, installation and technical support. Some of their products include:

The EZflow by Infiltrator is an environmentally friendly replacement to traditional stone and pipe drain fields using an engineered geosynthetic aggregate modular design. The EZflow system is designed to improve drain field performance by eliminating the fines, and reducing compaction and embedment associated with stone. Preassembled units include a 3" or 4" perforated pipe surrounded by aggregate and held in place with durable, high-strength netting.

Their Chamber systems are easy to install. Engineered for strength and performance, they have greater design flexibility including a smaller footprint as compared with stone and pipe, and are made from recycled materials. These advantages of Infiltrator chambers add up to cost savings on labour, materials and time savings on the job.

The strength and versatility of Infiltrator Tanks enable a wide-range of installation possibilities including shallow installations and multiple and serial tank configurations. Both the IM- and TW-Series offer the quickest installations in the onsite industry. Other benefits include: Lightweight plastic construction which allows for easy storage and delivery, Reinforced lid and access ports, Tanks can be pumped dry during pump-outs (no need to refill with water), Tank can be installed with 6 to 48 inches of soil cover.

ATL by Infiltrator is passive advanced treatment leach field system designed as an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional stone and pipe drain fields. The ATL system is a sand-lined treatment and dispersal leach field system consisting of 6 components.

Today, Infiltrator is a worldwide company with nearly 400 employees. With innovative products and services, ISO-9002 certified manufacturing facilities, creative recycling solutions and the development of new subsidiaries, Infiltrator is poised to offer a total approach to water quality. To learn more, Visit them on the web at www.infiltratorsystems.com



We thank Meghan Thomas who joined us from Eljen Corporation.

Eljen Corporation is committed to advancing the onsite industry through continuous development of innovative new products, delivering high quality products and services to our customers at the best price, and building lasting partnerships with our employees, suppliers, and customers.

Established in 1970, Eljen Corporation has created the world's first prefabricated drainage system for foundation drainage and erosion control applications. Today, Eljen is a global leader in providing innovative products and solutions for protecting our environment and public health. In the mid-1980s they introduced their Geotextile Sand Filter products for the passive advanced treatment of onsite wastewater in both residential and commercial applications.

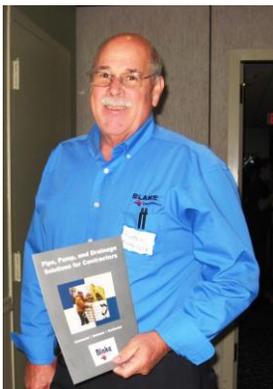
Eljen Corporation's focus is on advancing the onsite industry through continuous development of innovative new products. They deliver high quality products and services to their customers at the best price and building lasting partnerships with their employees, suppliers and customers.

Eljen's products include the Eljen GSF, for when your installation requires extra capacity in less space, the Eljen GSF delivers. While conventional systems rely on a single biomat forming at the soil interface, the Eljen GSF adds a second, primary biomat layer on the surface of its unique Bio-Matt™ Fabric.

The Mantis Series is designed for those installs that require more performance in less space, the Eljen Mantis Wastewater Leaching System delivers. The unique design of the Mantis System provides a two-stage Bio-Matt™ pre-treatment process that increases the soil's ability to accept the effluent, resulting in a superior leaching system in a smaller footprint.

The Eljen Mantis Series is a wastewater dispersal and disposal technology that applies clarified effluent to the native soil through a proprietary filtering process. The Mantis protects the native soil's long term acceptance rate by keeping the biological growth off the native soils and within the Mantis units. The Mantis series includes the Mantis M5Series, the Mantis 536-8 and the Mantis Double Wide.

Eljen Waterproofing Protection and Drainage systems provide a major advantage over other technologies. To learn more about these products and other Eljen products please visit them on the web at: www.eljen.com.



We thank Hunter Ward who joined us from Blake Equipment Company.

Blake Equipment has served customers in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts for 85 years with design support, sales, parts and service of "Best in Class" products and value. Whether you're installing a pumping system, proprietary septic system, replacing existing

equipment, or performing required maintenance and repair work, Blake Equipment will keep you on-line and

keep you there with maximum efficiency, always at the most competitive price.

The Blake Group has evolved from a small traditional boiler and hot water distributor into a regionally well-known specialty distributor and manufacturers' representative, offering Peak Performance Solutions that allow sustained use of water and thermal energy resources.

Blake is a specialty distributor and manufacturers' representative. As a distributor, Blake focuses on stocking and meeting the demands of contractors servicing the demands of residential and light commercial markets, projects that can be completed by licenses contractors with off the shelf products. As a manufacturers' representative, Blake's Commercial, Industrial and Municipal teams specialize in engineered solutions for large projects which require more customized solutions. Each market presents unique considerations particular to how the facilities are used and the populations that use them. With 80 plus years of experience, Blake brings a wealth to building the right solutions for the markets it serves.

Blake Equipment installs Waste Ejector Systems for municipal, commercial, industrial and institutional applications. Blake Equipment offers the best in class packaged ejector systems in simplex or duplex design.

Blake Equipment employs the best in the industry. Their employees are the best factory trained and licensed technicians. You can expect the top technicians available when you need service. Each technician is fully licensed to work on equipment. Blake Group invests in training programs and this continues to be a main goal for Blake Equipment. Blake provides factory authorized training to their technicians on all of their product lines and many additional manufacturers. Blake prides itself in providing superior customer service. For more information about Blake Equipment Company visit them on the web at www.blakeequip.com.



We would like to thank Patrick Mulhall from Polylok, Inc.

Polylok, Inc. is an international supplier of plastic injection molded products

for the precast concrete and onsite wastewater industries. Their home office is Wallingford, Connecticut, and they have partnerships with several supply houses across the United States and Canada. Unlike most of their competitors, they design, manufacture, and ship their products from their own location. In addition, Polylok holds over 75 patents and produces over 200 products for the precast, drainage and onsite water industries. Polylok was established in 1984.

Polylok, Inc. has a full-time engineering and design team that continually focuses on improving our existing products and developing new ones. Charles Brix, the design mastermind behind many of the Polylok, Inc. products, leads the engineering and design group. In 2004 and 2005 alone, his team introduced over 15 new products, a record accomplishment.

From the beginning, Polylok has been a company focused on delivering innovations to the precast, drainage and onsite wastewater industries. In 1995 Polylok introduced the Equalizer. This product changed the installation of septic tanks for many installers. The Equalizer is used to self-regulate the flow of effluent to the leach field.

Polylok, Inc. is rooted in precast industry. They understand the importance of keeping costs down. At the beginning of 2008, we relocated to combine our business office with our existing manufacturing and warehousing facility. This has helped us to become even more efficient and enabled us to keep price increases to a minimum. This is rare in an industry affected by the increases in oil, plastic, steel and other commodities.

Polylok has a complete list of different products that support the wastewater industry. These include Polylok's line of filters, D-Box's, Trench and Channel drains, Pipe Adapters and Catch Basins. But these are just a few of their innovative products. Polylok, is committed to their customers and the products they have introduced to the wastewater industry. For more information on their product line visit them on the web at www.polylok.com.

COWRA's 2017 Installer School

COWRA is accepting applications for our 2017 Installer School. Students enrolled in the Installer School are automatically enrolled in the Pumper/Cleaner School. Both Schools will be held at First Church in Middletown CT in their second-floor conference room. Classes for the Installer School will begin on Thursday January 19, 2017 and run for 6 consecutive Thursdays.

Topics for the Installers School include: Septic Tanks: design, structure, function; watersheds and drainage profiles; Soils: physical characteristics, profiles and types, identification; Site Conditions: deep hole and percolation testing, plumbing and pipe configuration; Distribution Systems; Leaching fields; Trenches, Dry wells, Galleries; Curtain Drains; Biomat; Septic Failures; Transit work and Surveys; Septic Design: MLSS, plans and sketches, forms, etc.

The school will cover all sections of 19-13-B103 and 19-13-B100a of the CT Public Health Code, Technical Standards and the Design Manual for subsurface sewage disposal systems. Example questions of the type encountered on the Installer exam will be covered. Practical exercises will be assigned for class work and field-encountered problems will be discussed. Students

will need to obtain a calculator and an engineer's ruler for the course.

The Cost of the Installers School is \$265.00 tuition fee for COWRA members & their employees. Non-member's tuition fee is **\$475.00**. Manuals are included in the cost of each course.

COWRA 2017 Pumping/ Cleaning School

COWRA is accepting applications for our 2017 Pumper/Cleaner School. This course will be held on February 23, 2017 at First Church in Middletown CT. Topics included are- Septic Tanks: design, structure, function; Watersheds and Drainage Profiles; Outlet filters; Port-o-lets, etc.

The school will specifically cover sections of the CT Public Health Code 19-13-B103 General Provisions (pages 5 and 6 in the code) and 19-13-B100a, as well as the Technical Standards Section V on Septic Tanks (pages 28-32 in the code), Chapter 9 on Septic Tanks and Grease Traps from the Design Manual.

The majority of the questions on the Pumper/Cleaning exam come from the parts of the Code, the Technical Standards and the Design Manual.

The Cost of the Pumper/Cleaner class for students not taking the Installer course is \$85.00 Non-members \$95 Please visit the training page or our website for more information. www.cowra-online.org

Water & Wastewater Equipment Treatment and Transport Show Indianapolis IN, February 22th through February 25th 2015

The annual WWETT is the world's largest annual trade show for environmental service professionals. Each year, over 12,000 people gather from all parts of the world to see the latest in equipment and technology in the expo hall, participate in over 110 education sessions and network with professional colleagues.

The WWETT will be held in Indianapolis at the Indiana Convention Center. To learn more about the Pumper/Cleaner Expo and how to register to attend, please visit them on the web at Info@wwettshow.com or call 866 360-5661.

Dates to Remember

As of January 1, 2017, the State of Connecticut will revise Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage. We will inform our members of those portions of the Technical Standard that will change.

Membership Renewal

Annual membership renewal forms will be mailed at the end of December. Please include the form with your renewal payment, as the information serves to update our Membership Directories.

COWRA
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2016 Annual Meeting

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

UPDATES!! Registration Information for 2016 State Installers & Cleaners-Exams:
You **MUST** contact the Department of Public Health to register for the Installers & Cleaners Exams. Attendance at the COWRA Installer School **DOES NOT** register you for the State exam. Please contact D.P.H. at 860-509-7296 for any information pertaining to your results and license. You may also contact them by going to http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/environmental_health/pdf/Installer_Exam_Information.pdf

2016 Examination Schedule Subsurface Sewage Installer/Cleaner

Exam Date	Application Deadline
December 2, 2016	November 18, 2016

The State has not yet released the 2017 test dates.

Connecticut Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association
For a copy of COWRA's 2017 Study Guide please call (860 267-1057)