



**CONNECTICUT ONSITE WASTEWATER RECYCLING ASSOCIATION  
SUPPORTING CONNECTICUT AND OUR ENVIRONMENT**

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## Installations are in full swing

# September 2011

## Letter from the President

Dear

COWRA

Members,

I hope all of you are well and that you have survived the summer heat. It is easy to forget last year's difficult winter when we have such a hot summer.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of October COWRA will be holding our 2011 Annual Meeting. All of you should have received information about our Annual Meeting by now in the mail. I urge all of you to join us this year. Our Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to meet others working in this field and to make contact with the vendors that supply the products that we use every day,

Each year a member of Department of Public Health joins us to say a few words about the Public Health Code and related topics.

Last year COWRA hired comedian and magician Jim Sisti and we enjoyed him so much we have asked him to entertain us again this year. We hope you will make an effort to join us for a good time and a great meal.

Sincerely,  
Your President,  
Frank Talarico

## NEW MEMBER PROFILES COWRA WELCOMES

**Adam Zadrozny** of Valley View Excavation LLC joined us in March of this year. Valley View Excavation is located in Canton CT. Adam is the owner of his company. His services include installation, landscaping, excavation, foundations, drainage, construction, demolition and trucking. Adam was a student in COWRA's 2011 installer school. For more information about Adam's company, visit him on the web at [www.valleyviewexcavatingllc.com](http://www.valleyviewexcavatingllc.com).

**Ricky and Matthew Petrizzi** of Highland Sewer and Drain Service joined us in the spring of this year. Mathew and Rickey are the owners of Highland Sewer & Drain Service. They are located in Greenwich CT. Pumping and cleaning, septic inspections, grease trap cleaning, cameras and videos, water jet, drain cleaning and drainage just some of their services. Other services include; chemical root control, waterline leak location, and catch basin cleaning. Their services are offered in CT and NY. Ricky and Matthew have been in business since 2001. For more information about Highland sewer and Drain Service visit them on the web at [www.highlandsewer.net](http://www.highlandsewer.net).

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letter from the President

New Member Profiles

COWRA Member  
Featured in Installer  
Magazine

COWRA's 2011 Annual  
Dinner Meeting

Soil Workshop

COWRA'S 2012 Installer  
and Pumper Classes

Pump Station article  
By Briggs Geddis

### Inserts

1. Pump Station Diagram
2. Soil Workshop Registration form
3. Annual Meeting Info
4. Application for Installer School
5. Application for Pumper School

COWRA Brochures are available to our members at \$22.50 per 100, including shipping

## New Members Profile Continued

**Brandon Santini** of Santini Services LLC joined us in May of 2011. Brandon is the owner of Santini Services which he established in 2000. His services include Septic Installation, inspections, landscaping, excavation, foundations, drainage and construction. In addition to the septic services Brandon is a full services design and home builder. Santini Services is located in Ridgefield CT. To learn more about Brandon's company visit him on the web [www.santiniremodeling.com](http://www.santiniremodeling.com).

## COWRA Member Establishes Himself as a Leader in the Septic Industry.



In the April 2011 edition of the Onsite Installer magazine COWRA Board Member Jason Walther was recognized as a young professional paving his way in a challenging business world. In an article written by Gil Longwell of Onsite Installer, Jason is described as “a progressive installer and a source of onsite advice for his customers.” Jason became a licensed installer at the age of nineteen. In 2009 Jason was asked to join the Board of Directors of CT Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association. Jason began his career working for his father at Bill Walther’s Pumping Company. Within two years Jason had open his own business which he calls Bill Walther & Sons Septic Installation.

Jason is a hardworking young man with an impressive work ethic. This fall Jason, along with other COWRA Board Members, volunteered their time and expertise to install a much-needed septic system for a Connecticut Boy Scout Camp.

If the future belongs to our youth, then Jason Walther is an excellent example of the future of our industry.

## COWRA’S 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

By now all of you have received the information form regarding COWRA’s 2011 Annual Dinner Meeting. We hope that all our members will make an effort to join us. We have worked very hard to make this year’s Annual Meeting informative, interesting and fun, not to mention delicious. Please join us on October 1, 2011 at Campagna’s Restaurant in Portland CT for a fun, informative evening. Come meet the vendors who supply the products we use daily. Each year a member of the Connecticut Department of Public Health joins us and informs us on changes taking place in the State of CT. After a great meal we will sit back and enjoy the entertainment provided by comedian and magician Jim Sisti. **Please join us. If you have misplaced your invitation, you will find another in this newsletter. We look forward to spending and evening with you.**

## STATE OF CT SOIL WORKSHOP

### CEHA AND DPH ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM CO-SPONSOR TWO DAY SOIL TRAINING

It is now time to register for the 2-day soil training event to be held October 19th and 20th at the DEP’s Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area in Burlington Connecticut. CEHA has been joined by the DPH Environmental Engineering Program to provide this valuable training. Once again, we have obtained the services of Peter Fletcher, a respected soil scientist and trainer from Massachusetts. Mr. Fletcher has been well received at all previous trainings for his pleasant personality and superb teaching skills. The cost for this training is \$90 for CEHA members and \$120 for all others. The fee includes morning refreshments and lunch on both days. It also includes a Soils Field Guide and a detailed Soils Workbook. This popular training was not offered last year and will probably not be offered again until 2013 so register early. Space is limited to 75 paid participants. (See registration form inside this newsletter.)

**As of July 1, 2011**, the Department of Environmental Protection is involved in an agency consolidation with the newly-created [Department of Energy and Environmental Protection](http://www.ct.gov/dep). While the transition is taking place, please continue to check back here for up-to-date information before a new, consolidated website is launched in the near future.

**Please Note: Information received from the State of CT is immediately forwarded to Members who provide us with an email address.**

## COWRA’s 2012 INSTALLER SCHOOL AND PUMPER / CLEANER SCHOOL

COWRA is accepting applications for our 2012 schools.

COWRA will be holding our Installer School on six consecutive Thursdays: January 12, 19, 26, 2012 and February 2, 9, 16, 2012, with a snow date of February 23, 2012. Students enrolled in the Installer School are automatically enrolled in the Pumper / Cleaner School, as the Pumper / Cleaner information is part of the 2012 Installer exam.

COWRA will be holding its Pumper/Cleaner School on Thursday February 16, 2012. The snow date will be February 23, if needed.

Applications for both courses are inserted in this newsletter.

## PUMP STATIONS:

### To All Professional Engineers and Septic Installers

*As suitable land becomes more difficult to find pump systems have become more common. The location of the pump chamber is, perhaps, the easiest problem to solve. The size of the pump, the pump chamber, the location of the pump and the force main and the piping inside the pump chamber create greater challenges. Additionally, mechanical devices generally require routine maintenance and often emergency repairs. This is the reason for this letter.*

### All plans requiring a pump chamber - or - utilizing a proprietary leaching system requiring a pump shall adhere to the following:

**The volume of the pump chamber-** The **gallons per vertical foot** inside the pump chamber can be calculated. (Ex. A 1000-gallon PC @ 48" below the outlet invert = 250 gals/vertical ft or (1000 gals/48 = 20.8 gals/inch). **Drawdown** is the distance between the on and off pump float switches or **1 cycle**. The number of **the gals/cycle/lin. ft** of the leaching structure can be calculated.

**The size of the effluent pump** (i.e., 3/10ths 4/10ths hp...etc). – Specs for the pump should include the pumping capacity rated as **gals/minute**, & the **head**. The **head** is the highest rated lift capacity of the pump and should match or exceed the difference between the elevation of the pump inside the pump chamber and the proposed location of the subsurface leaching area the (**hydraulic gradient**)

### **The number of gallons that will be discharged per cycle.**

The manufacturer of the proprietary or other leaching product may need to submit information regarding the maximum volume that the product is designed to handle. The **gals/cycle/lin. ft** cannot exceed that number, (Ex. If a 70-foot length of product is designed for a maximum dose of 2 gals/lin. ft than each cycle cannot exceed 140 gallons (70 x 2 = 140 gal)

### **The maximum depth of the pump chamber below final grade.**

The final elevation will include any additional fill or topsoil that may be placed over the pump chamber by the contractor or owner. **(The Pump Chamber installed >3' below final grade must be H -20 rated, (Ex 3' of soil = 300 lbs (or each 1 ft is = 100 p/cf). Consult the manufacturer for the**

**recommendations. (An H -20 is not necessarily = to a tank rated as heavy duty.)**

**The location of proposed force main.** The force main may exit from the pump chamber or, if a riser is required, from the riser/chimney. Again, the final grade must be established. The piping **must be equipped** with a coupling or quick disconnect on the force main that will bisect the pump main by simply unscrewing the **coupling** by hand. Any force main **not equipped** with this coupling will not be approved. The electrical emergency shutoff must be within easy reach of the chamber.

**The location of the coupling.** The coupling shall be conveniently located so that it can be accessed from the ground surface without the use of access of any accessory equipment, i.e., a ladder. (A general rule of thumb is that the piping must be accessible from the ground surface at no greater distance than arms length) **(No plans or approvals will be granted if a ladder is permanently attached to the riser for egress into the pump chamber.)**

The code requires that a minimum one (1) day emergency storage be provided in the pump in chamber – the volume located above the alarm switch/float level) ***(See details in Technical Standards Sect. VI C. Pump Systems)***

### **A LICENSED ELECTRICIAN IS REQUIRED TO OBTAIN AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT FROM THE BUILDING DEPT.**

The pump and alarm connections are to be connected to separate circuit breakers and clearly marked on the electrical panel. The alarm must be installed in a location that is clearly audible in the living quarters and is accessible for silencing. As you know the pump chamber manhole must be at final grade.

Finally, a deep test hole should be performed in the area of the proposed pump tank location to establish possible depth of ground water. The key to any proposed design is to lay it out in the field before designing it in the office and then sketching it on paper **(see attached diagram).**

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact our office, we will be happy to offer any assistance if necessary. **A. Briggs Geddis RS, Director of Environmental Health, New Canaan Health Department. Revised: 12/2/10.**

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**Installation at Southbury Plaza**

## **FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED**

**UPDATES!!** Registration Information for 2011 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** registers 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 [www.dph.state.ct.us/licensure/apps/subsew.pdf](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/licensure/apps/subsew.pdf)

### **2011 Examination Schedule Subsurface Sewage Installer/Cleaner**

<b>Exam Dates</b>	<b>Application Deadlines</b>
September 9, 2011	August 5, 2011
December 9, 2011	November 4, 2011

**Connecticut Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association**  
For a copy of COWRA's 2011 Study Guide please call (860 267-1057)