



Presents the Twenty-fourth Annual

The Wave

Fall 2026

SWOWEA Plant Operations Seminar & Section Meeting Thursday, November 19, 2026

Manor House Banquet & Conference Center
7440 Mason-Montgomery Rd.
Mason, OH 45040
5.25 Contact Hours

Time	Presentation Title	Speaker	Company
8 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Registration/Coffee/Donuts		
8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Densification and Nutrient Removal in Oxidation Ditches OWEA-TBD	Nick Barczewski	Ovivo
9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Perspectives From Working at a WRF That's Nearly as Old as OWEA OWEA-TBD	Eric Meyers and Phil Benington	City of Dayton
10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Break		
10:15 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Sustainable Biosolids Management via Drying and Gasification: Pathways to Energy Recovery, PFAS Removal, and Beneficial Reuse OWEA-TBD	Lincoln Day	Stircor
11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Leachate Treatment and Disposal OWEA-TBD	Justin Jacobson	Rumpke
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Lunch		
12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Ops Assistance - Start-up, Operability Reviews OWEA-TBD	Justin Murray	Hazen and Sawyer
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Beyond Optimization : What Can and Will AI Allow Us to Do with Wastewater Plant Operations? OWEA-TBD	Jason Tincu	AECOM
2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Break		
2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	History of Valves and Applications OWEA-TBD	Dan Caskey	Hydro Controls

The Seminar will include an Exhibitor area displaying various products, equipment and services related to plant operations and maintenance

Pre-register Online by Friday Nov. 9, 2026
at www.ohiowea.org.

Early member Registration (by 11/9/26) - \$75.00

Early Nonmember Registration (by 11/9/26) - \$90.00

Late Registration (after 11/9/26) - \$90.00

Registrations accepted day of event on a “first come, first serve” basis, event size may be limited, pre-registration guarantees your seat.

Pay online or at the door by cash or check; make checks payable to “SWOWEA”.

Questions? Please contact Alyssa Mayer at amayer@hazenandsawyer.com or 513-469-5135 or Fran Sparer at frances.sparer@jacobs.com

President's Corner

Hello, SWOWEA!

If your collection system spent August swamped by flash downpours and September catching its breath, you're not alone. Southwest Ohio threw a bit of everything at us, from 97-degree heat to the first cool autumn breezes, and it kept operations crews busy. My own basement flooded while I was out of the country for two weeks, so I felt it too – thanks to friends who came to my wife's rescue!

I want to thank all hosts, committee members, and all the volunteers who help make SWOWEA events successful, year after year.

Quick Update on Recent Events – It has been quite busy the past few months with SWOWEA events. In June, the Plant Operations committee held the Plant Operations “Reunion” Seminar at Greene County. It was a cool idea with Dave Reinker moderating an informal roundtable with various operators sharing funny stories and experiences. It was followed by presentations which were more interactive and brought a lot of old friends together. Great job, Plant Ops!

Then came OneWater in Cincinnati after a short hiatus. It was another record-breaking event with registrations and exhibitors. The renovated convention center was a great experience. OWEA also released a super cool video celebrating the 100th year anniversary – check it out at www.ohiowea.org

The SW YPs have been very active as well. They held a joint event with OAWWA to do a Rheingest Tour, responsibly though! The YPs also hosted a Lunch and Learn presented by BL Anderson and hosted at Hazen. In addition, the YPs organized a “YP Gathering” on Wednesday during OneWater and it was very well attended. We also received several nominations for the YP Co-Chair that will be announced at the next section meeting.

In September, SWOWEA EC organized the Fall section meeting at Troy. The section meeting included a morning tour of Troy's WWTP followed by an afternoon technical session at the WACO Air Museum and Aviation Learning Center. We had over 104 attendees at the plant tour and technical session combined. Following the section meeting, about 20 people attended the networking event.

You can view photos of all past events at <https://southwestowe.org/past-events>

In August, the Hamilton Groundwater Consortium, American Water Works Association, and Water for the People hosted another successful Race for Global Water 5K run and walk in Fairfield, Ohio. In total, 143 runners and walkers crossed the finish line and a record number of 35 sponsors supporting the event. The race has generated over \$180K in donations over the years. If you would like to be involved in 2027, you can reach out to me. The race committee is looking for a co-chair.

Executive Committee

President:

Joseph Kamalesh
Ayyeka

Vice President:

Adam Athmer
Strand Associates

Treasurer:

Jeff Frechtling
City of Fairfield

Secretary:

Lindsey Hassenauer
Hazen and Sawyer

3rd Year Director:

Dinesh Palaniswamy
Warren County Water &
Sewer

2nd Year Director:

Jim Boyd
Greene County Sanitary
Engineering Department

1st Year Director:

Julia Beggs
Hazen and Sawyer

Past President:

Chris Zdinak
MSD of Greater Cincinnati

OWEA Delegate:

Dave Reinker

During the business meeting at the May Section Meeting, the new 1st Year Director will be nominated.

The Wave

*Newsletter of the Southwest
Section of the Ohio Water
Environment Association*

Editor: Lindsey Hassenauer -
Hazen and Sawyer
Layout: Megan Bomar -
Hazen and Sawyer

Upcoming Events:

In October, the Collections Systems committee will hold its Collections in the Sections at MSDGC Galbraith Road on Thursday October 15th. Registration is open on the OWEA website.

The LAC will hold its Fall Meeting on November 17, 2026 at Greene County Social Services Media Room located at 541 Ledbetter Road, Xenia, OH 45385. Registration will be limited. Register online at www.ohiowea.org/ and go to the 'Events Registration' tab.

In November, the Plant Operations committee will organize its operations seminar and SWOWEA section meeting on Thursday November 19th at the Manor House. See included flyer for details.

The registration for the 2026 OAWWA & OWEA YP Summit is officially open on the OAWWA website (OH YP Summit)! This year's summit will take place at Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio on November 19th. There will be a tour of the Olentangy Environmental Control Center and a social event on Wednesday, November 18th.

Get Involved: A Call for Nominees

Every year, OWEA awards people, organizations, and projects in several categories. Jim Boyd is the chair of the awards committee. Please review the categories through the link below. If you would like to make a nomination, please reach out to Jim Boyd at james.boyd@greencountyohio.gov

Awards - Ohio Water Environment Association

2026-2027 Executive Committee

President - Joseph Kamalesh

Vice-President - Adam Athmer

Secretary - Lindsey Hassenauer

Treasurer - Jeff Frechtling

Third Year Director - Dinesh Palaniswamy

Second Year Director - Jim Boyd

First Year Director - Julia Beggs

Past President - Chris Zdinak

OWEA Delegate - Dave Reinker

We appreciate all our attendees, volunteers, and sponsors—we simply could not put on these events without you all.

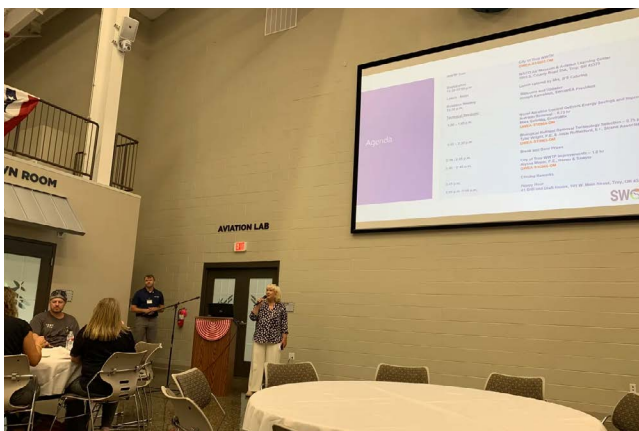


Sincerely,
Joseph Kamalesh
SWOWEA President
Joseph.Kamalesh@Ayyeka.com

Committee Reports

September 2026 Section Meeting Summary

What a great turnout we had for our September 17th section meeting in Troy, Ohio! More than 100 attendees joined us for a tour of the City of Troy Wastewater Treatment Plant, followed by lunch and an afternoon of technical sessions at the WACO Air Museum & Aviation Learning Center with a special appearance by Mayor Robin Oda. Presentations covered novel aeration controls by Mark Gehring of EnviroMix and biological nutrient removal technology selection by Tyler Wright and Josie Rutherford of Strand Associates, Inc. A special thank you to Ed Brown formerly of Hazen and Sawyer, who came out of retirement to present alongside Alyssa Mayer of Hazen and Sawyer and City of Troy staff on the plant's recent upgrades. The day concluded with a happy hour at 41 Grill & Draft House in downtown Troy. Thank you to the City of Troy, our speakers, sponsors, and every attendee who helped make the event a success!



Young Professionals Committee

The SWOWEA Young Professionals Committee recently enjoyed a Lunch & Learn focused on biogas production, processing, and use cases with one of our own young professional member from BL Anderson. The event had a great turnout with 14 attendees.

The registration for the 2026 OAWWA & OWEA YP Summit is officially open on the OAWWA website! This year's summit will take place at Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio on November 19th. There will be a tour of the Olentangy Environmental Control Center and a social event on Wednesday, November 18th.



The Young Professionals Committee had a very successful turnout at the One Water Young Professional Gathering in August! YPs from throughout the state that attended the conference met up for networking with fellow YPs and enjoyed meeting new people in the industry, catching up with those they already knew, and of course, the iced coffee and lemonade bar.



Industrial Waste Committee

SAVE THE DATE! January 28, 2027!

The Industrial Waste Seminar will be held on January 28, 2027 at the Manor House in Mason, OH. The Industrial Waste Committee is actively preparing for this event. The presentation agenda is almost complete; however, we are still accepting abstracts for consideration. We are close to identifying the Karl G. Voelkel Award winner after visiting several nominated industrial facilities. These facilities exemplify and embrace environmental awareness and have consistently met effluent discharge requirements. Also, the Committee is actively recruiting exhibitors and sponsors for the event.

If you would like to find out more about the Industrial Waste Committee, please check us out on the Southwest OWEA website site at <https://southwestowea.org/industrial-waste-cmtc>.

If you would like additional information about the Industrial Waste Seminar, please contact Jeff Frechtling at JFrechtling@fairfield-city.org or Paul Krehbiel at pkrehbiel@hazenandsawyer.com if you are interested in any of the above activities.

Lab Analyst Committee Update

The SWOWEA Lab Analyst committee will be offering a fall meeting on November 17th at Ledbetter Road, Xenia, Ohio 45385 offered by Greene County Sanitary Engineering Laboratory. Free contact hours are being offered. Be on the lookout for another Lab meeting for February 2027.

See flyer on the next page for details.

Please reach out to LAC Committee Co-Chairs Jim Davis davisji@mcOhio.org or Lori Kyle lori.kyle@greenecountyohio.gov with any questions.

Fall Meeting
November 17, 2026
Hosted By:
Greene Co. Sanitary Engineering

Agenda
(3.5 Contact Hours Pending)

- 9:00 -9:30 Registration
- 9:30 -9:45 Welcome and Introductions –Lori Kyle/Jim Davis
- 9:45 -10:30 Weighing the Right Way – Sean Kiamy, Mettler Toledo
- 10:30 -11:30 Enzymatic Methods for the Detection of Coliforms and E. coli in Wastewater– Shawn Dubois, IDEXX
- 11:30 -12:45 Lunch – On your Own
- 12:45 -1:30 Where does my sample go? The ins and outs of Laboratory Sample Submission. Karla Thaxton, MASI
- 1:30 -2:30 HACH TNT+: Introduction and Demonstration of EPA Compliant Analysis of Wastewater - Ted Simmons, Hach

Presentations will be at Greene County Social Services Media Room located at 541 Ledbetter Road, Xenia, OH 45385.

Directions to Greene County Social Services Media Room

From Dayton: Take US 35 East to 35 Bypass around Xenia. Take the US 42 North exit. Turn right at the first intersection (Ledbetter Road). Service Center is on the right.

From Cincinnati: Take I 71 North to Exit 28 (SR 48). Merge onto SR 48 North. SR 48 becomes US 42 Bypass North. Turn right at US 42. Follow US 42 through Waynesville to Xenia. After passing under the US 35 overpass, turn right at the first intersection (Ledbetter Road). Service Center is on the right.

From Columbus: Take I 71 west to Exit 52A (US 68). Proceed south on US 68. In Xenia, US 68 becomes Detroit Street. Stay on Detroit Street through Xenia (do not take SR 68). Turn Right on Ledbetter Road. Service Center is on the left.

Registration will be limited. Register online at www.ohiowea.org/ and go to the ‘Events Registration’ tab.

For additional information, contact:

Jim Davis, LAC Co-Chair
Montgomery County Environmental Lab
davisji@mcOhio.org
937-496-7795

Lori Kyle, LAC Co-Chair
Greene County Sanitary Engineering
lori.kyle@greencountyohio.gov
937-562-7151

Committee Members:

Britton Bauer, City of Dayton
Mitchell Kukla, City of Dayton
Craig Clements, City of Fairfield
Gregg Mitchell, City of Sidney
Roger Rardain, City of Fairborn





2027

CALL FOR GENERAL ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP

The Southwest Ohio Water Environment Association (SWOWEA) invites your organization to join us as an Annual Sponsor.

SWOWEA is the primary hub for water quality professionals, engineers, and operators across Southwest Ohio. Your sponsorship directly powers our technical workshops, operator training programs, professional development, and public education initiatives—ensuring clean, safe water across our region.

Why Partner with SWOWEA?

Community Impact: Support essential educational programming and outreach that protect Southwest Ohio's water resources for future generations.

Industry Leadership: Demonstrate your commitment to sustainable water management and local environmental stewardship.

Targeted Visibility: Put your brand in front of regional decision-makers, utility leaders, and environmental engineers throughout the year.

In return, our customizable sponsorship packages offer recognition across our technical seminars, workshops, website, and digital newsletters.

Get Involved! Review the sponsorship levels in the table below. To submit your sponsorship, please visit the **LINK BELOW** or contact us at SWOWEA Treasurer, Jeff Frechtling, P.E., P: 513.858.8328 OR E: JFrechtling@fairfield-city.org.

LINK: https://www.viethconsulting.com/members/evr/reg_event.php?evid=67639823&orgcode=OWEA

Thank you for your partnership and dedication to protecting our water environment.

Sincerely,
SWOWEA Executive Committee

2027 Events

**January
Section Meeting
(Industrial Waste
Seminar²)**

**March
Section Meeting**

**May
Section Meeting**

**June
Plant Ops Seminar**

**September
Section Meeting**

**October
Hands-On Collection
System Workshop**

**November
Section Meeting
(Plant Ops Seminar²)**

**Please submit your
sponsorship via the link by**

October 31, 2026.

Levels & Benefits	Gold (\$750)	Silver (\$500)	Bronze (\$250)	Swag and Door Prizes
Section Meetings	Large Logo Display at Section Meetings + Committee Seminars	Small Logo Display at Section Meetings + Committee Seminars	Name Display at Section Meetings + Committee Seminars	Door Prize Raffle at Three ¹ Section Meetings
Event Flyers	Logo insert			
WAVE newsletter Business advertisement	Half Page Insert	Quarter Page Insert	Business Card	
Website Logo on SWOWEA website	Large Organization Logo Display	Medium Organization Logo Display	Small Organization Logo Display	

¹ March, May and September Section Meetings only. Those interested in providing specific swag/door prizes at section meeting events shall contact SWOWEA Executive Committee directly to coordinate.

²Event exhibitor registration will be coordinated directly through the event registration

Sponsors



Your Trusted Source for Water Processing Solutions



PRODUCT SALES • APPLICATION EXPERTISE
DESIGN SUPPORT • RETROFIT CAPABILITY
TRAINING • SERVICE • AFTERMARKET SUPPORT
LICENSED ENGINEERS & OPERATORS

8887 Eagle Ridge Court | West Chester, OH 45069 | (513) 889-4746



Building a World of Difference.®



For over a century, Black & Veatch has built water infrastructure that has strengthened communities across Ohio and around the world. As your needs evolve, our expert team delivers innovative, sustainable solutions that add long-term value across every stage of the project lifecycle.





DUGAN & MEYERS

Contact us:
513.891.4300

DUGAN & MEYERS LLC

Since 1935

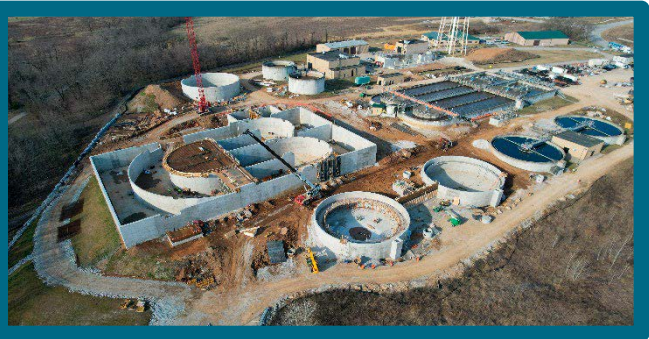
Construction with a Commitment to
Safety, Quality & Service

Concrete Construction — Treatment & Industrial

General Contracting — Design/Build — Construction Management



*Scioto Mile Fountain
Columbus, OH*



*Jeffersonville North WRF
Jeffersonville, IN*

Cincinnati — Columbus — Louisville — Knoxville — Gainesville

www.dugan-meyers.com

Second Chance Employer

Equal Opportunity Employer

Member of the Drug Free Safety Program

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OHIO

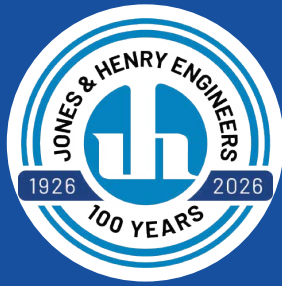
Dayton WRF Digester and Odor Control Improvements

Hazen led the design of one of the largest capital improvement projects in Dayton Water Department history—adding four new anaerobic digesters and rehabilitating four existing digesters.

The project cost-effectively meets the needed level of service while optimizing existing assets, minimizing odors and air emissions, and simplifying operations and maintenance.

Hazen
hazenandsawyer.com





Cincinnati Office

4357 Ferguson Drive, Ste 220
Cincinnati, OH, 45245
513-528-5599

Proudly providing **Fluid thinking**
to Ohio communities for almost 100
years.



Water

Wastewater

Infrastructure

Support Services



Water. Built Better.

Walsh Construction proudly builds the water and wastewater treatment systems that serve as vital lifelines for communities. As one of the nation's leading water builders, we deliver transformative projects across the Ohio River Valley and beyond.

CONSISTENTLY RANKED AT THE TOP OF THE INDUSTRY

#2 Water Treatment
Plants

#2 Wastewater
Treatment Plants

#4 Water
Supply

*2025 Engineering News Record



www.WalshGroup.com

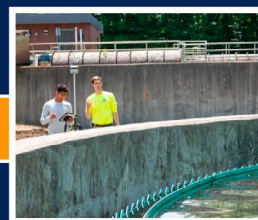


There is no water problem we can't solve **together.**

Wastewater | Drinking Water | Stormwater
Construction Services | Electrical | Environmental
Field Services | I&C



wesslerengineering.com



MASI

LABORATORIES

YOUR TRUSTED OHIO EPA CERTIFIED PARTNER
For All Water, Wastewater, Industrial Discharge, &
Pretreatment Testing Needs



CONTACT US TODAY!

(614) 873-4654 /
www.masilabs.com



AIR



BIOTA



SOLIDS



WATER
& LIQUIDS

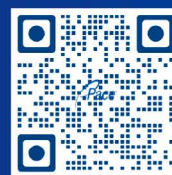
- Compliance
- Remediation
- Property Transfer
- Landfill
- Emerging Contaminants
- Waste Characterization



Pace® provides laboratory testing and analytical services that make the world a safer, healthier place.

Let's work together.
Contact us.

Visit: pacelabs.com Scan:



18817 State Route 501
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
419-941-2233
www.petersonconstructionco.com

**PROVEN
RESULTS**

**BUILT
WITH
INTEGRITY**

WHAT PETERSON WILL BRING TO YOUR PROJECT:

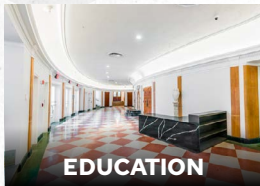
- Experienced in Alternative Delivery
- Value-Engineering Experts
- No Job Too Big or Too Small
- Quality Workmanship
- Provide Support after Construction
- Countless Satisfied Clients



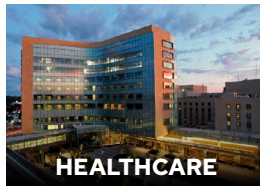
Call Peterson Construction Company today to discuss your next project!

DRAMATICALLY IMPROVING THE **COMMUNITIES** WE SERVE.

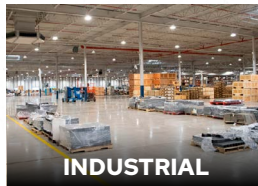
CLEVELAND
COLUMBUS
DAYTON
INDIANAPOLIS
KOKOMO
RALEIGH
RICHMOND



EDUCATION



HEALTHCARE



INDUSTRIAL



WATER RESOURCES

2025-2026 EVENT/NETWORKING SPONSOR OF SWOWEA

[SHOOKCONSTRUCTION.COM](https://shookconstruction.com)



Great ideas are just below the surface

We're part of the communities we serve, so
we treat every drop of water like our own.

[STANTEC.COM/WATER](https://stantec.com/water)



Excellence in EngineeringSM



Fostoria, OH



Louisville, KY



Warren County, OH

Columbus | 614.835.0460

Cincinnati | 513.861.5600



12 Locations Nationwide

www.strand.com

Multidisciplinary firm serving the public and private sectors



JGM Valve Corporation, a highly experienced Manufacturers' Representative firm specializing in Municipal, Industrial, and Commercial venues since 1970.

Our sales team has over 70 combined years of experience, along with extensive field training & in-depth knowledge of each product & market to better serve your needs.

1155 Welch Road, Suite D
Commerce, Michigan 48390

248-926-6200
contact@jgmvalve.com



SMITH ■ ENVIRONMENTAL



800.482.2864

Cincinnati • Cleveland • Columbus

www.wadetrim.com