



# The Wave

Winter 2021

## SWOWEA Plant Operations Seminar & SWOWEA Section Meeting

Thursday, November 18, 2021

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

Time	Presentation Title	Speaker	Company
<b>Tour: 8:00–8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Registration/Continental Breakfast</b>		
8:30–9:15 a.m.	Leveraging 3-D Building Information Modeling for Design Review and Beyond	Sheamus Togher and Tom Schaffer	Hazen and Sawyer
9:15–9:45 a.m.	Optimizing Blower Filtration for Reliability, Efficiency and Value	Rob Geyer	Endustra Filters
<b>9:45–10:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>		
10:15–11:15 a.m.	50 Ways to Break a Pump	David Shank and Mark Upite	Burgess and Niple
11:15–12:00 p.m.	Project Management for Plant Operators	Dave Wilson	BL Anderson
<b>12:00–1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch and Business Meeting</b>		
1:00–2:00 p.m.	PFAS Sources, Test Methods, Sampling and Regulatory Updates	Kevin Custer	Pace
2:00–2:45 p.m.	Improving Biological Phosphorus Removal with Inline Fermentation	John Koch	Enviromix
<b>2:45–3:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>		
3:15–4:00 p.m.	Benefits and Advancements of Screw Presses for Sludge dewatering	Jim Pelton	Pelton Environmental

**Contact Hours** 5.5 hours

### Exhibitors

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

**Pre Register Online by 11/8/21 at [www.ohiowea.org](http://www.ohiowea.org)**

**Early Registration (by 11/8/21) — \$75.00**

**Late Registration (by 11/8/21) — \$90.00**

Registration 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 Bryan McNutt at [bryannm@cityofmiddletown.org](mailto:bryannm@cityofmiddletown.org) or (513) 425-7989**

We will be following CDC and state guidelines regarding COVID-19 which may include masks, social distancing, and other safety measures. The latest of CDC guidelines for preventing the spread of COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

# President's Corner

Happy Fall to those who embrace the change of seasons! I hope this update finds everyone in good health. WEFTEC has just wrapped up in Chicago, and once I hear about the attendance and how things went, I will pass along at our November meeting. I myself did not attend, but I hope those who did had a good time. If anyone has pictures from WEFTEC of OWEA, preferably Southwest members, please email a few to me ([dave.reinker@cityofmiamisburg.com](mailto:dave.reinker@cityofmiamisburg.com)) so I can have them uploaded onto the SWOWEA website. Thanks.

## Happenings

The SWOWEA has held its first in person event September 16, 2021, at Miamisburg's Water Reclamation Facility. There were approximately 60 attendees that toured the facility, and then enjoyed lunch and 3 technical presentations. A total of 2.75 contact hours were available to attendees. It was very nice for the section to have a face-to-face meeting, (first one since March 2020) and everyone seemed to enjoy the comradery. The amazing thing about this in person event was, how a newer EC pulled it off without any hiccups. The EC had 2 members drop off due to career changes, and a lost year of no meetings in person due to that COVID thing, but everyone on the EC made it happen. Thank you, Kelly, Justin, Ed, Kevin, Bryan, Chris, and Joseph. The SWOWEA Plant Operations committee will be hosting the November Plant Operations Seminar and SWOWEA section meeting in Mason, Ohio November 18, 2021 and put on a day of technical sessions. The day also included exhibits and displays by the ever-appreciated vendors. Thank you vendors!

## Upcoming

Looking towards the future, Christmas and New Years', the SWOWEA will be busy hosting our annual Past Presidents and 5S Luncheon in person this year on December 3, 2021, at the Manor House in Mason, Ohio. If you have not been contacted, please email Justin Bahar at [Justin.Bahar@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:Justin.Bahar@cincinnati-oh.gov) and update your email so that you are notified every year. Looking into the new year, the next section meeting will be hosted by the Industrial Waste committee (January 27, 2022 at Manor House). They have been busy touring a few candidates' facilities for the Karl G. Voelkel award. I had the pleasure to join the committee on one of the tours and coming from a mainly domestic wastewater treatment plant background, I thoroughly enjoyed seeing a packaging plant industry that opened my eyes to a whole new world of waste treatment. Along with the award presentation, a day of

technical sessions dealing with pretreatment and industrial waste will be presented for contact hours. Watch for the Wave in your email or check the SWOWEA website often for updates, <https://southwestowea.org/>.

## Help Needed

We are in need of a Chair for the Young Professionals (YP) Committee. If you know of someone that would be interested, or you are interested in the position (under 35 is a requirement), please contact me, [dave.reinker@cityofmiamisburg.com](mailto:dave.reinker@cityofmiamisburg.com). Finally get involved, we are always looking members to join our different committees in our organization, Collections, Plant Operations, Lab Analysts, Education, etc. You will make new friends, learn, grow, and help the Southwest remain the best!

Also, nominations are due for OWEA awards, and WEF awards. Contact Roger Rardain at [roger.rardain@fairbornoh.gov](mailto:roger.rardain@fairbornoh.gov) for the application process and any other questions.

David Reinker  
SWOWEA President  
[dave.reinker@cityofmiamisburg.com](mailto:dave.reinker@cityofmiamisburg.com)  
937 847-6651



## Executive Committee

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## The Wave

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

Editor: Kevin Stilwell - Clear  
Consulting, Inc.

Layout: Megan Bomar -  
Hazen & Sawyer

# Committee Reports

## Industrial Waste Committee



The Industrial Waste Committee is in the process of developing the agenda for the 32nd Industrial Waste Seminar to be held January 27, 2022 at the Manor House in Mason. The Seminar will include a full day of in-person presentations, access to Exhibitor information, and opportunities to socialize with colleagues... something we all have missed in the past year. In addition, the winner of the Karl G. Voelkel Industry Award will be presented.

There are still some openings for presentations for the 2022 Industrial Waste Seminar. Additional exhibitors are always welcome. So, if you are interested in presenting or exhibiting, please contact Jeff Frechtling at [jeff.frechtling@bcohio.us](mailto:jeff.frechtling@bcohio.us) or Barb Swafford at [bswafford@zoomtown.com](mailto:bswafford@zoomtown.com).

Industrial Waste Committee Co-chairs:

Jeff Frechtling [jeff.frechtling@bcohio.us](mailto:jeff.frechtling@bcohio.us) 513-887-3220

Barb Swafford [bswafford@zoomtown.com](mailto:bswafford@zoomtown.com) 513-288-3743

## Plant Ops Committee



Happy Fall from the Plant Ops Committee!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our August “Nearly Free” Seminar at the Greene County Fairgrounds. We appreciate all the speakers who came out and for all of the attendees who participated in our Round Table discussion: “How Did You Get Here?” It was great to hear many of the stories of how people got into the industry and to see many of you in person once again.

The Plant Ops Committee is currently busy finalizing the details for our the SWOWEA Plant Operations Seminar and Section Meeting on November 18, 2021 at the Manor House in Mason.

Topics covered this year include Pump Maintenance, Biological Phosphorus Removal, Project Management for Plant Operators, Optimizing Blower Filtration, 3-D BIM Modeling for Design Review and more.

This full-day, in-person event has been submitted for 5.5 contact hours. We are working with Manor House to coordinate a layout to promote social distancing and will be following other CDC guidelines. Registration for the event is live on the OWEA website.

If you have any questions about upcoming events or how you can get involved with the SWOWEA Plant Operations Committee please contact Alyssa Mayer [amayer@hazenandsawyer.com](mailto:amayer@hazenandsawyer.com) or Bryan McNutt [bryanm@cityofmiddletown.org](mailto:bryanm@cityofmiddletown.org).

## Collection Systems Committee



Normally we would be ramping up efforts the annual Collection Systems Hands-On Seminar, but this event has remained cancelled due to the lingering pandemic concerns. We do look forward to a SWOWEA Collection Systems focused Section Meeting in March 2022 and the State Collections System Committee hosting the annual statewide single day conference in May 2022, which we are actively searching for presentations to fill both. Until then be sure to keep your eye out for additional virtual events.

If you have any recommendations for presentation topics or suggestions of future workshops needs, feel free to reach out to me ([adam.athmer@strand.com](mailto:adam.athmer@strand.com), 513-861-5600).

See you out in the system!

Adam Athmer ([adam.athmer@strand.com](mailto:adam.athmer@strand.com))

## Safety Committee

We many us still working at home, the idea of safety may not be a concern. Realize that the folks still working at the plants may be trying to do more with less people around.

This hybrid work environment may be a great time to make some changes about safety in the office. With plans on workers coming back it could be a great opportunity to do a complete safety assessment for your facilities. Create a safer workplace so that when individuals are coming back, they can return with confidence that their safety is a priority. Also, reviewing current safety protocols for facilities that are short staffed or have lone individuals working in a facility where a year ago may have staffed multiple individuals should be a focus to make sure the tools and technology are there to support these individuals.

“Luck runs out, but safety is good for life.” – Anonymous  
Travis Cooper and Ted Simmons

## Lab Analyst Committee

Any interested committee member that would like to host our next in person meeting should send me an email. Also any ideas of what our members would like to see as far as presentations would be helpful. Teresa Shinkle has been recently added as a new committee member. She is from Greene County Sanitary Engineering Laboratory. My new email is: [lori.kyle@greencountyohio.gov](mailto:lori.kyle@greencountyohio.gov).

# Awards Committee Report

Congratulations to the SW Section's 2021 Award winners!

- PWO member - Mike Bowling, Hamilton WWTP
- JW Ellms - Sharon Vaughn, City of Dayton
- Engineering Excellence - Indian Creek WWTP, MSDGC

Every year SWOWEA and each of the other sections gather nominations that can be submitted to OWEA for the state awards.

There are a total of 15 awards given out each year at the state conference. As a section we often re-nominate candidates that scored well in the previous year but did not win. For 2022, we are only looking for candidates for the following awards:

- PWO member - Public works operator performing front-line work, non-administrative, non-supervisory, non-management position
- Lab Analyst - Excellence and Professionalism in Laboratory Operations
- JW Ellms - Outstanding Administrative or Supervisory Position, stressing participation in conference activities, civic affairs, and leadership
- Public Service - Elected Official or Officials demonstrating significant commitment to the water environment; candidates are not required to be OWEA members

However, We do accept worthy candidates for other awards!

A full list of OWEA awards and their descriptions can be found at [www.ohiowea.org/awards.php](http://www.ohiowea.org/awards.php).

Some background information on the nominated candidate will be needed.

The awards committee will help the nominator in assembling the information on the nominee. Please consider nominating someone you know.

Award nominations can be submitted to Roger Rardain (Awards Chair) at [roger.rardain@fairbornoh.gov](mailto:roger.rardain@fairbornoh.gov) or any SWOWEA Executive Committee member.

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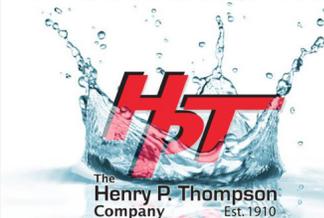
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