

SWOWEA Section Meeting

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Little Miami Wastewater Treatment Plant (LMWWTP)

Time	Presentation Title
9:00am–11:30am	Little Miami Wastewater Treatment Plant (LMWWTP) OWEA-#####-XX 1.00 hr 225 Wilmer Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45204
Registration 11:30am–12:00pm	MSD Administration Building 1081 Woodrow St. Cincinnati, OH 45204
Lunch: 12:00pm	MSD Administration Building Boxed Lunches: Assorted Ham, Turkey, Roast Beef
Business Meeting: 12:30pm	Welcome & Business Meeting Chris Zdinak, SWOWEA President
Technical Sessions: 1:00pm – 1:45 pm	Biological Activated Filtration Piloting at the Little Miami WWTP Nick Jones, Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati OWEA-#####-OM 0.75 hrs
1:45 pm – 2:30 pm	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades for Small Developments Kathryn Gilbert, Warren County Water & Sewer; Michael Orbash, Strand Associates, Inc. OWEA-#####-OM 0.75 hrs
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Break & Door Prizes
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm	Water Reuse and Advanced Water Treatment Pilot Alyssa Mayer, Hazen and Sawyer; Natalie Thompson, Hazen and Sawyer OWEA- SXXXXX-OM 1.00 hrs
3:45 pm	Closing Statement

Pre-register by September 13, 2025 To register and make credit card payments visit www.ohiowea.org.

Pre-registration: \$45- member; \$55- non-member; \$5 student ID.

Day of event \$55- member; \$65- non-member.

Registration is free with a paid OWEA/WEF new membership application.

Payment Contact: Adam Athmer SWOWEA Treasurer at adam.athmer@strand.com or (513) 861 5600.

Event Contact: Joseph Kamalesh SWOWEA VP at Joseph.Kamalesh@stantec.com or (513) 842 8219.

Make Checks Payable to:

Adam Athmer SWOWEA Treasurer
615 Elsinore Place, Suite 320
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Please honor your reservation with payment if unable to attend.

Directions

Directions to LMWWTP:

From I-71 South, Exit 9 – Red Bank Rd

Follow I-71 S to Red Bank Expressway, Red Bank Rd, Wooster Rd and Wilmer Ave.

Take Exit 9 for Red Bank Rd. towards Fairfax. Continue onto Red Bank Expressway for 1.1 miles. Turn right onto Wooster Pike for approximately 2.2 miles. Turn right onto Beechmont Circle for approximately 1.5 miles. Turn right onto Wilmer Ave. for approximately .40 miles. Turn right for 1.4 miles.

Turn left for approximately 500 feet. Destination will be on the left

From I-75 North

Take I-75 North until you reach exit #7 toward OH-562 / Norwood / I-71 (Norwood Lateral Expressway) take this exit for approximately 3.1 miles. Take the exit toward Cincinnati onto I-71 South for approximately 1.7 miles. Take exit #5 toward Dana Ave for approximately 0.3 miles. Turn left onto Dana Ave for 0.5 miles. Turn right onto Madison Rd. for approximately 0.5 miles. Keep left onto Torrence Pkwy for approximately 0.6 miles. Turn left onto Columbia Pkwy. (US-50) for 1.7 miles. Turn right onto Stanley Ave. toward Lunken Airport / Coney Island for 0.2 miles. Turn left onto Kellogg Ave (US-52) for 0.9 miles. Turn left onto Wilmer Ave. toward Cincinnati Municipal Lunken Airport for 262 feet.



Do Not Park Inside Little Miami WRF

Primary Parking is located in the lot across from the Lunken Field building. It is accessed off Airport Road, which can be accessed from Wilmer Avenue or Eastern Avenue. Follow the bike path towards the river and access Little Miami WRF from a door in the fence.

Secondary Parking is located at the Lunken Farmers Market. It is accessible from Wilmer Avenue. Please park in the back of the lot to avoid conflict with the farmers' market vendors. Cautiously cross the road to the Wilmer Avenue Entrance of Little Miami WRF.

Lunch and afternoon session will be held in the MSD Administration Building located at 1081 Woodrow Avenue



President's Corner

As we move into 2025–2026, I feel that SWOWEA is operating and organizing as close to normal as possible. I want to thank everyone who had to find a way to keep events going through the pandemic and quarantine. I also want to thank Ed Smith for helping me along my path to becoming the current SWOWEA President. One great thing about being a part of SOWEA is that past presidents stay involved and are always around to answer questions and help with events. I have enjoyed my time with the EC, made new friends, and built great relationships with people in the industry.

A little bit of background. I grew up in Richmond, OH, a small town in Eastern Ohio. The town had septic tanks with open channels, so as a child, I spent a lot of time playing in septic runoff, which explains my current career and impeccable immune system. I was in scouts all my life, from being a Tiger Cub to Eagle Scout. I moved to Cincinnati in 2001 to attend the University of Cincinnati. After I graduated with a BS in Environmental Studies, I was in Alaska for a few months working in the Fisheries Observer program, but Sea Life was not for me. Shortly after that, I moved to Athens, OH, to participate in the now AmeriCorps VISTA program as a member and then a member leader. After my programs were over, I returned to Cincinnati and began my career in Wastewater. In 2021, I received my Class IV license. I am currently in a Master of Public Administration program at Northern Kentucky University.

In the next year, I want to take the post-COVID momentum to increase the number of sponsors we rely on and bring new sponsors into the fold. I had a meeting with Xavier Leadership Academy about developing a leadership course curriculum I feel will be a good way to reward people for serving on the EC and will be used as a volunteer recruitment tool in the future. I also think we should consider having more non-section meetings, events like baseball nights at the Dayton Dragons.

We appreciate all the attendees, volunteers, and sponsors. We could not put on events without you all. I believe we have the best section! I have enjoyed, and will continue to enjoy, my time with SWOWEA.

Best regards,
Christopher Zdinak

SWOWEA President

Zdinakcm@protonmail.com

740 632 9932



Upcoming Executive Committee

President:

Christopher Zdinak
MSD of Greater Cincinnati

Vice President:

Joseph Kamalesh
Stantec

Treasurer:

Adam Athmer
Strand Associates

Secretary:

Lindsey Hassenauer
Hazen and Sawyer

3 Year Director:

Jeff Frechtling
Butler County Water & Sewer

2 Year Director:

Dinesh Palaniswamy
Warren County Water
& Sewer

1 Year Director:

Jim Boyd
Greene County Sanitary
Engineering Department

Past President:

Ed Smith
City of Mason

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

Committee Reports

Industrial Waste Committee

The Industrial Waste Committee is actively preparing for the next Industrial Waste Seminar (IWS) to be held January 22, 2026 at the Manor House in Mason, Ohio. Activities include:

- Soliciting nominations for next year's Karl G. Voelkel (KGV) Industry Award. This industry should exemplify and embrace environmental awareness and have consistently met effluent discharge requirements.
- Identifying presenters, sponsors, and exhibitors to participate in the 2023 IWS.
- Recruiting new members to be on the SWOWEA Committee to assist with development of the IWS.

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-cmte>.

Please contact Jeff Frechtling at jeff.frechtling@bcohio.gov or Barb Swafford at bswafford@zoomtown.com if you are interested in any of the above activities.

Collection Systems Committee Update

The OWEA Collections System Committee hosted the annual statewide single day conference in Dublin, Ohio on May 15, 2025. Many collection system subjects were presented to the over one hundred attendees from all across the state.

The State-wide Collection System Committee is actively planning for this year's Collection System Hands-On Workshops. This year the Southwest event will be hosted by Montgomery County Environmental Services in Kettering on October 23rd.

As always, if you have any recommendations for presentation topics or suggestions for future workshop needs, feel free to reach out to me.

Remember...no pipes, no plants!

Steve Donovan (stevedonovan62@gmail.com)

Plant Operations Committee

On June 5th, the Plant Ops Committee hosted the June Seminar with around 80 attendees and 5 contact hours. Thank you to YSI for hosting us, and our sponsors and speakers for helping us to create a successful event! We are currently working on planning for the November Seminar and Section Meeting which will be held at the Manor House on Thursday, November 20th. Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for information on event registration in the coming months. If you have a topic that you would like to present or a topic you'd like to hear more about at these Plant Ops sponsored events, please reach out to Alyssa Mayer (amayer@hazenandsawyer.com) with a short description of the topic.

SWOWEA Young Professionals Committee

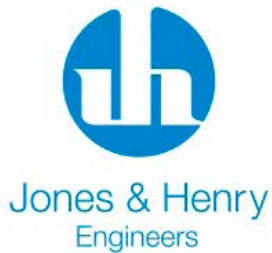
The SWOWEA YP Group toured the Rumpke Landfill this summer to learn about landfill construction, environmental protection, leachate collection, and surface water controls.



The next Young Professionals event will be a tour of the Mill Creek Barrier Dam, held on Thursday, October 2nd, at 12:30 and 2:00 PM. Please register to attend this event on the OWEA website. Reach out to Julia Beggs (julia.beggs@arcadis.com) or Maria Blanchard (blanchardmp1@bv.com) for more information and to be added to the SWOWEA YP email list to be informed of future events. Hope to see you there!

Sponsors

Gold Level



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