



Western Canada Onsite Wastewater
Management Association

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Saskatchewan Onsite Professionals Embrace Training

The onsite community in Saskatchewan is moving the industry forward by voluntarily participating in industry training.

During 2008, several Saskatchewan onsite professionals, both installers and regulators journeyed to Edmonton to receive Certification Training in onsite wastewater design and installation. As well, a training session was held in May 2008 in Saskatoon during which 21 people completed the six day program.

Later in October, a soils field training day was held at a property being developed just outside Saskatoon. Participants in this course learned about site and soil evaluation, the proper procedures for performing these evaluations and their role in the design process.

Three test pits were dug and examined allowing for different soils situations to be studied.

Further training will be available in Saskatoon this April for those wishing to enhance their

knowledge level.

Those interested in training should contact the WCOWMA office at 877.489.7471 or email their query to info@wcowma.com



Upcoming Training Dates

Days 1–3
April 7, 8 & 9 2009

Days 4–6:
April 21, 22 & 23, 2009

Location - Saskatoon

Canadian National Standard for Onsite Wastewater

A Canadian National Standard is being developed for the onsite wastewater industry.

The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) struck a committee composed from stakeholders from all regions of Canada. They include regulators, educators, installers and manufacturers. The focus of

the committee is Standard B-65, which is intended to develop construction and installation standards for onsite wastewater systems. This new Standard will incorporate the previous Standard B-66, which addressed the size and construction of septic tanks.

Due to the complexity of this development process, it is anticipated the work will not be completed until about 2013.

CSA National Standard is being developed for the design and installation of onsite wastewater systems.

Questions or comments? Contact us at 877.489.7471 or email us at info@wcowma.com

Western Canada Onsite Wastewater Management Association

Effective management and treatment of wastewater is high on the list of priorities for municipalities throughout Western Canada

The Value of the Municipal Connection

Effective management and treatment of wastewater is moving higher on the list of priorities for municipalities throughout Western Canada.

A prime reason driving this new level of awareness can be traced to urbanites' answer to the call of an ideal rural lifestyle that is sparking the growth for rural subdivisions almost everywhere. While growth brings new tax revenue for local governments, it also presents new challenges in municipal land use planning, especially with respect to wastewater.

That is why it's important for

all onsite professionals to look beyond their titles as installers or designers. Indeed, we are solution providers. We offer the answers to the many wastewater questions that county planners and administrators wrestle with on a daily basis.

Think of the consequences if we chose not to reach municipalities. There is nothing stopping counties and municipal districts from stopping rural growth altogether, or waiting for centralized wastewater infrastructure to arrive to service future growth areas. Clearly, these

scenarios would not be good for our industry.

By taking a proactive stance in advising municipalities that onsite systems can be effective solutions to their wastewater issues, we are choosing to ride this new wave of rural development and turning it into a better business opportunity for all of us.

Onsite Stakeholders Request Meeting With Sask Health

After meetings with various onsite stakeholders throughout Saskatchewan, WCOOWMA has submitted a letter to Saskatchewan Health outlining some concerns and issues:.

These are:

- 1) There is concern among the onsite community in Saskatchewan that consideration is being given by government to develop and/or allow for a self-regulation/inspection process of the onsite wastewater industry. Among other issues but particularly in the absence of specific and/or significant levels of professional training and certification within the industry, there is genuine

concern that this process if adopted, would negatively impact the industry, its credibility, and would undermine public health and safety.

- 2) There is concern that many systems currently being installed lack critical site-specific design data and/or operation and maintenance information. The installer community would embrace site specific designs and feel that site specific designs regardless of system complexity should be mandated by the Province. This work would be substantiated by involving several disciplines including science-based site and soil evaluation

practices.

- 3) There is a desire by the installer industry to receive appropriate onsite wastewater certification training that is compatible with the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) mandated within the Province.
- 4) There is support for a more prescriptive, science-based and performance-based Onsite Wastewater Disposal Guide.
- 5) Onsite stakeholders in Saskatchewan welcome the opportunity to consult with government and be included in the decision making processes with regard to issues affecting their industry.



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