



April 25, 2016

New Board of Directors for 2016

The Annual General Meeting for SOWMA was held on April 6, 2016 in Saskatoon, SK following the education day at the Western Development Museum. A new Board of Directors was ratified for the 2016 business year:

Travis Wolfe, President
Dean Van Impe, Vice-President
Larry Link, Secretary/Treasurer
Jason Holtvogt, Director
Blaine Radics, Director

Larry Link was welcomed as a new Board member. SOWMA would like to thank departing Secretary/Treasurer, Kris Zaleschuk for his many years of service to the Board.

New Permitting Process Implemented in Prairie North Health Region

The Prairie North Health Region is implementing a new permit process for onsite wastewater for the 2016 installation season.

Going forward, homeowners will only be able to apply for a permit for a sewage holding tank. All other septic systems must be designed and installed by certified installers or contractors. Contractors who are not certified but have demonstrated adequate knowledge and abilities in system design and install may be allowed on a case-by-case basis.

The permit fee of \$30.00 is part of the regulation and will be maintained. Under the regulation a fee of \$100.00 may be charged for reinspection should a system not pass its initial inspection.

An administration fee of \$100.00 will now be charged for application review and the initial site visit or system approval for the sewage system installed. Any subsequent site inspections will be subject to a further charge of \$100.00 per visit up to \$300.00 total per permit plus the \$30.00 permit fee.

PRNHA has a slide show available to contractors outlining how to use the ISC website to access legal parcel drawings and plot diagrams. Sample worksheets for system design and sizing are available from PRNHA or from the SOWMA member interface on the website.

Permit applications may now be completed and submitted electronically. A single point of contact has been created for all permit applications. Permits throughout the PNRHA are submitted to one person via permits@pnrha.ca. Standardized forms have been developed for this purpose. A list detailing what supporting documentation is required with the permit application is listed on page two of the application. More information is available by calling 1.888.298.0202.

Receipts and system approval letters will be generated and emailed back to the permit applicant. Receipts and system approvals are not valid unless signed in ink or digitally by one of the public health inspectors in the PNRHA.

Certificates of Approval will now be automatically generated and emailed back to applicants once the system has been approved and all inspections are conducted. Certificates of Approval are not valid unless signed in ink or digitally by one of the public health inspectors in the PNRHA.

SOWMA Education Series

A series of Education Days were held across the province in the first two weeks of April. Sessions were held in North Battleford, Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Swift Current, Melfort, and Weyburn. As well, SOWMA participated in and provided a presentation at the Regina Qu'appelle Health Region Contractor's Education Day.

These education days were very well attended with a total of 200 contractors and health officers participating overall. Representatives from the various health regions provided sessions on regulation and permitting, while SOWMA representatives provided sessions on site and soils evaluation and system design. Vendor sponsors provided additional presentations on system design for proprietary products and tools of the trade; products and systems available to contractors.

Education days such as this are only possible through the generous donations from industry manufacturers and suppliers. SOWMA would like to thank the following sponsors of this education series:

Anderson Pump House
Aqua Pump House
EMCO Corp Ltd.
FRP Manufacturing (2010) Ltd.
Polywest Liquid Handling Products
Wig's Pumps

Onsite Wastewater Practitioner Training

The next available training session dates are:

Days 1-3 - November 1 – 3, 2016 - Saskatoon, SK

Days 4-7 - November 15 – 18, 2016 – Saskatoon, SK

Registration is now open.

[Register online](#) or contact the association office at 855-872-2650 for more information.

Factory Training Event (SJE Rhombus)

Topics include product overviews, floatless technology, basic electrical theory, control panel operation, troubleshooting, best installation practices and hands-on classroom labs, including building a panel and installing an alarm.

Space is limited and priority will be given to first time attendees with completed registration form and confirmed travel arrangements.

Registration forms and more information can be downloaded here: <http://www.sowma.ca/?p=1699>

Spring Webinars (Orenco)

Orenco is offering thirteen different online classes in their spring webinar series. For registration, visit the training section of their website, which includes class descriptions, dates, and times.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for their next "What You Need to Know" session, scheduled for May 16th - 19th. This 4-day, live training lasts from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day and covers their most popular topics: residential system sizing and design, commercial treatment and effluent sewers, panels and pumps, and operation and maintenance. The registration fee includes lunch and snacks. Plus, attendees will get to tour their manufacturing facilities.

Membership Login on the SOWMA Website

Did you know that there is a member's only section of the SOWMA website? Members can log in for discounted training rates, useful worksheets, an industry forum and more.

If you are a current member and don't have access to this section of the website, why not contact our office and ensure we have an up-to-date email address for you?

Find us on Facebook

Stay in-touch on industry news, learn about our latest training sessions, and check out photos of some of our events all on the [SOWMA Facebook page](#).