



April 1, 2020

## **COVID-19**

In these difficult times it is important to remember we are a community. The health and safety of our members and the general public is of great importance to us.

The staff and Board of Directors for the Association will be following the directives of the Ministry of Health and self-quarantining if they have been traveling outside the Provincial boundaries. In-person meetings will be postponed or held through telecommunication or virtual means.

Those working in the onsite wastewater industry have the potential of exposure to a variety of pathogens during their day-to-day work. Please act in a responsible fashion, ensuring the health and safety of yourself, and all those around you. Wear proper Personal Protection Equipment when working with wastewater: Proper eye protection goggles, a face mask, medical grade gloves (double-glove), waterproof or water resistant coveralls, and rubber boots. Keep your work clothes separate from your daily wear. Wash your work clothes separately from your daily wear.

Wash your hands frequently and do not touch your face. Washing your hands with soap and water is an important step in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and other pathogens.

And finally, please do not go out for any non-essential reason.

For more steps you can take, please visit the World Health Organization website.

More information can also be found on our website.

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## **Association Access During COVID-19**

You may be wondering if your Association office is open for business during the COVID-19 crisis. The answer is yes.

Our physical doors may not be open, however our phone lines, email, and other virtual services certainly are. We are pleased to be able to continue to answer queries and provide information to our membership and the general public, as we always have in the past.

We are hindered in providing classroom training at this time, however are looking at ways to move to a virtual classroom for some of our training offerings, at least while the regulations and mandates regarding gatherings are currently in place.

The Association strives to provide good service to our membership and the general public with information on industry news, training, regulatory changes, membership services, etc.

Please reach out; we are still here.



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### **How Are You Keeping Busy?**

Have you tried in home workout routines? Push up challenges, sit up challenges, plank challenges, skipping challenges etc. How about hanging out with friends online? Organize online meetings using ZOOM, Skype, Facebook Messenger or google hangouts.

Head on over to our Facebook pages and let us know.

We've included a list of more ideas on our website.

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### **Worst Story Contest**

**The stories are in! We asked and you delivered.**

We have picked the top three stories submitted by the deadline, and the winner is up to you. Read the stories, then cast your vote!

The author of the top story receives a \$100 gift card to Mark's Work Wearhouse. Second place will receive a \$50 Tim Horton's gift card.

Read the stories on our website: <https://www.sowma.ca/vote-for-your-favourite-story/>

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### **Presentation at the Saskatoon Health Board**

The Saskatchewan Onsite Wastewater Management Association provided an informative education day for the Saskatoon Health Officers on Tuesday, March 10. SOWMA Members in the Saskatoon area were invited to attend.

The goal of the presentation at the Health Board was to review Mound and Enviro Septic designs, and along with red flags on permit package's for the upcoming season. Eighteen Contractors, Suppliers and Health Board officials attended the presentation.

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### **SOWMA Education Days are Postponed**

Please bear with us as we reschedule this annual event.

For more information please contact [adrienne@sowma.ca](mailto:adrienne@sowma.ca) or call 306-988-2102.

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### **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 our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/SaskatchewanOnsiteWastewaterManagementAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/SaskatchewanOnsiteWastewaterManagementAssociation)