



NewsWaves



A joint publication of MSAWWA & MWEA
SPRING 2022



Welcome Back!

An Invitation to the 2022 Conference!

“Working Together To Protect Montana’s Water Resources”
95th Meeting of the Montana Section of the American Water Works Association
76th Meeting of the Montana Water Environment Association
April 26-28, 2022 · Great Falls, Montana

MSAWWA Preconference: “Groundwater Under The influence of Surface Water”

WELCOME TO GREAT FALLS “THE ELECTRIC CITY”

All are invited to join us in Great Falls for the 2022 MSAWWA – MWEA Joint Conference. **YES**, after a two-year hiatus, we will once again gather in person to continue fostering our work in the water and wastewater professions. The MSAWWA Education and the Joint Program Committee have once again put together an excellent pre-conference and conference slate of speakers and sessions. Whether you are in the initial phases of your career or you have a very lengthy resume, there is always much to learn in the water industry with the changes in issues, technology, and regulations. Beyond the classroom sessions there will be tours of both the City’s WTP and WWTP. Both plants have undergone recent extensive upgrades and these tours will offer a look at up-to-date treatment processes.

Beyond the educational aspect of the conference, Great Falls has numerous offerings to enjoy. The River’s Edge Trail invites walkers, runners, and bikers along both sides of the Missouri River. With a very short drive you can find several dams on the River (one with a new power house), the First Peoples Buffalo Jump visitors center at Ulm, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, and FWP Region 4 headquarters with its wildlife displays. Also, several museums provide a variety of exhibits to enjoy. Looking for something else? Don’t hesitate to ask one of the local attendees.

We sincerely hope to see you for the conference in Great Falls! • **Your MSAWWA-MWEA 2022 Host City Committee**

Inside:

- **2022 Joint Conference Preliminary Schedule**
- **Joint Conference Registration links**
- **2021-2022 MSAWWA-MWEA Boards**
- **2021-2022 MSAWWA-MWEA Committee Chairs**
- **Direct links to advertisers—just click 'n go!**

NewsWaves is a joint publication of the Montana Section of the American Water Works Association and the Montana Water Environment Association. It is published twice yearly. It is available for viewing or printing on our website at: www.montanawater.org.

We welcome contributions to NewsWaves. For more information, contact:

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Mission of Montana Section AWWA

The Montana Section of American Water Works Association is dedicated to the promotion of public health and welfare in the provision of drinking water of unquestionable quality and sufficient quantity. Montana Section of AWWA will provide the forum and opportunity through which its membership can exchange information, learn of new issues and technologies, educate the public, and enhance the professionalism of workers in all areas of the water industry.



Mission of the Montana Water Environment Association

The Montana Water Environment Association (MWEA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Montana's water environment. The Association is committed to advancing science and education, disseminating technical information, increasing public understanding and promoting sound public policy in the water quality and water resources field.



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~Water For People Raffle~

The Water For People committee will be holding a raffle to support projects being undertaken to provide clean drinking water to those in need. Thank You Great West Engineering for providing the Winston fly rod that will be the first place prize! Second place is a \$200 cash prize. The drawing will take place during the banquet on Wednesday evening during the Joint Conference. Tickets are \$20.00 each and can be purchased at the Joint Conference or by contacting Carrie Gardner at . You do not need to be present to win.

Greetings from your MSAWWA Chair

Winter/spring greetings to all section members! To say it's been an unpredictable couple of years is definitely an understatement and I am excited we are able to hold an in-person joint conference this year as our last conference was held in 2019! Spending time with our friends and colleagues is motivational and inspirational. At our conferences there has always been a certain energy and refreshment of our purpose. The COVID pandemic has been especially difficult for leadership in the section. I'm grateful to the board and Robin for their effort and work to keep us responsive to our members needs and conducting our business over the past couple of years and staying as active as possible on the section level through numerous video conferences.

I am honored to be your Board Chair this year and would like to express thanks to our Past Chair, Jeff Jenson, for his hard work throughout his years on the board and his guidance as Chair through a completely virtual year of our section. I also want to welcome Matt Mudd to the board as our Junior Trustee. Matt has served in recent years as our membership committee chair and has been heavily involved in AWWA for many years.

We are looking forward to our in-person 2022 Joint Conference "Working Together to protect Montana's Resources", April 26th-28th in Great Falls where we will be joined by AWWA Past President Melissa Elliot. The Preconference (April 26th) will be on "Groundwater Under the Influence of Surface Water". Be sure to visit our website at www.montanawater.org for more information.

The EPA small systems operator training was held on November 30th- December 1st of 2021 and was well attended and a big success again. Another EPA workshop is slated for June in Kalispell, be sure to check our website for current information.

The Water For People (WFP) committee has continued fundraising efforts to support access to clean, safe, water in places like Bolivia & Rwanda. This year a Winston Fly Rod will be auctioned off at the joint conference to raise funds for WFP to continue to support these efforts. There will also be cash raffle to continue to support the Scholarship fund at the conference. If you are able, please make sure to check out and support these raffles at the Joint Conference.

The Student and Young Professional Committee (SYP), which is a joint committee with MWEA, has done an excellent job of staying active and engaging our young members under Maddie Thompson's leadership. The committee held virtual trivia nights, AWWA Water Tower Building Contest and participated in a river clean-up hosted by the Gallatin Watershed Council. Checkout the section's website or Facebook page to learn more about all the great things this committee is doing.

MSAWWA's membership has held steady during the last couple of years and it's great to see the commitment across the state to preserve and enhance our most valuable waters. Our membership is comprised of people in all areas of the industry from regulators to operators, engineers and suppliers, young students and professionals. It's a great opportunity to be a part of this network of people who all share the same goal.

Looking forward to the Joint Conference in Great Falls this April, there will be lots of great educational and networking opportunities. I also encourage you to join and lead committees and reach out to welcome new members. I look forward to seeing you all in Great Falls!

~Carrie Gardner, MSAWWA Chair

~Joint Scholarship Fund Raffle~

Thank you to Great West Engineering, Morrison Maierle, HDR Engineering and Yellowstone Waterworks for their generous donations for this year's raffle to help fund the Donald G. Willems Joint Scholarship. 1st prize is \$500 cash; 2nd prize is \$200 cash; and 3rd prize is \$100 cash. Tickets are available for purchase at the Joint Conference or by contacting Greg Lukasik, Committee Chair, by email at glukasik@greatwesteng.com The drawings will take place at the banquet on Wednesday evening of the Joint Conference. You need not be present to win. Ticket prices are \$5/each or 5 tickets for \$20. Buy your tickets to help fund a scholarship for a deserving student!

Visiting Dignitaries from AWWA & WEF

Attendees of the 2022 Joint Conference will be introduced to **AWWA Immediate Past President (2021-2022) Melissa Elliott** and current **WEF Board of Trustees Member Howard Carter**.

Melissa Elliott's career is focused on helping water and wastewater utilities tell their stories. She is the Director of Strategic Communication Services at Raftelis where she consults with utilities to provide communication planning, stakeholder engagement and risk communications. Prior to joining Raftelis, Melissa directed public relations departments at two large Colorado utilities-- Denver Water and Aurora Water. All that utility experience means she's worked with the public on issues as diverse as drought, water quality, potable reuse, affordability, rate structure change, massive infrastructure projects, and customer assistance programs.



Being AWWA President has given Melissa a new avenue to elevate the conversation about the value of the services utilities provide. As a public relations practitioner working in the highly technical water industry, Melissa makes it her mission to push those around her to stop being so humble about the essential work we do. She says if we want others to understand our challenges, we need to build relationships with the people and communities we serve and talk about the value we provide.

When she's not working with utilities, Melissa makes her home in Denver where she enjoys cooking for friends, planning future travel adventures and spending time in the Colorado sunshine with her husband.

Howard Carter is a member of the 2021-22 Board of Trustees for the Water Environment Federation (WEF), an international organization of water quality professionals headquartered in Alexandria, Va.

Howard is the director of the Water Resource Recovery Department for the City of Saco, Maine. He is responsible the daily operations and maintenance, funding, staffing, billing, licensing and construction and of the city's Resource Recovery Facility and 32 pumping stations. He also oversees the implementation of Combined Sewer Overflow Master Plan and any separation or construction projects associated with that.



A WEF member since 1998, Howard spent five years in the House of Delegates as a representative of the New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA) and his last year as the speaker of the House. During that time, he has chaired the House Nominating Committee, served on the House Steering Committee, the CLC Steering Committee, along with the WEFMAX, Outreach and Budget committees, and has been a member of most work groups. Additionally, he was a founding member of the New England Operations Challenge team "Pump Fiction" that went on to compete nationally in both Division 1 and 2 for a number of years.

Howard is also an active member of NEWEA, where he served as president in 2010. He is also a past president of the Maine Water Environment Association in 2002.

In addition to receiving numerous WEF Operations Challenge team awards over the years Howard is also a recipient of the William D. Hatfield Award, the Arthur Sidney Bedell Award, A WEF Fellow, a WEF Service Pin Recipient, and a member of the Select Society of Sanitary Shovelers.

Howard is a graduate of both the U.S. Naval Nuclear Piping/Mechanical Apprenticeship program and the Southern Maine Technical College Wastewater Treatment/ Environmental program.

Hello from your MWEA President

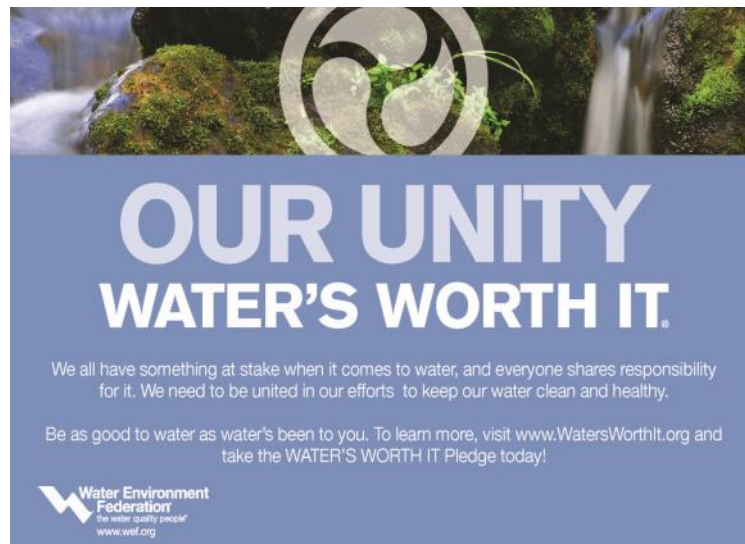
Welcome back to what will be our first in person conference since 2019! I'm Neil DeZort, the 2021-2022 MWEA President, and to say that we are excited to have everyone back together would be an understatement! Over the past two years, your MWEA Board has been holding our regular meetings virtually and have been working hard to stay as active as possible while being constrained to virtual events.

MWEA has put on 3 virtual trainings through the pandemic period in an attempt to provide both engineers and operators with educational opportunities. These trainings have encompassed topics from pretreatment to wastewater operations and were attended by a total of 61 people.

Our Grants for Teachers committee has begun gearing up again and are actively looking for teacher applicants looking to receive grants for water related projects in the classroom.

The MWEA Board has welcomed two new Board members in the past two years, Collette Anderson of Great West Engineering, and Bruce Souder of the City of Billings. We also welcomed an interim Board member, Rickey Schultz of HDR Engineering and interim National Delegate Dave Aune. These past two years have been extremely challenging but I believe there are exciting times ahead!

I hope you all will be attending the 2022 Joint Conference and I look forward to connecting with you again! ~Neil DeZort, MWEA President



MONTANA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OPERATOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The Montana Water Environment Association (MWEA) has allocated funds for certified operators looking for assistance in paying for continuing education and/or training event costs. Applicants must complete a scholarship application one month ahead of the training session they plan to attend, and awards of up to \$500 can be realized by each applicant. When approved in advance, the award money can be used to pay for the actual training as well as other miscellaneous costs associated with attending. Applicants must be a Montana certified operator or operator in training. Applications are available on the website at www.montanawater.org/awards-scholarships/scholarships-available/ or can be obtained by emailing MWEA Secretary/Treasurer, Rodney Lance at rodney.lance@veolia.com

NEW MWEA MEMBERS SINCE SPRING 2019

Collette	Anderson	Great West Engineering Inc
Dean	Baker	
Claire	Bucklin	
Alex	Ciessau	AE2S
Kevin	Cook	
Lewis	Day	
Kory	Farthing	Victaulic
Joe	Fayden	Veolia
Cody	Flammond	City of Bozeman WRF
Zachary	Frieling	
Linda	Hills	Eastern Research Group
Chris	Jewett	
Carmel	Johnston	
Leo	Kapp	
Catherine	Kirkland	
Jacqueline	Kuhl	MT DEQ
Kevin	Kundert	
Steven	Lipetzky	MT DEQ
Zach	Magdol	
Brett	Marshall	River Continuum Concepts Inc.
Kyla	McKee	
Elizabeth	Minyard	Brown and Caldwell
Jefferson	Moss	
Kaela	Murphy	Robert Peccia & Associates
Dan	O'Leary	Jacobs Engineering Group
David	Peterson	City of Havre
Anabel	Radtke	
Andrew	Rheem	Raftelis
Russell	Smith	
Bruce	Souder	Billings Public Works WQD
Jasper	Thomas	
Matthew	Vonbergen	
Kelsey	Wagner	
Matthew	Waite	MT DEQ
Max	Weiss	
Dustin	Wheeler	DOWL



Environment Association

Welcome new members!

The names at left are members who have joined MWEA since the 2019 conference. Thank you for being a part of MWEA and we hope to see you at the 2022 Joint Conference!

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www.wef.org/WWTF

[Activities Taking Place at the Conference](#)

Pub-style Trivia Challenge—Bring your team of 4-5 to the main Exhibitor Area during the Thursday morning break to challenge friends, competitors, and coworkers in a pub style trivia wager of wits. There will be both water and wastewater related questions and there will be a great prize for members of the winning team!

Rules:

- Teams will be made of 4-5 members.
- No electronic devices or any type of outside sources are allowed. Teams that are reported using any outside devices will be disqualified.

Best Tap Water Taste Test Challenge—Bozeman Water was the big winner in the last taste test held in 2019 so here is your chance to steal the show and take home the honors! Once again we will be leaving it to the judges to crown an official winner of the 7th Annual *Best Tap Water Taste Test Competition*. Bring your community pride and come support your city in the competition!! The Taste Test Challenge will take place in the Exhibitor Area during the Thursday morning break. The winning system will compete at the national level at ACE22 in June.

Rules:

- Participant must not have incurred any state or federal drinking water violations (MCL, monitoring, recordkeeping, etc.) during the previous 12 months.
- Samples should be brought in glass containers with the name of the water system clearly identified and delivered to Robin Matthews-Barnes at the front desk by 5 pm on Wednesday of the conference. Please deliver at least 1/2 gallon of water total (can be in multiple containers).
- Samples will be served at room temperature to help the judges better assess each sample.
- The official judging panel will be a mix of local public figures and flavor-profile analyzers.
- Samples will be judged on a 10-point scale from Good (1) to Best (10).
- Scores will be tabulated and the winner will be announced immediately following the contest.

SYP Poster Competition—The Joint Student & Young Professionals Committee is sponsoring the 5th annual poster competition at this year's conference. Posters will be displayed throughout the Exhibitor Area during the conference and the winner will be announced at the banquet on Wednesday evening. The winner will receive free registration and travel to ACE22!

Game Night—Join the fun after the banquet on Wednesday evening for Game Night! Partake in different games and enter for great prizes. There will be something for everyone and you have to be there to win!

2022 JOINT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please go to <https://www.montanawater.org/joint-conference/2022-joint-conference/> for more information and to fill out the registration form, or simply click on the link below.

CEC Information—Approximately 7 hours of training will be available for attendance at the preconference & 10 hours of training will be available for attendance at the conference, with a possible additional 2 hours for attendance at the Thursday afternoon facility tours. Actual number of credit hours are awaiting MT DEQ approval. Additional information & CEC forms will be included in your registration packet at the conference.

You can register and pay by check or with credit or debit card. See the website for more detail. Please contact Robin Matthews-Barnes at Info@montanawater.org with any questions, or if you would like a hard copy of the registration form mailed to you, or emailed directly to you.

Attendees: [Click here to register for the 2022 Joint Conference](#)

Exhibitors: [Click here to reserve a booth for the 2022 Joint Conference](#)

For lodging reservations—please call the Great Falls Heritage Inn at 406-761-1900 and mention the conference to obtain the conference rate of \$96/night + tax. To register online go to www.gfheritageinn.com.



MSAWWA PRECONFERENCE
“Groundwater Under the Influence of Surface Water”
Tuesday—April 26, 2022

7:00 am—5:00 pm Registration Desk Open

8:00 am—5:00 pm All Day Session including Lunch

5:00pm—6:30 pm Ice-Breaker—Beer & Wine and Appetizers

Preconference Session — Room location: tbd	
Moderator: Collette Anderson, Great West Engineering	
8:00 – 8:15	Preconference Welcome and Overview— Collette Anderson, Education Committee Chair
8:15 – 9:00	DEQ - GWUDISW Regulatory Overview— Scott Patterson, MT DEQ
9:00 – 9:15	BREAK
9:15 – 10:15	GWUDISW Classification, Now What?— Lisa Kaufman, MT DEQ
10:15 – 10:30	BREAK
10:30 – 11:15	Big Timber/Wilsall Case Study— Crystal Bennett & Susan Hayes, Great West Engineering
11:15 – 12:00	Beneath the Surface - Design Considerations for Surface Water Sources—
12:00 – 1:15	Lunch (hosted)
1:15 – 2:00	GWUDISW— Eric Blanksma, Morrison-Maierle
2:00 – 2:45	The High Rate Adsorption Clarifier Replaces Conventional Clarification— Jayme M. W. Tuomala, WesTech Engineering
2:45 – 3:00	BREAK
3:00 – 4:00	DEQ - GWUDISW Case Studies— Scott Patterson, MT DEQ
4:00– 4:15	BREAK
4:15 – 5:15	Beneath the Surface - Design Considerations for Surface Water Sources— Lisa Kaufman, MT DEQ

MSAWWA-MWEA 2022 JOINT CONFERENCE
“Working Together To Protect Montana’s Water Resources”
Wednesday—April 27, 2022

7:00 am—8:00 am	Early Morning Break (Exhibitor Area)
7:00 am—5:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
8:00 am—11:45 am	Morning General Session & Awards
11:45 am —1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm—5:30 pm	Afternoon Concurrent Sessions
5:30 pm—6:30 pm	Beer & Wine Reception (Exhibitor Area)
6:30 pm—8:30 pm	Banquet & Awards
	<u>Water For People Raffle Drawing</u>
	1st Prize: Pure (light weight) 9', 4 piece 5 wt Winston Fly Rod valued at \$895 Donated by Great West Engineering
	2nd Prize: \$200 cash prize
	<u>Scholarship Fund Raffle Drawing</u>
	1st Prize: \$500 cash prize
	2nd Prize: \$200 cash prize
	3rd Prize: \$100 cash prize
8:30 pm—10:00 pm	Game Night!

Morning General Session

Wednesday General Session— Room location: Canadian/Britain/American Rooms Moderator: Carrie Gardner, MSAWWA Chair and Neil DeZort, MWEA President	
8:00 – 8:30	Welcome and Opening Session Carrie Gardner, MSAWWA Chair and Neil DeZort, MWEA President Bob Kelly, Mayor City of Great Falls
8:30 – 9:30	AWWA & WEF Guest Speakers Melissa Elliott, AWWA Immediate Past President Howard Carter, WEF Trustee
9:30 – 9:45	BREAK – Exhibitor Area
9:45 – 10:15	City of Bozeman Growth John Alston, City of Bozeman
10:15 – 11:00	Rural Development Overview Ashley Kroon and Ryan Urbanec, State Engineers
11:00 – 11:45	Awards followed by lunch in Exhibitor Area

CEC Information—Approximately 7 hours of training will be available for attendance at the preconference & 10 hours of training will be available for attendance at the conference, with a possible additional 2 hours for attendance at the Thursday afternoon facility tours. Actual number of credit hours are awaiting MT DEQ approval. Additional information & CEC forms will be included in your registration packet at the conference.

Wednesday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions

Drinking Water Sessions—Room location: tbd Moderator: tbd	
1:00 – 1:45	Lessons Learned During Five Years of Operation at Montana’s First Ceramic Membrane Drinking Water Plant Dave Holland, Aqua-Aerobic Systems
1:45 – 2:30	The Role of Smart Tanks in Distribution Water Quality Management Jeff Rhodes, UGSI Solutions
2:30 – 3:15	BREAK – Exhibitor Area
3:15 – 4:00	City of Glendive Water Treatment Upgrades Susan Hayes and Amy Deitchler, Great West Engineering
4:00 – 4:45	Gravity Filter Media and Process Performance Assessment Ross Hanson, AE2S
4:45 – 5:30	The RapiSand Plus Packaged Treatment Plant Jayme Tuomala, WesTech Engineer LLC

Wastewater Treatment Sessions—Room location: tbd Moderator: tbd	
1:00 – 1:45	Design and Construction of an MBR Scott Jungwirth, AE2S
1:45 – 2:30	Reacting to Rapid Growth Impacts on a Small Community Wastewater System Jeremy Perlinski, Robert Peccia & Associates
2:30 – 3:15	BREAK – Exhibitor Area
3:15 – 4:00	Influent Wastewater Loading Characteristics Sergio Pino-Jelcic, OVIVO
4:00 – 4:45	Replacing the Sewer System in Downtown Bigfork Jeff Cicon, Morrison-Maierle
4:45 – 5:30	Ammonia Permits and Lagoons: Options Available for Beating Limits Patrick Ely, Nexom

Miscellaneous—Room location: tbd Moderator: tbd	
1:00 – 1:45	Rattlesnake Creek Dam Removal and Restoration: A Successful Dam Project Rob Roberts, Trout Unlimited; Matt Daniels, River Design Group; Ross Mollenhauer, City of Missoula
1:45 – 2:30	Coagulant/Flocculant 101 – Fundamentals of Clarification and Dewatering Yong Kim, UGSI Solutions
2:30 – 3:15	BREAK – Exhibitor Area
3:15 – 4:00	Bust the Rust! Lizzy Muir, HDR
4:00 – 4:45	Climate Resiliency and Adaptation Planning: Resources to Get Started Karen Sanchez and Alyssa Hall, Cadmus Group
4:45 – 5:30	Telemetry/SCADA – Project Delivery Options and Pitfalls Terry Stulc, HDR

MSAWWA-MWEA 2022 JOINT CONFERENCE
“Working Together To Protect Montana’s Water Resources”
Thursday—April 28, 2022

- 7:00 am—8:30 am** **Early Morning Break (Exhibitor Area)**
- 7:30 am—8:30 am** **Joint MSAWWA-MWEA Membership Meeting and Election of Officers**
- 7:30 am—10:00 am** **Registration Desk Open**
- 8:30 am—12:30 pm** **Morning Concurrent Sessions**
- 10:00 am—11:00 am** **Mid-Morning Break—Operator Trivia Challenge & Best Tap Water Taste Test (Exhibitor Area)**
- 12:30 pm—1:30 pm** **Lunch & Prize Drawings—Must be present to win from a great selection of Exhibitor sponsored prizes!**
- 1:30 pm—3:30 pm** **Facility Tours**

Drinking Water Sessions—Room location: tbd

Moderator: tbd

8:30 – 9:15	Expanding for Growth and Compliance - Lockwood Water Treatment Plant Laura Gundlach, Morrison-Maierle
9:15 – 10:00	Application of Two-Stage Ultrafiltration for High Water Recovery and Minimal Waste Discharge in Big Timber, MT Chelsea Jensen, WesTech Engineering
10:00 – 11:00	BREAK – Exhibitor Area
11:00 – 11:45	Planning and Prioritization: The City of Bend Integrated Water System Master Plan Michele Neibergs, Murraysmith
11:45 – 12:30	

Wastewater Treatment Sessions—Room location: tbd

Moderator: tbd

8:30 – 9:15	Low Pressure Biogas System Design Considerations & Troubleshooting Kevin Cook, AE2S
9:15 – 10:00	Achieving Cold Weather Biological Nutrient Removal with AquaNereda® Aerobic Granular Sludge Joe Tardio, Aqua Aerobics
10:00 – 11:00	BREAK – Exhibitor Area
11:00 – 11:45	Bozeman’s Water Reclamation Facility – Growing Fast and Poised for the Future Coralynn Revis, HDR and Tom Radcliffe, City of Bozeman
11:45 – 12:30	Town of Manhattan Water Resource Recovery Facility Upgrades and Process Optimization Kelsey Wagner, AE2S

Stormwater—Room location: tbd Moderator: tbd	
8:30 – 9:15	Optimizing Polymer Mixing and Activation: Following the Science Jeff Rhodes, UGSI Solutions
9:15 – 10:00	Montana Capacity Development Michael Kropp,
10:00 – 11:00	BREAK – Exhibitor Area
11:00 – 11:45	Static Mixers: Benefits in a Continuous Flow Application Lou Mattaliano, STATIFLO Corp.
11:45 – 12:30	A Pilot Project for Mechanical Reinstatement of Service Connections in CIPP Lined Pressure Pipes Bradley Conder, Aegion Corporation

Don't forget about the Joint Membership Meeting!

This meeting is where members from both organizations are updated with what is happening at the board meetings. New officers are also elected at this time. The meeting takes place at 7:30 am Thursday morning—there is a drawing for a great prize just for showing up!

Thank you to the following sponsors of the 2022 Joint Conference:

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**“ONE AWWA” WATER OPERATOR
SCHOLARSHIPS**

MSAWWA has teamed with AWWA’s “The Water Equation” Campaign to offer (1) \$1000 or (2) \$500 Water Operator Scholarships annually. The creation of the “One AWWA” Operator Scholarship addresses the present and future workforce need for operators by providing training and educational funding. It also creates an opportunity for collaboration between the Association and Sections within The Water Equation Campaign. The scholarship award can be used for certification/licensure, two-year water related associate degree, technical school program, professional training program, books and manuals and operator related conferences. Each scholarship recipient will also receive a one-year AWWA Operator membership. An application can be downloaded from the website at:

www.montanawater.org/awards-scholarships/scholarships-available/.



Contact
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for more information

Bill Flanagan
Cell 406-599-0575 * Office 970-535-0571
wflanagan@isiwest.com * www.isiwest.com



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Jac	Miller	City of Bozeman Water Treatment Plant
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Lynn	Stutzman	
Andrew	Sullivan	Forsyth Water Department
Kelsey	Wagner	AE2S
Erin	Wall	
Scott	Weisbeck	Cushing Terrell
Calvin	Zehnder	



Montana Section

American Water Works Association

Welcome new members!

The names on the left are members who have joined MSAWWA since the 2019 conference. Thank you for being a part of MSAWWA! Hope to see you all at the conference!



*Thank You To All Of The Exhibitors & Sponsors
that have committed to participate in the 2022 Joint Conference*

- Advanced Pump & Equipment
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- DN Tanks
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- Frontier Precision
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- Morrison-Maierle
- Murraysmith
- Neo Water Treatment
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- USDA Rural Development
- Winn-Marion Companies
- Yellowstone Waterworks

*~Your support of the Annual Joint Conference is vital
to its success and is sincerely appreciated~*

Calling All Student Writers!!

Write About Anything Water or Wastewater and Win a \$200 Scholarship

MSAWWA & MWEA produce **Newswaves** twice yearly for the memberships. Our subscribers include professionals in the water and wastewater industries including Montana cities and towns, engineering firms, and suppliers.

We certainly would like to hear from the education community. For each newsletter we encourage submission of student papers of 1000 words or less. If more than one article is submitted, they will be judged and the top pick will be printed in the newsletter. In addition, the student will receive a \$200 scholarship along with a 1 year membership to AWWA or WEF. The next **Newswaves** will be published this coming summer/fall. Articles must be received by August 15, 2022. to be considered. For more information, please contact Robin Matthews-Barnes at 406-546-5496 or by email at: info@montanawater.org



SMALL SYSTEM OPERATOR TRAINING:

Achieve & Maintain Compliance with the SDWA



MSAWWA Free Training In 2022

The Montana Section AWWA in partnership with AWWA and RCAP is offering another free small system training workshop coming up this fall . The 8 hour workshop will be held virtually on November 16, 2022 with CEUs available. The workshop is titled “Small System Operator Training: Achieve and Maintain Compliance with the Safe Water Drinking Act”. The workshop is made available through EPA Grant funding awarded to RCAP, and a subagreement with AWWA.

In 2020, AWWA updated/refreshed the library of content and developed new lessons on cyanotoxins, legionella/premise plumbing, and created a new learning lab to provide hands-on sampling and water quality monitoring learning opportunities. Topics include: Regulatory compliance, Disinfection, Nitrification, DBP control, and Source Water Protection.

Please feel free to contact Robin Barnes, MSAWWA Exec. Secretary at info@montanawater.org for more information. More information will also be posted on the joint website at www.montanawater.org as it becomes available.

Joint Student & Young Professional Poster Competition

The 5th Annual Joint Fresh Ideas Poster Competition will be taking place during the Joint Conference. The posters will be presented and judged on Wednesday, the schedule is below. Please come and support the students and young professionals that have brought posters to present. The winner of the competition wins a trip to ACE22 to compete at the national level.

2022 MSAWWA-MWEA S&YP Poster Competition

Presentation Time	Presenter	Topic
	Tasnim Sultana Ritu	Analyzing the performance of aerobic granular sludge to reduce PFAS and conventional nutrients from wastewater (MSU)
	Abigail Murray	Assessing the use of a multifunctional bio-mineralized composite to treat contaminated stormwater runoff (MSU)
	Mohammad-Hosein Mozaffari	Innovative Perspective in Aerated Constructed Wetlands for Treating Wastewater (MSU)
	Kristen Brush	Optimizing Total Nitrogen Removal in a Two-Stage Vertical Flow Treatment Wetland (MSU)
	Maddie Thompson	Kalispell Stormwater Quality Treatment Facilities (AE2S)

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The **Water Environment Federation (WEF)**...we are the water quality people.

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get connected, engaged and make the most of WEF membership!

advance your career

Tap into the leading career network for the water community, WEF's Job Bank, where dozens of new jobs are posted each month.

sharpen your professional skills

Stay informed about the latest innovations, trends, and proven solutions through WEF's publications and educational programs, including: WEFTEC®, WEF Specialty Conferences, and free WEF webcasts (earn CEUs and PDHs). WEF members receive exclusive discounts on our educational programs and products.

network and build relationships

Within WEF and local Member Associations (MAs), members work to help each other develop and grow professionally, while building valuable relationships with industry partners and prospects. Joint WEF/local MA membership ensures your access to professional resources at global and regional levels.

impact the future

WEF's committees are a driving force behind the organization's work. Committee participation is a great opportunity to get involved, make a difference in the organization and contribute to our work within the sector.

increase awareness and recognition in your industry

Each year, WEF recognizes individuals making outstanding contributions to the water environment profession with awards, fellowships and other distinguished honors. WEF members also gain access to speaking and publishing opportunities.



For more information about WEF membership benefits, please visit us at www.wef.org or call 1.800.666.0206 (1.571.830.1545 globally).

Greetings AWWA Section Members!

I'm excited that we are going to be holding our MSASWWA-MWEA conference this year since the last conference was held in 2019! But let's all read the following:

MSAWWA and MWEA continue to be committed to protecting public health. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the conference areas. Physical distancing and retreating immediately if feeling unwell or showing symptoms will be encouraged throughout the event. MSAWWA and MWEA will follow guidance required by Cascade County and/or the Heritage Inn during the dates of April 25 – 28, 2022.

The preconference will be April 26th, the theme is "Groundwater under the influence of surface water". The Conference is April 27-28 at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls. Our AWWA guest will be Past President Melissa Elliot. Of course there be the Best Tap Water Taste Test and the Operator Trivia Challenge. And I am challenging all water systems to bring their water to enter the taste test and try and unseat the City of Bozeman that has placed third nationally the last two contests!

I hope many of you join me in going in person to ACE22 Jun 12-15 in San Antonio TX! This after 2 years we will hopefully be face to face with 16 tracks that's more than 80 sessions! Can't do in person? 26 of those sessions will be streamed virtually. Not to mention the exhibit hall with many vendors unveiling their new products. And there is the pipe tapping, meter challenge and the hydrant hysteria contests.

As many of you know The US Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act was signed into law November 2021. AWWA has a web page to help you navigate this. Please go to awwa.org/infrastructureact. Please remember Drinking Water Week is May 1-7. Please go to the AWWA website to get downloadable materials to use in celebrating this week with your customers!

Hopefully I will see many of you at the conference in Great Falls!
John Alston, MSAWWA National Director



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Getting involved in CECorps

Community Engineering Corps (CECorps) is a national volunteer technical assistance program whose volunteers devote their time and expertise to communities within the United States who do not have access to engineering consulting services. Managed by and for the benefit of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Water Works Association (AWWA) and Engineers Without Borders USA (EWB) members, CECorps taps into these three organizations in order to pair volunteers with communities who would not otherwise be able to afford engineering and technical assistance with their infrastructure. CECorps currently has 93 active projects being implemented throughout the US, 18 open opportunities where we are looking for passionate and dedicated students and professionals to assist our communities. Here are some helpful resources to get you started on engaging with this program:

Learn More About Us – the best place to start is the CECorps website. You can learn more about our program and project process and check out a few videos from our educational courses:

<https://www.communityengineeringcorps.org/>

Register for Volunteer Village – If you're interested in learning more and gaining access to more CECorps resources, we'd encourage you to sign up to the EWB-USA Volunteer Village, which we use for all our volunteer management tasks here: <https://www.ewb-usa.org/volunteer-registration/> Once you log in, you'll be able to *Find a CECorps Opportunity*. Start from the home screen and go to "My Work" and "Apply for A Project" to see a list of unassigned CECorps Projects. Please fill out a Volunteer Village Profile so we can quickly and easily reach out to individuals in the area of our new projects as well.

Current Opportunity Examples:

Michigan Sanitation - In a disaster impacted area in rural Michigan, Habitat for Humanity is partnering with a local township to rebuild housing. The town needs sanitation engineering planning for these new developments in the area.

Montana Sanitation - A small town in Beaverhead County has a Water and Sewer District that serves approximately 40 people. The wastewater treatment system experiences regular spillages and failures, and the town is seeking engineering design alternatives to apply for funding.

Massachusetts Water - A rural community of about 100 people is upgrading their source water from a small surface water collection system to a groundwater well. The operators need engineering designs to integrate the new well into treatment and storage.

Maryland Water - A small, well-water system requires assistance preparing an Environmental Report and Preliminary Engineering Report. The report will examine costs and designs required for consolidation with a municipal supply, distribution system replacement, and meters.

Not all of our volunteers participate in CECorps projects. If you're looking for other ways to contribute to the program, there are a few other ways to get involved:

Join a Quarterly Roundtable – Hear more from staff and project teams on the latest updates, stories, and information about CECorps. Signup can be found on the CECorps website here:

<https://www.communityengineeringcorps.org/current-opportunities/community-engineering-corps-roundtable-registration/>

Join our Technical Review Committee – Provide your expertise in reviewing the Work Plans and final deliverable designs from our volunteer teams. CECorps staff performs training and orientation on how to perform reviews of this work, and will reach out to you based on your background and expertise. Sign up to learn more here:

<https://www.communityengineeringcorps.org/current-opportunities/technical-review-committee/>

Feel free to contact Steve Barr with AWWA in Denver at SBarr@awwa.org if you have any general program questions or want to know more about the scope, role, or responsibilities. Individuals or groups are encouraged to reach out for more information.



MSAWWA Membership Challenge

Thanks to efforts of MSAWWA Membership Committee Chair Matt Mudd (Great West Engineering) the Montana Section met its 1st year member retention goal for 2021 and received a monetary award from AWWA. If you have any questions about membership or would like to volunteer to help Matt with the membership committee, please contact Matt at: mmudd@greatwesteng.com or Robin Barnes at info@montana.com



2021 Donald G. Willems Joint Scholarship Awardee

Molly Schmidt (pictured above) was the 2021 recipient of the MSAWWA-MWEA Joint Donald G. Willems Award. Molly is a student at Flathead Valley Community College and is pursuing a degree in Natural Resources Conservation (Water Resources). Congratulations Molly!

The Willems Scholarship award is a \$1500 check that can be used for educational expenses. Up to (2) scholarships are awarded yearly. Please encourage students you know to apply! Follow the link here: <https://www.montanawater.org/awards-scholarships/scholarships-available/>



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Please Support Your Association's Committees

Please remember that the committees cannot survive without member participation. You can sign up to be on a committee at any time during the year, however, the Joint Conference is the ideal time to do so and there will be sign-up sheets in your registration packet. Please consider participation in at least one committee. If you have questions about the committees, please contact the chair of that committee to find out more about how you can help (contact info on next page).

If you are currently serving on a committee and wish to continue serving, please be sure to sign up at each conference. The slate is wiped clean after each conference, and unless we have the new sign-up form, we do not know if you wish to continue serving.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers! Below are descriptions of the committees you can join.

MSAWWA/MWEA Joint Committees

Cross Connection Control - Work with DEQ to implement the administrative rules for cross-connection control. Assist other groups in providing pertinent education and training.

Exhibitors - Increase exhibitors' involvement in section activities & technical education. Encourage exhibitors' strong presence at the Joint Conference.

Host City - Organize & plan for annual conference, working closely with Executive Secretary. The 2023 conference will tentatively be held in Bozeman.

Information Management - Provide ongoing guidance for functionality of the joint website including incorporation of social media and preservation of historical documents of MSAWWA and MWEA.

Lifetime Achievement - Select the awardee(s) & present award at annual conference.

Program - Prepare & distribute "Call for Program Abstracts" to solicit interest in program presentations for annual conference. Review abstracts & select/schedule speakers & topics.

Public Outreach - Promote Water Week, Stockholm Junior Water Prize, as well as other educational activities for school age children. Assist in publicizing MSAWWA/MWEA activities.

Scholarship - Select one/two students annually whose course work will lead to employment in the water and/or wastewater fields. The Scholarship is to be used toward the cost of tuition & books & includes a one year student membership for MSAWWA or MWEA. Work on fundraising at conference or as needed to support the awards.

Student & Young Professionals - The committee is intended to include members less than 35 years in age and who have worked less than 10 years in the industry. The purpose is to encourage involvement of college students and young professionals in either organization and at the Joint Conference.

MSAWWA Committees

Awards - Assist in identifying and awarding water system safety awards. Assist in selecting AWWA Operator Meritorious award recipient.

Education - Promote educational opportunities and provide training and assistance for small systems.

Legislative - Promote continual involvement with AWWA. Be aware of, respond to, and distribute information on changing legislation on both national & state levels. Recommend legislative tracking consultant.

Membership - Increase membership by identifying & contacting potential members. Provide membership benefit materials to recruiting members. Mentor first-time conference attendees.

Water for People - Continue to actively support WFP. Continue fund raising activities at the annual conference.

MWEA Committees

Beneficial Reuse - Obtain nominations & select a system best demonstrating the management of biosolids.

Education - Enhance the professional competency & qualifications of members. Work with program committee to pick topic and solicit/select speakers for 2023 Preconference.

Grants For Teachers - To provide money to Montana teachers to buy materials or equipment to conduct experiments and educate children on water and other environmental topics and issues. Provide an application for interested teachers to complete and submit for funding consideration. Periodically review and improve the application. Establish a ranking and selection process for teacher applications. Provide advice and guidance to teachers as requested. Connect teachers with mentors and professionals to assist them, as needed. Advertise and make teachers aware of the availability of these funds. Contact the Office of Public Instruction and any other agencies that can help spread the word and reach teachers. Provide follow-up on grant awards.

Honors & Awards - Help select awardees & give recognition to individuals & facilities for exemplary performance.

Long Range Planning - Develop & implement the long-range plan that identifies the direction of the association.

Membership - Maintain current members, attract new members, & diversify professionally.

Pretreatment - The pretreatment committee is a forum for discussion of both existing and new pretreatment programs and will provide direction to new programs being implemented. This committee will also serve as a round-table for existing communities with pretreatment programs to discuss problems or regulations.

Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Encourage student participation in water-related projects within regional & state science fairs in Montana. MWEA members participate as judges in regional & state fairs as judges to select a state winner to attend the WEF-SJWP competition.

Stormwater - MWEA has added a stormwater committee recently. The purpose of the committee is to provide support and information to communities, engineers, and operators as they deal with stormwater issues.

2021—2022 Committee Chairs

Below is a list of the members of MSAWWA and MWEA that have volunteered to chair each organization's committees. Volunteers are always welcome, so if you wish to help your association and serve on a committee you may sign up at any time by contacting the chair of that committee or Robin Matthews-Barnes at Info@montanawater.org or (406) 546-5496.

Joint Committee Chairs

Cross Connection Control

- Barb Coffman (406) 781-2298
bcoffman@3rivers.net

Exhibitors

- No Chair/members

Host City

- Craig Nowak (406) 454-5101
cnowak@m-m.net

Information Management

- David Carlson (406) 268-0626
david.carlson@ae2s.com

Lifetime Achievement

- Jeremy Perlinski (406) 444-4769
jperlinski@rpa-hln.com

Program

- Amy Deitchler (406) 465-6160
adeitchler@greatwesteng.com

Public Outreach

- Rika Lashley (406) 495-3448
rlashley@m-m.net

Scholarship

- Greg Lukasik (406) 652-5000
glukasik@greatwesteng.com

SYP Committee

- Maddie Thompson (406)
maddie.thompson@ae2s.com

MWEA Committee Chairs

Beneficial Reuse

- Neil DeZort (406) 863-2451
ndezort@cityofwhitefish.org

Education

- No Chair/members

Grants For Teacher

- Amy Deitchler (406) 495-6160
adeitchler@greatwesteng.com

Honors & Awards

- Jeremy Perlinski (406) 444-4769
jperlinski@rpa-hln.com

Long Range Planning

- Court Harris (406) 823-0705
court.harris@jacobs.com

Membership

- Laura Gundlach (406) 237-1272
lgundlach@m-m.net

Pretreatment

- No Chair/members

Stockholm Jr. Water Prize

- Kristi Kline (406) 945-2043
kjfarm@mtintouch.net

Stormwater

- Mace Mangold (406)
mmangold@wgmgroup.com

MSAWWA Committee Chairs

Awards

- No Chair/members

Education

- Collette Anderson (406) 495-6164
ctanderson@greatwesteng.com

Legislative

- Nate Weisenburger (406) 268-0626
nate.weisenburger@ae2s.com

Membership

- Matt Mudd (406) 495-6196
mmudd@greatwesteng.com

Water For People

- Carrie Gardner (406) 495-6176
cgardner@greatwesteng.com

2021—2022 MSAWWA Board of Directors

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jalston@bozeman.net

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ndezort@cityofwhitefish.org

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bcoffman@3rivers.net

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souderb@billingsmt.gov

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rickey.schultz@hdrinc.com

Executive Secretary

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(406) 761-7004
rodney.lance@veolia.com

Do You Have Something To Say?

If you have ideas, announcements, articles, or stories you would like to submit for consideration for publication in the next issue of NewsWaves, please email Robin Matthews-Barnes at info@montanawater.org. The next issue will be published late summer/early fall, so keep it in mind!