

MSAWWA & MWEA
2025 Annual Joint Conference
Student & Young Professionals
Fresh Ideas Poster Competition
Billings Hotel & Convention Center
Billings, Montana
April 22-24, 2025

Call for S&YP Poster Competition Entries

Abstract submission deadline: Friday April 11th, 2025

The Montana Section of the American Water Works Association (MSAWWA) & Montana Water Environment Association (MWEA) Joint Annual Conference is the premier event for water professionals in Montana, offering professional programs covering a variety of industry related topics including water resources, water quality, engineering, stormwater, wastewater, and water treatment.

The Joint MSAWWA-MWEA Student & Young Professionals (S&YP) Committee would like to invite students and young professionals to submit a poster and give a short presentation on a project or topic from the world of water, wastewater, or water resources.

Step 1 – Submit an Abstract

Directions for Abstract Submission:

- Complete the Student and Young Professionals (S&YP) Fresh Ideas Poster Competition Abstract Form on the next page.
- For questions regarding the competition please contact you S&YP Committee Chairs: Alex Ciessau (aciessau@sehinc.com) & Nina Denny (nina.denny@mt.gov)

Step 2 – Prepare a Poster

Judging Criteria (see attached scoring rubric):

- Technical Content: Awarded for application of sound engineering and/or scientific principles to ensure the best solution.
- Benefit/Relevance to the Water Industry: Awarded for poster topics that are beneficial/relevant to the water industry.
- Organization of Poster: Awarded for organized, legible, and easy to understand posters.
- Overall Presentation and Q&A: Presentation quality and ability of Presenter to address questions.

Step 3 – Compete at the Joint Conference

Posters:

- All submittals will be evaluated for invitation to the conference.
- Presenters will be expected to prepare a poster and attend the conference in Billings, MT on Wednesday April 23rd, 2025, for the poster presentation session.
 - Presenters are expected to bring all presentation materials (easel, tape, clips, etc.)
- Plan to attend the banquet Wednesday evening, at which time the winner will be announced.

Prizes*

- The winner will receive free registration (estimated at a value of \$1,000) and assistance with travel expenses (up to \$2,500) to the AWWA Annual Conference and Exhibition (ACE), to compete in the ACE Fresh Ideas Poster Session in Denver, CO from June 8-11, 2025. The winner of the ACE Poster Session will receive \$500 and will have their work published in the AWWA Journal.

*Past winners are invited to participate in the poster session but cannot win the prize to present at ACE

**MSAWWA & MWEA
Student & Young Professionals (S&YP) Committee
2025 Fresh Ideas Poster Competition Abstract Form**

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY) Submit forms by email to S&YP Committee Chairs, Alex Ciessau (aciessau@sehinc.com) & Nina Denny (nina.denny@mt.gov).

Topic:_____

Author:_____

Business/Organization:_____

Mailing Address:_____

City:_____ State (or Province):_____ Zip:_____

Phone:_____ E-mail address:_____

Abstract – Fill in below or provide an attachment: (Please limit to 500 words or less)