

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

### 🔹 GENERAL SESSION

**PRESIDER:** Tim Gratke, *MWOA President*

- 8:15 Welcome**  
Tim Gratke, *MWOA President*
- 8:30 Nano-Bubble Technology**  
Tony Belden
- 9:15 Most Common Wastewater OSHA Citations & How to Avoid Them**  
Chad Peterson, *Safe Assure*
- 9:45 MWOA Business Meeting**
- 10:15 BREAK**
- 10:30 Trace But Not Trivial—Chasing Low-Level Mercury in Wastewater**  
Dr. Paul Wentworth, *RMB Labs*
- 11:15 State of the State in Wastewater**  
Suzanne Baumann, *MPCA*

### 12:30 LUNCH

### 🔹 VENDOR DISPLAYS/DEMOS

**PRESIDERS:** Amy Schreder and Joe Rubbelke

- 12:30–4:30 Technology, Product Demos, & Services**  
Prize drawings will be held during the session, Grand Prize Drawing—Must be present to win

### 4:30 PICNIC/MEET AND GREET

Bean bag tournament, cash bar, door prizes

*Sponsored by MWOA, Vendors and other contributors*



**See you next year!  
July 27–30, 2027**

## THURSDAY, JULY 30

### 🔹 BIOSOLIDS SESSION

**PRESIDER:** Cory Schultz, *MPCA,*

- 8:00 Logistics & Introductions**  
Cory Schultz & Brandon Huston
- 8:45 Biosolids Regulatory Framework and History**  
Greg Kester
- 9:30 BREAK**
- 9:45 Biosolids PFAS Updates**  
Cory Schultz, *MPCA*
- 10:30 Soils Basics, Using WebSoil Survey & Site Application**  
Kevin Krause
- 12:00 LUNCH**
- 1:00 Albert Lea WWTF Pyrolysis Pilot Study & PFAS Source ID and Reduction**  
Angie Saffert & Brenden Olevson, *Bolton Menk*
- 1:45 PFAS Biosolids Destruction**  
David Quast, *SEH*
- 2:30 BREAK**
- 2:45 St Cloud WWTF SCWO Pilot Study**  
Andy McCabe, *Barr*
- 3:15 Local Metals Limits Review**  
Jon Peterson, *Bolton Menk*
- 3:45 Networking: How has PFAS sampling impacted your biosolids program?**  
Cory Schultz & Brandon Huston

### 🔹 COLLECTION SESSION

**PRESIDER:** Rachel Kranz, *FOTH*

- 8:00 Coatings**  
Jake Nelson, *Sherwin Williams*
- 8:45 Control Panel and Instrumentation Basics**  
Anthony Bramante, *InControl*
- 9:30 BREAK**
- 9:45 Open Channel Flow Metering Technologies**  
Travis DeGroot, *Tech Sales*
- 10:15 USEMCO Buildings**  
Justin MacPherson, *Minnesota Pump Works*
- 10:45 Sewer Pipes**  
Doug Kilanowski, *Northern Pipe*
- 11:15 Dezurik Valves**  
John Skalla, *Dezurik*
- 12:00 LUNCH**
- 1:00 MnDOT Work Zone Safety**  
Tom Dailey, *MnDOT*
- 1:45 Generator Design Considerations**  
Adam Wahler, *AE2S*
- 2:30 BREAK**
- 2:45 Lift or Let It Flow: The Waukesha Greenmeadow Interceptor**  
Josh Zimmermann, *Brierley Associates*
- 3:30 Collection System Math**
- 4:00 Collection System Jeopardy**  
Todd Carlson, *Retired Sewer Gent*

### 🔹 WASTEWATER SESSION

**PRESIDER:** Al Parrella, *Barr*

- 8:00 Pumps**  
Dan Nessler, *Barr*
- 8:45 Clarifier Overhaul**  
Nathan Parr, *WLSSD*
- 9:30 BREAK**
- 9:45 Chemical Market Update**  
Dave Schindeldecker, *Hawkins*
- 10:15 Energy Reduction**  
Andee Huff Chester, *B&C*
- 10:45 PFAS Removal Tech**  
Sara Ahmed-Menzies, *Barr*
- 11:15 Thickening and Dewater Tech**  
Andritz
- 12:00 LUNCH**
- 1:00 Rockford, IL Filters**  
Donohue and Assoc.
- 1:45 Granular Mixed Liquor**  
Donohue and Assoc.
- 2:30 BREAK**
- 2:45 Nutrient Removal**  
Bolton-Menk
- 3:30 Rochester Upgrade**  
Slim Hamersma
- 4:00 Vermillion CC Update**  
O'Niell Tedrow

### 🔹 WASTEWATER EXAM STUDY SESSION

**8:00–4:30 Wastewater Refresher Classes**

**TRAINERS:**

*A-B Wastewater:* Marcus Weikert, *MRWA*    *SA-SB Collections:* Kay Curtin, *Curtin Consulting & Training LLC*  
*C-D Wastewater:* Joe Janson, *MRWA*    *SC-SD Collections:* Kelly Janes, *AE2S*

### 🔹 MWOA Conference Banquet

**6:00 SOCIAL HOUR**

**7:00 BANQUET AND AWARDS**



## FRIDAY, JULY 31

### 🔹 GENERAL SESSION

**PRESIDER:** Brandon Huston, *MWOA President*

- 7:30 BREAKFAST FOR ALL ATTENDEES**  
held in front of session rooms
- 8:00 MWOA Introductions of Board Members and Section Leaders**  
Brandon Huston, *MWOA President*

**8:10 Outstanding Wastewater Women Who Broke the Glass Ceiling**

Linda Mullen, Kay Curtin, Amy Schreder, Kelsey Prall

**9:00 Be an Ops Challenge Hero**  
Eric Lynne, *Donohue & Assoc.*

**9:45 BREAK**

**10:00 Minnesota Weather**  
Joseph Moore, *NOAA*

**10:30 Workforce Recruitment**  
Michelle Stockness, *Freshwater*

**11:30 Closing Comments, Survey and Drawings**  
MWOA Board

**🔹 8:30–12:30 EXAM SESSION** \*Exam start time subject to change; check with MPCA Staff at the conference

### PAST LOYAL SERVICE AWARDS

1969 Walter Hogenson, Rochester  
1970 Anton Pirkl, Owatonna  
1971 Gilbert Junge, Moorhead  
1972 C. George King, Bloomington  
1973 Otto Kuehne, International Falls  
1974 Ralph Thimmesh, Caledonia  
1975 Henry Ellens, Mora  
1976 Axel Jensen, Silver Bay  
1977 Not Available  
1978 Clarence Boelen, Cimarron MHP  
1979 Art Johnson, Duluth  
1980 Robert Knutson, Austin  
1981 Andy Zajac, MWCC - Hastings  
1982 Willard Sexauer, MPCA  
1983 Emil Flicek, New Prague  
1984 Harold Ulrich, Owatonna  
1985 John Thom, Richfield  
1986 David Frey, Marshall  
1987 Ray Anderson, General Repair  
1988 Leland Enge, Thief River Falls  
1989 John McLouth, Mora  
1990 Jim Miller, Mankato  
1991 John Gray, MVTL  
1992 Chuck DeWolf, Litchfield  
1993 Karen Cummings, Bemidji  
1994 Del Haag, MPCA  
1995 Gene Erickson, MPCA  
1996 Dan Zarembinski, Woodbury  
1997 Steve Kleist, Vermillion Com Coll  
1998 Jerry Balbach, MVTL  
1999 Bob Zimmerman, Moorhead  
2000 Steve Johnsen, WLSSD  
2001 Jarrod Christen, Detroit Lakes  
2002 Steve Duerre, MPCA  
2003 Rick Lohmann, Zumbrota  
2004 Steve Lipinski, Duluth  
2005 Bob Van Moer, Marshall  
2006 Joel Schmidt, Prairie Island  
2007 Rick Ashling, Albert Lea  
2008 Tim Polipnick, Breezy Point  
2009 Dean Nelson, Owatonna  
2010 Pat Meyer, Isanti  
2011 Sandy Mass, Duluth  
2012 Dianne Navratil, MPCA  
2013 Steve Duerre, MPCA  
2014 Todd Carlson, Duluth  
2015 Randy Poore, Bloomington  
2016 Joe Rubbelke, Copperhead Innovations  
2017 Mark Saunders  
2018 Jim Miller  
2019 Howard Jacobson  
2020 NA  
2021 Linda Mullen  
2022 Al Parrella  
2024 Chris Kleist  
2025 Rob Wright

### MWOA PAST PRESIDENTS

1956-57 Walter Hogenson, Rochester  
1957-58 Carl Lund, Duluth  
1958-59 James L. Rudd, Alexandria  
1959-60 Robert Knutson, Austin  
1960-61 L.D. Graig, St. Cloud  
1962-63 Carroll Jensen, New Ulm  
1963-64 Melvin Koch, Faribault  
1964-65 Howard Grindy, Anoka  
1965-66 Axel Jensen, Silver Bay  
1966-67 Roger Ebersole, Northfield  
1967-68 Jack Giles, St. Cloud  
1968-69 Ralph Rader, Mankato  
1969-70 James Pastika, Cloquet  
1970-71 C. George King, Bloomington  
1971-72 Ralph Thimmech, Caledonia  
1972-73 Andrew Zajac, Hastings  
1973-74 Henry Ellens, Mora  
1974-75 James Johnson, Duluth  
1975-76 Daryl Lambert, Worthington  
1976-77 Dwayne Nelson, Owatonna  
1977-78 John Thom, Dept of Education  
1978-79 Emil Flicek, New Prague  
1979-80 Dave Frey, Marshall  
1980-81 Harold Ulrich, Owatonna  
1981-82 Leland Enge, Thief River Falls  
1982-83 Del Domagala, Luverne  
1983-84 Byron Zeeveld, Hastings  
1984-85 Chuck DeWolf, Litchfield  
1985-86 Harold Wadewitz, Lewiston  
1986-87 Gordon Peters, Bloomington  
1987-88 John McLouth, Mora  
1988-89 Joel Schmidt, Olivia  
1989-90 Steve Johnsen, WLSSD  
1990-91 Jim Miller, Mankato  
1991-92 Del Haag, MPCA  
1992-93 Steve Kleist, Vermillion Comm Coll  
1993-94 John Gray, MVTL  
1994-95 Dan Zarembinski, Woodbury  
1995-96 Bob Cockriel, Bloomington  
1996-97 Robert Zimmerman, Moorhead  
1997-98 Rick Lohman, Zumbrota  
1998-99 Jarrod Christen, Detroit Lakes  
1999-00 Stephen Lipinski, Duluth  
2000-01 Randy Stetler, Anoka  
2001-02 Ron Hagemeyer, GLSSD  
2002-03 Jerry Balbach, MVTL  
2003-04 Dave Simons, Met Council  
2004-05 Dean Nelson, Owatonna  
2005-06 Rick Ashling, Albert Lea  
2006-07 Keith Redmond, St Cloud Tech College  
2007-08 Randy Poore, Bloomington  
2008-09 Pat Meyer, Isanti  
2009-10 Bob Van Moer, Marshall  
2010-11 Howard Jacobson, Duluth  
2011-12 Linda Mullen, Burnsville  
2012-13 Todd Carlson, Duluth  
2013-14 Christopher Kleist, Duluth  
2014-15 Joe Rubbelke, MN Pump Works  
2015-16 Richard Olson, Owatonna  
2016-17 Al Parrella, WLSSD  
2017-18 Kay Curtin  
2018-19 Wade Klingsporn  
2019-21 Amy Schreader  
2021-22 Jayme Klecker  
2022-23 Paul Christensen  
2023-24 Kelsey Prall  
2024-25 Frank Stuemke

## CERTIFICATION HOURS

16 Direct Wastewater hours

or if attending the  
**BIOSOLIDS SESSION:**  
6 Type Four hours +  
10 Wastewater hours

**Certificates of Attendance  
will be available Friday  
after the General Session**



### TimberLake Lodge Hotel

144 SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
218-326-2600

# MINNESOTA WASTEWATER OPERATORS ASSOCIATION 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

July 29-31  
2026

**TIMBERLAKE  
LODGE  
in  
GRAND RAPIDS,  
MINNESOTA**

