



Quarter 2: 2019

Member Newsletter

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Wastewater Open Forum

FUTURE OPEN FORUM TO DISCUSS ISSUES CONFRONTING THE MARYLAND WASTEWATER INDUSTRY

MOWPA has received a request to host an open forum where interested parties could gather to discuss potential upcoming legislation and issues facing the wastewater industry in Maryland. This proposal was generated by a group of people involved in environmental and wastewater industries who go by the nickname of “Team Septic”. The proposal entailed MOWPA hosting an open meeting where stakeholders and interested parties involved in the onsite wastewater industry would meet to discuss relevant issues confronting them. MOWPA will moderate the meeting and views it as an open forum to be able to provide discussion on topics of interest that is relevant to the wastewater industry in Maryland. MOWPA is an educational organization and as such, would not be promoting specific legislation or topics but would comment on how pertinent topics of interest would affect our members in the wastewater industry and the services they provide. At the monthly meeting on April 4th, The Board of Directors agreed to host the open forum and will provide the venue for the meeting. The date of the meeting has yet to be determined but it is anticipated to be held sometime in September. More information will be forthcoming once plans are finalized.

Thank you Trainers!

The Education Committee and MOWPA Board would like to thank the following individuals for training during the spring training courses:

- Eddie Harrison
- Nancy Mayer
- Mark Mazzochette
- Rob Powell

Thank you for helping to train your fellow industry professionals!

Legislative Updates

FINAL STATUS OF LEGISLATION RELATING TO ONSITE WASTE WATER DISPOSAL THAT WAS CONSIDERED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDING APRIL 8, 2019

Senate Bill 0353 – Would have required all persons constructing or installing septic systems and all persons inspecting septic systems be licensed. Received unfavorable report by committee. **BILL FAILED**

House Bill 0539 – Authorizes persons to use “reusable diverted water” on the site where it originates for beneficial purposes (lawn watering, gardening, etc.). “Reusable diverted water” to include water generated by backwashing an onsite potable water treatment system. **BILL PASSED BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE. Bill becomes effective October 1, 2019**

House Bill 0190 – Defines the term “failing on-site sewage disposal system” as that which threatens or negatively impacts public health due to certain conditions. It requires each county to adopt by local law or ordinance the definitions included. This bill includes by definition, a cesspool as a component of an onsite sewage disposal system which must be evaluated to determine if it threatens or negatively impacts public health due to certain conditions. **BILL PASSED BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE. Bill becomes effective October 1, 2019**

Senate Bill -851 – Would have expanded the uses of a certain account in the Bay Restoration Fund to include making certain no or low-cost loans for the repair or replacement of certain failing on-site sewage disposal systems: limiting a certain loan to a homeowner who resides in a jurisdiction that has developed and implemented a certain septic stewardship plan; for fiscal year 2021. The bill received unfavorable report by committee. **BILL FAILED**

House Bill 0840 – Would have established the State Board of On-Site Wastewater Professionals in the Department of the Environment; specifying the purpose and composition of the Board; specifying the term of a Board member; requiring the Governor to appoint Board members with the advice and consent of the Senate of Maryland; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations; requiring a county to enforce certain standards relating to certain design, installation and maintenance of on-site wastewater systems; etc. Bill received unfavorable report by committee. **BILL FAILED**

2019 MOWPA Conference Registration is Open!

Register today at: <https://www.mowpa.org/MOWPA/conference>

2019 MOWPA CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 6, 2019

- NEW LOCATION
- TWO TRAINING TRACKS
- INDUSTRY NEWS
- PANEL DISCUSSIONS

CLARKSVILLE
FIRE COMPANY -
CLARKSVILLE,
MD

TRAINING & DISCUSSION TOPICS TO INCLUDE:

- BAT Program Update
- Changes in Onsite System Inspections
- Differential Leveling
- Disposal of Water Treatment Device Backwash
- Flotation and Buoyancy
- Grease Traps
- Legislative Updates
- Loading Rates for Membrane Bio Reactors
- Non-Residential Facilities: BAT and Loading Issue
- Proper Sewage Sampling
- Site Design & Difficult Sites and Repairs
- Waste Hauler Training Course
- Water Tightness of Units, Tanks, and Piping in High Water Tables