



A Follow-up to Last Month's Article on GARP

WCOWMA-BC

The GARP guideline is not intended as a guide to the siting of new onsite sewage systems. The applicable rules and guidelines for the siting of new onsite sewage systems are the Sewerage System Regulation, the Standard Practice Manual, and the APEGBC Professional Practice Guidelines - Onsite Sewerage Systems. Instead the information was brought forward to avoid triggering "further assessment" if the Stage 1: Hazard Screening and Assessment Screening was carried out for a new community water source.

If a new onsite sewerage system complies with the SSR, it is not considered a "probable" source of virus contamination. This has been confirmed in a court of law in Wilkinson v. VIHA, 2008 downloadable at: <http://www.courts.gov.bc.ca/jdb-txt/SC/08/15/2008BCSC1521.htm>. This court case provides a defensible line of reasoning to justify the system location and its low potential risk to the community water supply if health officers question placing on-site within the 300 m yet outside the 90 m horizontal separation. When assessing the risk to water quality in a public water supply well, the assessment should be completed by a qualified groundwater professional based on an expert assessment of all available information and site-specific testing. The assessment should not be based only on the horizontal setback distance.

Maintenance Provider Workshop (Northern BC)

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September 12, 13 & 14th 2017 – Prince George, BC

This three-day workshop will focus on the maintenance, inspection and repair of onsite wastewater systems. Students will spend a half-day in the classroom followed by two and a half days in the field.

Students will be able to use this training toward needed experience quotas, and/or professional development credits.

Call the WCOWMA-BC office toll free at 855-872-2645 or go online to: <http://www.wcowma-bc.com/training/public-field-training/> to get more information or to register.

Maintenance Provider Workshop (Northern BC)

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Our second 3-day Maintenance Provider Workshop was held July 24th to 26th in Vernon, BC.

Following a half-day classroom session on maintenance requirements under the SPM and report writing expectations from ASTTBC, participants went out in the field to perform maintenance assessments and reporting on a variety of systems.

The first system was a secondary treatment unit which was gravity fed to a treatment field. Assessment determined that in spite of a lack of ongoing maintenance, the system was in good condition and functioning as intended. This was due to positive operation of the system by the homeowner.

On day two, the class provided maintenance assessments on type two systems, pressure-fed to treatment fields. The first system they looked at had gone into an alarm condition. Homeowners had turned off the alarm and the timed dose panel, forcing the system into demand dose mode. The system required significant maintenance including pumping, clearing of the laterals and resetting the timed dosing and alarm systems. It was a good learning experience for the class on what types of situations you might encounter in the field.

The third day included a visit to a commercial baking operation, providing yet another unique experience for the participants. Overall, the training workshop provided excellent opportunities to perform maintenance assessments and develop maintenance reports for the group.

The next Maintenance Provider Workshop will take place in Prince George in September.

Meeting with ASTTBC

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WCOWMA-BC continues to keep communication open with ASTTBC. Last month our Board of Directors met with John Leech, ASTTBC CEO, in Sidney, BC to discuss our ongoing training accreditation, as well as how the two organizations can work together for the betterment of the industry, and the population as a whole.

Site & Soils Evaluation

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This practical training day is a great opportunity to get hands-on experience evaluating a site, as well as practicing hand texturing and sampling. Those who have recently completed the Onsite Wastewater Practitioner Training Program will be able to take their new knowledge and apply it on-site. Experienced planners and installers should also consider this opportunity to continue their education.

Prince George – September 15, 2017

Abbotsford – October 6, 2017

If you are interested in registering, visit <http://www.wcowma-bc.com/training/public-field-training/> or contact the office at 855-872-2645.

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SOWMA

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Signup now online (<http://eepurl.com/2rKET>) or contact our office.

Onsite Wastewater Practitioner Training

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The next available training session dates are:

Days 1-4 – October 2, 3, 4, & 5, 2017 – Abbotsford, BC

Days 5-8 – October 17, 18, 19 & 20, 2017 – Abbotsford, BC

Registration for this training program is now open. For more information, please go online to <http://www.wcowma-bc.com/training/> or contact the WCOWMA-BC office at 1.855.872.2645.

SAVE THE DATE!

WCOWMA-BC

9th Annual WCOWMA-BC Convention & Trade Show

March 1, 2 & 3, 2018

Kamloops, BC

Member Benefits: Credit Card Processing

WCOWMA-BC

If you have customers that want to pay with a major credit card, and you do not have the capability of accepting credit card payments, then let us process that payment for you. Credit card forms are included in your membership package, or by contacting our office. Simply complete the form, send it into our office, and we'll process the payment and send you the funds.

Keep that cash flow moving by using our credit card processing service.

More information is available in your membership package, or by contacting our office.

3 Tips to Avoid Heat Exhaustion

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The great weather is here, but with warmer sunnier days comes the risk of heat exhaustion, especially if you are busy in the field.

Take care of yourself by keeping in mind these tips from Health Canada.

1. Drink plenty of cool liquids, especially water, before you feel thirsty to decrease your risk of dehydration. Thirst is not a good Indicator of dehydration.
2. Reschedule or plan outdoor activities during cooler parts of the day if possible.
3. Avoid sun exposure. Shade yourself by wearing a wide-brimmed, breathable hat or using an umbrella.

A full list of their tips can be found in "[Communicating the Health Risks of Extreme Heat Events](#)" which can be found on the Government of Canada website. (goo.gl/ZPfsP7)

Upcoming Industry Events

You can keep up-to-date on industry events on our events page! The WCOWMA-BC events page has recently been updated and features a calendar configuration, making it easier than ever to see what industry events are just around the corner.

Take a look today: <http://www.wcowma-bc.com/calendar/>

NAWT 8th Waste Treatment Symposium and 2017 Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference

August 23-24, 2017
Monroeville, Pennsylvania

SepticSmart Week 2017

September 18-22, 2017

WEQ Fair

October 17-18, 2017
Nashville, Tennessee

Ontario Water Innovation Week (ONWIN)

October 30-November 3, 2017
Ontario

World Toilet Day

November 19, 2017

The Water Expo 2017

August 30-31, 2017
Miami, Florida

FAWG-FV - Friday Afternoon Wastewater Group Fraser Valley

October 6th at 3pm
Chilliwack, BC

NOWRA/NAWT Onsite Wastewater Mega Conference

October 22 – 25, 2017
Delaware

Yukon Water & Wastewater Conference & Tradeshow

November 2-3, 2017
Whitehorse, Yukon

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Stay in-touch on industry news, learn about our latest training sessions, and check out photos of some of our events all on the [WCOWMA-BC Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/wcowmabc/) (<https://www.facebook.com/wcowmabc/>)