



Seaside 2026: Diving Deep into Onsite Solutions

Annual Spring Oregon Onsite Wastewater Conference



2026 Program - Classes | Schedule | List of Presenters

Thursday, March 12, 2026

12:30 Registration Desk Open / Upper-Level Exhibits Open / Beverages Available / *DEQ available for Q&A on Your DEQ Online

1:30 - 5:00 General Sessions

1:10 - 1:30 WELCOME - Edward Varga, President O2WA – Welcome, Overview of the program, and discussion of Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association Tank & Lid Safety Position Statement Adopted on October 14, 2025. Introduction of our Keynote presenting the white paper on Tank & Lid Safety at a national level.

1:30- 2:30 KEYNOTE SESSION Ashley Donnelly/Dennis Hallahan, PE, Infiltrator - **Enhancing Septic Tank Safety**
The Case for Secondary Safety Lids - By aligning industry practices with evolving safety standards, we can significantly reduce the risk of tragic accidents and enhance public confidence in decentralized wastewater systems.
0.1 CEU

2:45- 3:45 George Escalante City of Salem **ABC's of Self-Care: Protecting the One System You Can't Replace**
Practical Tools for Safety, Resiliency, and Workforce Sustainability. This session reframes self-care as a safety, performance, and risk-management issue rather than a personal luxury. Designed for professionals working in physically demanding and highly regulated environments, the presentation offers practical, easy-to-apply tools that support resiliency, decision-making, and long-term workforce sustainability. Participants will explore how stress, fatigue, and cumulative pressure impact the “human system,” and how simple, proactive strategies can help protect the one system they cannot replace.
0.1 CEU

3:45- Exhibit Hall Break with Cookies & Sodas & Coffee

4:15- 5:15 Douglas Dilley - Ferguson Waterworks **Onsite Jeopardy Game**
This class is to learn a little bit about several disciplines of the onsite industry in a competitive yet fun way where the audience gets to help judge the answers.
0.1 CEU

5:15 – Welcome Reception | Light Appetizers and No Host Bar - DINNER ON YOUR OWN - Thanks to HD Fowler!

Friday, March 13, 2026

7:00 Registration Desk Open

7:00 – 8:00 Exhibit Hall Breakfast Buffet - Welcome and Introductory Remarks – O2WA President Edward Varga

8:00 - 9:00 0.1 CEU – 3 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1 Curtis Huggins and Tanner Shersty, Topcon Solutions **Technology Tools for Mapping | Septic Design | 3D Grade Control for Installation**
Covers the machine workflow for your jobsite layout efficiency, placement accuracy with your existing excavation equipment. This class will introduce how to Measure, Design, and Build with one system.

Track 2 Micah Hozen, New Creation Contracting **Math - Critical Equations for The Onsite Industry to Learn**
We will be discussing Math for Septic Installers, including Tank Volume, Reserve Volume, Gallons Per Inch, Float Settings, Setting and Shooting Grades, etc. Look forward to a lively debate on the pros and cons of using tenths or inches.

Track 3 Wyatt Ruck, Norweco, Inc. **Installation & Service of the Singulair & Singulair Green ATT**

9:15 - 10:15 0.1 CEU – 2 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1 Joe Rebori, Bio Microbics **Stuff Going Out in the Drainfields** An overview of how septic tank and ATT effluent impacts soils of different types and conditions for effective removal of BOD, TSS, and nitrogen.

Track 2 Brad Routh, Infiltrator **Thermoplastic Tank Installation Best Practices** Thermoplastic septic tanks offer strength and versatility, enabling a wide range of installation options, including shallow placements and configurations with multiple or tanks in-series. This presentation explores the use of thermoplastic tanks and their various applications. Attendees will gain an understanding of best practices for installation, covering key steps such as proper excavation, bedding, backfilling, and anti-buoyancy measures.

10:15– 11:0 Break / Exhibit Hall Open / Overview of Equipment for Roe D' Hoe Contestants / Raffle

11:00 - 12:00 0.1 CEU – 2 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1 Micah Hozen, New Creation **Hydrosplitter Hands-On Training**
In this course will discuss the various uses and benefits of Hydrosplitters, as well as practical installation instructions.

Track 2 Eddie Varga, Steve Rose, Lisette Hamer-Richardson, DEQ representative Lindsey Reschke, WWS **Question Regarding New Rules & Forms**
We invite questions for the panel of experts, specifically regarding the updated regulations and O&M contracts.

Track 3 Jake Lowe, Lowridge Onsite Technologies **OSCAR XO2 in a Box**
Understanding treatment technology for installers, designers, regulators and maintenance providers.

12:00 Exhibit Hall / Lunch / Equipment Roe D Hoe
1:30

1:30 – 2:30 0.1 CEU – 2 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1	Kevin Riddle Tank Abandonment & Riser Install
Track 2	Brad Routh and Ryan Mederios, Infiltrator - ECOPOD Operation & Maintenance Maintaining optimal performance in a wastewater treatment unit requires a proactive approach to maintenance. This presentation will provide an overview of ECOPOD Operation and Maintenance. Attendees will gain insight into maintaining system efficiency


2:45 – 3:45 0.1 CEU – 3 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1	Danielle Brown, REHS, Researching Records - What does the regulatory agency have on file? Knowing what information, the county has on file for an existing system is the cornerstone of any good ESER. Join me in discussing how to pull records in different jurisdictions, how to access available documentation, and why some records may not be available.
Track 2	Paula Hartland, Oregon DOT Regulation Review & Updates & Q&A ODOT mandates detailed record keeping ensuring adherence to federal and state regulations, including those for weight-mile taxes, safety, and construction projects. Trucks hauling sewage (septage or biosolids) in Oregon must adhere to strict environmental and transportation regulations. Key requirements include obtaining a Sewage Disposal Service (SDS) license from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for transport. Vehicles must comply with OAR 340, Divisions 93-97, which cover solid waste transport.
Track 3	Mike Dunn FujiClean USA Approved in July 2024 Review of maintaining and installation.

3:45 – 4:30	Break / Exhibit Hall Open
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4:30 - 5:30 0.1 CEU - 2 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1	Steve Rose, Septic Technologies Nitrogen Management in Oregon Residential Wastewater Understanding the nitrification, denitrification, and the role of ATTs.
Track 2	Paula Hartland, ODOT & FMCSA Record Keeping Requirements & Q&A This class will cover the documentation standards required for installers and others hauling of equipment, tanks, and materials safely. It covers critical retention timelines, electronic filing procedures, and common compliance questions to ensure all driver, maintenance and operational records meet state safety and federal safety and audit standards. Recordkeeping to save time and money. Maintaining good records allows for a more streamline process should your business be the subject of a safety review.

Starting at 5:30	<p>Pre-St. Patrick's Day Reception & Dinner</p>  <p>Join us for a Luck of the Irish! evening featuring the Roe D Hoe Awards and a Live Auction. Enjoy an Exhibit Hall reception with appetizers and a no-host bar. <i>Proudly sponsored by Mike Hamer, Affordable Septic.</i> Included with full conference registration; guest tickets available for pre-purchase.</p>
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Saturday, March 14, 2026

7:00 – 8:00	Registration Desk Open Exhibits Open / Breakfast
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8:00 - 9:00 0.1 CEU – 3 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1	TBA based on the Funding being approved - Tawny Reader, Craft3 - Craft3 will share updates from the Oregon Legislative Session, including the latest funding news for the Clean Water Loan Program. They will also highlight key accomplishments from the past decade, and preview program enhancements anticipated for 2026.
Track 2	Brian Rabe, Elkhorn Consultants Solutions for Challenging Sites Adapted from an advanced course being developed by NOWRA with funding from EPA and RCAP (Rural Community Assistance Partnership), this 1-hour overview will focus on examples of challenging conditions frequently encountered in Oregon and a process to identify potential solutions specifically related to onsite wastewater treatment.
Track 3	Joe Rebori, Bio-Microbics, ATT Training Bio-Microbics - FAST systems O&M training will cover the following: Routine service tasks, troubleshooting guide, and sampling protocol. Review of how the system works, identifying components, and service checklist.

9:15 - 10:15 0.1 CEU – 3 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1	Larry O'Connor, RepCo Sales Pump Fundamentals General discussion about pumps – How to read a pump curve Understand the difference between a sump pump, sewage pump, effluent pump, and a grinder pump How to size a pump How to convert pressure to head How to do a bar napkin horsepower sizing Know which pump is more economical to operate, 115v ½ HP or 230v ½ HP
Track 2	Brian Rabe Solutions for Challenging Sites (Continued) Examples and Case Studies
Track 3	Brannon Lamp, REHS, Aqua Resource Design & Consulting, LLC Sand Filter System Troubleshooting, Maintenance, Repair & Recovery This presentation discusses the history, practical need, and introduction of Sand Filter systems in Oregon. Basic design and construction methods are covered, as are maintenance, troubleshooting, and repair techniques.

10:15- 10:45	Break / Exhibit Hall Open
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10:45-11:45 0.1 CEU – 2 Tracks to Choose From...

Track 1	Dennis Boeger, PE Boeger & Associates Basics of Design Wastewater septic design principles refer to the engineered methods, regulatory standards, and scientific processes used to create on-site sewage systems that safely treat and disperse household wastewater.
Track 2	Todd Milbrat, Orenco Systems, Inc. Operations & Maintenance Basics O&M Basics including Certification for Advantex

11:45 12:30	Lunch / O2WA Members Meeting & NOWRA Update
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12:30 - 1:30 0.1 CEU	CLOSING GENERAL SESSION Dennis Hallihan, PE Why Soils Matter More Than You Think. The soil plays a large role in the success of an onsite system, and the soil mass plays a large role in the success of protecting public health. The soil environment is a very effective treatment system. Our state's water supply and environment depend on the soil environment's purification power to sustain groundwater quality as onsite systems recharge aquifers.
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1:30	Closing Remarks – Edward Varga, O2WA President - Turn in your QUIZ for CEU's Certificate
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MEET OUR PRESENTERS...

Dennis Boeger, P.E., Principal Engineer at Boeger & Associates LLC, is a wastewater expert and OIT Engineering Technology alumnus, leveraging extensive experience as a former President and Board member for the Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association to provide prominent solutions in the field

Danielle Brown, REHS Onsite Inspector Marion County. Bachelor of Science in General Chemistry from Cal Poly Humboldt. O2WA Board Member since 2024. Member of OEHA since 2023. Member of ACS since 2019. Marion County Wildfire Recovery Residential Septic Grant Coordinator.

Douglas Dilley Ferguson Waterworks. With over 16 years in the industry, provides onsite products for residential and commercial systems. A past President and board member of the Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association, he champions the industry, leading efforts like the Day at the Capitol to educate the public on well-maintained septic systems.

Ashley Donnelly, Technical Trainer Infiltrator Waterworks. Provides technical assistance to industry professionals in the facilitation of residential and commercial decentralized wastewater treatment system design, installation and maintenance.

Dennis F. Hallahan, P.E. Vermont, Infiltrator Water Technologies. Dennis has over 30 years of experience with the design and construction of on-site wastewater treatment systems. He has authored several articles for on-site industry magazines and has given numerous presentations nationally on the science and fundamentals of on-site wastewater treatment systems. Dennis also oversees a department that is responsible for product research and testing for both Universities and private consultants. The department develops system sizing charts for national and international approvals and assists customers and field representatives in the planning and review of large decentralized systems. He received his MS in civil engineering from the University of Connecticut and his BS in civil engineering from the University of Vermont. Dennis is a registered professional engineer in Connecticut. He has been with Infiltrator for over 16 years and in his current position as Technical Director, he is responsible for the technology transfer between Infiltrator and the regulatory and design communities. Dennis also holds several patents for on-site wastewater products. Member ASCE, WEF, serves on the NOWRA Technical Practice and Educational Committees, also on the New England Water Environment Federation's Small Community Committee.

Lisette Hamer-Richardson Owner of Mike Hamer Inc. and Affordable Septic Systems. A dedicated leader in Oregon's wastewater industry, she has served on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) rulemaking committee, helping shape state standards. Lisette is an active board member of the Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association (O2WA), where she represents the Operations and Maintenance seat and chairs the O2WA Scholarship Fund. Through this role, she is committed to supporting the next generation of industry professionals and the children of O2WA members. Beyond her technical expertise, Lisette provides specialized septic training to realtors to ensure smooth property transactions. In her local community, she and her husband are known for hosting a celebrated annual Christmas light display.

Paula Hartland, Oregon DOT. Paula Hartland is a Compliance Specialist with the Oregon Department of Transportation in Motor Carrier Safety. She began her career with ODOT 24 years ago in the registration office at the Woodburn Port of Entry. She has spent the last 17 years in the Salem Central Safety Unit conducting on-site compliance reviews of motor carrier operations, performing truck inspections, providing training to industry and law enforcement, and performing commercial vehicle crash investigations.

Micah Hozen - Owner, New Creation Contracting has 20+ years' experience in Construction as well as almost 10 years in Architectural Design. Currently owns and operates New Creation Contracting, specializing in Septic Design and Installation. He is a Licensed Contractor, Certified Septic Installer, as well as having a Limited Electrical License. Micah is also an instructor at Chemeketa Community College and presents the State of Oregon - New Septic Installers Certification Class.

Curtis Huggins Topcon Solutions is a product specialist with Topcon Solutions Stores. He has been supporting and training customers in the Survey and Construction industry for over 30 years on both software and hardware technologies.

Brannon Lamp, REHS, Aqua Resource Design & Consulting, LLC has attended Oregon State University and Portland State University. He holds a B.A., as well as a B.S. in Environmental Science from Portland State, and has completed Graduate work in Education. Mr. Lamp started working in the industry in 1999 and is a REHS in Oregon and a Certified O&M Provider. He is also a Licensed Designer in Washington State. Brannon enjoys hiking, backpacking, and plays golf marginally. Brannon resides on the North Oregon Coast.

Jake Lowe, Training Specialist at Lowridge Onsite Technologies trains onsite septic system installers and designers on how to work with Lowridge wastewater treatment products. Attended the Bellevue College in the Civil Engineering program. Board member of Washington Onsite Sewage Association Manufacturers representative - Jan 2023 - Present.

Ryan Mederios, Infiltrator Water Technologies started in his position at Infiltrator in August of 2025 with a background in sales, management, marketing, and data entry. Ryan is responsible for maintaining and building customer relationships working very closely with the Area Sales Representatives as he supports in the Western Region. This involves assisting engineers, contractors and regulators with technical inquires related to product information, assisting with training, installation, and operation & maintenance requests. Ryan is a member of the Colorado Professionals in Onsite Wastewater (CPOW). He graduated from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth with a bachelor's degree in marketing and a minor in management.

Todd Milbrat, Orenco Systems, Inc has been at Orenco Systems Inc. for the past 20 years. 17 years of that was spent in the Electrical Controls Department where he did enclosure fabrication, built standard and custom controls. During the same time frame he earned a bachelors in criminal justice. He has moved into the Electrical Engineering Department where he took on the task of designing, programming, and testing both OEM and Orenco lift stations. His last move took his knowledge to the sales department. Todd currently in the position of North West Area Sales Manager. He supports business in Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, and Alaska. He joined the Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association board as the tank manufacturer seat.

Larry O'Connor M.Ed. (University of Oregon), CEO of RepCo Sales, brings over three decades of expertise in pump technology to this session. Having guided the development of sump, sewage, and VFD equipment, Larry is uniquely qualified to help you master common pumping challenges. As former President of the Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association he presently holds the manufactures seat, where he is committed to providing practical, real-world solutions for his customers and the industry.

Brian Rabe, Soil Scientist, WWS Elkhorn Consulting Certified Professional Soil Scientist and registered Wastewater Specialist with over 38 years of experience in the onsite wastewater field almost exclusively as a private consultant. Mr. Rabe worked for Valley Science and Engineering (formerly Cascade Earth Sciences) for over 35 years before retiring from full-time consulting in October of 2022. Since that time, he has been consulting as a sole proprietor on a somewhat less than full-time basis as Elkhorn Consulting LLC from his new home outside Baker City.

Joe Rebori, Bio-Microbics is the Assistant VP of Inquiries, Engineering, & Regulatory Affairs for BioMicrobics. He works with BioMicrobics' distributors, septic designers, and engineers to advise on the use of onsite wastewater treatment systems in commercial and high-strength waste applications. His focus is in fixed-film and membrane bioreactor process technologies. He also assists a global customer base with residential wastewater, greywater, and stormwater products.

Ron Reuter, Oregon State University Natural Resources is an associate professor in Natural Resources at Oregon State University (OSU) and OSU-Cascades, specializing in soil science, forest soils, and environmental sciences. Based in Bend, Oregon, he teaches for OSU Ecampus, focusing on connecting students to landscape-level ecological processes and sustainable land management.

Kevin Riddle, Sweet Water Sanitation, LLC. Owner of two septic companies with over 20 years in the industry. Kevin serves as the O2WA Board member in the Pumper Seat. Kevin is also a Licensed Septic Inspector and Installer.

Steve Rose, Septic Technologies a division of Best Pots Inc. he has been in the wastewater industry for over 20 years and is currently one of the Instructors for the Maintenance Certification Cours through CCC, O2WA and DEQ. Steve is certified to operate all of the treatment systems registered in Oregon and Washington as well as Nibbler and Drip drain fields. He specializes in commercial wastewater system management.

Brad Routh Infiltrator Water Technologies is an Area Sales Representative for Infiltrator Water Technologies covering Oregon and Western Washington. Brad entered the onsite wastewater industry 22 years ago. He graduated from Butte College with an Associates of Science in Business Management. Brad continues to show his commitment to the industry by providing educational seminars and instructional demonstrations to both contractors and suppliers. He works with local health departments as well as assisting customers and field representatives in the planning and installation of onsite wastewater treatment systems. He is a past board member of both the Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association (O2WA) and Washington Onsite Sewage Association (WOSSA) but is still active.

Wyatt Ruck, Norweco, Inc. is responsible for increasing Norweco's presence in the Pacific Northwest, desert states, Texas and Oklahoma. Wyatt also provides training on Norweco technology to current partners, industry prospects and regulatory bodies. Since starting at Norweco in 2020, he gained experience in product manufacturing and system service before joining the sales team in 2023. He is a Marine Corps veteran and outside of work, enjoys spending time with his family, training at the gym, and hiking.

Tanner Shersty is also a product specialist with Topcon Solutions Stores. He has been supporting and training customers in the Survey and Construction industry for many years. He has extensive knowledge on excavation equipment, and software, excelling at machine control applications.

Edward Varga, E&A Systems, O2WA President Has over 2 decades in the industry. It started back in 2000 with an oversized cap-n-fill system. Over the last 20+ years Eddie has gone from designing onsite disposal systems, installing them, and maintaining them as well. He holds an Installers Certification, Maintenance Certification, Limited Plumbers License, and the Limited Electrical License.

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2026 EXHIBITORS

- Affordable Septics / BioMicrobixs
- Correct Equipment Inc
- GT Gordon and Associates
- HD Fowler Co
- ICONIX WATERWORKS
- Infiltrator Water Technologies
- Lowridge Onsite Technologies
- Michaels Precast Concrete
- Orenco Systems
- RepCo Sales Agency
- Topcon Solutions Store
- MORE TO COME...