2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Lead and Copper Rule Improvements - what are the new changes coming?

Presenter: Amy Word **Job Title:** Natural Resource Specialist

Employer: State of Oregon, Drinking Water Services

Phone #: 541-966-0901 **Email:** amelia.a.word@oha.oregon.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: The State of Oregon is in process of adopting the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI). THe presentation will review the current lead and copper rule and what the new changes will be for water systems.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: BS Biology - Western Oregon StateWorked for the drinking water program since 2008Lead and Copper rule point person

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Practical Locating of Metallic and Non-metallic Water and Sewer

Presenter: Brian Moss **Job Title:** Owner

Employer: RJM Equipment Sales, Inc

Phone #: 360-903-0558 **Email:** brianmoss@rjmcompany.com

Summary of Lesson Content: How to accurately locate all water, sanitary, and storm lines. Which frequencies, antennas, methods and other tools to use to accurately locate.

CEU Relevancy: Water, Wastewater, Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: BSCE WSU Civil EngineerLocator training since 2002Regular training instructor for locators

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Decoding Combination Control Valves

Presenter: Patrick Miller **Job Title:** Technical Sales and Engineering Support

Employer: Cimco-GC Systems

Phone #: 253-263-3099 **Email:** patrick@cimco-gcsystems.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Engineers and Operators will uncover the mystery of automatic control valves with multiple pilots and functions. Aimed towards the more experienced operator, this course will review basic valve functions before discussing in more detail common combinations of hydraulic automatic control valves. We will look at the combination of pressure sustaining, pressure reducing, surge control, dual set point and two-way control to better understand the ever-expanding possibilities of automatic hydraulic control valves!

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Patrick Miller has been an active contributor to the Waterworks industry since January 2023, working with the Cimco-GC Systems. He plays a vital role in maintaining the integrity of water and wastewater systems through his work training operators how to rebuild, inspect, and troubleshoot control valves. Recognizing the importance of effective planning, Patrick regularly meets with engineers to lend his insights to valve design and selection processes. His commitment extends to providing practical support to water and wastewater utilities, assisting with specialty valve applications, pipe locating, and leak detection

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: OR OSHA Consultative Services

Presenter: Sean Tarter **Job Title:** Occupational Safety Consultant

Employer: OR OSHA

Phone #: 541-303-3230 **Email:** sean.a.tarter@dcbs.oregon.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: My name is Sean Tarter,

Myself and my colleague Alexia Gamboa here in Pendleton have been referred this speaking engagement, previously done by Randy Westmoreland and Russ Reasoner, from Portland. We are occupational safety consultants working in the Pendleton field office of OR OSHA. We are able to present breakout discussions on workplace safety, effective safety committees, excavation safety, job hazard analysis, and the use of PPE. Alexia is bilingual and can, with her approval, present in Spanish. Please let us know how we can be of assistance.

Sean Tarter- sean.a.tarter@dcbs.oregon.gov

Alexia Gamboa- alexia.gamboa@dcbs.oregon.gov

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Occupational Safety Consultant w/ OR OSHA since 4/23;City of Pendleton Public Works 4/12-4/23;17 years private construction experience (excavating) preceding that.His area of expertise is workplace safety.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Beneficial Uses of Hydraulic Modelling for Water and Wastewater Systems

Presenter: George Murgel **Job Title:** Senior Environmental Engineer & Project Manager

Employer: HECO Engineers

Phone #: 2086423304 **Email:** georgem@hecoengineers.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Hydraulic modeling is becoming increasingly important for maintaining water & wastewater systems. It is accomplished by using computer software to create a virtual & mathematical representation of water & wastewater systems. Hydraulic models look and behave like their real-world counterparts, allowing system operators & city officials to observe how their systems are performing without needing infrastructure excavation or system failure, as a valuable tool for a city's water system maintenance & future growth plans, and how hydraulic models can be used as part of the daily system operation.

The presentation will step attendees through the essential elements of hydraulic models. It will cover real-world examples of successful rural community implementation of hydraulic models in water and wastewater operations and planning, including results and lessons learned. Attendees will see how clients have used hydraulic models to identify existing system deficiencies & determine which repairs will ensure the system continues to provide uninterrupted service to citizens. Attendees will also see how growth projections estimate where & when growth will occur, the capacity of their water source, storage, & distribution system, & the effect on future planning. After the presentation, attendees will have a clear understanding of the resources available to them for hydraulically modeling their water & wastewater systems.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: George Murgel began his engineering career in 1978 after completing his Master's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Montana State University in Bozeman. The next several years were spent working at both large and small consulting firms across the U.S. Completion of his doctorate in Civil & Environmental

Engineering at Cornell University led to a nearly 25-year stint as an Assistant & Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina Charlotte and Boise State University (BSU), teaching courses in environmental engineering, process chemistry, water & wastewater treatment system design, hydraulics, hydrology, surveying and other service courses like statics, strength of materials, & Senior Design. He joined HECO Engineers in 2016 after retiring from BSU. He has since provided project engineering, management and design services on projects for the US National Park Service including site assessment of water and wastewater facilities, design development services, quality control assessment & construction project management at locations in the Western United States. Other consulting work has involved environmental infrastructure assessments, design of replacement water & wastewater treatment system designs including full plans and specifications, and management of designed projects under construction for several municipal entities in Idaho and eastern Oregon. He is an Emeritus member of the Idaho Board of Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors. He has worked with the National Council of Examiners of Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam development committee since 2002, including leadership roles, and has served on numerous NCEES working committees, including leadership positions, and received a Distinguished Examination Service Award at the 2019 annual meeting of NCEES. Originally licensed in Montana, he has become comity licensed in Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, & Washington.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Advantages of AMI and Technical Metering Overview

Presenter: Brandon Anderson **Job Title:** Senior Project Manager

Employer: H.D. Fowler Company

Phone #: **Email:** brandona@hdfowler.com

Summary of Lesson Content: A technical overview of Advanced Metering Infrastructure, history of metering and metering systems, technical overview of acoustic leak detection.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Brandon Anderson, PE. Senior Project Manager for HD Fowler Automation and Metering. 25+ years in the Waterworks Industry. Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and Construction Engineering & Management at Oregon State University.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Enhancing Water Sector Security: Strategies to Identify Security Strengths, Weaknesses, and Actionable Remediation Steps

Presenter: Leslie Kainoa **Job Title:** Cybersecurity State Coordinator

Employer: CISA

Phone #: 503-462-5626 **Email:** leslie.kainoa@cisa.dhs.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: The presentation focuses on helping water sector professionals understand how to protect their systems from cyber and physical threats. It will introduce tools and methods to identify risks, pinpoint strengths and weaknesses in their operations, and provide clear steps to fix any vulnerabilities. The presentation will also guide operators on how to take practical actions to improve security and achieve specific safety goals. It's designed to be straightforward and actionable, ensuring operators can apply the recommendations to safeguard their facilities and services effectively.

CEU Relevancy: Water, Wastewater, Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Leslie Ann Kainoa is the Cybersecurity State Coordinator for Region 10, Oregon, with CISA, where she supports critical infrastructure private sector entities across the state. With over 21 years of cybersecurity experience, she began her career in Hawaii as a helpdesk technician for the U.S. Army Reserves, later working as an Information Assurance Analyst for various military organizations.In 2013, Leslie moved to Oregon and became a Cybersecurity Analyst providing cybersecurity expertise to a local power utility in the Operational Technology department. Later she moved to a local transit company as a Senior Cybersecurity Engineer, where she helped build a cybersecurity program and supported cybersecurity for SCADA. She is passionate about cybersecurity education, outreach, and mentoring students of all ages and academic levels.Leslie holds a Master of Science in Information Systems from Hawaii Pacific University and certifications including CISSP and GISCP.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Modified Tracer Testing Methodology for Long Detention Times

Presenter: Andrew Nishihara **Job Title:** Principal Engineer

Employer: Stantec

Phone #: 503-220-5432 **Email:** andrew.nishihara@stantec.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Tracer testing to prove disinfection efficiency can be difficult to perform on large reservoirs or clearwells. Having a place to put water or being able to run a WTP at rates needed to prove out hydraulic efficiency may not be feasible. This presentation will provide an overview of tracer testing, why we do tracer testing, and provide case studies where abbreviated tracer testing was performed that shortened testing by over half the time traditional testing would require. Modified method used was discussed and vetted with approving regulatory authorities.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Professional Civil Engineer (OR/WA/ID/HI/NM/AZ/NV) with experience spanning as a project engineer and field engineer for a number of projects with Stantec where responsibilities have ranged from: data management and assessment for regional water supply projects (water resources planning), leading multidisciplinary teams during detailed design (water treatment and wastewater treatment), and providing on-site construction field services. Focus areas of water treatment process design and delivery, technical report writing (Master Planning/Facility Planning), and providing other civil engineering support in whatever capacity needed.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026
Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Protect Your Pipes

Presenter: Patrick Miller
Job Title: Technical Sales and Engineering Support

Employer: Cimco-GC Systems

Phone #: 253-263-3099
Email: patrick@cimcopnw.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Nearly $30 billion dollars in damages occur to underground water utilities each year in the USA due to inability or failure to locate pipelines. Some municipalities use a variety of different locating methods to find pipelines both young and old, made from various materials. Damages still occur. One of these methods involves the use of tracer wire to find pipelines which comes with its own challenges. This course covers the science and application of locating wire systems for detecting and protecting underground pipelines. Attendees will learn installation, troubleshooting, and the importance of accurate location identification for safety and damage prevention.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Patrick Miller has been an active contributor to the Waterworks industry since January 2023, working with the Cimco-GC Systems. He plays a vital role in maintaining the integrity of water and wastewater systems through his work training operators how to rebuild, inspect, and troubleshoot control valves. Recognizing the importance of effective planning, Patrick regularly meets with engineers to lend his insights to valve design and selection processes. His commitment extends to providing practical support to water and wastewater utilities, assisting with specialty valve applications, pipe locating, and leak detection

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Causes and Repairs to Concrete Wastewater and Water Facility Structures

Presenter: Joseph Eixenberger **Job Title:** Project Engineer

Employer: HECO Engineers

Phone #: 208-954-0234 **Email:** joee@hecoengineers.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Concrete deterioration is inevitable, but in water and wastewater facilities, the consequences extend beyond aesthetics or localized structural concerns. Deterioration—whether structural or non-structural—can compromise system reliability, contribute to water loss, infiltration, corrosion, and operational inefficiencies. This presentation explores common causes of deterioration in concrete through the lens of water and wastewater infrastructure, where exposure to moisture, chemicals, and cyclical loading makes concrete particularly vulnerable.

Attendees will be introduced to common concrete deterioration mechanisms observed in water and wastewater facilities. This includes water and humidity penetration, calcium carbonate damage, sulfate damage, acid damage, frost-thaw damage, mechanical damage, and chloride penetration. For each topic, the presentation discusses typical causes, how these issues manifest in water and wastewater environments, and why early identification is critical to extending service life.

The session will also address practical evaluation and repair strategies, focusing on selecting appropriate repair methods based on type of damage, size, exposure conditions, and facility function. By improving understanding of concrete deterioration and repair options, operators and engineers can make informed decisions that protect public assets, reduce water loss, and maintain regulatory compliance.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Joe Eixenberger, PE, PhD, is a Structural Engineer with HECO Engineers and brings a strong background in forensic engineering, structural assessment, and

infrastructure design. Raised in Boise, Idaho, Joe pursued his education at Boise State University for his undergrad and went out of state for grad school. He returned to Idaho to begin his professional career, joining HECO Engineers in 2018.Joe's professional experience includes structural condition assessments, façade and building envelope investigations, and diagnostic field evaluations to determine the causes of structural distress and material failures. His work has involved developing practical, constructible repair recommendations for existing concrete and steel structures, including facilities exposed to moisture, environmental loading, and long-term deterioration. Prior to joining HECO, Joe worked with WDP & Associates Consulting Engineers, where he specialized in forensic structural engineering and building envelope services.In addition to forensic and assessment work, Joe has experience in structural design for low-rise commercial, residential, and public buildings. Since joining HECO Engineers, he has expanded his expertise to include civil infrastructure design, contributing to site layouts, roadways, sewer systems, and water distribution systems. Joe also has a strong research background focused on the effects of seismic activity on masonry structures. His research has been published in multiple industry conference proceedings. He combines academic insight with practical field experience to help owners and operators understand concrete distress and its effect and the long-term durability and use of a structure.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: How Oregon ACWA Helps Navigate the Ever Increasingly Complex World of Water Quality and Some Random Trivia Too

Presenter: Geoff Rabinowitz **Job Title:** Executive Director

Employer: Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA)

Phone #: 407-488-3433 **Email:** rabinowitz@oracwa.org

Summary of Lesson Content: Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA) started in 1987 and is a private, not-for-profit organization that serves Oregon wastewater treatment and stormwater management agencies and their consultants and provides high value, science-based practical services to its membership through education, regulatory advocacy, and partnerships for the development of proactive solutions resulting in water resources management that is environmentally, financially and organizationally sustainable.

This presentatin will highlight the work that ACWA is focusing on in 2026 and beyond such as reuse/recycled water, biosolids, natural treatment systems, and how these efforts work to protect water quality and collectively help support the wastewater and stormwater communities across Oregon. This includes working with DEQ and other regulatory agencies to have reasonable, protective and implementable water quality permits, standards, and TMDLs. Additionally, future challenges and opportunities such as budgets, competing resources, climate related impacts, and overlapping solutions will be discussed.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Geoff Rabinowitz is the Executive Director of the Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA). Prior to this, he was the Deputy Director over Environmental Health for the Allegheny County Health Department and spent three years as the Oregon DEQ Water Quality Permitting and Program Development Manager. Prior to the Oregon DEQ, Geoff worked for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the City of Aurora, the Florida DEP and multiple consulting companies, including his own company, GGR Consulting. Geoff's nearly three-decade career has afforded him extensive experience in stormwater, wastewater, wetlands, water quality, air quality, other environmental programs,

public sector administration and organizational management. Geoff graduated from the Florida Institute of Technology where he received Bachelors degrees in Marine Biology and Ecology. Geoff received his Masters degree in Executive Management from the Florida State University and earned his Doctorate in Public Administration from Valdosta State University.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: On-Site Sodium Hypochlorite Generation: A Safe and Cost-Effective Solution for Disinfection

Presenter: Jeff Rhodes **Job Title:** Regional Manager

Employer: cleanwater1

Phone #: 7249913628 **Email:** grock@ugsicorp.com

Summary of Lesson Content: On-site sodium hypochlorite generation (OSHG) is a proven, safe, and cost-effective disinfection method that is increasingly being adopted as an alternative to bulk chemical delivery. This technology produces a dilute (typically 0.8%) sodium hyprochlorite solution by electrolyzing a simple brine (salt water) solution. The result is a reliable, on-demand disinfectant that reduces safety, storage, and supply chain concerns associated with traditional chlorine gas or commercially delivered hypochlorite. OSHG systems are typically skid-mounted and modular. They can be scaled based on disinfection demand and easily integrated into existing plant infrastructure. Key design considerations include water and salt quality, available electric power, space constraints, and integration with a plant's existing control and dosing systems. Proper ventilation and hydrogen gas management (a byproduct of the electrolysis process) are critical safety and design factors. OSHG systems are generally fully automated, with capabilities for remote monitoring and control, thereby reducing the need for constant operator attention. Routine operator tasks include salt replenishment, basic inspection, and periodic maintenance, including acid washing of the electrolytic cells.

In the context of evolving safety standards, sustainability goals, and cost pressures, OSHG presents a forward-looking solution for utilities seeking to modernize their disinfection processes. .

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Haley GoddardSales and Business Development Engineer, Cleanwater1 Haley Goddard is a Sales and Business Development Engineer at Cleanwater1 – a process technology company specializing in chemical feed and disinfection. She holds a B.S. degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Colorado-Boulder and is a licensed

civil engineer in Idaho and California. Prior to joining Cleanwater1, Haley worked in consulting as process and project engineer, leading multi-disciplinary teams on water and wastewater infrastructure projects for both municipal and industrial clients. Her experience features the design of desalination reverse osmosis treatment, chemical feed, dewatering, and water conveyance systems. Haley is based out of Boise, Idaho, and serves as a Water Environment Federation delegate and board member for the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Unveiling the Science of Polymer Activation in Solids Treatment

Presenter: Haley Goddard **Job Title:** Regional Manager

Employer: cleanwater1

Phone #: 7249913628 **Email:** grock@zoominternet.net

Summary of Lesson Content: Polymer activation is a critical step in the solids treatment process, playing a pivotal role in enhancing the efficiency of downstream processes such as thickening, dewatering, and sludge drying. Polymers help bind fine particles into larger aggregates, enabling more efficient separation of solids from liquid. However, the performance of these polymers is highly dependent on proper activation—an often overlooked yet essential process that ensures the polymer achieves its maximum effectiveness. The polymer activation system prepares and hydrates polymer before it is introduced into the solids treatment train, ensuring adequate mixing and aging time. By properly integrating polymer activation into the solids treatment train, facilities can improve solids capture, reduce polymer consumption, and lower overall sludge disposal costs.

This presentation will focus on the fundamentals of polymer activation systems, their operational significance, and design considerations. It will showcase the advantages of adopting a two-stage mixing approach. A comparative analysis of mechanical, hydro-mechanical and hydraulic mixing technologies for dry and emulsion polymer activation will be presented to aid in equipment selection for specific applications.

This session will equip attendees with the foundational knowledge necessary to select, operate, and maintain an effective polymer activation system—ultimately enhancing the overall efficiency of solids management in wastewater treatment.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Haley GoddardSales and Business Development Engineer, Cleanwater1 Haley Goddard is a Sales and Business Development Engineer at Cleanwater1 – a process technology company specializing in chemical feed and disinfection. She holds a B.S.

degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Colorado-Boulder and is a licensed civil engineer in Idaho and California. Prior to joining Cleanwater1, Haley worked in consulting as process and project engineer, leading multi-disciplinary teams on water and wastewater infrastructure projects for both municipal and industrial clients. Her experience features the design of desalination reverse osmosis treatment, chemical feed, dewatering, and water conveyance systems. Haley is based out of Boise, Idaho, and serves as a Water Environment Federation delegate and board member for the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Demystifying NFPA 820: Fire Code Essentials for Wastewater Facilities

Presenter: Curtis Butterfield **Job Title:** Project Manager

Employer: Keller Associates, Inc.

Phone #: 2088904216 **Email:** cbutterfield@kellerassociates.com

Summary of Lesson Content: NFPA 820 sets fire protection standards for wastewater treatment plants and sewer collection systems, yet many operators and fire officials misunderstand its requirements. This session explains area classifications, strategies to reduce hazards, gas detection and alarm requirements, and real-world case studies to help professionals improve safety and compliance.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Civil engineer with over 23 years of combined experience in engineering and contracting. His expertise includes designing and constructing mechanical process and HVAC systems for wastewater treatment facilities, with a focus on NFPA 820-compliant ventilation and alarming systems for projects ranging from $50K to $35M.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: ARC Flash Analysis and Electrical Safety

Presenter: Brett Anderson **Job Title:** Senior Electrical Engineer

Employer: HECO Engineers

Phone #: 208-724-3849 **Email:** bretta@hecoengineers.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This presentation explores arc flash hazard analysis as one component of a comprehensive electrical safety and reliability program for water and wastewater facilities. Using methodologies aligned with NFPA 70E and IEEE 1584, the session examines how arc flash assessments quantify incident energy, establish safe working boundaries, and inform labeling, PPE requirements, and maintenance practices. Special attention is given to how system age, configuration changes, and equipment condition directly influence arc flash risk and study accuracy.

The presentation also addresses the role of modern electrical equipment design, including IP2X (finger-safe) gear, which reduces the likelihood of inadvertent contact with energized components and lowers exposure during normal operation and maintenance. However, arc flash analysis alone is insufficient without evaluating the physical condition of the electrical system.

Attendees will learn how arc flash hazard analysis should be integrated with electrical condition assessments, including infrared thermal analysis, to identify loose connections, overloaded components, and deteriorating equipment that can elevate arc flash risk. By combining hazard analysis with condition-based evaluation, utilities can better prioritize upgrades, improve maintenance planning, and enhance overall electrical safety and reliability.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Brett joined HECO Engineers in 2017 and brings more than two decades of experience in electrical engineering and project management across a wide range of facility types. After completing college, he served for 14 years in the United States Air Force before beginning his civilian engineering career in 1997 at Hewlett-Packard in Boise, Idaho,

where he worked as a Project Engineer and Project Manager.Throughout his career, Brett has been extensively involved in the electrical design and coordination of complex building systems, including power distribution, infrastructure, and safety evaluations. His experience spans water and wastewater treatment plant power design, large residential developments, senior living facilities, surgical centers, retail and restaurant facilities, commercial buildings, manufacturing campuses, electrical infrastructure systems, and airport facilities. He has also supported condition assessments and electrical evaluations for agencies such as the National Park Service, Idaho Fish and Game, the Ada County Highway District (ACHD), and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD).Brett's recent work includes performing arc flash hazard analyses for National Park Service facilities, further strengthening HECO Engineers' capabilities in electrical safety, compliance, and risk mitigation for public and utility infrastructure.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Maximizing Booster Station Efficiency

Presenter: Margaret Cole **Job Title:** Administrative Assistant

Employer: Keller Associates, Inc.

Phone #: 208-890-4216 **Email:** mcole@kellerassociates.com

Summary of Lesson Content: The City of Richland commissioned the design and construction of a new more efficient booster station that replaced aging infrastructure, increased pumping capacity, utilized the full volume of water storage, eliminated cavitation, and added redundancy to decrease the risk of failure.

The City's response to increased water demand, resulting from recent rapid growth, is to focus on optimizing their water system infrastructure. The Badger Mountain Booster Station, which was a blend of two different pump stations and pump technologies, was identified as a prime candidate for optimization. The booster station was not able to fully utilize the 15 million-gallon water storage tank at that site due to cavitation resulting from pump limitations.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Curtis Butterfield is a professional engineer licensed in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada and Utah. Prior to his engineering career, he gained significant field experience as a plumbing contractor for over 15 years. Three and a half of these years he contracted with the military in Iraq and Afghanistan managing a team of skilled tradesmen working on water and wastewater facilities of all sizes. Curtis graduated from Boise State University with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering with an emphasis in hydraulics and water and wastewater treatment. Curtis has been with Keller Associates Inc. since 2018 as part of the water and wastewater group. His work includes managing, planning, designing and construction of water and wastewater systems and facilities for municipalities.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Recycled Water: How heavy is your load?

Presenter: Emily Nicholas **Job Title:** Process Engineer

Employer: Stantec

Phone #: 208-388-4322 **Email:** enicholas.idaho@gmail.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This course is designed to take reuse site land application operators through the trials and tribulations associated with both nutrient and hydraulic loading when land applying recycled water. Course content includes a brief introduction of reuse basics, fundamentals of hydraulic and nutrient loading, and how to calculate loading for their reuse permit.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: As both a licensed wastewater treatment operator and civil and environmental engineer Emily has been highly regarded for her ability to diligently find innovative solutions to complex challenges while maintaining deadlines and objectives. After managing and facilitating beneficial reuse in the oilfield, Emily transitioned to project engineering for municipal systems. Her experience ranges between funding, planning, design, and construction management for both water and wastewater projects. She believes communication and teamwork are key to creating successful projects and strives to develop elegant designs with practical operations.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Water and Wastewater Operator Math

Presenter: Emily Nicholas **Job Title:** Process Engineer

Employer: Stantec

Phone #: 208-388-4322 **Email:** crazkayak@gmail.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Math: It's all around us! Math helps determine if a plant has adequate performance; diagnose why a plant is not meeting permit requirements; how many trucks are needed to haul solids; and much more. This class guides operators through a variety of water and wastewater math problems and provides tips and tricks for solving them.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 2 hour

Professional Background: As both a licensed wastewater treatment operator and civil and environmental engineer Emily has been highly regarded for her ability to diligently find innovative solutions to complex challenges while maintaining deadlines and objectives. After managing and facilitating beneficial reuse in the oilfield, Emily transitioned to project engineering for municipal systems. Her experience ranges between funding, planning, design, and construction management for both water and wastewater projects. She believes communication and teamwork are key to creating successful projects and strives to develop elegant designs with practical operations.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Enforcing Easements and Enforceable Encroachment Policies

Presenter: Laura Schroeder **Job Title:** Shareholder

Employer: Schroeder Law Offices, P.C.

Phone #: 503-281-4100 **Email:** m.wayne@water-law.com

Summary of Lesson Content: For water distribution and collection system operators, easements are an essential tool in the "bundle of sticks" to deliver service to their customers. Additionally, encroachment enforcement policies are among the most important policies enacted by operators. For each, however, the devil lies in the details.

With easements, the agreement among the affected landowners is only the beginning of the lifecycle that can last in perpetuity and carry with it obligations and liabilities, unforeseen by even the most thoughtful drafters. Limitations on recourse for infringement, allocation of responsibility for necessary repairs, and seeking judicial remedy regarding silent terms are among the challenges faced by a client, an Oregon water management district.

This presentation will focus on some of the lessons that our firm has learned in helping system operators navigate the unexpected rough waters. It will also address what distribution and collection system operators can do, from a practical standpoint, to enact encroachment enforcement policies in their easements, Bylaws and/or Rules and Regulations to avoid problems before they arise.

This is no easy task, but the effort upfront is worth its reward, in terms of clarity and predictability provided to operators, customers, and other stakeholders.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Laura Schroeder is a Vale, Oregon native, born and raised in the agricultural community of Vale, where early exposure to farming, irrigation, and land stewardship shaped her lifelong interest in water resource issues. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Oregon in 1972 and her Juris Doctor in 1987 from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis & Clark College. Laura is admitted to practice law in both

state and federal courts in Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Washington, reflecting the regional scope of her water law practice.Laura began her legal career in private practice with her father, William Schroeder, in Vale, Oregon, representing agricultural producers, landowners, and local entities whose livelihoods depended on reliable water access. In 1991, she established her own firm to better serve clients navigating water resource matters throughout the western Unites States. Since that time, she has built a reputation as a trusted advocate and advisor in water rights law with a particular emphasis on water quantity issues.Throughout her career, Laura has represented businesses, municipalities, irrigation districts, and landowners in transactional and litigation matters. Her practice includes water rights acquisitions and sales, contracts, easements, well share and water delivery agreements, adjudications, permitting, extensions, transfers, certifications, regulatory compliance, and the litigation of water rights disputes before state administrative agencies as well as state and federal trial and courts. A former preschool, high school, and college instructor with an undergraduate degree in Theater, Laura, is a dynamic and engaging speaker known for making complex water law topics accessible to diverse audiences.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Introduction to UV Disinfection

Presenter: Robert Smith **Job Title:** Sales Engineer

Employer: Treatment Equipment

Phone #: 541-236-8145 **Email:** robertsmith7448@hotmail.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Disinfection with Ultraviolet light has become a preferred final treatment method for water and wastewater over the past couple decades. Sometimes used in conjunction with another form of disinfection for a "belt and suspenders" approach, UV disinfection is also a highly effective stand-alone treatment process that can make treated water safe for drinking or reuse purposes. As chemical treatment with different forms of chlorine become less popular due to cost, environmental impact (or both), UV continues to become more and more prevalent as a method for water disinfection. This presentation will go over a bit of history of the process, some basics regarding radiation and UV light, important process parameters, different lamp configurations and a few potential pitfalls that might be encountered when using UV.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Working in the manufacturing sector for much of the time since graduating the University of Washington with a BSME, and having managed many wastewater projects cradle-to-grave, Bob has had the opportunity to see, touch, and smell a lot of wastewater systems for applications as diverse as small communities to beverage bottling plants. In his current role with Treatment Equipment Company, he has the opportunity to work with water and wastewater systems for municipalities and industry, helping to select equipment and processes to assist the operators in accomplishing their important missions.When Bob is not talking about treating water, he enjoys spending time with his wife, three boys and several animals on his property in Southern Oregon.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Risk Assessment of Underground Vaults

Presenter: Frank Ray **Job Title:** Sales Rep

Employer: EJ

Phone #: 5035501828 **Email:** frank.ray@ejco.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This is a Powerpoint presentation regarding the safe assessment and safe working habits in and around underground vault, for water system vaults

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Been in the Waterworks industry for 25 years in various product representing roles

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: GIS for Field Operations: Using GIS to Map and Track Line Flushing

Presenter: Rusty Merritt **Job Title:** GIS Department Manager

Employer: Anderson Perry & Associates

Phone #: 5412418956 **Email:** rmerritt@andersonperry.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Using GIS for line flushing is one of the most effective ways to record, track, and see when and where lines have been flushed and where problems areas exist. Using the City of Baker City as an example, this session will demonstrate how Baker City's field crews are using mobile GIS to record and map line flushing activites in real-time, see where problem areas exist, track and retain information year-over-year, and easily share the information with management.

The GIS concepts that will be covered in this session can be applied to virtually any type of asset, so where you manage a sewer, water, and/or stormwater system, you'll leave a with a better understanding of how GIS can help streamline field operations and reporting.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Rusty Merritt is the GIS Department Manager at Anderson Perry. Prior to joining AP, Rusty owned and managed a GIS consulting firm for more than 18 years. As an Esri Partner from the begining of his career, Rusty has worked across a variety of disciplines to help his clients harness the true power of GIS to deliver self-service GIS capabilities to help augment often mundane workflows.At Anderson Perry, Rusty helps to implement web and mobile GIS for municipalities, and internally, provides GIS support serviceds to AP's engineering, natural resource, and hydraulic modelling teams. With more than 30 years of experience in the GIS field, Rusty has seen GIS evolve from a back-office function to a self-service platform that's now available from any device, anytime, anywhere.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Modernizing Scale Prevention: A Non-Chemical Approach to Municipal Infrastructure Protection

Presenter: Robert Freeman **Job Title:** Owner

Employer: Hydroflow Northwest, LLC

Phone #: 5094103709 **Email:** sales@hydroflownw.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Title: Modernizing Scale Prevention: A Non-Chemical Approach to Municipal Infrastructure Protection

Proposal Summary:

Mineral scale, struvite, and biofilm are "silent killers" of municipal infrastructure, leading to energy inefficiency, restricted flow, and premature equipment failure. Traditionally, Oregon utilities have relied on intensive chemical programs to manage these issues. This session, led by Robert Freeman, explores a sustainable, non-intrusive alternative: Induced Signal Technology.

Robert brings over 25 years of specialized expertise to this discussion, tracing the evolution of physical water conditioning from his foundational work at HydroFlow West to his current leadership at HydroFlow Northwest. As a strategic partner of HydroFlow USA, he shares the technical insights behind the technology that earned the WEF Innovative Technology Award for its success in wastewater applications.

The presentation breaks down the science of how a 150kHz AM signal induces the formation of stable mineral crystals in suspension, preventing hard scale from bonding to pipes and heat exchangers. Attendees will review PNW-specific case studies demonstrating how this technology reduces maintenance labor, lowers chemical discharge, and extends the life of critical assets like boilers and anaerobic digesters. Participants will leave with a practical framework for evaluating the ROI of non-chemical treatment and a roadmap for integrating these solutions into modern utility management.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Robert Freeman is a leading specialist in the field of physical water treatment and sustainable infrastructure protection, currently serving as the owner of HydroFlow Northwest. With decades of dedicated experience in the water and wastewater industry, Robert has become a primary authority on the application of "Induced Signal" technology—a non-chemical approach used to manage mineral scale, biofilm, and corrosion in complex municipal and industrial systems.Robert's professional journey is rooted in his significant tenure at HydroFlow West, where he played a pivotal role in introducing and implementing advanced water conditioning solutions across the Western United States. During his years with HydroFlow West, he developed a deep technical understanding of how physical water conditioning can serve as a high-efficiency alternative or supplement to traditional chemical treatment programs.In his current leadership role at HydroFlow Northwest, Robert maintains a close strategic association with HydroFlow USA, the national master distributor for Hydropath technology. This connection ensures that his regional projects in Oregon and Washington are backed by global research and national technical standards. His work is recognized by the Water Environment Federation (WEF), which awarded HydroFlow USA the Innovative Technology Award for effectiveness in reducing struvite build-up in municipal wastewater applications. Robert is a frequent contributor to the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association (PNCWA). He is widely respected for his ability to translate complex electromagnetic science into practical, field-ready strategies that help utility managers achieve the "Triple Bottom Line": protecting the environment, ensuring social responsibility through chemical reduction, and maintaining economic viability through extended equipment lifespans.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Wastewater Transition to Your DEQ Online

Presenter: mark bentz **Job Title:** Permit Inspector

Employer: Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Phone #: 5038698264 **Email:** mark.bentz@deq.oregon.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: Transition to electronic reporting for WQ permits

What is Your DEQ Online?

DMRs in Your DEQ Online

Anatomy of a DMR

Live demonstrations

Special reporting

Your DEQ Online guidance

What's next

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Mark Bentz grew up in Minnesota, peering over the edge of his father's fishing boat into the depths of Borden Lake. He graduated from Marylhurst University with a BA in Environmental Science. He has worked in Water Quality at DEQ for 6 years and is presently working on the Northwest Region's wastewater compliance transition into YDO.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Saving Energy with The Energy Trust of Oregon

Presenter: Nick Ridling **Job Title:** Account Manager

Employer: Energy Trust of Oregon

Phone #: 5412860300 **Email:** nridling@energy350.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This presentation will provide the audience with an overview of the resources available through the Energy Trust of Oregon. We will touch on how and where energy is consumed in typical facilities. Offering low/no-cost adjustments that can be made to reduce operating costs. Examples of real-world capital and O&M projects completed by Oregon will be discussed. These examples will include costs, savings, and ROI. At the end of the presentation, we will seek to discuss projects of interest, with anyone willing to provide them. Because of this, attendees are highly encouraged to come with projects and/or problems in mind so we can help them find an energy-efficient solution.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Nick is an Account Manager working with the Energy Trust of Oregon on the Industrial Production Efficiency team. Nick has 10-years of experience in the energy efficiency field. Serving as a project and account manager focusing on the development and implementation of energy efficiency projects with industrial customers in rural parts of Oregon, specifically Eastern Oregon. Over the last 10-years Nick has assisted Eastern Oregon customers with implementing over 100 energy efficiency projects for a combined savings exceeding 30 GWh/yr and 200,000 Therms/yr, delivering over four million dollars in energy incentive payments. Nick has extensive experience growing business relationships through leveraging strong personal and communication skills. Nick utilizes his construction background combined with his technical training to understand the needs of industrial customers, while simultaneously fostering a culture focused on energy efficiency. Nick has a bachelor's degree in Energy Systems Engineering from Oregon State University and is a Certified Energy Manager through the Association of Energy Engineers.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Municipal Pumps

Presenter: Trask Ritter **Job Title:** Project Engineer

Employer: Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc.

Phone #: **Email:** tritter@andersonperry.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This presentation covers the basics of pumps used in municipal water and wastewater systems, with a focus on how they perform in everyday operation. Topics include a simple overview of centrifugal pump operation and how to read pump curves to understand flow, head, efficiency, and horsepower under real system conditions.

Common pump types—such as vertical turbine, split-case, end suction, and submersible solids-handling pumps—will be reviewed, including typical applications and operational limitations. The presentation also covers common pump problems such as cavitation, vibration, seal failures, excessive wear, and loss of capacity, along with practical troubleshooting approaches.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Trask is a project engineer that has been with with Anderson Perry & Associates for 4-1/2 years. Trask primarily works on planning, design, and construction of water and wastewater infrastructure projects for municipalities in eastern Oregon.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: The Process: Hiring and Working with an Engineer

Presenter: Dane Maben **Job Title:** Project Engineer

Employer: Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc.

Phone #: 5418050601 **Email:** dmaben@andersonperry.com

Summary of Lesson Content: The presentation is anticipated to include discussion on different procurement methods for hiring a professional engineer. The pros and cons will be discussed for the different procurement methods. Cost-based and qualificiations based selections will be discussed. In addition to procurement methods, the presentation will discuss expectations for working with an engineer throughout the project after the procurement period has ended.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Civil Engineering and Forest Engineering Degrees from Oregon State University. Project Engineer with Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc. for six years. Specializes in planning, design, and construction of municipal water and wastewater systems.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Proper Sampling in Water and Wastewater Industry

Presenter: Jessica Schneider **Job Title:** Laboratory Manager

Employer: The City of Pendleton

Phone #: 5412763372 **Email:** jessica.schneider@pendletonor.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: Proper sampling in the water and wastewater industry is essential for producing accurate, representative data that supports regulatory compliance, treatment optimization, and public health protection. It involves selecting appropriate sampling methods—such as grab samples for rapidly changing parameters and composite samples for assessing average conditions—while choosing sampling locations that reflect true system performance. Effective sampling also requires careful technique to avoid contamination, proper preservation and handling to maintain sample integrity, and thorough documentation, including chain-of-custody procedures, to ensure results are reliable and legally defensible. Safety remains a core priority throughout the process, as sampling often occurs in environments that require protective equipment and hazard awareness.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Graduated college with a biology degree in 2013. Worked in the food industry for 7 years. Started in wastewater with the City of Pendleton in 2019 working in the laboratory. I hold a level 4 wastewater certification.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Smart, Secure, and Scalable: Modern SCADA Solutions for Water and Sewer Utilities

Presenter: Clayton Anderson **Job Title:** Chief Operating Officer

Employer: Control Systems NW

Phone #: 509-886-6781 **Email:** canderson@controlsystemsnw.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Water and sewer utilities are increasingly challenged to do more with less—managing operations across wide service areas with limited staff and tight budgets. This presentation explores modern Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems and how utilities can leverage affordable, scalable solutions to improve efficiency, visibility, and security. Clayton Anderson, Electrical Engineer with CSNW Engineering, will demonstrate live features of modern SCADA systems, including hands-on examples of programmable logic controller (PLC) functionality, GIS integration, and mobile access tools. Attendees will learn how small and mid-sized utilities can implement low-cost touchscreens and remote-access technologies to modernize operations without large capital investments. The session will also cover current cybersecurity best practices, user accessibility, and options for expanding systems as needs grow.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Clayton Anderson, PE, is an Electrical Engineer with Control Systems NW, LLC., specializing in the design, programming, and maintenance of electrical and control systems for water and wastewater utilities. Drawing from his background as an electrician and his expertise with the National Electrical Code (NEC), Clayton develops holistic solutions that integrate design, programming, inspection, and construction. His experience includes extensive SCADA and Wonderware system programming for municipalities, irrigation districts, and public utilities throughout the Northwest. Clayton's work focuses on building practical, reliable systems that improve performance, security, and operator access—helping utilities of all sizes modernize their infrastructure with scalable, cost-effective technology.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Operator's Critical Role from project conception to project startup

Presenter: Bill Ledbetter **Job Title:** Construction Administration Manager

Employer: Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc.

Phone #: 541-786-5643 **Email:** bledbetter@andersonperry.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Operator's serve a critical role for all projects, from conception to system startup. The vast knowledge an operator has of underground infrastructure, utilites, system controls and operation are extremely important when working with the Engineering design team to capture the many critical components and details needed to deliver accurate Drawings for all successful projects. Team collaboration and involvement during construction can mitigate costly change orders, design modifications, potential Contractor claims, and avoid timely delays. Operator's know the day to day operations of the their facilities and as a project goes from conception to capturing the intial survey information in the field the operator can provide input up front of possible unkown data that will assist the design team. It is very important that the team maintains the operator's involvement throughout the various stages of the design to ensure accuracy, point out discrepancies, provide feedback, and interject expectations. As the project moves to construction it is important for the construction administration division to work side by side with the operator to assist with project questions, collaboration with local officials and residents, and relay progress updates to city officials. The key to a successful project comes down to the final transformation from the Contractor to the Owner.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: I have been in the construction industry for over 20 years. I previously owned and operated a construction business and for the last 8 years have joined the Anderson Perry Team as a Construction Administrator. My primary role is to work as the Owner's rep, manage our field representatives during construction, process contract documentation, work with various funding agencies, and deliver successful projects.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Construction Considerations - Erosion and Sediment Control Plans, Inadvertent Discovery Plans, and Environmental Compliance

Presenter: Dana Kurtz **Job Title:** Senior Environmental Scientist

Employer: Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc

Phone #: 509-953-1804 **Email:** dkurtz@andersonperry.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Construction Considerations - Erosion and Sediment Control Plans, Inadvertent Discovery Plans, and Environmental Compliance

This presentation will provide an overview of environmental compliance considerations for water and wastewater construction projects. Topics will include how to obtain and implement a 1200-C Construction Stormwater General Permit through the YourDEQ online system, and an introduction to state and federal requirements related to cultural resources, wetlands, floodplains, and other environmental compliance elements that may be required for water and wastewater improvement projects. Resources for additional information on each topic will be provided.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Dana is a certified planner and senior environmental scientist with over 15 years of experience in environmental consulting. Dana leads AP's Natural Resources Division which works to ensure environmental compliance for water and wastewater construction projects. Dana helps navigate projects through local, state, and federal permitting requirements including NEPA, ESA Section 7 consultation, Clean Water Act Section 10 and 404 permitting, DEQ water quality certification, 1200C construction stormwater permitting and National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Solar Today, Batteries Next: What to Know About Energy Projects and ESPCs

Presenter: Kathleen Kelleher

Job Title: Business Development / Grant Coordination Lead

Employer: Ameresco

Phone #: 775-385-3472

Email: kkelleher@ameresco.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Water and wastewater operators are increasingly asked to support solar, battery storage, and “net zero” initiatives—often before these systems are built or fully understood. This session uses the City of Pendleton as a real-world case study to explain how energy projects are planned, designed, and delivered in a way that protects plant reliability, safety, and operator control.

Pendleton and Ameresco will discuss:

- How solar PV is currently operating at Pendleton facilities

- What a designed but not yet installed battery energy storage system (BESS) is intended to accomplish

- What operational changes to expect—and what will not change—when a battery is eventually implemented

- How solar and future projects fit into a practical, phased approach toward net-zero energy goals

- Additional operational and resiliency benefits of clean energy projects

The session will also explain how working with an Energy Service Company (ESCO) under an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) differs from traditional capital projects, including:

- Why ESPCs are commonly used for energy and infrastructure upgrades

- How operator input is incorporated into project design and commissioning

- How ESPCs help manage risk while maintaining operator control

The presentation will conclude with lessons learned and practical guidance for operators who may be asked to support similar projects in the future, while positioning their facilities for long-term energy efficiency and resilience.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Kathleen Kelleher is a Business Development / Grant Coordination Lead in the Pacific Northwest with a background in engineering and business. She brings more than a decade of experience in the water and wastewater sector and four years in the energy industry, specializing in helping municipalities and utilities integrate renewable energy, resilience, and efficiency into critical operations. Kyle Willman is the Assistant Public Works Director for the City of Pendleton and serves as the City's project manager and primary point of contact for renewable, resilient, and energy-efficiency infrastructure initiatives. A long-time Pendleton resident, Kyle brings hands-on experience coordinating municipal projects including microturbines, solar PV, and energy efficiency upgrades at critical facilities such as the Pendleton Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Facility (WWTRRF). He has presented nationally and regionally on infrastructure innovation. Kyle is also actively involved in veterans' organizations, youth coaching, and the Pendleton Round-Up Association.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Biosolids Dewatering and Drying 101

Presenter: Eric Roundy **Job Title:** Senior Process Engineer

Employer: Keller Associates, Inc.

Phone #: 2082881992 **Email:** eroundy@kellerassociates.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Biosolids handling and disposal can be among the most frustrating aspects of operating a water resource recovery facility. Disposal of biosolids can seem costly and time-consuming, especially since biosolids are not typically included in a discharge permit. PFAS and other contaminants of concern are quickly compounding the issues of biosolids disposal and reuse. Understanding the factors that affect biosolids handling can improve dewatering and drying performance. This presentation will focus on biosolids dewatering and drying and will discuss the basic mechanisms used in several major technologies. The goal of the presentation is to provide the listener with a better understanding of how these technologies can be effectively applied at water resource recovery facilities to help alleviate current and future issues.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Eric has more than 20 years of experience designing and evaluating wastewater treatment systems. He has a master's degree in environmental engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, and a master's degree in business administration from Mississippi State University. He is a licensed professional engineer in five states, including Oregon, Idaho, and Washington.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Wastewater Lagoon Treatment 101

Presenter: Eric Roundy **Job Title:** Senior Process Engineer

Employer: Keller Associates, Inc.

Phone #: **Email:** ericroundy@yahoo.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This wastewater lagoon training will provide an overview of lagoon treatment, including a description of the different lagoon types. Each type of lagoon has advantages and disadvantages, and this presentation will delve into these and help attendees understand why a particular lagoon type is selected. Finally, the presentation will discuss best practices for troubleshooting lagoon problems and ways to optimize lagoon performance.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Eric has more than 20 years of experience designing and evaluating wastewater treatment systems. He has a master's degree in environmental engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, and a master's degree in business administration from Mississippi State University. He is a licensed professional engineer in five states, including Oregon, Idaho, and Washington.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Intelligent pumping systems - design and case stories

Presenter: Simon Cartwright **Job Title:** Municipal Projects - Representative

Employer: Xylem Water Solutions - Flygt Pumps

Phone #: 503-913-0119 **Email:** simon.cartwright@xylem.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Todays municipalities are faced with challenges in regards to new lift stations and retrofits that require additional considerations not covered in the Oregon Standards for Design and Construction of Wastewater Pump Stations. With new products (flushables) causing ragging issues, reduced operating budgets, green requirements and OH&S issues coming to the fore in many instances; municipalities should consider creating their own strategies to supplement the DEQ guidelines. This class will address these and other issues by looking at the cause and the technology currently available to deal with these modern considerations. By the end of class participants should have a solid understanding of the issues facing the modern pumping station and the tools to write their own guidelines to improve their collection system. This will be reinforced with real world examples of station application here in Oregon

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 2 hour

Professional Background: Professional Background: Simon Cartwright joined Xylem- Flygt Portland as the municipal projects representative in October 2011. Prior to this he worked at Orenco Systems for 5 years culminating as the Eastern Regional Manager, supporting Orenco's distributors and dealers east of the Rocky Mountains and internationally (Canada and South Pacific) specializing in residential on-site treatment. A native of Australia, Simon served 10 years in the Royal Australian Navy, working in both the electrical and mechanical engineering fields. After the military, he worked in engineering sales for Flygt in Australia, helping engineers design, install, and maintain private and municipal wastewater pumping and control systems. Simon also owned and operated a bookstore for seven years, so he's well-grounded in business management. Simon came to Oregon to be closer to his wife's family, and spends much of his

time off experimenting with growing Périgord truffles at his home orchard located in Cottage Grove.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: What's in your OM&M?

Presenter: Rob Cox **Job Title:** Environmental Manager

Employer: Simplot Company

Phone #: 541-561-7266 **Email:** rob.cox@simplot.com

Summary of Lesson Content: We will discuss facility operators taking an active roll in devloping and managing their operation, maintenace, and managment plan to ensure that it represents how their system works.

we will discuss how the OM&M is a living document that should be reviewed and updated regularly.

whether the OM&M is written to meet the drinking water standards and reporting requirements of the OHA or the WPCF or NPEDS permit requirements of DEQ, it also must be a guide for operators to effectively operate their facility.

we will discuss ways to itemize requirements and events from the OM&M for quick refrence as well as ways to track when changes occur in operations that need to be reflected in the OM&M

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: I have actively worked with ODEQ managing a WPCF permit for over 30 years while also obtaining hundreds of credits in environmental management, agronomy, Irrigation technology, and soil science. I have gone through several permit renewal processes and written OM&M plans and submitted numerous annual reports. I am currently the Vice President and have been a past president of the Easter Oregon Region of the PNCWA.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Emerging Solids Technology

Presenter: Chris McCalib **Job Title:** President/Owner

Employer: Treatment Equipment Company (TEC)

Phone #: 206-909-1546 **Email:** chris@tec-nw.com

Summary of Lesson Content: The presentation highlights emerging solids technology that are developed and implemented in the United States from across the globe. Ranging from thickening technologies, dewatering, polymer reduction capabilities, drying, digestion alternatives, digestion enhancement, and beyond Class A solids minimization. These systems supply viable solutions at cost savings options that can be retrofitted into existing WWTP facilities to meet current and future needs. This presentation will touch on current alternatives to address Emerging compounds of concern (PFAS/PFOA/endocrine disrupters/microplastics/pharmaceuticals).

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Chris is the President/Owner of (TEC). Coming from Lakehaven Water and Sewer, where he was the WW Operations Manager for 8 years. He was responsible for 2 WWTPs, as well as numerous groups within the district. Prior to Lakehaven, Chris worked in all facets of operations at SW Suburban Sewer District for 7 years. He is actively involved in the NW Biosolids Management Association Board of Directors, serving as president, and past VP for the PNCWA.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Operations and Maintenance Training for Dry Barrel Fire Hydrants

Presenter: Keyan McBride **Job Title:** Sales Representative

Employer: AMERICAN Flow Control

Phone #: 208-516-6070 **Email:** kmcbride@american-usa.com

Summary of Lesson Content: A one-hour course covering basic operation and maintenance of fire hydrants. The course

uses a demonstration model of the Waterous Pacer WB67 model hydrant, however, the operation and

maintenance instructions will apply to many other hydrant models that utility workers are likely to

encounter.

Outline:

1. Discuss safety procedures referencing AWWA M17 Handbook.

-PPE

-Isolation Valve

-Body mechanics and positioning

-Line flushing and safe sanitary practices associated with hydrant maintenance.

2. External features

-Shoe (Base) coatings, materials, and configurations

-Drain feature

-Bury depth indicator

-Traffic feature

-Nozzle Section coatings, markings, and configurations.

3. Operation

-Safety review (nozzle caps and body positioning)

-Opening and closing

-Flushing, pressure testing, and checking the drain function

4. Maintenance/ Internal Features

-Tools required

-Disassembly

-Lubrication chamber

-Support wheel

-Travel stop nut

-Gaskets/o-rings

-Traffic coupling

-Main valve assembly

-Drain components

5. Reassembly

-Assembly instructions with torque recommendations

-Lubrication

-Hydrant testing

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Keyan McBride is a sales representative for AMERICAN Flow Control covering Southern Idaho, Montana, and Eastern Oregon. Keyan grew up in an agricultural community in SE Idaho and graduated from Utah State University with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Systems Technology (Ag Business Emphasis). While attending USU, Keyan worked as a well pump technician and rig operator for three years before moving back to Idaho and accepting his position with AFC in 2024. Now residing in the Idaho Treasure Valley, he enjoys dirt bike riding, snowboarding, and camping with his wife and son. Keyan is a member of the PNW Section of the AWWA and a member of IRWA.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Managing Lagoon Sludge: Measurement to Removal

Presenter: Scott Miller **Job Title:** Owner / Sales Represenative

Employer: ByoGon Northwest / TEC

Phone #: 541-490-5628 **Email:** scottmiller@gorge.net

Summary of Lesson Content: This paper examines methods used to manage, access, and remove lagoon sludge through both conventional and emerging approaches. It discusses proper techniques for measuring sludge depth and determining solids concentration, which are critical for evaluating removal strategies and performance outcomes. A key question addressed is whether success should be measured primarily by the total dry tons of sludge removed or by the restoration of lagoon treatment capacity, including regaining the clear water layer.

Sludge removal can be accomplished through mechanical, chemical, biological, or integrated treatment approaches. Conventional methods include dredging and mechanical excavation. Biological removal strategies such as biostimulation enhance microbial activity to accelerate sludge degradation. Additionally, emerging technologies such as G3 combine mechanical, chemical, and biological processes to optimize sludge reduction and improve overall lagoon performance.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: I have a degree in Pulp and Paper Engineering from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY. I've been in the paper industry 38 years in paper machine process engineering and sales. I've been involved in the waste water treatment industry for 25 years. I'm the west coast representative for ByoGon PX-109 and represent TEC in this region.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Enhancing Water Sector Security: Strategies to Identify Security Strengths, Weaknesses, and Actionable Remediation Steps

Presenter: Jason Salfen **Job Title:** Protective Security Advisor

Employer: Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

Phone #: **Email:** jason.salfen@cisa.dhs.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: The presentation focuses on helping water sector professionals understand how to protect their systems from cyber and physical threats. It will introduce tools and methods to identify risks, pinpoint strengths and weaknesses in their operations, and provide clear steps to fix any vulnerabilities. The presentation will also guide operators on how to take practical actions to improve security and achieve specific safety goals. It's designed to be straightforward and actionable, ensuring operators can apply the recommendations to safeguard their facilities and services effectively.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Jason Salfen is a Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Protective Security Advisor (PSA) assigned to the State of Oregon. In this capacity, Jason serves as a critical infrastructure security and resiliency subject matter expert and is the Department's liaison with private, federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial organizations as well as other infrastructure mission partners. Additionally, Jason is responsible for the identification of critical infrastructure, analysis of interdependencies, and mitigation of consequences from potential all-hazards or man-made threats. PSAs perform vulnerability and security assessments on a variety of critical infrastructure to identify security gaps and vulnerabilities while coordinating training and mitigation techniques in support of special events and during incidents.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026
Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Eyes and Ears on Your Water Systems

Presenter: Patrick Miller
Job Title: Technical Sales and Engineering Support

Employer: Cimco-GC Systems

Phone #: 253-263-3099
Email: pmiller2142@hotmail.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This Class will explain solutions for leak detection programs and pressure and flow monitoring that allow water operators to reduce their non-revenue water and prevent costly main breaks. We will cover the principles and advantages of differential metering on control valves as well using acoustic correlators to develop a robust leak detection and pressure control program. Getting remote data from the field will allow water operators to know where they should be spending precious work hours to get the best results.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Patrick Miller has been an active contributor to the Waterworks industry since January 2023, working with the Cimco-GC Systems. He plays a vital role in maintaining the integrity of water and wastewater systems through his work training operators how to rebuild, inspect, and troubleshoot control valves. Recognizing the importance of effective planning, Patrick regularly meets with engineers to lend his insights to valve design and selection processes. His commitment extends to providing practical support to water and wastewater utilities, assisting with specialty valve applications, pipe locating, and leak detection.

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Sithe Envie Chopper Demo

Presenter: Peter Harmsen **Job Title:** Technical Trainer Team Lead

Employer: Crane Pumps & Systems

Phone #: 937-214-4327 **Email:** pharmsen@cranepumps.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This session provides a comprehensive overview of chopper pumps and their critical role in modern wastewater treatment systems. Participants will explore the history and evolution of chopper pump technology, from early solids-handling designs to today's advanced cutting and impeller configurations that improve efficiency and reliability.

The course will cover how chopper pumps differ from traditional centrifugal and grinder pumps, and why they are particularly effective in handling high-solids, rag-laden, and debris-heavy wastewater streams. Real-world applications in lift stations, treatment facilities, and industrial settings will be discussed, along with common operational challenges and solutions.

Key topics include:

- The development and evolution of chopper pump technology
- How chopper pumps function (cutting mechanism and hydraulic design)
- Advantages in reducing clogging and maintenance downtime
- Installation considerations and system design
- Maintenance best practices and troubleshooting
- The financial and operational importance of proper pump selection

Designed for wastewater operators, maintenance staff, engineers, and public works professionals, this class will provide practical knowledge to help improve system reliability, reduce downtime, and extend equipment life.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater, Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: I have been with Crane Pumps & Systems for over two years. I started out as a Sales Specialist for the Municipal side of Crane Pumps. In January I was promoted to Technical Trainer Team Lead and I oversee the four truck and trailers that we have running throughout the US and Canada

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: DEQ-Water Quality Permitting and Land Application

Presenter: Justin Sterger **Job Title:** Senior Water Quality Permit Writer

Employer: Oregon DEQ

Phone #: 5417140206 **Email:** justin.sterger@deq.oregon.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: Overview of DEQ wastewater permits including overview of Land Application requirements for recycled water and biosolids.

Speakers: Justin Sterger and Carl Makepeace (Oregon DEQ)

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Senior Water Quality Permit Writer7 Years at DEQ, covering eastern region wastewater permitted sites (industrial and domestic)Team lead for permitting, permit writer for large WPCF permits and compliance inspector

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2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Energy Savings Opportunities in Wastewater Ponds / Basins while maintaining Compliance.

Presenter: Harvey Hibl **Job Title:** Regional Manager

Employer: Ixom Watercare (GridBee / SolarBee)

Phone #: 303-887-5323 **Email:** harvey.hibl@ixom.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Summary of Lesson Content: Discuss how using energy efficient mixing technology can reduce energy costs in wastewater ponds and basins while maintaining treatment and Compliance. Also, discuss how many Wastewater Pond Systems may qualify as an energy savings project where a 3rd Party Program Delivery Contractor will work with the Power Company to help the city or industrial plant submit an application for funding to offset some of the energy efficient mixing equipment capital costs, and how the energy savings pay for themselves over and over for many years. Discuss all types of wastewater systems such as Partial Mix Ponds, Facultative Ponds and Wastewater Basins.

CEU Relevancy: Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: Professional Background – Primary Knowledge / Skills - Education: Harvey Hibl, West U.S. Manager, is a mechanical engineer that is part of a team of engineers / advisors for the Ixom Watercare, Inc. / Medora Corp. GridBee / SolarBee Products that develops and markets the tank, reservoir and reservoir circulation equipment for wastewater, freshwater and potable water applications and is helping to develop new solutions for these problems. Harvey has approx. 20 years experience in fluid handling and 25 years applying the SolarBee / GridBee technology.

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2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Utilizing Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Inventories

Presenter: Kyle Carpenter **Job Title:** Director of Public Works

Employer: City of La Grande

Phone #: **Email:** kcarpenter@cityoflagrande.org

Summary of Lesson Content: With the integration of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) the Public Works tool box effective ways to gather and map water and sewer infrastructure has become extremely valuable. Staff time utilized in data acuisition and maping can be costly and monotonous causing data gaps or inaccuate information.

Like many small Oregon cities, La Grande manages its water, sewer, and street infrastructure with a lean public works team. La Grande has been using Cyvl, an AI-powered mapping tool, to build a clear visual record of our public infrastructure. What started as a way to fill data gaps has become one of our most effective tools for communicating with city council: giving decision-makers an easy-to-understand picture of where our systems stand and where investment is needed.

This session is structured in two parts. The first half features a live demonstration of how Cyvl works: how data is collected in the field and turned into visual documentation without a steep learning curve. The second half walks through how La Grande has put it to use, the lessons we've learned, and how other small communities can do the same.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: With seven years of service as the Public Works Director for the City of La Grande, Kyle utilizes 20+ years of experience in engineering and construction in the Pacific Northwest toward modernizing systems and procedures in the municipal arena.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Preparing for a Water System Survey

Presenter: Amy Word **Job Title:** Natural Resource Specialist III

Employer: State of Oregon - Drinking Water Services

Phone #: 541-966-0901 **Email:** amyabaker@hotmail.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Presentation will review survey preparations for water systems. Review changes in significant deficiences and rule violations and correction timelines. As time allows, will also review current PFAS sampling requirements.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: BS - BiologyDrinking Water Program - Technical Services - since 2008Lead and Copper Rule point person

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: SCADA Automation in Water/Wastewater

Presenter: Gary Jenks **Job Title:** President

Employer: The Automation Group, Inc

Phone #: 5419123766 **Email:** gjenks@tag-inc.us

Summary of Lesson Content: SCADA, or Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, is a system that allows operators to monitor and control industrial processes from a centralized interface. For water and wastewater operators, SCADA provides real-time data on critical infrastructure, such as pumps, valves, reservoirs, and treatment processes. This visibility enables operators to respond quickly to issues, optimize efficiency, and ensure compliance with regulations. With automated alarms and remote control capabilities, SCADA improves reliability, reduces downtime, and ultimately helps deliver safe, clean water to communities.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: The Automation Group (TAG) is a trusted products and services company with more than 30 years of experience providing industrial automation, control systems, and instrumentation solutions in the Water and Wastewater industry. Our main office is located in Eugene, Oregon, with additional offices in Coos Bay, Salem, Portland, Maui, and Hermiston, TAG proudly supports clients throughout the Pacific Northwest with a team of 34 highly skilled Professionals and Technicians.Our Capabilities include a fully equipped in-house UL508A / UL698A / NNNY- certified panel shop, as well as being a Allen-Bradley Silver Status Systems Integrator. Our field technicians bring extensive experience in Water, Wastewater, and Pump Station start-up and commissioning, supported by project management systems that ensure successful project execution. TAG is a recognized systems integrator and representative for leading manufacturers includingEndress+Hauser, Hach, Chemtrac (analytical instruments), Cattron (formerly Antx), Catalyst (Autodialers), and Walchem (Metering Pumps). We also develop and support our own in-house products, such as the TAG RA-1400 MTU/RTU, Cellular Dialer System, Mobile Monitoring Systems for remote plant control, and complete chemical feed systems. In addition, TAG can provide Electrical Design services for SCADA/PLC Systems and

Control Panels and Certified Startup for VFD Systems and Flow/Level Devices. TAG can also offer instrument Calibration to meet State requirements for certification/verification.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Confined Space Training

Presenter: Jacob Doescher **Job Title:** Safety and Compliance Officer

Employer: City of Pendleton

Phone #: 541-240-1576 **Email:** jacob.doescher@pendletonor.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: Review of confined space entries within the water and watewater industries.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: I am the safety professional for the City of Pendleton. I have many years' experience in general and construction safety. I have a master's degree on Occupational Safety and Health.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

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Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Tour of Vale, Oregon's Water Treatment Facility

Presenter: Jack McElvary **Job Title:** Public Works Employee

Employer: City of Vale

Phone #: **Email:** publicworks@cityofvale.com

Summary of Lesson Content: Join us for an informative and engaging tour of the City of Vale's Water Treatment Facility in **Vale**, Oregon. This guided tour provides participants with an up-close look at the processes, technology, and operational strategies used to deliver safe, reliable drinking water to the community.

Attendees will explore each stage of the treatment process, which may include source water intake, coagulation and flocculation, filtration, disinfection, backwash recycling and wasting, and finished water storage. Operators will discuss system design, regulatory compliance, water quality monitoring, and daily operational challenges specific to small-system utilities.

The tour will also highlight:

- Treatment alternative evaluation
- SCADA and process control systems
- Maintenance practices and troubleshooting
- Lessons learned and future improvement plans

This session is ideal for water and wastewater operators, public works staff, engineers, and anyone interested in municipal water treatment operations. Participants will gain practical knowledge that can be applied to their own systems, along with opportunities to ask questions and network with fellow professionals.

CEU Relevancy: Water

Length of Presentation: 2 hour

Professional Background: Jack McElvary serves on the Public Works team for the City of Vale, Oregon, where he brings hands-on experience in utility operations, water system maintenance, and infrastructure support. A senior utility worker with years of field experience, Jack has been involved in key local water initiatives and public works projects, including operational oversight of the city's water systems and its treatment facility efforts. He is known for his practical knowledge of groundwater issues, regulatory compliance challenges, and community-focused service within a small utility environment.

Course Sponsor: Eastern Oregon AWWA/PNCWA

2026 Eastern Oregon Operators Conference

March 30, 2026 – April 1, 2026

Four Rivers Cultural Center, Ontario, Oregon

Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Bloodborne Pathogens

Presenter: Jacob Doescher **Job Title:** Safety and Compliance Officer

Employer: City of Pendleton

Phone #: 541-240-1576 **Email:** jacob.doescher@pendletonor.gov

Summary of Lesson Content: This one-hour Bloodborne Pathogens training is designed specifically for water and wastewater operators who may encounter biological hazards during routine operations, maintenance, sampling, or emergency response activities.

Participants will gain a practical understanding of bloodborne pathogens, including common infectious agents such as hepatitis B (HBV), hepatitis C (HCV), and HIV. The course will review how exposure can occur in water and wastewater environments, particularly during confined space entry, line breaks, equipment maintenance, first aid response, and handling contaminated materials.

Key topics include:

- What bloodborne pathogens are and how they are transmitted
- Exposure risks specific to water and wastewater operations
- OSHA requirements and employer responsibilities
- Proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Engineering and work practice controls
- Decontamination and proper disposal procedures
- What to do in the event of an exposure incident

This training emphasizes real-world scenarios relevant to treatment plant staff, collections crews, and field personnel. Upon completion, participants will better understand how to protect

themselves and their coworkers while maintaining compliance with OSHA’s Bloodborne Pathogens Standard.

CEU Relevancy: Combination of Water & Wastewater

Length of Presentation: 1 hour

Professional Background: I am the safety professional for the City of Pendleton. I have many years' experience in general and construction safety. I have a master's degree on Occupational Safety and Health.

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Instructor Information

Presentation Title: Operators Round Table with Kyle Wilman, Jason Wood, and Rob Cox

Presenter: Rob Cox **Job Title:** Past President

Employer: EOR PNCWA

Phone #: 541-561-7266 **Email:** rob.cox@simplot.com

Summary of Lesson Content: This course allows to operators to openly discuss issues they are having at their facilities with others that may have experienced the same issues and have potential remedies.

CEU Relevancy: Combined

Length of Presentation: 1-Hour

Professional Background: I have been overseeing land application of wastewater under a WPCF permit for 35 years. I have completed numerous courses in both agronomy and environmental studies from various universities. I also hold a grade 2 wastewater certification in Oregon.