



2026 MOWA Winter Convention

Duluth, MN – DECC

(CEs subject to change. See official agenda at convention)

Sunday, February 1, 2026				
3:00 PM	5:30 PM	Registration Opens (Horizon Foyer – 2 nd Floor) Vendor Set-up (Pioneer Hall)		
6:00 PM	8:30 PM	Welcome Reception – Canal Park Brewery		
Monday, February 2, 2026				
7:00 AM	5:00 PM	Registration open (Horizon Foyer – 2 nd Floor)		
7:00 AM	11:45 AM	Vendor Set-up (Pioneer Hall)		
8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Soils Review Session – Registration Required. Room: Harbor Side 205		
		General Session: Harborside Ballroom 305-303		
7:00 AM	8:15 AM	Continental Breakfast		
8:00 AM	8:15 AM	MOWA Welcome & Update, Rick Viita, MOWA President		
8:15 AM	8:30 AM	NOWRA Update, Chris LeClair, NOWRA President		
8:30 AM	9:25 AM	MPCA Update & SSTS Technical Update, Felicia Merkson & Cody Robinson (1 Direct CE)		
9:25 AM	9:45 AM	Break (Harbor Side Ballroom)		
9:45 AM	10:45 AM	Keynote: The Importance of Building an Online Presence in the Wastewater Industry, Luke Eggebraaten (0 CE)		
10:45 AM	12:00 PM	Keynote 2: On-site Wastewater International Perspective and the Importance of Associations- Ben Kele (1 Related CE)		
12:00 PM	2:30 PM	Trade Show with Lunch Roe-D-Hoe Trials start at 12:45 PM! (Pioneer Hall)		
1:00 PM	5:00 PM	MPCA Re-testing Opportunity, Room: Harbor Side 205		
Tracks		I	II	III
Room		Harbor Side 301-302	Horizon 203	Horizon 204
2:30 PM	3:20 PM	Design Open Forum Alex Pepin & Mike Heiman (2 Direct CE)	What has been questioned at CE: a Q&A recap of statewide from 2025 Dave Gustafson & Pete Otterness (1 Direct CE)	Panel Troubleshooting Tyler Parks (1 Related CE)
3:20 PM	4:10 PM		Commercial Vehicle Safety Jeff Shay, MN Highway Patrol (0 CE)	Sampling - Who, What, Where, and When Sara Heger (1 Direct CE)
4:10 PM	6:30 PM	Vendor Show with Roe-D-Hoe (Pioneer Hall) Cash Bar and hot hors d'oeuvres provided.		
6:45 PM	11:00 PM	Social Event with Blingo at Hoops Brewery! – Join us at the Brewery! Cash Bar and hot hors d'oeuvres provided.		

Tuesday, February 3, 2026				
7:00 AM	8:15 AM	Continental Breakfast, Location: Horizon Foyer (2 nd Floor)		
Tracks		I	II	III
Room		Harbor Side 301-302	Horizon 203	Horizon 204
8:00 AM	8:50 AM	LGU Open Forum John Otterbein & Mary VonEschen (2 Direct CE)	From Permit to Performance: Bridging the gaps in Onsite System Compliance Lucas Caldwell (1 Related CE)	DLI Plan Review & Permit Applications John Roehl (2 Direct CE)
8:50 AM	9:40 AM		Overlooked Safety Measures - Septic Tank Maintenance Hole Covers Chris LeClair (1 Direct CE)	
9:40 AM	10:00 AM	Break: Horizon Foyer – 2 nd Floor		
10:00 AM	10:50 AM	Tank Manufacturers’ Meeting – Room: Horizon 205		
Tracks		I	II	III
Room		Harbor Side 301-302	Horizon 203	Horizon 204
10:00 AM	10:50 AM	Maintainer Open Forum Keith Valento & Tristan Ende (1 Direct CE)	Understanding Electrical Systems in Septic Services Brian Koski (1 Related CE)	Trench Safety for SSTS Professionals Madison Princivalli (1 Related CE)
10:50 AM	11:40 AM	Service Provider Open Forum Lucas Caldwell & Troy Davidsavor (1 Direct CE)	Setting Time Dosing Panels Ryan Lashinski (1 Direct CE)	Fluid Sampling – Adding Value Through Improved Data Jim Bell (0 CE)
11:40 AM	12:30 PM	Troubleshooting Advanced On-Site & Decentralized Systems Ben Kele (1 Related CE)	Understanding MN Earned Sick and Safe Time Laws with updates Alanna Galloway and Diana Salas, DLI (0 CE)	PFA’s – What are they and where do they come from? Sara Heger (1 Related CE)
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	Membership Lunch – Harborside Ballroom 303 - 305		
Tracks		I	II	III
Room		Harbor Side 301-302	Horizon 203	Horizon 204
1:30 PM	2:20 PM	Installer Open Forum Rick Viita and Jake Bell (2 Direct CE)	Using Modern GIS Applications for SSTS Industry Needs Madalyn Bollig, MPCA (1 Related CE)	Design Review & Approval - Is it a complete design? Pete Otterness (1 Direct CE)
2:20 PM	3:10 PM		Community Septic System Rehabilitation Lucas Caldwell (1 Related CE)	Non-Sewage Waste Streams Alex Pepin (1 Direct CE)
3:10 PM	3:20 PM	Break: Horizon Foyer (2 nd Floor)		
3:20 PM	4:10 PM	Inspector Open Forum Chris Schiewe & Ryan Lashinski (2 Direct CE)	SSTS Certification & Licensing Special Topics Jimmy Lipps (1 Direct CE)	Taking your Business Costs Seriously Brian Koski (0 CE)
4:10 PM	5:00 PM		Using Low-Cost Software to Create Highly Detailed Designs David Guenther (1 Direct CE)	Challenging Site Installation Rick Viita (1 Direct CE)
5:15 PM	6:30 PM	MOWA Board of Directors Meeting, Horizon 205		

