



Soils Day in Okotoks

Participants in the Onsite Wastewater Practitioner Training Program headed out into the field on September 15 to learn about site and soil evaluation in the field. Daniel Morris led the students in the processes for evaluating a site, logging a soils test pit and recording the information gathered in a test pit log. The weather held out and made for a warm and sunny day in the field.

The AOWMA would like to thank property owner and AOWMA member Tony Payne for access to the site for the field day. Thanks go as well to Westcon Precast for helping to sponsor this event by providing lunch for the participants.

Huge Loss for Alberta's Onsite Wastewater Industry

It is with deep sadness that the AOWMA reports the passing of Alf Durnie, Technical Administrator Private Sewage (Chief Inspector), Alberta Municipal Affairs on September 16, 2016.

Alf was a strong advocate of both the onsite wastewater industry and the AOWMA. On a professional level, Alf's knowledge and understanding of onsite wastewater treatment and technologies was recognized provincially, nationally and internationally. On a personal level, Alf's mentorship and friendship was valued by many in the onsite wastewater community.

A [scholarship](#) recognizing Alf's contribution to the onsite wastewater industry is being organized at the request of the Durnie family. The Alf Durnie Education and Research Scholarship will be administered by the AOWMA. For information on this scholarship and how to contribute, please contact the AOWMA office at 1.877.489.7471 or at info@aowma.com

For more information, Alf's obituary is available here: http://www.caringroup.com/fh/cw/obituaries/obit_details.asp?obitid=4055

Have You Completed the Standard of Practice Update Training Yet?

If you hold an Alberta Private Sewage Certificate of Competency (PS ticket), and wish to maintain it, you must successfully complete an Update Training Course on the Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2015 by March 31, 2017. After that date, a person who has not completed the update training will not qualify for renewing their Private Sewage Certificate of Competency.

The Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association (AOWMA) is delivering the required update course on the 2015 Standard of Practice. Registration is now open for the following dates and locations:

NEW DATES!

October 12, 2016 – High River

October 13, 2016 - Edmonton

Register online at aowma.com or contact the AOWMA office at 877.489.7471.

Find us on Facebook

Stay in-touch on industry news, learn about our latest training sessions, and check out photos of some of our events all on the [AOWMA Facebook page](#)

Onsite Wastewater Practitioner Training

The next available training session dates are:

Days 1 - 3 - November 7, 8 & 9, 2016, Edmonton, AB

Days 4 - 7 - November 22, 23, 24 & 25, 2016, Edmonton, AB

Register online at www.aowma.com/training/ or contact the association office at 855-872-2650 for more information.

SepticSmart Week 2016

September 23rd marks the last day of SepticSmart Week 2016. Each year, the USEPA holds SepticSmart Week with outreach activities to encourage homeowners and communities to care for and maintain their septic systems. While we may not yet have a week of activities and outreach here at home, rural homeowners in Canada can also benefit from the information available on the USEPA website.: <https://www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart-week-2016>.

Did you know...?

AOWMA has an online store where you can purchase homeowner manuals, Munsell's charts, Alberta Standard of Practice Manuals and soils kits. The soils kit comes complete with a Munsell soil colour chart, field book for classifying soils, rain poncho and more. More information is available on our website: <http://www.aowma.com/resources/supplies/>

Upcoming Industry Events

[Western Canada Water Annual Conference & Exhibition](#)

Upcoming Conference
October 4-7, 2016
Calgary AB

[WWETT Expo Education Day](#)

Water & Wastewater Equipment, Treatment & Transport Show
Indiana Convention Center - Indianapolis, Indiana
Feb. 22 - 25, 2017

[Rural Utilities Safety Association \(RUSA\)](#)

2016 Conference
December 5 – 8, 2016

AOWMA 2017 Convention and Trade Show

Marriott at River Cree
Edmonton, AB
February 23 – 25, 2017

[NAWT/NOWRA](#)

2016 Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference
October 26-29, 2016
Reno, NV

[AAMDC Annual Convention and Trade Show](#)

March 20 – 22, 2017
Edmonton, AB