



# Missouri Smallflows Organization

# OUTHOUSE POST

A Quarterly Publication

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**MSO MEMBER EVENT**

**Springfield Cardinal's Game**

**September 13, 2025**

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**Contact to purchase tickets: [contact@mosmallflows.org](mailto:contact@mosmallflows.org) or 417.631.4027**



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Phone: 417-631-4027

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## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MSO Members,

Spring is here! Amen. It was wet and cold for almost the entire state this winter. I am ready for some sunshine and warm weather. I am sure you are as well. It has now been three and a half years since I joined the MSO Board. Looking back, it has been an honor to serve this organization alongside many other great leaders. The organization was strong when I joined. With lots of hard work, effort and time from my fellow board members I am happy to report we have grown and are an even stronger organization now. Our membership roster has grown considerably, the number of education courses we have to offer our membership for certification has increased, and the benefits we are able to offer has expanded. I am proud to say I have been able to be a part of this, and pray this growth continues in the future.

As we all are gearing up for another year in the field, and getting back in the swing of things the MSO board is doing the same. We kick off every year with our Strategic Planning meeting where we discuss our past year as an organization and look forward to the coming years ahead. No one enjoys a 6-hour meeting, but it's the most productive way for us to bring the vision for MSO into focus. Special thanks to our past and returning board members for their time they give and dedication. I'd also like to welcome our new board members Leah Ferris, and Jay Julien. I'm not sure they know what they signed up for, but hopefully we can keep them around. They are two more strong additions to our board. Keep an eye out in upcoming newsletters for an article with an introduction to them.

For those of you that attended the conference this year I hope that you enjoyed the show. The feedback we received was very positive. The conference planning committee will now spend the next 9 months trying to one up themselves again and bring you the absolute best conference possible for next year. I am quite looking forward to it, and hope you are too. I'd like to remind everyone early, that the committee is always looking for suggestions for courses and topics that are relevant, and the members would like to hear. So, if you have any suggestions please send them our way. As always anyone interested in joining a committee should reach out as well, we will take all the help we can get if you are passionate about this industry.

Hope this address finds you all well, and that we all have a productive work season. It's too soon to tell how the new administration will affect the economy and our industry. I don't see our line of work slowing down anytime soon. MSO is growing to become a leader nationally in our industry and its members should be proud of what we have. We are all in this together and let's keep that in mind as we move forward in growing our industry.

Best regards,

Nick Dykes

President of MSO

# MSO Conference & Trade Show a Success!

The annual MSO Conference and Trade Show took place in Columbia on January 20-22. There were over 350 people in attendance for the trade show and sessions. The Pre-Conference was very popular and had many great discussions about soils. Thank you to all of our speakers that made the entire conference possible.

The Roe-D-Hoe proved to be a lot of excitement and fun! It was very competitive and helped raise money for the scholarship fund. The first place winner was Joe Newman (Crane, MO), second place was Brandon Willis (Barnett, MO) and third place was Stanley Stoltzfus (Barnett).



Pictured left to right: Stanley Stoltzfus, Brandon Willis, Joe Newman.



Pictured: Joe Newman during the Championship round of the Roe-D-Hoe.

During the General Membership Meeting, we recognized our 2024 Daryel Brock Memorial Scholarship winners. Ella Folks of California, Missouri, daughter of Eric Folks, is one of the recipients of the Daryel Brock Memorial Scholarship. Ella graduated from California High School and is attending Ozarks Technical Community College. Gabrielle Shern of Columbia, Missouri, daughter of Kyle and Ginger Shern, is one of the recipients of the Daryel Brock Memorial Scholarship. Gabrielle graduated from Christian Fellowship school and is attending University of Missouri.



Pictured left to right: Eric Folks, parent of Ella Folks (not pictured); Ginger Shern, Gabrielle Shern, and Kyle Shern.

## MSO Conference & Trade Show a Success! (cont.)

MSO also took the time to recognize three MSO members that have gone above and beyond for the association.

**Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient:** Dennis Sievers

Dennis has shown exemplary service to the onsite wastewater industry for several decades. He was instrumental in many changes in Missouri for improving onsite treatment. While he is a humble man, he leads others and mentors with the utmost professionalism. Dennis Sievers was very deserving of this Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Service Award Recipient:** Michael Bowers

Michael has dedicated much time and effort to the building of the MSO organization. He lead this group as President for nearly 10 years. His leadership helped build a solid foundation for the organization to continue to grow. His work at Greene County has helped show that communication can build the reputation of our industry too. He strives to find reasonable solutions and work with all parties involved.

**Service Award Recipient:** Eric Folks

Eric has worked hard to raise the bar at the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services in his program. While he works too many hours, he is dedicated to providing the best service possible to our industry. His dedication to help resolve issues shows that he wants to find solutions to make things work while protecting public health.



*Pictured left to right: Michael Bowers, Eric Folks, Dennis Sievers, Nick Dykes.*

There were many fantastic speakers and volunteers who made this event possible. Thank you to everyone for a great conference. Save the date for 2026 at Osage Beach at Margaritaville. We'll be in a new location on January 19-21, 2026.

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# Ohio Operators Sweep the Finals in Indianapolis

Written by Jessi Wood and Nicholas Dykes

The NOWRA National Backhoe Roe-D-Hoe championships were held February 18, 19, and 20th in Indianapolis at the 2025 WWETT Show. Over the course of two and half days, 197 operators put their skills to the test to qualify for the finals. Many ran the course multiple times to improve their time enough to make it into that elite top five. At high noon on Thursday the 20th, those five quickest times along with the reigning National Champion; Albert Breech, the Ohio state champion; Caleb Stephenson, and the Iowa state champion; Jordan Boley competed for the top three prizes in the finals. It was an intense battle between these top operators but when the last pin fell, it was Adrian Keiper from Ohio that came out on top winning first place with an incredible total time of 59 seconds matching Albert Breech's winning time in 2024. He wore the Backhoe Roe-D-Hoe championship belt with pride and walked away with \$1000 in cash and a large belt buckle commemorating his win. 2024 Champion Albert Breech walked away with \$300 in cash and a 2nd place buckle and Ohio state champion, Caleb Stephenson received \$100 in cash and the 3rd place buckle.

Congratulations also goes out to our other top finishers; Jordan Boley, Iowa; Cody Wheeler, Ohio; Eric Pier, Wisconsin; Josh Reading, Illinois; and Nick Dykes, Missouri. You can watch the finals on the NOWRA Facebook page to see the action!

There are upcoming dates you can prequalify for the finals competition that will be held at the 2026 WWETT Show February 16-19, 2026. NOWRA is partnering with OOWA (Ohio Onsite Wastewater Association) for the Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference held October 19 - 22, 2025 in Sandusky, Ohio at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center. There will be a qualifying Roe-D-Hoe held there. Don't forget about the 2026 MSO Conference January 19-21, 2026, being held at Margaritaville at Lake of the Ozarks! If you qualify at the MSO conference, you can travel to Nationals to represent Missouri and show em' what Missouri operators are made of! We hope to see you there!



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# Safety in the Onsite Wastewater Industry

## Prioritizing Safety for Septic Installation Professionals

Safety is a critical factor for professionals in the onsite wastewater industry. Septic installation poses many risks and opportunities for accidents, making it essential for safety to always be a top priority for all individuals working in this field. Simple accidents can be deadly, and it is imperative to adopt precautionary measures to protect oneself and others.

### The Importance of Safety in Septic Installation

Septic installation and maintenance require working in various hazardous environments. From handling heavy machinery to navigating uneven terrain, the potential for mishaps is ever-present. Therefore, safety protocols must be strictly adhered to prevent injuries and fatalities. Ensuring a safe work environment not only protects workers but also improves efficiency and productivity on site.

### Common Risks and Preventative Measures

Septic installation is fraught with numerous risks, but with careful planning and vigilance, many of these can be mitigated. The following measures should be implemented to enhance job site safety:

- **Slips, Trips, and Falls:** These are often caused by cluttered job sites. Keeping the workspace clean, with tools picked up and organized, can significantly reduce these accidents. Regular inspections of the site for hazards and immediate rectification can also prevent these common accidents.
- **Buried Utilities:** Encountering hidden utilities is a common risk. Always being mindful of the surroundings and wearing high-visibility (hi-viz) clothing can help individuals stand out to other equipment operators, thus preventing accidents. Adequate training on how to identify and avoid such risks should be provided to all workers.
- **Utility Hits:** Calling 811 or Dig Rite before excavation can prevent deadly accidents and lost time due to utility hits. It is crucial to have updated maps and information on underground utilities to avoid accidental strikes that can lead to severe consequences.
- **Working Alone:** It is advisable to never work alone. Having a partner in the field can be lifesaving in case of an emergency. Partners can assist each other in case of accidents and provide support during strenuous tasks, thereby enhancing safety and efficiency.

### Heat-Related Risks and Management

As summer approaches, it is crucial to consider the body's tolerance for heat. Heat stroke and dehydration can be silent killers in the field. Workers must be educated on the signs of heat-related illnesses and the importance of maintaining hydration before the onset of dehydration. Implementing a heat-related illness prevention plan can significantly reduce the risk of such incidents.

- **Hydration:** Drink plenty of water throughout the day, even if you don't feel thirsty. Encourage regular hydration breaks and provide easy access to water sources on site.
- **Breaks:** Take regular breaks in shaded or cool areas to prevent overheating. Ensure that workers have access to shaded rest areas and encourage them to take breaks during peak heat periods.
- **Personal Protective Equipment:** Wear light and breathable clothing along with necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) to ensure comfort and safety. PPE should be designed to provide protection while also allowing ventilation to keep the body cool.



## Emergency Preparedness

Being prepared for emergencies is crucial in the onsite wastewater industry. This includes having first aid kits readily available, knowing emergency contact numbers, and having a clear plan of action in case of an accident. Regular emergency drills and training sessions should be conducted to ensure that all workers are familiar with procedures and can act swiftly in case of an emergency.

## Regular Training and Education

Continuous training and education are vital to maintaining a safe work environment. Workers should be trained on the latest safety protocols, equipment handling, and emergency procedures. Providing ongoing education on new risks and safety measures helps keep the workforce informed and prepared.

## Conclusion

Safety in the onsite wastewater industry is paramount. By adhering to safety protocols, keeping job sites clean and organized, being mindful of buried utilities, staying hydrated, and being prepared for emergencies, professionals can significantly reduce the risks associated with septic installation. Regular training and education further enhance safety, ensuring the well-being of all individuals involved in this critical field. Remember, safety should always be the top priority to ensure the well-being of all individuals involved in this critical field.



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**West Plains** Christina: 417-256-1255

**Arkansas & SW MO** Raymon: 479-640-0052

# MSO Member Event - Springfield Cardinals Event

## September 13, 2025

Join us for a Springfield Cardinals baseball game!

MSO has 30 tickets available for members to purchase and attend the game with our group! You must be an MSO Member; you may bring your spouse and family but one adult must be an MSO Member. Tickets are \$30/person.

**Location:** Champion's Club - on the First Base Side of the Field in a Suite Box!

**Included:** Select food items available and 4 drink vouchers with your ticket!

Contact Tammy at MSO to purchase tickets.

**Email:** [contact@mosmallflows.org](mailto:contact@mosmallflows.org) or **Phone:** 417-631-4027

### Springfield Cardinals Policies:

See complete list here: <https://www.milb.com/springfield/tickets/know-before-you-go> | Of note:

- Cashless Stadium - bring your card to buy items
- Clear Bag Policy - no backpacks
- Parking in the lot south of the Stadium is \$10 (cash and card accepted)

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# MSO Online Classes

## Online Courses available for CEUs in Missouri!

**Continue your education from the comfort of your office or home!**

In partnership with NOWRA, Missouri Smallflows Organization has online courses available for onsite wastewater professionals to earn more CEUs for their license renewal. You can read all about these courses on our website with CEU summaries.

As a member of MSO, you save \$25/credit hour for online classes. Be sure your membership is up-to-date! Contact our office if you need to check.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Missouri Courses - Topics that cover MO Rules or issues</b> | There are 7 courses that cover MO topics!<br>See the courses that are of interest to you!                           |
| <b>NOWRA Installer Academy Module</b>                          | 8 different classes available<br>Select classes that you are interested in!   |
| <b>NOWRA Troubleshooting Module</b>                            | 9 different classes available<br>Select classes that you are interested in!   |
| <b>NOWRA Design Course Overview - Part 1</b>                   | 7 different classes available<br>Select the classes that you are interested in!                                     |
| <b>NOWRA A to Z Module</b>                                     | 3 different classes that you can bundle for an 8 hour course<br><br>OR<br>Select the classes you are interested in! |
| <b>NOWRA Onsite Mega 2020</b>                                  | 6 different classes from the 2020 NOWRA Virtual Conference. Only available for a limited time!                      |

To see complete course listings go to the MSO website.

<http://www.mosmallflows.org/online-classes.html>

# RENEW YOUR MSO MEMBERSHIP!

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# Listing of MSO Classes

**PLEASE REGISTER AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE CLASS!**

**Call our office to register at 417-631-4027**

**Or find the Registration Form on our website: [www.mosmallflows.org](http://www.mosmallflows.org)**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Inspecting Tanks, Lagoons &amp; LPP</b><br/> <b>Location: Camdenton, Mid-County Fire Department</b><br/> <b>Date: April 16, 2025</b><br/>           Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/>           DHSS General CEUs: 5.0<br/>           Select CEUs: Basic: 0, Advanced: 0, Inspector: 5, OSE: 0, Perc Tester: 0<br/>           DNR Wastewater CEUs: 5.5<br/>           Member price: \$150<br/>           Non-member price: \$235</p>   | <p><b>Earthen Structures &amp; Above-Ground Dispersal Methods for OWTS</b><br/> <b>Location: Camdenton, Mid-County Fire Dept.</b><br/> <b>Date: April 17, 2025</b><br/>           Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/>           DHSS General CEUs: 6.5<br/>           Select CEUs: Basic Installers: 3.5, Advanced Installers: 4.0, Inspectors and Evaluators: 3, Onsite Soil Evaluators: 1.5<br/>           DNR Wastewater CEUs: 6.5<br/>           Member Price: \$150<br/>           Non-member price: \$235</p> |
| <p><b>Earthen Structures &amp; Above-Ground Dispersal Methods for OWTS</b><br/> <b>Location: Joplin, Turkey Creek Wastewater Facility</b><br/> <b>Date: May 8, 2025</b><br/>           Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/>           DHSS General CEUs: 6.5<br/>           Select CEUs: Basic Installers: 3.5, Advanced Installers: 4.0, Inspectors and Evaluators: 3, Onsite Soil Evaluators: 1.5<br/>           DNR Wastewater CEUs: 6.5<br/>           Member Price: \$150<br/>           Non-member price: \$235</p> | <p><b>Troubleshooting Onsite Systems</b><br/> <b>Location: Joplin, Turkey Creek Wastewater Facility</b><br/> <b>Date: May 9, 2025</b><br/>           Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/>           DHSS General CEUs = 6<br/>           Select: Basic Installers: 6, Advanced Installers: 6, Inspectors: 6, OSE: 0, and Percolation Testers: 0<br/>           DNR Wastewater CEUs: 6.5<br/>           Member Price: \$150<br/>           Non-member price: \$235</p>  |
| <p><b>Inspecting Tanks, Lagoons &amp; LPP</b><br/> <b>Location: Imperial, Ganey Engineering</b><br/> <b>Date: May 21, 2025</b><br/>           Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/>           DHSS General CEUs: 5.0<br/>           Select CEUs: Basic: 0, Advanced: 0, Inspector: 5, OSE: 0, Perc Tester: 0<br/>           DNR Wastewater CEUs: 5.5<br/>           Member price: \$150<br/>           Non-member price: \$235</p>   | <p><b>Aerated Treatment Units</b><br/> <b>Location: Imperial, Ganey Engineering</b><br/> <b>Date: May 22, 2025</b><br/>           Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/>           DHSS General CEUs: 7.0<br/>           Select CEUs: Basic: 7, Advanced: 7, Inspector: 5, OSE: 0, Perc Tester: 0<br/>           DNR Wastewater CEUs: 6.5<br/>           Member price: \$150<br/>           Non-member price: \$235</p>  |

More classes will be scheduled.

See our online classes available on our website: [www.mosmallflows.org](http://www.mosmallflows.org)



|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>What's in my Yard?</b><br/> <b>Location: Kearney, Winsupply</b><br/> <b>Date: June 10, 2025</b><br/> Full Day Class: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 6.5<br/> Select CEUs: Basic: 5.5, Advanced: 5.5, Inspector: 1.5, OSE: 1<br/> Member price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p>   | <p><b>Inspecting Tanks, Lagoons &amp; LPP</b><br/> <b>Location: Kearney, Winsupply</b><br/> <b>Date: June 11, 2025</b><br/> Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 5.0<br/> Select CEUs: Basic: 0, Advanced: 0, Inspector: 5, OSE: 0, Perc Tester: 0<br/> DNR Wastewater CEUs: 5.5<br/> Member price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p>                                    |
| <p><b>Basic Soils &amp; How to Read a Soils Report</b><br/> <b>Location: Camdenton, Mid-County Fire Dept.</b><br/> <b>Date: July 8, 2025</b><br/> Half-Day Class: 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 5<br/> Select CEUs: Basic: 5, Advanced: 5, Inspector: 0, OSE: 5<br/> Member price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p>  | <p><b>Wastewater Pathogens</b><br/> <b>Location: Camdenton, Mid County Fire Dept.</b><br/> <b>Date: July 9, 2025</b><br/> Half-Day Class: 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 5<br/> Select CEUs: Basic: 5, Advanced: 5, Inspector: 0, OSE: 5<br/> Member price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p>  |
| <p><b>Trickling through Media Filters</b><br/> <b>Location: Liberty, Clay County Health Department</b><br/> <b>Date: August 14, 2025</b><br/> Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 6<br/> Select: Basic: 0, Advanced: 6.0, Inspectors: 4.0, Onsite Soil Evaluators: 0, and Percolation Testers: 0<br/> DNR Wastewater CEUs: 6.0<br/> Member Price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p>   | <p><b>Drip Irrigation</b><br/> <b>Location: Liberty, Clay County Health Department</b><br/> <b>Date: August 15, 2025</b><br/> Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 6<br/> Select: Basic: 3.5, Advanced: 6.0, Inspectors: 6.0, Onsite Soil Evaluators: 3.5, and Percolation Testers: 0<br/> DNR Wastewater CEUs: 6.0<br/> Member Price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p> |
| <p><b>Earthen Structures &amp; Above-Ground Dispersal Methods for OWTS</b><br/> <b>Location: Cassville, Community Public Works Facility</b><br/> <b>Date: September 10, 2025</b><br/> Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 6.5<br/> Select CEUs: Basic Installers: 3.5, Advanced Installers: 4.0, Inspectors and Evaluators: 3, Onsite Soil Evaluators: 1.5<br/> DNR Wastewater CEUs: 6.5<br/> Member Price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p> | <p><b>Inspecting Tanks, Lagoons &amp; LPP</b><br/> <b>Location: Cassville, Community Public Works Facility</b><br/> <b>Date: September 11, 2025</b><br/> Full Day Class: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM<br/> DHSS General CEUs: 5.0<br/> Select CEUs: Basic: 0, Advanced: 0, Inspector: 5, OSE: 0, Perc Tester: 0<br/> DNR Wastewater CEUs: 5.5<br/> Member price: \$150<br/> Non-member price: \$235</p>       |

## Interested in Getting Involved with MSO?

Getting involved with your state association is a great way to learn more about the industry and influence change. MSO has many opportunities to get involved so just let us know that you are interested in joining a Committee or the Board!

### Board of Director

This group of people are elected by the membership to lead and drive the association forward. They work together to find ways to build relationships to address issues in our industry. Board Members work closely with the Executive Director to continue to improve the association. If you are interested in being a Board Member, email MSO's office: [contact@mosmallflows.org](mailto:contact@mosmallflows.org).

### Convention Planning Committee

This dynamic group is responsible for the planning of the annual convention and trade show. Every year we recruit speakers and topics that are important to our membership and industry for educational sessions. We also plan some fun activities, i.e. Roe-D-Hoe, to relax and enjoy some camaraderie with our friends and colleagues.

If you are interested in any of these Committees, reach out to the MSO Office to be placed on them. It's painless and we host a meeting via Zoom to make it easy for everyone. Join a Committee and help grow our association! Reach out to MSO by contacting us:

#### Tammy Trantham

Executive Director

Email: [contact@mosmallflows.org](mailto:contact@mosmallflows.org)

Phone: 417-631-4027

### Membership Committee

Have any ideas on how to make MSO Membership even better? Join this committee and help us find new ways for members to benefit from being a part of the association. Recently, we have put together a member event at the Springfield Cardinals Stadium for a baseball game and it's been a hit. We are always looking for fresh ideas and people to help this group!

### Education Committee

MSO's education curriculum is one of the reasons professionals seek out our classes above others. This committee has take an active role in revising and creating new educational material for professionals across the state. If you have time to help this group develop further educational materials, they would love to have you on the Committee.

#### Meada Rulon

Education Coordinator

Email: [education@mosmallflows.org](mailto:education@mosmallflows.org)

Phone: 417-631-4027



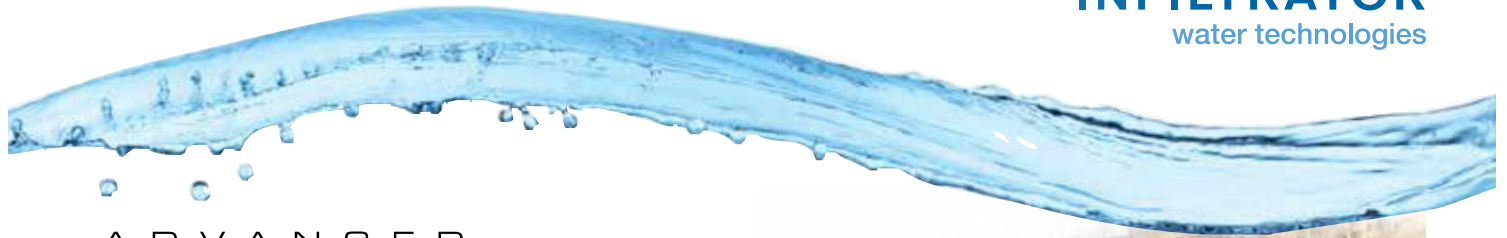
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