



Decentralized Wastewater Committee

Purpose: To promote practical, economic and sustainable decentralized wastewater systems which protect human health and the environment through uniform, consistent, and enforceable local and statewide regulation.

Committee Composition



Chair: Dendra J. Best.

Executive Director WasteWaterEducation.org

Honors Degree from the University of Sheffield in the UK. Her professional background in the UK was in public education and communications as an award winning industrial museum exhibit designer. Has worked in this field since 2003 and was appointed the organization's first Executive Director in January 2007. Best is a member of WEF, Michigan League for Human Services, NOWRA and MEHA.



Vice Chair: James R. Rabine, PE

Senior Project Engineer Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick Inc.

Since 1988, Jim has been an instructor for training courses to water distribution offered through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Among his accomplishments are the Edward Dunbar Rich Service Award from the MDEQ for 25 years of service to the drinking water industry, as well as the William F. Shephard Award for 20 years of membership and service to the wastewater industry by the Michigan Water Environment Association. Additionally, Jim was a reviewer of the American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE) and Water Environment Federation (WEF) Manual of Practice 6-34 Edition, Existing Sewer Evaluation and Rehabilitation.

Secretary/Treasurer: Rick Solle PE.

Director of Public Services Plainfield Charter Township Grand Rapids, MI. "I recently joined MWEA and as a Township Engineer I have an interest in this topic as we have a large portion of our Township with septic systems and two major rivers with residences along them on septic as well."



Committee Members

Michael O'Rourke

Technical Services Manager Synagro Central, LLC. Grand Rapids, MI

Thank you for including me in the DWC! I look forward to learning more about it and I hope to contribute in any way I can. I have been working for Synagro as a technical service manager for a bit over 7 years now. My primary responsibilities include building and promoting municipal biosolids land application programs and maintaining environmental compliance. I have been fortunate enough to work in various parts of the country on a wide variety of projects. Currently I cover the SE

Michigan area and help manage about 25 WWTP programs. Of those 25 clients, about 75% probably would be considered decentralized.

John Bresler

JETT Pump & Valve, LLC
Waterford, MI

Joe Goergen

Genesee County Drain Commission

Joseph Moore, P.E. “I would like to serve on the Onsite Wastewater Committee. I read the article on page 8 of the MWEA Matters magazine and would like to participate in the planning and goal setting for the future.”

DuBois-Cooper Associates, Inc. Plymouth, MI

Mike Stephens

SCS Systems LLC. Haslett MI

Doug Coates, P.E.

Manager of Civil Engineering Services Gosling Czubak Engineering Sciences, Inc.
Traverse City MI

MWEA Board Liaison

Keith McCormack P.E. Hubbell, Roth & Clark. Vice President