



2026 MSTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Tuesday, February 10th – Thursday, February 12th, 2026

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

All MSTA functions are in the Soaring Eagle Entertainment Hall (East part of the resort)

CONFERENCE AGENDA (Presentations Only)

Tuesday, February 10th (5 credits)

12:00pm – 1:00pm

PFAS – What Pumpers Should Know About the Impacts of PFAS on Septic System Effluent and Septage

Sara Heger, University of Minnesota Onsite Sewage Treatment Program Research Engineer

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Setting a Septic Tank for Optimal Pumping Ability

Matt Johnson, Infiltrator Water Technologies

2:00pm – 3:00pm

Build Without Burnout: How to Scale Your Business Without Sacrificing Your Sanity

Luke Eggebraaten, Phaser Marketing

3:15pm – 4:15pm

The Value of Military Veterans in the Septic Pumping Industry

Drew Nickoli, Eljen Corporation

4:15pm – 5:15pm

Smarter Routes, Stronger Results: Leveraging Technology to Optimize Operations

Gracie Van Driel, Service Core

Wednesday, February 11th (7 credits)

9:00am – 11:00am

MSTA Board Meeting – open meeting and all must attend to receive credits

11:00am - 12:00pm

Septic System Soil Treatment for Mound and Shallow Systems

Sara Heger, University of Minnesota Onsite Sewage Treatment Program Research Engineer

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Lunch and LIVE Dirt Bags Podcast

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Roundtables

3:15pm – 4:15pm

Understanding Biomat for Septic Pumpers

Dan Wickham, SludgeHammer Group, Ltd.

Thursday, February 12th (3 credits)

9:00am – 10:00am

From Race to the Bottom to Rise to the Top: Transforming the Septic Industry

Jason Spangle, Esch Septic Service

10:00am – 11:00am

Damages and Underground Line Awareness for Septic Pumpers

Emma Taylor, MISS DIG 811 - Damage Prevention Liaison, Bay Region

11:00-12:00

Septic Pumping Components: Your Tool to Identify a Reason for Malfunction & to Promote Proactive Maintenance

Ron Lindsay, Milan Supply

Credits will be given by the day, but you must attend the entire day to receive them.
There is a total of 15 credits if you attend the entire conference.