



# 2026 MSTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

**Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan**

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

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## **CONFERENCE AGENDA (Presentations Only)**

### **Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> (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 11<sup>th</sup> (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 12<sup>th</sup> (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*

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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.