

Summer 2021



## From the President



**Rick Throop**  
*MSTA President*

As we enter spring of 2021, I hope this newsletter finds you all healthy and starting the year off well. As the weather changes our industry enters its busy time of year. The time of year we all look forward to, getting back to work! Winters can be slow which in turn brings stress with lack of income, however, from other business owners that I've spoken to, this didn't seem to be the case as much this year. It seems our economy is still doing well which provides all of us with plenty of

work. The dilemma I'm seeing this year is with lack of available material and increase in material costs. Hopefully these things will pass quickly and supply lines can get back to normal.

MSTA was able to host a spring meeting in person this year and it was also available to watch via zoom virtually. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Karlyn for putting forth so much effort to make both things happen which I can guarantee you is not an easy task. It's hard enough to arrange speakers and credits for one or the other but doing both doubles the workload. Initially our meeting was scheduled to be at NVE but they were forced to cancel due to some county Covid restrictions, so a big thank you goes out to Jason Spangle from Esch's Septic Service for stepping up and hosting our meeting on very short notice. We were able to have the meeting in his newly built barn and food provided by local facilities. Thanks to Jason's secretary Sara for helping with set up. Thank you to Mick Natzel from the General Agency and Sara for doing check in at the door. We were able to have three presenters for our meeting. One of which was in person two of which were via zoom. Our in person speaker, Senator Curt Vanderwall, did an

amazing job and I would like to thank him and his wife for attending our meeting and for taking the time on their anniversary to be with us. He spoke about sanitary code and other issues and topics and answered many questions from the audience. Another thank you goes out to our second speaker, Greg Merricle from EGLE for speaking about the new process for our licensing. Lastly, thank you to Jim Getting from MIOSHA for speaking about Covid in the workplace and the safety regulations. All speakers were able to take questions from both the audience in person in the audience virtually. A big thank you to all three for taking the time out of their day to spend with us and provide learning opportunities and educational credits to

our members and to everybody who attended the meeting and made it such a success.

MSTA will again be doing its annual gun raffle. Tickets for the raffle were passed out at the meeting and are available for purchase. I thank Chris Sloan for taking on this task. He does an amazing job and is very helpful and always provides a great list of gun prizes from Bares Sports Shop in St. Charles for our members or anyone else who wants to purchase tickets. The list of this year's raffle prizes is in the newsletter.

Lastly, on a personal note, I would again like to thank all of our people, speakers and all the helpers we had at the meeting for being there. I know this sounds repetitive but it means a lot to me personally to be able to do this in person and provide our members with these educational opportunities. I have met many wonderful people in our industry and always look forward to seeing everyone. I feel that is an important aspect of our association and is a big reason I enjoy being part of MSTA. That being said, it was great to see past MSTA president Joe Hall and his wife Alicia at our meeting. Joe and Alicia recently sold their business, Halls Serv-All, but live close to where the meeting was being held and decided to come and visit with old friends. We will be having our next meeting on October 16th and I hope to see many of you there again. The current plan is to do things the same way doing both in person and virtually on Zoom to accommodate everyone's needs.

Thank You,  
**Rick Throop**  
*MSTA President*



## From The Executive Officer

### 2021 SPRING MEETING WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

Who would have imaged that after a full year, Michiganders and the world would still be struggling with this pandemic? Well, that doesn't stop the work of our industry and nor does it stop MSTA from doing what we can to provide a place to educate and network with our peers. That is what we did on April 24, 2021. The Spring Meeting was intended to take place in Traverse City as well as provide the option to attend the meeting, virtually. These plans changed just two weeks before the meeting when we were informed that we could no longer host it in Traverse City because of COVID restrictions in their area. Thanks to Jason Spangle, from Esch's Septic Service, who got it approved through his Local Health Department that we hold our meeting at his place in Mio. Through the efforts of many people, including Jason's secretary, the meeting took place with over 50 people in attendance in Mio and over 30 people who attended "virtually". Thank you to those of you who put their trust in us to provide you the education that you deserve and to those of you who helped put this meeting on. We are very proud to have such dedicated members and dedicated Board Members here at MSTA. No one person is responsible for pulling this meeting together...it is the work of a great TEAM of people!

We are planning to have a Fall Meeting at the Highland Haus at Canadian Lakes on October 16, 2021. We are still hopeful that

we can offer the meeting in person, but if not we will provide it virtually once again. We feel that the best education is when we can do it "in-person" because of the networking that takes place during a meeting.

We encourage you to look on EGLE's website for other education that is worth CSE credits. To find that information, go to [www.msta.biz](http://www.msta.biz) and click on EGLE approved classes (along the left column). This will take you directly to the State of Michigan, EGLE website.

Thank you for your continued support of MSTA!



**Karlyn Wickham**  
*MSTA Executive Officer*



## MSTA Fall Meeting

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021**  
**HIGHLAND HAUS AT CANADIAN LAKES**

Mark your calendars for the Fall Meeting at the Highland Haus in Canadian Lakes. Details will be posted on the MSTA Website at [www.msta.biz](http://www.msta.biz) as they become available.

Hope to see everyone there!



#### **President**

**RICK THROOP**  
Woods-Utica Septic Service  
68730 Campground Road  
Romeo, MI 48095  
Phone: 586-752-2960  
Email: hrt01@hotmail.com

#### **Vice President**

**JASON SPANGLE**  
Esch's Septic Service Inc.  
751 N Mt Tom Road  
Mio, MI 48647  
Phone: 989-848-2391  
Email: eschsepticllc@gmail.com

#### **Secretary**

**STEPHANIE POWELL**  
Portable Toilet Services LLC

#### **Treasurer**

**DAVE SNYDER**  
West MI Septic Sewer/Drain Service

#### **Directors**

**RALPH BAILEY**  
**RAY DANIELS**  
Daniel's Septic Service  
**TOM SCHUNK**  
County Wide Septic  
**CHRIS SLOAN**  
Sloan's Septic Tank Service  
**TIM VANRHEE**  
Kerkstra Septic Tank Cleaning  
**RANDY REDMER**  
Michigan Waste and Environmental  
Services  
**RODRIGO MEIRELLES**  
Williams and Bay Pumping Services



## **Tickets On Sale Now**

We are happy to be hosting the 9th Annual Raffle at the MSTA Banquet during the 2022 Onsite Wastewater Conference on Wednesday, January 12. Below is a list of prizes you could win:

- 1st:** Savage Haymaker 450 Bushmaster or \$750 Cash
- 2nd:** Springfield Hellcat (Blk Synthetic) 9mm or \$450 Cash
- 3rd:** Weatherby Element Semi Auto (Syn.) 12 gauge or \$400 Cash
- 4th:** TriStar Setter O/U 12 gauge or \$350 Cash
- 5th:** Thompson Center Compass 6.5 Creedmore or \$300 Cash
- 6th:** Ruger 10/22 Wood/Blue 22 LR or \$200 Cash
- 7th:** Stevens 301 Single Shot Camo Turkey 20 gauge or \$175 Cash
- 8th:** Ruger Wrangler Revolver (Burnt Bronze) 22 LR or \$150 Cash

#### **2022 Raffle Ticket Sponsor:**

Golden Circle Advisors

Thank you to Golden Circle Advisors for sponsoring the raffle tickets!

Tickets are 3 for \$25 and you do not have to be present to win. They would make a good present for the deer hunters on your Christmas list or just for yourself! Contact Chris Sloan if you want to purchase 10 or more tickets. Call Chris at 989-845-6280 right away as the tickets will go quickly. If there are any left, they will be available for purchase at the conference.

Sincerely,  
**MSTA Raffle Committee**





## **MICHIGAN LOCATIONS**

**GRAYLING 989-348-8832**

**HOWELL 517-552-1702**

**INDIAN RIVER 231-238-9200**

**MT. PLEASANT 989-773-9938**

**TRAVERSE CITY 231-276-9282**



**RESIDENTIAL  
& COMMERCIAL**



**HIGH STRENGTH  
TREATMENT**



**WASTEWATER  
CONTROLS**



**PUMP  
PACKAGES**



**GRINDER  
PACKAGES**



**ACCESSORIES**



**MilanSupply.com**

# Michigan Environmental Health and Drinking Water Information System (MiEHDWIS)

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Septage Program was one of the first EGLE programs to begin using a new IT system that was released on December 18, 2020. The new system, which is continuously under development, is officially called the Michigan Environmental Health and Drinking Water Information System (MiEHDWIS), but it was quickly nicknamed Eddy to save everyone involved a whole bunch of time. Eddy is intended to be an easy-to-use system that is intuitive and uses a common design throughout, that will streamline program processes, increase transparency, and create an interface which will ultimately allow program partners such as licensed septage haulers, Local Health Department staff, and septage waste receiving facilities, to monitor program processes and provide input where needed or required. In addition, Eddy will serve as point of access to public records.

The screenshot shows a web application window titled "Septage Database" with a user profile for "Merrick, Greg (EGLE)". The main content area displays a "Septage Hauler Business Information" form. The form is divided into several sections: "Business Name" (AI Your Service Plus, ID: 1), "DBA" (empty), "First Name" (Ms. Michelle), "Last" (Novka), "Address" (9099 Lord Road), "City" (East Jordan, MI), "Zip" (49727), "Phone" (231-636-9698), "Fax" (231-636-9698), "Email" (aiyourserviceplus@charter.net), "County" (Charlevoix), "STATE #:" (15-13), "License Expiration Date" (8/31/2010), "Fee Due Date" (8/31/2010), "Out Of Business" (Y), "Owner Information" (empty), "Comments" (4/27/10 - Placed out of business. Hauler did not renew license. License expired on 4/1/10. MC), "CSE Credits to Date" (empty), and "Federal ID Number" (empty). At the bottom of the form are buttons for "Print Summary", "End", "WWTPs/Health Depts", "Complaints", "Add Hauler", and "Print License Renewal Applications". The form is displayed in a "Form View" mode with a "Navigation Pane" on the left and a "Form Lock" button at the bottom right.

## OUR OLD, CRUSTY, HANGING BY A THREAD ACCESS DATABASE.

In order to appreciate Eddy fully, you must understand what we were working with prior to Eddy. We had been using an Access database, which was very out of date to the point that it hasn't been supported by its manufacturer for many years. If you're unfamiliar with Access, it's not unlike having a stack of Excel spreadsheets which are somewhat interactive. All of our processes had to begin with a paper submittal and a physical check, the financial processes handled by a special unit in MDOT (yes, MDOT), the paperwork then routed to the Septage program, the relevant data manually entered into our Access database, scanned copies (paper copies before that!) of the paperwork sent to the EGLE district staff and/or the Local Health Department staff, inspection documents returned with ink signatures, and final versions of those documents filed or scanned and entered into our records retention system. Additionally, numerous metrics were tracked in other ways because we simply were not able to track them in our database. This whole process, as you can imagine, was very time consuming AND prone to loss of paperwork or broken processes.

When first released, Eddy only contained the Campground and Septage programs, was only internal facing, and was missing a ton of functionality that would or will eventually come. Even so, Eddy was a vast improvement. Electronic submittals were seamless, paper submittals were scanned and easily uploaded, and mass mailings and bulk processes, such as annual invoices and license

*(continued on page 7)*



**Golden Circle Advisors**  
SELL SMART, BUY SMART

*A business brokerage firm specializing in  
the Septic Pumping & Portable Restroom  
industries since 2015.*

## Commute Before Selling



## Commute After Selling



**Realize your dream by selling your business at the highest price.**

### **TRAVERSE CITY**

**Curtis D. Kuttner**  
(231) 922-9380  
[curtis@teamgca.com](mailto:curtis@teamgca.com)

### **PLYMOUTH**

**Fred G. Manuel**  
(734) 320-6667  
[fred@teamgca.com](mailto:fred@teamgca.com)

[www.goldencircleadvisors.com](http://www.goldencircleadvisors.com)

### ***Our Services Include:***

- Selling a Business
- Buying a Business
- Business Auctions
- Valuation Services
- Financing Services
- M & A Advisory



(continued from page 5)

renewals, could be easily accomplished. And most importantly, any program staff person, regardless of work location, could clearly see and understand each and every program activity, and know exactly where an application was in the process. Everything that was necessary to move through the process and make program decisions was at our fingertips. And appropriate records were being kept automatically every step of the way.

Due to the way Eddy is being developed, it's constantly changing. Minor changes, bug fixes, and additions are a regular occurrence. When we encounter something that doesn't work like we think it should, we request a change. We've improved, but not completely conquered, our paper check limitation, but we're making progress. It seems getting a financial system and a credit card processing system to communicate with a database and compliance system isn't as easy as it sounds! But we'll get to the point of not having to send anything through the USPS. We've added a Submission Portal, which allows external users such as a licensed septage hauler or a Local Health Department staff person to submit an operating plan, vehicle application, inspection report, relevant pictures, proof

The screenshot shows the 'My Work - Customer Portal' interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation links: My Work, Dashboard, Spotlight, Entity Search, Activity Search, Task Search, Contact Search, Submission Portal, Submission Queue, Maintenance, Operations, and Security. The main area displays a table of tasks with columns: Reference Number, Activity Name, Activity Type, Activity Status, Entity Type, Entity Name, Created On, and Created By. There are also filters for 'Created by Me' and 'Assigned to Me', and a 'Submit New Request' button.

Reference Number	Activity Name	Activity Type	Activity Status	Entity Type	Entity Name	Created On	Created By
ACT-25291	Campground Construction Permit Submission	Campground Construction Permit	Application Received	Not Set	Not Set	03/31/2021 10:25 AM	admin@localhost
ACT-25289	Bacteriological Sample Site Plan Submission	Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	Not Set	Community Water Supply	NORTH MUSKEGON	03/30/2021 03:09 PM	admin@localhost
ACT-25288	Bacteriological Sample Site Plan Submission	Bacteriological Sample Site Plan	Not Set	Community Water Supply	NORTH MUSKEGON	03/30/2021 03:06 PM	admin@localhost
ACT-25272	Campground Inspection Submission	Campground Inspection	Closed	Campground	ALCONA CANOE RENTAL INC	03/25/2021 01:16 PM	admin@localhost
ACT-25237	SH Vehicle License Submission	SH Vehicle License	Application Received	Campground	SWARTZ CREEK MEADOWS RV	03/18/2021 09:20 AM	admin@localhost

(ABOVE) AN EXAMPLE OF THE TASKS LISTED IN THE CUSTOMER PORTAL. (RIGHT) AN EXAMPLE OF AN EXPANDED TASK IN THE CUSTOMER PORTAL, COMPLETE WITH FILES, COMMUNICATION PORTAL, STATUS BOX, AND TIMELINE OF ACTIONS.

of CSE's, or other supporting documentation. These submissions travel to us as fast as electrons through wire, and can be added to the official record, assigned to staff to review or make a decision, and make it through our processes faster than ever before. And we're continuing to make Eddy better!

Release 2, due sometime around July of 2021, is going to include, among other things, a vast improvement to the Submission Portal. At present, we're calling it the Customer Portal, because it's going to be so much more than a place to submit documents. Users will log in and immediately be presented with a list of entities that they are associated with, complete with a list of tasks for each of those entities that they need to address in some way. Licensed haulers might see that their license renewal is due in 2 months, or that their annual invoice payment is overdue, or that their new vehicle application has been scheduled for an inspection. They might click on a link in the renewal that provides instructions and all the necessary

The screenshot shows an expanded view of a task. It includes a 'Contributor Data' section, a 'Files' section with a 'Download' button, a 'Messages' section with a 'No Messages' status, and a 'Timeline' section. The interface is designed for detailed task management and communication.

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

forms for the renewal. The invoice payment due reminder might include a copy of the invoice and provide a link to the Pay Place. Local Health Department staff might see that they have 4 vehicle inspections and a land application site inspection on their task list. Each task might include the proper paperwork, business contact info, and any other necessary resources to complete the task. Users will be able to submit documents relevant to their assigned tasks or generate and submit new applications. Most exciting, in addition to those submittals, licensed haulers, Local Health Department staff, and EGLE staff will have access to a collaboration workspace, where we will be able to communicate through the Customer Portal about the submittals, identify and correct deficiencies, request and schedule inspections, complete inspections or upload additional information about the submittal, and everyone involved will have access to the complete record.

Eddy will continue to evolve; its functionality will continue to increase and improve over time. The Customer Portal is only the beginning of what Eddy might be capable of. Future plans include an interactive GIS component, that might be used to map and track land application sites and Septage Waste Storage Facilities, and map Septage Waste Receiving Facilities and keep track of their mandatory service areas and their approved operating plans. Improvements to the annual cropping plan submittal and approval process is also in the works, among many other things. In addition, many more program areas will be incorporated, which will bring opportunity for collaboration and sharing of information across programs.

To learn more about MiEHDWIS and how to create an account, please visit [Michigan.gov/EGLE-MiEHDWIS](https://Michigan.gov/EGLE-MiEHDWIS) and view the MiEHDWIS for Campground and Septage Owners and Operators video.

## SAVE THE DATE!

# SepticSmart Week 2021

September 20-24, 2021

### Plan ahead for SepticSmart Week!

EPA's annual event focused on how to care for and maintain your septic system.

For more information, visit [www.epa.gov/septic](https://www.epa.gov/septic).







*General Agency Company*

Insurance Since 1915

Knowledgeable. Committed. Trusted.



## *General Agency Company understands the need for timely service and sensitivity to local concerns.*

*That's why EMC Insurance Companies offers the Michigan Septic Tank Association (MSTA) Insurance Program to our customers through the General Agency Company.*



Property • General Liability • Workers' Compensation  
Commercial Auto • Inland Marine • Life • Safety Consulting  
Group Health Benefits • Risk Management Services

Group insurance coverage endorsed by:



*Mick P. Natzel Jr.* • 989-817-4257 • [mpnatzel@ga-ins.com](mailto:mpnatzel@ga-ins.com)

**General Agency Company** • 525 East Broadway Street • Mount Pleasant, MI 48858  
Phone: 800-589-6982 • 989-773-6981 • Fax: 989-772-1855



## 2022 Michigan Onsite Wastewater Conference

**JANUARY 11-13, 2022**

**KELLOGG CENTER  
EAST LANSING**

## **EQUIPMENT FOR EVERY JOB**



Portable Restrooms  
Handwash Stations  
Septic & Restroom Trucks  
Restroom Trailers  
Cleaners & Deodorizer

**Great Lakes  
Regional Manager**

**Paul Jongert**

paulj@satelliteindustries.com  
Toll Free: 800-883-1123  
Direct: 763-519-6546  
Cell: 612-270-0230  
satelliteindustries.com





## Walter Carl Steuer

**MAY 26, 1938 - APRIL 14, 2021**

Walter Carl Steuer, age 82, of Traverse City passed away Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at Munson Medical Center.

Walter was born May 26, 1938 to the late George and Emma (Clark) Steuer in Rock Island, Ill.

Walter served our country in the United States Navy where he was honorably discharged in 1958. He was a graduate of Ferris State University.

On October 17, 1964 Walter married the former Maxine Herman at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Traverse City. Walter was the owner of Walter Steuer Pumping Service since 1970. He was semi-retired in 2011 when he sold his business and bought a saw mill. He has been working with wood and selling campfire wood ever since. Walter was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity and Saginaw Plumbers and Pipefitters, U.A. Local #85.

Walt was a man of many talents. He could fix anything, as long as he could do it his way. He was a loving father, grandfather, brother and friend. He will be dearly missed by so many.

Walter is survived by his children, Lori (David) Hurlbut, of Hart, Jeff (Holly Shoup) Steuer, of Belmont; grandchild, Jessica; siblings, Fred Steuer, of East Jordan and Nancy Steuer, of Alaska. Walter was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Maxine; sister, Norma; and special friend, Carol "CJ" Bosma.

A visitation for Walter will take place on Monday, April 19, 2021 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home ..

Walter will be laid to rest at Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 3:00 p.m., where full military honors will be held.

Memorial contributions in Walter's memory may be directed to Michigan Septic Tank Association, 1181 La Costa Drive, DeWitt, MI 48820.

The Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services is serving the family. Please share a memory with Walter's family by visiting his tribute page at [www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com](http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com).

# MSTA Member Spotlight

## MICHIGAN WASTE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS INC.



### Owner: Randy Redmer

Michigan Waste and Environmental Systems Inc.  
Dba Rapid Flush  
17261 Van Wagoner Road  
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456  
Website: [www.rapidflush.com](http://www.rapidflush.com)

MSTA Member since 2017

In 2016 Randy Redmer established Michigan Waste and Environmental Services Inc. with a desire to establish a service company to perform bio-remediation services in Michigan.

Michigan Waste and Environmental Systems Inc.(MWES) purchased Rapid Flush, Kendall Septic Service and Pit Stop Portables located in Spring Lake in November of 2017. In 2018, Pit Stop Portables was spun off and sold in order to help the company focus on it's primary expertise and targeted areas of growth; septic pumping, repair and installation and all manner of drain cleaning, jetting, televising and other services.

The management systems were antiquated, the vehicles and equipment were old, worn out and poorly maintained, some trucks were unsafe, and everyone was underpaid. The brand needed re-facing and rebuilding. "We thought we were saving ourselves the expense and time of not building a company from scratch. We were sorely mistaken. What we had was a startup with cash flow. We needed to rebuild or replace almost everything" recalls owner Randy Redmer.

It took the company almost two years to replace the trucks and equipment and that effort is continuing. New software was implemented, uniforms issued, benefits added, wages raised, training put into effect, a new logo developed, advertising added and many other improvements made. The company is nowhere near having arrived at it's goals and objectives having just completed it's 3rd year.





In August of 2020, MWES purchased an EGLE licensed O&M company which oversees and maintains public and private Onsite systems, Advanced Treatment Systems and engineered drainfield systems. It opened an office in Lansing, Michigan.

In December of 2020, MWES purchased Shunk-Fiedler Septic Service located in Mason, Michigan.

In addition to offering a wide array of services, the company possesses a number of patented products and processes which deliver stunning results in Bio-solids reduction, lagoon bio-dredging and a number of other waste and agriculture applications.

MWES has aggressive plans for growth and expansion in the next several years.

The company's ownership is just as aggressive about the concept of giving back. The company is run as a Great Commission company following Jesus command to go out into all the world preaching the Gospel and making disciples. Obeying that command, the company actively supports various Christian missions and ministries both in the U.S. and overseas. Some of these efforts include supporting hospitals in Africa and Bangladesh, orphanages, and schools in war torn regions and other worthwhile Gospel related ministries and services.

## YOUR CLASSIFIED AD COULD BE HERE

Email classified ads to  
[jkreh@hotmail.com](mailto:jkreh@hotmail.com)

Cost \$20/ad and  
\$20/photo

40 word limit

MSTA editor reserves the  
right not to advertise  
certain items.

## Are you walking away from bigger profits?



ADD TO  
YOUR PROFITS  
WITH...  
**Bio-Tab®!**

### What is Bio-Tab®?

**Bio-Tab®** is a highly concentrated tablet of bacteria (both aerobic and anaerobic) and enzymes that acts as a biological activator for septic tanks. In short, **Bio-Tab®** helps septic systems work like they were intended. Unlike most competitor's dusty powders or messy liquids, **Bio-Tab®** is in a convenient tablet form. Easy to use and easy to store, **Bio-Tab®** is a highly concentrated, commercial product - one jar contains a year's supply. It is a safe, non-toxic, non-corrosive and non-poisonous product that will not harm plumbing or septic systems.

**\*\*Bio-Tab® was not designed to eliminate septic pumping -- it is intended to compliment and reinforce a regular maintenance schedule, and will easily help keep you in touch with customers from year to year.\*\***



[www.centurychemical.com](http://www.centurychemical.com) ■ Elkhart, IN 46517  
**574-293-9521 ■ 800-348-3505**

**Polylok wastewater products...**  
*a septic tanks best friend!*



Polylok, Inc. has been at the forefront of effluent filter and onsite wastewater technology for over 35 years. With an extensive line of effluent filters, septic tank risers and covers, filter and tank alarms, safety devices, distribution boxes, and an array of onsite wastewater accessories, we are your one stop shop for all your septic tank needs. Trust the company that experts and professionals have trusted for over 35 years!



Visit our web site for our complete line of more than 200 onsite wastewater & drainage products.

**[www.polylok.com](http://www.polylok.com) / 1-877-765-9565**

# THANK YOU to our 2021 PAC Fund Donors

(As of April 2021)

**JUDY AUGENSTEIN  
DARRELL BUTLER  
RAY DANIELS  
STEPHANIE POWELL  
MARK SCOTT**

We want to remind everyone that we can only make our political efforts possible through the help of our membership donations to the MSTA PAC fund. With the help of Joe Hall's leadership in the past years we were able to successfully make several legislative changes that have strengthened our industry and organization. We hope to continue having a prominent voice in the capital by representing our member's ability to effectively conduct business in the State of Michigan.

With that being said, we would like to encourage engagement from our general members and provide transparency to the use of our PAC dollars. If any members have specific pain points they feel should be communicated, we are happy to review them at the PAC committee so we can properly plan how to address them with legislators. Additionally, any contributions are appreciated and begin to add up when considering the potential scale of our association. For example, if we have 150 of our members donate \$100, we have \$15,000 of fire power to move forward our initiatives and make sure our voice is heard in Lansing.

Please note that all PAC donations must come from personal checks and we can't accept checks written from business accounts.

Best regards,  
MSTA PAC Committee







**Karlyn Wickham**

*MSTA Executive Officer*

# HOW TO NAVIGATE THE MSTA WEBSITE

[www.msta.org](http://www.msta.org)

## **HOW TO LOG IN TO YOUR PERSONAL PORTAL OF THE MSTA WEBSITE**

1. Log into your account on [www.msta.biz](http://www.msta.biz)

If you do not remember your username /or password, click on “Forgot Your Password?” on the MSTA Homepage. You will receive an automatic email with instructions to get your username / password. Follow the instructions on this email to log in.

## **GETTING YOUR CSE CREDITS OFF FROM THE MSTA WEBSITE**

As you already know, we have a new website and database system to track your membership and CSE credits. The old website contained all your CSE Credits prior to August of 2017. If you don’t have records of your credits prior to August 2017, you will not be able to get them by logging onto the website. Instead you will have to send an email to the address below to request a report of those.

The new website contains your CSE Credits from August 2017 through now. To get a record of the credits you received from the Fall 2017 meeting or the 2018 Michigan Onsite WW Conference, follow the steps below:

1. Log into your account on [www.msta.biz](http://www.msta.biz) If you do not remember your username /or password, click on “Forgot Your Password?” on the MSTA Homepage. You will receive an automatic email with instructions to get your username / password.
2. Once you are logged in, go to “My Membership Information”
3. Click on the “other information” tab
4. Click on “Prior Event Registrations”
5. Find the class you just attended and click on the symbol with the checkmark inside the square
6. A copy of your transcript will appear showing the credits you earned by going to the meeting
7. Print this page and keep it for your records to be turned into the DEQ when you renew your license.

Please save these instructions for future use. Please also save your username and password somewhere safe as well so that you can log onto the MSTA website again. By the way, your username and password can be changed to something you remember more easily by clicking on “Member Information / change username and password” (right next to the “other information” tab).

## **CHANGING CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

1. Log into your account on [www.msta.biz](http://www.msta.biz) If you do not remember your username /or password, click on “Forgot Your Password?” on the MSTA Homepage. You will receive an automatic email with instructions to get your username / password.
2. Once you are logged in, go to “My Membership Information”
3. Click on the “Membership Information” tab
4. Click on “change contact / profile”
5. Change your profile information
6. BE SURE TO PRESS SUBMIT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE

## **ADDING EMPLOYEES OR ADDITIONAL PEOPLE TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

1. Log into your account on [www.msta.biz](http://www.msta.biz) If you do not remember your username /or password, click on “Forgot Your Password?” on the MSTA Homepage. You will receive an automatic email with instructions to get your username / password.
2. Once you are logged in, go to “My Membership Information”
3. Click on the “Membership Information” tab
4. Click on “additional individuals attached to this membership”
5. Click on “add an additional member”
6. Fill out the information about this member
7. Do this for every person you would like to add to your membership



# Engineered For Performance



**INFILTRATOR**  
water technologies

**Quick4™**  
CHAMBER SYSTEMS

## Quick4 Standard Chamber

### Fast & Easy Installation

Chamber systems are easy to install. Engineered for strength and performance, they have greater design flexibility including a smaller footprint as compared with stone and pipe, and are made from recycled materials.



**EZflow®**  
by INFILTRATOR

## Synthetic Aggregate

### Clean & Free of Fines

EZflow is an environmentally friendly replacement to traditional stone and pipe drainfields using an engineered geosynthetic aggregate modular design. Designed to improve drainfield performance by eliminating the fines, and reducing compaction and embedment associated with stone.



**INFILTRATOR®**  
tanks

IM-540  
IM-1060  
IM-1530

### Lightweight Durable Watertight

The strength and versatility of Infiltrator's IM-Series Septic Tanks enable a wide-range of installation possibilities including shallow installations and multiple and serial tank configurations.



**EZSNAP**  
by INFILTRATOR

## Click and Lock Riser Technology

### Watertight Gasket to Gasket Connection

The EZsnap riser is designed to create an easy-to-assemble watertight riser system for septic tanks, pump tanks, and cisterns.

The EZsnap Riser features click and lock technology eliminating the need for assembly tools, sealant/caulk, screws and hardware. The 24" diameter EZsnap Riser will be available in 2", 6" and 12" tall sections that nest together making for efficient storage and shipping.



**CALL FOR INFORMATION AND A DISTRIBUTOR NEAR YOU!**

**Matt Johnson, Area Sales Representative • (616) 401-3396**

[mjohnson@infiltratorwater.com](mailto:mjohnson@infiltratorwater.com) • [www.infiltratorwater.com](http://www.infiltratorwater.com)

# YOUR PREMIER TANK MANUFACTURER



## WE ARE IMPERIAL.

At IMPERIAL INDUSTRIES, we have been going the extra mile designing and manufacturing specialized commercial sanitation tanks for more than 39 years - constantly evolving to meet the changing needs of your industry. It is our mission to provide you, our valued customers, with dependability for the road ahead.

- Quality
- Durability
- Customer Support
- Truck Dealer Partners

Better efficiency means bigger profits...let us help you get the results you want!

## OFFERING A WIDE RANGE OF SEPTIC & PORTABLE PUMPING EQUIPMENT:

- Septic Trucks
- Portable Restroom Service Units
- Grease Units
- Vacuum Trailers
- Hydraulic Hoist Tanks
- 407/412 DOT Tanks
- Parts

Tanks available in your choice of metal - steel, aluminum or stainless steel.

We've built over 150,000 tanks and counting.

## WE HAVE STOCK ON THE GROUND READY TO GO TO WORK FOR YOU!



*Custom options available!*



1-800-558-2945 | [SEPTICTRUCKCENTER.COM](http://SEPTICTRUCKCENTER.COM) | [IMPERIALIND.COM](http://IMPERIALIND.COM)

Imperial Industries, proudly family-owned and operated in central Wisconsin for more than 39 years, is the trusted choice for specialized septic solutions and expert service.

 Subscribe to our YouTube channel



# Legislative Report for MSTA

## APRIL

Before the Legislature recessed for spring break the Senate Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes and Energy was presented with Governor Whitmer's "Michigan Clean Water Plan". Sometime ago, Ray Daniels and I participated in a conference call with EGLE and other interests to learn about the plan which is now being introduced to the legislature. Senator Jon Bumstead, R-Newago, committee chair, and other committee members asked question relative to costs for constituents to update septage systems. The intent of the plan is create a loan program for municipalities to update sewage treatment programs and residents to update septic systems.

The same day, Senator Rick Outman, R-Six Lakes, Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee introduced SB 319, a bill to create a loan program to update sewage treatment programs and septic systems. In a conversation with Senator Outman about the bill, he indicated he was requested by the Office of the Governor to introduce the bill. He did so as it made sense to him and the \$290 million dollars in revolving funds is already available. Senator Outman refers to his bill as a "stand alone" bill and does not want it to "travel" through the legislative process as part of the Governor's plan as he does not know nor can he control other legislative components of the Clean Water Plan proposed by Governor Whitmer. I will bring copies of an analysis of the Clean Water Plan to the April 24 meeting for your review. I will be monitoring the Plan as it travels through the Legislature and any attempt to create a statewide sanitary code as part of the effort. At some point, MSTA will be requested to testify on the Outman bill and the Governor's Clean Water Plan in its entirety.

Attorney General Dana Nessel this week called "outrageous and vastly inaccurate" a claim from Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey and 14 of his colleagues that she was using her office in an "inconsistent, selective and seemingly politically motivated application of state law."

The Democratic Attorney General was tagged in a letter from Shirkey & Co. for signing off on the arrest of restaurant owner Marlena Pavolos-Hackney, who was not following numerous health and safety citations connected to COVID-19. "Perhaps your office's assets and personnel would be better deployed assisting counties in clearing their pending criminal cases rather than coordinating the pre-dawn arrest of a 55-year-old woman for serving pizza," they wrote.

To that, Nessel said Pavlos-Hackney "defied not one, not two, but 20 administrative and court orders" while every other restaurant in the state complied with health orders or made reasonable accommodations with regulators. "We want to make sure restaurants remain open, but they need to be able to abide by regular health and safety codes," Nessel said. "That's why you license these facilities."



*(continued on page 20)*



*(continued from page 19)*



On other subjects, the Attorney General was asked why her office is pursuing criminal charges against former Gov. Rick Snyder for his actions that led to the Flint water crisis, but not Gov. Gretchen Whitmer for her administration's allowance of COVID-positive patients back into nursing homes.

She said her predecessor, Bill Schuette, looked into the matters in Flint prior to her tenure and found 15 individuals with some level of criminal responsibility for allowing lead to make its way into Flint's public water supply. Upon taking office, her criminal team felt the investigation wasn't done correctly so it did a hard reboot and found additional charges were warranted.

In the case of the nursing home policy, the matter at hand is one of a policy decision that was later amended. Nessel said she has no evidence of criminal wrongdoing and "it would be a gross abuse of my prosecutorial power and a serious ethical violation for me to investigate where there is absolutely no evidence at this time of any sort of criminal wrongdoing."

On the Senate passing \$1.25 million for county prosecutors looking into the nursing home issue, the Attorney General took great exception. "I'm begging for money -- not just for our domestic terrorism unit where we have Republican members of the Legislature who have been threatened -- but for this massive clergy abuse investigation," she said.

However, Nessel said she's getting no additional funds from the Legislature despite nine individuals being charged and "many more" victims whose perpetrators are out there. The AG's office can't get to these cases due to funds. All the while, the statute of limitations clock is running. "I can't get them to give me a dime and yet they're willing to give millions of dollars to county prosecutors in order to try to conjure up evidence of a crime that they don't even know has occurred," she said.



# THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO CHOOSE



*Always Have Been  
and Always Will Be* → there when you need us

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

THE MOST EXPERIENCED SALES &  
CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAMS

ACCESSIBLE REPLACEMENT PARTS

BEST WARRANTY IN THE INDUSTRY

PROVEN PRODUCT DURABILITY



Everything YOU need to KNOW  
when they need to go!

[JohnTalk.com](http://JohnTalk.com)



**DOWNLOAD OUR GUIDES**

[PJProductGuide.com](http://PJProductGuide.com) | [PJBuyersGuide.com](http://PJBuyersGuide.com)

2500 GASPAR AVE., WHITING, IN 46394  
**POLYJOHN.COM | 800.292.1305**

WHERE  
THE  
PROS  
GO!

T.A.  entry  
SUPPLY, INC.

www.gentrysupply.com

Serving  
Michigan's  
Underground  
Contractors

**If it goes in the ground we've got it!**



A.Y. McDonald Water Service Fittings  
Rhombus High Water Alarms  
Advanced Drainage System  
Galvanized Culvert  
Septic Risers & Lids  
Bull Run Valves  
DEWALT Tools  
SCH 40 - SDR 35 - PVC Pipe



**Myers** **Liberty Pumps**

**EZflow**  
by INFILTRATOR

**Call the location nearest you today!**

**Holland**

2096 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Holland, MI 49424  
Phone: (616) 392-1535  
Or (800) 458-1858  
Fax: (616) 392-6523

**Kalamazoo**

3737 Lake Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49048  
Phone: (269) 226-0500  
Or (800) 591-8161  
Fax: (269) 226-0503

**Lansing**

3430 Old Lansing Road  
Lansing, MI 48917  
Phone: (517) 371-6911  
Or (800) 250-8533  
Fax: (517) 371-5302





Valley Farms Supply

# A DEEP WELL OF RESOURCES

SERVING MICHIGAN'S WASTEWATER CONTRACTORS

Valley Farms Supply serves Michigan's septic system and wastewater industry. We offer a full line of pumps, filters, floats, alarm panels, risers and lids.

See for yourself why the pros choose Valley Farms Supply as their official provider of quality supplies and service.



## MICHIGAN LOCATIONS

FLINT 810-471-9450

GRAND RAPIDS 616-888-3999

LAKE CITY 231-839-4311

LANSING 517-703-0400

BARNES®



POLYLOK



[ValleyFarmsSupply.com](http://ValleyFarmsSupply.com)



*1181 LaCosta Drive  
DeWitt, MI 48820  
[www.msta.biz](http://www.msta.biz)*



---

### **MSTA PAC Update**

We are continuing to fight for legislative issues that benefit MSTAs members. Your donation to the PAC Fund will help tremendously in these efforts! If you would like to donate, a “personal check” (not a company check) should be made out to: MSTAs PAC Fund.

Please mail your  
“personal check” to:  
MSTA  
1181 LaCosta Drive,  
DeWitt, MI 48820