







TUESDAY 3/11/2025

8:00- 4:00

Lewis & Clark Room
 Backflow Prevention Assembly
 Testers Proctor Training/Exam,
 ABPA

 45th MRWS Conference 					
Wednesday (3/12/2025) 7:30 am—5:30 pm Registration in Convention Area For All Sessions Visit the Vendors All Day!!					
Wednesday Sessions - March 12, 2025					
Canadian Room	Britain Room	American Room	Lewis & Clark Room	Missouri Room	
8:30 am to 12:30 pm Morning Session W2ASACT Funding Workshop Funding Agencies 0.400 CEC's Clerks/Dual			9:00-10:00 →	Cybersecurity for Water and Wastewater Systems Graham Arntzen, In Control, Inc. Presentation will cover the basics of cybersecurity threats to SCADA, networks, typical vulnerabilities, mitigation measures, and recommending best practices applicable for water and wastewater utilities in Montana.	Sludge Removal Strategies in Montana Kyle Myhre, Robert Peccia and Associates This presentation will be of interest to any community in Montana currently treating wastewater through lagoon systems. The project examples discussed should give an idea of what to expect when the time comes to remove sludge from lagoons.
			10:30-11:30 →	Pressure Monitoring and Smart Meters Miquelle Bernard, Xylem Using pressure data from your water meters to track pressure changes and patterns, to more effectively manage your pressure zones, reduce Watermain breaks and reducing your utilities non-revenue water loss	Land Application of Wastewater The Right Way, Michele Marsh, Travis Dunkle, WPCSRF Program Engineer, MDEQ We will cover the basics of designing a spray irrigation system and determining the needed acreage, to provide the basis for understanding why monthly design application rates must be followed and why a crop must be harvested each year. We will detail the necessary annual sampling, record-keeping requirements, and operator responsibilities.
Lunch on Your Own					
1:00 PM to 2:00 pm	The Citizens' Right to Know and Participate: Montana's Open Meeting Laws Ashley Kent, Associate Director, MSU Local Government Center, Montana's Constitution provides for some of the strictest "Sunshine Laws" in the country to protect and ensure the public has the right to observe and participate in the decision-making process of public organizations. This workshop will cover those constitutional rights, the corresponding state statutory requirements, and best practices for public boards in Montana.	Pump Curve Basics Mark Peterson TD&H Engineering The topics covered will be the basic pump curve (head/pressure vs. flow) including impacts of additional impellers for well pumps, pump efficiency, evaluation of pump horsepower, shut off head and runout flow, net positive suction head, impacts of variable frequency drives (VFD) and how two pumps operate in parallel.	Everything you Need to know about Magmeters Brittany Baker, ABB INC Can we calibrate that old mag meter that's been kicking around since the 90's? How does a mag meter work anyways?	Lessons Learned Upgrading One of Kalispell's Largest and Most Complex Lift Stations Trevor Larson, Brad Koenig, Robert Peccia & Associates (RPA) The presentation will cover the project background and briefly summarize the planning criteria. It will include the design of the lift station and forcemain, including design requirements and key design complications. The final part of the presentation will address construction of the project including problems that arose and the successful solutions	
0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Wastewater	

1:00pm to 2:00pm	<p>Implementing Montana's First PFAS Treatment System Neal Levang, P.E., Robert Peccia and Associates</p> <p>The presentation will discuss the PFAS testing that was completed leading up to the implementation of the temporary treatment system. The presentation will also discuss the different treatment technologies that were evaluated, and the procurement and installation of the treatment system components.</p>	<p>Municipal Facilities Exclusions Rachel Clark, MDEQ</p> <p>Learn all about what subdivisions qualify for a Municipal Facilities Exclusion.</p>	<p>Infrastructure Funding & Proactive Protection of Water and Municipal Resources Tyler Sanders & Jim Brandley, Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority-MMIA</p> <p>A deep dive into water/wastewater system liabilities and how to proactively manage risk, property and liability exposures, and municipal resources. [This is a 2-hour class]</p>	<p>Red Lodge Stormwater Improvements Brandon Duffey, PE, Great West Engineering</p> <p>This presentation will walk through the process the city took to address crossconnection issues and cover planning, funding, design, and construction of the first few phases.</p>	<p>Optimize WWTP Mixing for Efficiency & Process Resiliency Alden Meade, Xylem</p> <p>This presentation will review the processes involved with biological wastewater treatment, and how adaptive mixing provides enhanced interaction in treatment zones. The purpose and need for mixers will be reviewed with regard to each process.</p>
	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Wastewater	0.1 CEC's Wastewater	
2:30pm to 3:30pm	<p>Revolutionary Leak Detection Mike Uthe, Mueller Water Products</p> <p>For hundreds of years the water industry has utilized sound to locate leaks on pipelines. In the last decade Echologics has turned that concept into a revolutionary system. By using existing hydrants and valves in the distribution network we are able to pinpoint leaks remotely during normal operation.</p>	<p>What requires DEQ's review and approval? Jake Goettle, MDEQ</p> <p>What types of water and wastewater work requires DEQ's review and approval? Learn what work does and does not require a submittal to DEQ for review and approval.</p>		<p>City of Sidney Rate Study Brent Moore, Jordan Mayer, Jason Elletson, Interstate Engineering</p> <p>The presenters will provide an overview of the rate study process and the resulting projects that have been constructed.</p>	<p>Tertiary Treatment for Phosphorus and Metals Reduction in Wastewater Treatment Facilities Patrick Ely, NEXOM/EDI</p> <p>This presentation will explore two different treatment options available: a) cloth disc filtration and b) continuously backwashed up-flow sand filtration.</p>
	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.2 CEC's Dual/Clerks	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Wastewater
4:00pm to 5:00pm	<p>Optimal Corrosion Control Treatment (OCC) Essentials Kristen Brush and Eric Blanksma, Morrison-Maierle, Inc</p> <p>This presentation will describe some of the common causes of corrosion, how to evaluate and implement solutions through the EPA-approved OCC process, and what to consider when starting up corrosion control treatment.</p>	<p>Unveiling the Science of Polymer Activation: Exploring the Benefits through Applications Haley Goddard, Cleanwater1</p> <p>Through a series of compelling case studies, the presentation not only highlights the impact of polymer savings but also demonstrates the effect on the process downstream.</p>	<p>ABCs of Water and Sewer Bonds and Water and Sewer Hot Topics at the 2025 Montana Legislative Session Dan Semmens, Courtney Ellis, Dorsey & Whitney LLP</p> <p>ABCs of water and sewer bonds and hot topics at the 2025 Montana Legislative Session affecting water and sewer.</p>	<p>Overcoming Telemetry and SCADA Issues for Remote Sites Jon Frank, Advanced Control Systems</p> <p>With hands-on demonstrations and troubleshooting exercises, participants will explore key principles of hub/spoke communication models, cellular telemetry, and SCADA integration.</p>	<p>Water Quality Impacts of Intermittent Wave Mixing and Surface Disruption Jared Holindrake, Risen Water</p> <p>A mechanism that creates a constant wave motion from a centrally located point can be used to improve water quality in wastewater lagoons.</p>
	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Dual/clerks	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Wastewater
Thursday Night Banquet - Awards - Montana's Best Tasting Water - Meter Contest - Guest Speaker Invited					
Friday Morning Sessions - March 14, 2025					
8:00am to 9:00am	<p>Overview of the new PFAS drinking water rule and other rule updates Greg Montgomery, MDEQ</p> <p>Overview of the new PFAS rule for Drinking water. We will also review the other rule updates including CCRs and water system restructuring assessment rule.</p>	<p>On-Site Sodium Hypochlorite Generation: A Safe and Cost-Effective Solution for Disinfection Haley Goddard, Cleanwater1</p> <p>Lessons learned from over 30 years of OSHG installations will also be shared. Key aspects such as salt handling, salt purity, water softener reliability, ongoing maintenance, and system layout will be addressed, offering practical insights to ensure successful implementation</p>	<p>Infrastructure Funding & Administration for Clerks Craig Erickson, Great West Engineering</p> <p>Jodi Rogers, MT League of Cities & Towns Craig and Jodi will explain how to secure grant funds and the steps to follow after receiving the award. Specifically tailored for clerks, Jodi & Craig will provide an overview of the clerk's role in managing infrastructure funding, including creating project files, tracking project funds, & meeting audit requirements. [This is a 2-hour class]</p>	<p>Valve Insertion to Avoid System Shutdowns Ryan Fugler, Hydra-Stop</p> <p>Traditional methods of maintaining water systems, such as shutdowns, cause unforeseen problems. Insertion valves are installed on a live line, under pressure, which avoids water service disruption to homes, businesses, hospitals, schools, and more. The presentation covers the benefits of this technology, performance testing against industry standards, and real-world applications of this solution (hydrant replacements, water main rehabs, and more).</p>	<p>City of Livingston-Ongoing I&I Reduction Nicole Rediske, TD & H Engineering</p> <p>Livingston's sanitary sewer collection system was originally constructed in 1922. Much of the system, approximately 35%, is still the original clay tile pipe. Given the City's proximity to the Yellowstone River, the City is experiencing a high rate of inflow and infiltration (I&I). TD&H Engineering has been working for the City to identify the areas of the collection system that are contributing the largest I&I flows</p>
	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Wastewater
9:30am to 10:30am	<p>Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation Ross Hanson, AE2S</p> <p>Some storage tanks we will look at will be epoxy coated bolted/welded steel, glass-fused bolted steel, cast-in-place underground concrete, and prestressed concrete -while they are all designed to hold water, the differences in repair and rehabilitation are vast.</p>	<p>Rotating Equipment Troubleshooting Chad Morgan, Peak</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1: alignment, soft foot, sprung foot, vibration analysis, and lubrication • Topic 2: Explanation, case studies or practical applications. • Topic 3: Further details, discussion, or analysis. 	<p>"What the?" Jason Fladland, MDEQ</p> <p>Asset management-Importance of asset management with examples of failures and introduction to SCAP tool for managing assets and more TBA</p>	<p>Capabilities of SCADA Thaddeus Lightner & Dennis Wortman, HDR Engineering, Inc. & City of Boulder Public Works</p> <p>By having a better understanding of what information is available and what integrators can do with that information, SCADA systems can provide automation for more complex processes that result in better outcomes.</p>	

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10:45am to 11:45am	Treatment Equipment Considerations and Emerging Contaminants Debra Jensen, Filter Tech Systems. In this presentation we will look at different water sources and their challenges and solutions. We will talk about operator requirements and considerations for different treatment systems.	A Promising Future for Manganese Removal by Ion Exchange Mike Mecca, Performance Water Products This presentation addresses the water quality issue of manganese in drinking water supplies and the removal of it using ion exchange resin. This simple technique utilizes a standard water softener configuration; resulting in low cost equipment, smaller system footprint, and ease of operation.	Future Utility Resilience - Addressing risks to prepare for the future. Sreva Carter, AE2S The presentation will focus on the identification and summary of new risks facing systems today and solutions to reduce risks through participation in existing programs and possibilities.	"IF IT AIN'T BROKE...." Mike Kropp , MDEQ Capacity development and more TBA	Thompson Falls, MT: Small Community Transition from Septic to Sewer Carrie Gardner, Great West Engineering Many municipalities around the state have centralized collection systems and treatment plants to ensure individual septic systems are used in densely populated areas or areas that could potentially degrade ground and surface waters.
	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Water	0.1 CEC's Dual/clerks	0.1 CEC's Dual	0.1 CEC's Wastewater
11:45am to 1:15pm	 MRWS LUNCHEON & DRAWINGS *Guest Speaker - 				
1:30pm to 5:30pm	 GO FOR IT !  GOOD LUCK ! STATE OPERATOR CERTIFICATION EXAMS CANADIAN & BRITAIN ROOMS 