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## Missouri Water and Wastewater Conference

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# MWWC MAIN LINES

## Training News and Information of the Missouri Water & Wastewater Conference and Its Six Regional Sections

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## BIG CHANGES COMING TO MWWC

As we enter the new year and new territory for MWWC, I'd like to update you on some significant changes that you'll begin to see over the next few months. While we will continue to honor the heritage of the MWWC and all that built the organization through the last 100 years, we also need to consider what keeps the organization relevant and sustainable for the next hundred.

Since I met with many of you at the 2025 Annual Conference, our team has been working to put the pieces together that will shape the future of MWWC. In our conversations thus far, one thing has been perfectly clear – we need to modernize systems, offer additional resources, and continue providing quality training at an affordable cost. As the team taking the reins of this storied organization, we are on a mission to do just that.

After significant discussion and input from members and approval from the board of directors, the decision was made to rename MWWC to the Missouri Water & Wastewater Association (MWWA). This name change reflects the imminent growth and evolution of the organization and more accurately represents our mission to support, educate, and advocate for water and wastewater professionals across the state of Missouri. This proposed change is intended to better reflect the full scope of our mission and activities. The MWWA will provide year-round education, professional development, advocacy, networking, and resources that extend well beyond a single annual event and section meetings. The term "Association" more accurately represents who we will become and the value we provide to our members and the broader water and wastewater community in Missouri. Importantly, this change will affect only the organization's name. Our mission, governance structure, membership benefits, and existing programs will remain the same with additional services slated for implementation in the immediate future.

Over the coming months, you may notice updates to our branding, communications, and materials as we transition to the new name. We appreciate your patience and support during this process as this year marks a complete rebranding of the MWWC, designed to better serve our members and reflect the strength and professionalism of our industry. As part of this update, you'll notice a brand-new logo and a refreshed visual identity that will be used across all materials, communications, and events.

Along with the new look comes a new website that will provide a more modern, user-friendly experience. The site will feature updated information about section meetings and the annual conference, as well as newly redesigned

registration forms. These changes are intended to make it easier to find information, register for events, and stay connected with MWWA activities throughout the year.

One of the most exciting improvements is the addition of online registration. Once the new website goes live, attendees will have the option to register for section meetings, events, and the annual conference directly online. For those who wish to pay by credit card, you'll have the option to do that when registering. For those who prefer to mail in registrations, we can accommodate that too. Rather talk to a live person to register? We've got you covered. In every circumstance we will do everything we can to streamline your experience and give you the options that you need.

We will also be working alongside each section to unveil new registration forms that will mirror the online registration process. In addition to simplifying registration, it will enable us to provide real-time reports to sections to help ease some of the logistics and time-consuming processes that come with more manual methods. Be watching for these new forms. But more importantly, be on the lookout for the new website that will be a one-stop shop for all your MWWA needs.

We appreciate your patience during this transition and look forward to sharing the new brand, website, and tools with you soon as we continue working to enhance your MWWA experience. In the meantime, please take a look at the new logo and let us know if you'd like us to send you the digital version for use in your sections.

As always, our goal as your incoming leadership team is to serve you and be a resource for you. If we can help with anything at all, please don't hesitate to reach out.

In Service & Gratitude,



Derek Leffert  
Incoming Executive Director



## MWWC Section Meetings 2026

### East Central Section (St. Peters)

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Contact: Anthony Davis   Anthony.davis@amwater.com   314/713-1043

### Midwest Section (Columbia)

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Contact: Tim Gephardt   gephardt@missouri.edu   573/639-6293 or 573/874-6382

### Northeast Section (Macon)

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Contact: Travis Boss   tboss@mmumo.net   660/595-2417

### Northwest Section (St. Joseph)

Thursday, April 2, 2026

Contact: Michele Alwood   mallwood64469@yahoo.com   816/449-0490

### Southeast Section (Cape Girardeau)

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Contact: Quentin Overbeck   qoverbeck@sbmu.net   573/475-3245 or 573/986-8784

### Southwest Section (Springfield)

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Contact: Lindsay Bein   lbein@springfieldmo.gov   479-876-3833 or 417/864-1544

- **Section Meeting Registrations Forms and Agendas** will be distributed by sections and by group email and will be posted to the section page of our website, [www.mwwc.net](http://www.mwwc.net)
- **Before making your payment for registration to the section**, *please check your membership status* by calling Sandi 417/368-5586.
- **Membership dues are payable to MWWC, P.O. Box 14170, Springfield, MO 65814**
- **Certificate of Membership:** We are no longer issuing membership cards. To request a certification of membership please contact Leslie.

### As I Retire by Sandi Miller

It has been my privilege and honor to serve you, the MWWC membership, for nearly 1/3 of the organization's 100-year history. Over the past 33 years, I have worked with some incredible people who have supported and encouraged me along the way. As I begin my new chapter, I am thankful for my time with each of you and am pleased to know that the organization is in good hands. Derek Leffert and Mike David will serve you well.

## Section Officers:

<b>East Central Section:</b>	Chair	Tony Davis	American Water
	Vice Chair	Jeremy Barron	Woodard Curran
	Secretary/Treasurer	Bobby Nichols	Woodard Curran
	Training Chair	Taylor Flynn-Elhoffer	American Water
	Section Board Rep	Shelley Lane	American Water
<b>Midwest Section:</b>	Chair	Tim Gephardt	University of MO
	Vice Chair	Terrance Camp	University of MO
	Secretary/Treasurer	Dean Bryant	City of Columbia
	Vice Secretary/Treasurer	Joseph Smith	University of MO
	Section Board Rep	Aleksander Rowinski	City of Linn
<b>Northeast Section:</b>	Chair	Travis Boss	City of Marshall
	Vice Chair	LaDon Atkinson	Alliance Water
	Section Board Rep	Tyler Stuhlman	Alliance Water
<b>Northwest Section:</b>	Chair	Trudi Burton	Retired
	Vice Chair	David See	American Water
	Secretary/Treasurer	Michele Allwood	
	Section Board Rep	John (JB) Brown	City of Fairfax
<b>Southeast Section:</b>	Chair	Barry Shirkey	City of Sikeston
	Vice Chair	Jeremy Meyer	City of Perryville
	Secretary/Treasurer	Quentin Overbeck	City of Sikeston
	Section Board Rep	Keith Morrow	City of Cape Girardeau
	Training Chair	Todd Fulton	City of Cape Girardeau
<b>Southwest Section:</b>	Chair	Erica Little	City of Springfield
	Secretary Treasurer	Lindsay Bein	City of Springfield
	Section Board Rep	John Waitman	City of Springfield

## In Memory...

**William Carl (Bill) Weitkemper** passed away on Sunday, October 26, 2025. In June 1975, he was hired by Ray Beck for a position with the City of Columbia where he worked until retirement in December of 2012, after 37.5 years. Bill spent over 36 of those years as Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Superintendent. Bill was a member of the MWWC for twenty years.

**Virginia Sue Ismay**, 73, of Marshall, Missouri passed away peacefully at her home on June 20, 2025. A Life Member of the MWWC, Ginny served as the Manager of Marshall Municipal Utilities Water and Wastewater Department until her retirement in 2017. She was a life member of the Missouri Water and Wastewater Conference. She had served in various positions on the both the state and Northeast section level including state chair and Northeast Section Secretary Treasurer.

## Shelley Lane, Missouri American Water, Chesterfield 2025 A.V. Graf Award Recipient

Shelley Lane, Senior Manager of Water Quality and Environmental Compliance for Missouri American Water in Chesterfield, was recognized at MWWC's 2025 annual meeting. Shelley has served Missouri American Water for 16 years and holds both B.S. and M.S. degrees in Chemistry and a drinking water A certification. Shelley first became a member of the MWWC in 2012 and is active on both the state and section levels including section board rep and a member of the state board. Missouri American Water Company's Tim Ganz said this: Shelley is a leader on Missouri American Water's Water Quality Team. Shelley manages compliance for 45 drinking water systems across Missouri and has earned the respect of all who work with her with passion, integrity, intelligence, and performance. Shelley is a pleasure to work with and truly cares about her co-workers and Missouri American Water's customers. The A.V. Graf Award, otherwise known as the Chairman's State Award of Appreciation, was first presented at the 77<sup>th</sup> MWWC annual meeting in September 2001. This award is given in memory of A.V. Graf, the organization's first chairman in 1925 and 1926. The award reads, "This award is in memory of A.V. Graf, the first chairman of the Conference. It is in recognition of the spirit of the founding fathers in carrying out their responsibilities to ensure the health and welfare of the public.

### Voting Board Members:

<b>Chair</b>	Curtis Hedrick	Retired
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Mike McMillian	Alliance Water Resources
<b>Chair Elect</b>	Shelley Lane	American Water
<b>Director 1</b>	Kent Spainhour	Retired
<b>Director 2</b>	Quentin Overbeck	Sikeston BMU
<b>Director 3</b>	Verlon Persinger	Alliance Water Resources
<b>Immediate Past Chair</b>	Archie Hendren, Jr.	
<b>Board Member Emeritus</b>	Tony Lamb	City of Fulton
<b>EC Board Rep</b>	Shelley Lane	American Water
<b>MW Board Rep</b>	Aleksander Rowinski	City of Linn
<b>NE Board Rep</b>	Tyler Stuhlman	Alliance Water Resources
<b>NW Board Rep</b>	John (JB) Brown	City of Fairfax
<b>SE Board Rep</b>	Keith Morrow	City of Cape Girardeau
<b>SW Board Rep</b>	John Waitman	City of Springfield

**Non-Voting Board Member:** Honorary Board Member John Betz Retired

### Upcoming Training Opportunities

For more information about these and other MWWC operator training, visit the training program page of our website, [www.mwwc.net](http://www.mwwc.net) soon and often.

February 24, 2026	Bearing Training (in seat in Chesterfield)
February 25, 2026	Bearing Training (in seat in Jefferson City)
February 25, 2026	Water Distribution Fundamentals (virtual/Zoom)
April 29, 2026	Lagoons: Understanding the Operation and Maintenance (virtual/Zoom)