



Southwest Section - MWWA

2026 Southwest Section Missouri Water & Wastewater Association

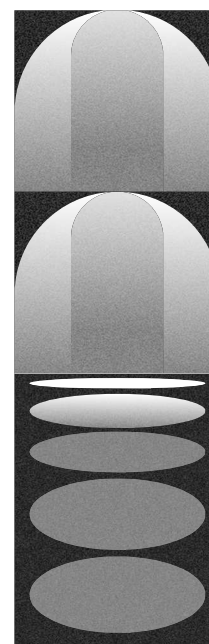
STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS.
EMPOWERING OPERATORS.
BUILT FOR OPERATORS.
DESIGNED FOR REAL-WORLD
IMPACT.

ANNUAL
EDUCATION
CONFERENCE

May 6, 2026

**University Plaza Hotel &
Convention Center**

333 S. John Q. Hammons Pkwy
Springfield, Missouri





MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Water and wastewater professionals play a critical role in protecting public health and maintaining the infrastructure that keeps our communities flowing.

The 2026 Southwest Section Conference is intentionally designed to strengthen both; delivering practical training that supports compliance, improves operational efficiency, reduces safety risks, and invests in the workforce that sustains our systems.

Our focus remains clear: strengthening systems and empowering the professionals who operate them.

This conference brings together professionals from across Southwest Missouri who understand the unique challenges facing our region's utilities. We look forward to welcoming you for a day focused on strengthening systems and empowering operators.

Southwest Section
Conference Committee

Experience the 2026 Conference

This year's conference introduces new elements designed to increase engagement, flexibility, and practical value.

New Venue

A refreshed setting that enhances learning flow, vendor interaction, and peer networking.

Vendor Poker Run

An interactive way to engage with industry partners throughout the day while adding friendly competition and energy to the experience.

Afternoon Learning Tracks

For the first time, attendees can choose focused afternoon sessions aligned with their roles. The track structure will allow you to invest your time where it matters most to your responsibilities.

Interactive Learning

Case study and discussion-based sessions are being incorporated to encourage participation, peer problem-solving, and real-world application, helping ensure what you learn can be implemented immediately.

Program Highlights & Real-World Impact

- This year's sessions are built around practical outcomes operators can apply right away.
- Featured Keynote Speaker - Announcement coming soon
- The 2026 agenda has been submitted to MO DNR for continuing education approval. Approved credit hours will be announced once confirmation is received. Our goal is to secure as many eligible hours as possible to ensure your time at the conference is professionally valuable and rewarding.

Location

- University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center
- 333 S. John Q. Hammons Pkwy, Springfield MO
- Please let us know if you are interested in a hotel room for the conference. Email: elittle@springfieldmo.gov
- If we have enough interest, we will secure a room block for the event.

Event Schedule

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Schedule subject to change.

Awaiting MODNR Credit Approval

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Registration Open/Breakfast	
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Opening Session/Business Meeting	
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Featured Keynote	
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Session 1	
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Break with Vendors Full House at the Pump House	
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Session 2	
11:15 AM - 11:45 AM	Session 3	
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Lunch Vendors Open - Full House at the Pump House	
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Breakout 1	Breakout 2
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Breakout 3	Breakout 4
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Break with Vendors Full House at the Pump House	
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Breakout 5	Breakout 6
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Closing Session/Business Meeting	

Built for Operators. Designed for You.



Who Should Attend?

- Licensed water and wastewater operators
- Distribution and collection personnel
- Laboratory staff
- Supervisors and team leads
- Utility managers
- Industry professionals supporting water and wastewater systems



Why Attend in 2026?

This conference is designed to strengthen your skills, support your professional growth, and reinforce the vital role you play in serving your community.

- Reduce operational risk through strengthened safety practices
- Improved technical accuracy
- Explore cost-saving strategies
- Develop leadership skills that support the workforce
- Connect with regional peers facing similar challenges
- Earn education hours in a cost-effective format

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What Your Registration Covers

\$70 – Member
\$110 – Non-
Member

This conference is designed to deliver maximum professional value in a single day - minimizing travel time and cost while maximizing relevant training hours.

- Full-day access to educational sessions
- Missouri DNR credits (pending approval)
- Breakfast, catered lunch, and refreshments
- Access to vendor engagement and industry resources
- Participation in interactive learning sessions and afternoon track options
- A regionally accessible, single-day format that minimizes travel costs



Join Us!

Join professionals from across Southwest Missouri for a conference designed to strengthen your skills, support your team, and reinforce the essential role you play in serving your community.

Registration is now OPEN!

***Pre-Register by: [Wednesday, April 22, 2026](#)
To assist with meal planning and materials preparation, we encourage attendees to register in advance. Conference t-shirts are guaranteed for those who pre-register. On-site registration will be accepted based on availability.***



SOUTHWEST SECTION - MWWA

See you at the 2026 Conference!

Contacts

Phone

417-864-1981 (Erica Little)

417-864-1544 (Lindsay Bein)

Registration Form

Attached to email

Website

[https://www.mwwc.net/
mwwc-sections.html](https://www.mwwc.net/mwwc-sections.html)

Email

elittle@springfieldmo.gov

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