



## 2nd Annual Rejuvenate a Family Day Complete

JANESVILLE, WI – On July 21<sup>st</sup> The Wisconsin Onsite Water Recycling Association (WOWRA) donated an entire residential Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (Septic System) to the Brace family from Janesville, WI. Charlene Brace is the owner of the property. Her husband passed away 10 years ago and Charlene suffered a stroke shortly thereafter. The system began to fail at the time of the stroke.

“This is an exciting and rewarding day for WOWRA leadership and membership, but more importantly it is a day of necessity for the Brace family, said Roger Fanning, WOWRA Board member. “As we complete WOWRA’s second annual Rejuvenate A Family Day we have not forgotten the true meaning behind this endeavor – helping a family in need and giving back to our community that we are a part of.”

WOWRA member companies donated all materials and labor for the design and install of the private onsite wastewater treatment system to the Brace’s in accordance with their philosophy of environmental stewardship and to maintain and enhance Wisconsin’s public health and safety.

“We are extremely grateful for this wonderful goodwill gesture offered by WOWRA,” said Michelle Mattingly – Charlene’s daughter and sole caregiver. “It’s one less thing for my mom to worry about while she is trying to get well.”

The design and installation was followed by a public dedication event at 4920 East Rotamer Road, Janesville, WI to recognize all those involved. Attendees included Department of Safety and Professional Services Secretary Dave Ross, Department of Natural Resources Secretary Cathy Stepp, State Representative Amy Loudenbeck, members and staff of WOWRA and members of the Brace family.

It is the mission of WOWRA to serve its members by helping them run their businesses profitably, safely and lawfully. As the only statewide organization of septic system installers, soil tester, designers, manufacturers and related governmental and educational personnel, we aim to represent, service, and protect the collective interests of all WOWRA members.

**Pictures of this event can be found on page 4.**

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# Volunteers Donate New Septic System to Janesville Family

[Anna Marie Lux](#)

July 21, 2014



[Bill Olmsted](#)

Volunteers from Janesville and around the state install a new septic system in the yard of Charlene Brace's Janesville home. The volunteers are part of the Wisconsin Onsite Water Recycling Association.

JANESVILLE—Charlene Brace's home looked like a scene from the TV show "Extreme Makeover" on Monday.

But instead of redoing Charlene's house, more than a dozen volunteers traveled from around the state to redo the septic system.

By mid-morning, volunteers had pumped out the old tank and drain field. They also had installed a new 1,300-gallon concrete tank and were putting in a new drain field.

Later, state officials stopped by to learn why philanthropy and septic systems go hand-in-hand. Last year, the Wisconsin Onsite Water Recycling Association donated time and material to install a new septic system for a family in Sheboygan County.

## Rejuvenate a Family Day Continued...

The effort went so well the nonprofit professional group decided to make it an annual event. But the family had no way to pay for a new system, which cost \$10,000 to \$12,000.

“So we're giving them one,” Fanning said.

Members of the association donated all materials and work. Dalmaray Concrete Products provided the precast septic tank. Fanning Excavating dug the hole for the tank and the line from the tank to the drain field. Both businesses are from Janesville.

The Brace family is grateful. Charlene's husband died more than a decade ago, and she had a stroke shortly afterward. Her daughter Michelle Mattingly quit her job and moved in to care for her mom.

“We're pretty excited about it,” Michelle said. “It's one less thing for my mom to worry about.”

Michelle was a child when she saw the first system installed in the early 1970s.

“Now, I'm here for the second one,” she said.

Normally, workers do not want spectators at a work site, but Monday was an exception. Volunteers hoped to raise awareness about septic systems and the association by giving people a look at what is normally out of sight and underground.

“As long as the toilets flush, people don't care about their septic systems,” said Aaron Ausen of Dalmaray Concrete Products. “There are a lot of failed systems out there that might not be up to code. But there isn't much funding available for people like the Brace family to replace their systems.”

Ausen is president of the association, which includes septic system installers, soil testers, designers and manufacturers. Installers began the group in 1974 to improve the trade, have a voice in legislation affecting their businesses and to protect human health.

“It's cool to see these systems installed,” Ausen said. “This is a behind the scenes look at what we do every day.”

He encouraged other groups to include philanthropy in their missions.

“Anyone who is part of a nonprofit group should try to come up with a program like this,” Ausen said. “It is the right thing to do.”

*Anna Marie Lux is a columnist for The Gazette. Her columns run Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call her with ideas or comments at 608-755-8264, or email [amarielux@gazettextra.com](mailto:amarielux@gazettextra.com).*

## Rejuvenate a Family Day 2014 Photos



Rock County Inspector, Matt Wesson, surveys the trenches



WOWRA member, Damon Huibregtse, takes measurements



WOWRA member, Sam Lindner, digs the trenches with a brand new Miller-Bradford & Risberg machine



DSPS Secretary, Dave Ross, takes it all in with WOWRA President, Aaron Ausen & Vice President, Mark Wieser



The ceremonial ribbon-cutting by the property owner's daughter, Michelle Mattingly



Workers and supporters pose for one final picture at the Brace home in Janesville

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# Legislative Update: Executive Director George Klaetsch



## **2014 Wisconsin State Primary On August 12 – Do You Know Who You Are Voting For?**

Elected officials in both the State Senate and State Assembly are not seeking re-election in record numbers this year, and that means a lot of unfamiliar names will be appearing on your ballots this summer – August, 12 and fall – November 4. In an average election year there are about 2-3 vacant seats up for re-election in the Senate and 6-12 in the Assembly. This year that number has exploded due to a number of reasons ranging from retirements, seeking higher elected office to resigning to take a job in the private sector. All-in-all there are seven vacancies in the Senate and twenty-two vacancies in the Assembly. This count does not even include the State Attorney General and the State Treasurer offices – both of which have vacancies due to the current office holder stepping down.

### **Not Running For Re-Election**

#### **Statewide Office**

JB Van Hollen R (AD) *Not running*  
Kurt Schuller R (State Treasurer) *Not running*

#### **Senate**

Joe Leibham R (SD-9) *Running for CD-6*  
Neal Kedzie R (SD-11) *Not running*  
Tim Cullen D (SD-15) *Not running*  
Dale Schultz R (SD-17) *Not running*

#### **Assembly**

Gary Bies R (AD-1) *Running for Secretary of State*  
Chad Weinger R (AD-4) *Not running*  
Sandy Pasch D (AD-10) *Not running*  
Jon Richards D (AD-19) *Running for Attorney General*  
Don Pridemore R (AD-22) *Not running*  
Mike Endsley R (AD-26) *Not running*  
Steve Kestell R (AD-27) *Not running*  
Erik Severson R (AD-28) *Not running*  
Steve Nass R (AD-33) *Running for SD-11*  
Janis Ringhand D (AD-45) *Running for SD-15*  
Howard Marklein R (AD-51) *Running for SD-17*

#### **Congress**

Tom Petri R (CD-6) *Not Running*

Mike Ellis R (SD-19) *Not Running*  
John Lehman D (SD-21) *Running for Lt. Gov*  
Bob Jauch D (SD-25) *Not running*

Dean Kaufert R (AD-55) *Not running*  
Penny Bernard Schaber D (AD-57) *Running for SD-19.*  
Pat Strachota R (AD-58) *Not running.*  
Dan LeMahieu R (AD-59) *Not running.*  
Duey Stroebel R (AD-60) *Running for CD-6.*  
Janet Bewley D (AD-74) *Running for SD-25*  
Brett Hulse D (AD-78) *Running for Governor.*  
Fred Clark D (AD-81) *Not running*  
Mary Williams R (AD-87) *Not running.*  
John Klenke R (AD-88) *Not running.*  
Bill Kramer R (AD-97) *No running.*

### **Interested In Becoming More Involved in the Electoral Process?**

To participate in the 2014 election season The Wisconsin Industries for Environmental Protection Conduit has been established. This conduit will serve as a political giving program for the WOWRA/WLWCA/WPCA. Since the associations have established consistent successful management, now is the time to take the next step. We are reaching out to all three association's members to recruit participants and to ensure that we have current contact information on file for the WIEP Conduit.

#### **Q: What is a political conduit?**

**A:** A political conduit is a program governed by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board that allows entities such as WOWRA/WLWCA/WPCA to provide political contributions to state legislative and executive candidates. The conduit is structured to permit individual members to authorize their conduit dollars to candidates of their choice (it is very similar to a political Christmas club). See more about authorizing conduit dollars below.

#### **Q: Why is this important to the WLWCA?**

**A:** As with all association endeavors, this WMBA initiative requires the involvement of its members, and contributing to the WIEP Conduit is one of the ways you as a member can get involved and show your support. The WIEP can only be strong with active, politically engaged members much like you.

#### **Have more questions or would like to discuss further?**

Contact Conduit Administrator Robin Fanshaw at 608/441-1436 or [rfanshaw@kpasllc.com](mailto:rfanshaw@kpasllc.com)

# Wisconsin Industries for Environmental Protection



The Wisconsin Industries for Environmental Protection will serve as the Wisconsin Liquid Waste Carriers Association (WLWCA), Wisconsin Onsite Water Recycling Association (WOWRA) and Wisconsin Precast Concrete Association (WPCA) political conduit, which allows for you to personally participate in the Wisconsin electoral process. Becoming a conduit participant is a great way for the WLWCA, WOWRA, WPCA and its individual members to strengthen our presence with elected officials who have a direct impact on the septic and concrete industries. Please consider joining the WIEP Conduit today!

10 E. Doty Street, Suite 523  
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Please make checks payable to **WIEP Conduit** and mail them with this form to the above address.

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Katie Boycks

Email: kboycks@kpasllc.com

**Association Office**

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## President's Message: Aaron Ausen

Friends –

Well, we are in the thick of the summer! I am hoping that you are all installing systems at a good pace and the early rains didn't hurt us too badly. I have a very simple message. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Rejuvenate a Family Day was a huge success! When we created this event last year we had big hopes and again the WOWRA membership stepped up to the plate and came through for the Brace family. I can't thank the members who showed up and put in the time enough. I also can't thank the donors enough. From the bottom of my heart, thank you, thank you, thank you!



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One of the things that we have talked about over and over is competitors coming together and uniting for one cause. This year we put all the business and competition aside and put on our nice blue t-shirts and went to work. Under the guidance of our site leaders, Roger (Don) Fanning and Sam Lindner, the Braces were able to watch as four different precast companies came together, two different supply companies came together, and industry professionals from around the state came together to give these folks new hope! My hat off to everyone who was able to be a part of this special event! Thank you all!

Moving forward we have to start thinking about the POWTS Evaluator Class in Hayward in September. If you are considering sending folks, don't wait. Sign up now. It is proving to be a great program as we are drawing some members of the PHCC to come and learn about our class. I've said it many times the POWTS Evaluator Class is one of WOWRA's pillars and we have to preserve that pillar. So, give some serious thought to sending folks because before we know it September will be here.

Thank you everyone for supporting WOWRA and have a safe and prosperous summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron Ausen'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Aaron J. Ausen



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**Date:** Wednesday Sept. 17, 2014, 8 am to 5 pm  
Thursday Sept. 18, 2014, 8am to 5 pm

**Location:** Flat Creek Inn & Suites  
10290 State Rd. 27 S  
Hayward, WI 54843

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Registration Form on next Page  
or

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

**Purpose:** WOWRA has developed this two-day training course for onsite professionals to learn proper techniques for conducting evaluations of existing private onsite wastewater treatment systems. This innovative two-day training class, which concludes with a certification exam, will provide much-needed uniformity around the state for POWTS evaluations. The course will include both classroom instruction and field training. Please come prepared for outside conditions. Some of the topics covered during the course include: WOWRA Certified Existing POWTS Evaluator Ethics and Requirements; evaluator/client relationship and responsibilities; evaluation procedures from data collection through final reports; and procedures for evaluating recent, documented POWTS, as well as the “unknown” POWTS. General POWTS knowledge and experience is necessary.

**Continuing Education:** Upon course completion and passing the exam, you will receive certification as a WOWRA Certified POWTs Evaluator, **16 DNR General Septage Credits & 13 DSPTS Continuing Education Credits.**

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**Note:** Class participants should bring a calculator and dress for outside conditions. See the following page for course registration form or register online at [www.wowra.com](http://www.wowra.com).



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## POWTS Evaluator Course Information and Registration

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Standard rooms are \$99/night plus tax. Call the Flat Creek Inn at (715) 634-4100 by September 1 and ask for the WOWRA room block.

### Registration Form

Attendee Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee Name 3: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Or register online at**

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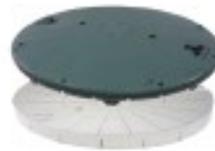
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