

REPORTalk

QUARTERLY NEWS FROM EVERETT J. PRESCOTT, INC. | Spring 2017 | Volume 42

Another Successful Year



Team EJP recently hosted our 10th annual Know How Seminars in Burlington, VT, Latham, NY, and Warwick, RI. The seminars featured two tracks: Creating Drinking Water with Effective Planning, Execution and Maintenance; and The Future of Stormwater Management. Attendees were presented with new concepts, products and techniques in both tracks to help them plan their next project. One attendee from Burlington wrote, "The event was well organized, and the vendors and information they provided were helpful to up-and-coming projects we are looking into." A Warwick attendee noted: "I thought the content was well delivered and informative." Team EJP recognizes the importance of presenting diverse and thought-provoking concepts and solutions to the waterworks industry and we are proud of this year's presentations.

Team EJP would like to extend a special thank you to the speakers who participated in this year's seminars. For Track 1: Anna Coelho, Cortes; and Ryan Mulcahey, RI Infrastructure Bank; Anooj Kothari, American; Ashley Lucht, Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund; Brenda Smith, Rural Development US Department of Agriculture; Dan Pence, Mueller Systems; Don O'Neill, Sensus; Mike Ganem and Brad Guillerm, AFC. For Track 2: Aaron Cheevers, ADS; Mark Goldsmith, Walmart; Mike Harding, Dr. Michal Kravcik and Terry McMains, EcoRain. Look out for upcoming information about the 2018 Know How Seminar Series coming to Connecticut, Indiana, New Hampshire, New York and Ohio (dates and locations to come).

Welcome University of Prescott Graduate Jake Stelline



My name is Jake Stelline, and I am proud to say that I am now a full-time member of Team EJP. Just over two years ago, I joined the University of Prescott when I was 21 and at a crossroad in my life. I had just decided to leave college after attending three semesters with three different majors. I wanted to get into something a little more hands-on and heard about the University of Prescott.

I had no knowledge of the waterworks industry, but I was excited to learn something new. Throughout the program I was able to travel all around New England and the Midwest, stopping at each division of E.J. Prescott. At each stop, I would learn everything from the products we sell and how a division operates, to working with the Service Technicians, and installing water main taps out in the field. One of the greatest advantages of the University of Prescott is the ability to talk and learn from everyone in the company, some of which have over 30 years of experience in the industry.

After two years with the company, I am now on my own, working as a Service Technician in Brockton, MA. I couldn't be happier with the results of my decision to join the Team at EJP, and I am excited for the years to come with my new career!

Metropolitan District Commission of Hartford, CT Buries First ALPHA™ Valve

Another customer comes on board with the new American Flow Control Gate Valve with ALPHA™ ends. After just one presentation of the new valve to the Metropolitan District Commission in Hartford, CT, they were more than excited to give it a shot. On January 13, 2017 a 6" AFC ALPHA™ End Valve was lowered into the ground for the first time in Connecticut. Accompanied by Team EJP Vernon employees, the Metropolitan District Commission installed the valve in record time with the one-bolt installation, compared to the six bolt mechanical joint connection. Team EJP Vernon, CT, would like to pay a big thank you to the Metropolitan District Commission in Hartford, and we look forward to partnering with the MDC to make their aging valve replacement program a success. Head on over to <http://www.americanusa.com/products/valves-and-hydrants> today and see the new technology AMERICAN has to offer, including the American-Darling and Waterous hydrants with ALPHA™ ends.



Sensus Training

Team EJP's Springfield division was host to this year's western Massachusetts Sensus training in Holyoke. A number of customers came out to review new technology, learn about projects in their area and see product demonstrations. The presentations were made by Sensus' Don O'Neill and Team EJP's Mike Burdin. Be on the look-out for trainings like these coming to your area soon.



From left to right: Todd Caulkins - South Hadley Water District 2, Jeff Syr - South Hadley Water District 1



A New Spec Saving Time in Indiana

The town of Veedersburg, Indiana, has accepted a new spec for the Waters Pacer Hydrant with ALPHA™ End on their latest replacement project. Focusing on the reduced labor cost and ease of installation, the town was ready for the innovative technology from American Flow Control. Dashiell Contracting's Tim Dashiell said, "I love the ALPHA™ restraint because of its ease of installation and the time savings with one bolt, I wish all my mechanical joint connections were ALPHA™ joints," Team EJP will be happy to help Tim make those replacements when the time comes but until then we are proud to be a part of another project using the new Waterous Alpha Base Hydrants in Indiana.



Greenspace along the Woonasquatucket River – Providence, RI



Before and after images of the WRWC neighborhood project transforming a small section of land into refurbished river access and a Greenway Bike path.

In 1998, hundreds of watershed residents joined in the successful effort to have the Woonasquatucket River designated as one of fourteen American Heritage Rivers. The 19-mile-long Woonasquatucket River flows through 6 cities and towns in Rhode Island including Glocester, North Smithfield, Smithfield, Johnston, North Providence, and Providence where it flows into the Providence River and out into Narragansett Bay. The Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC) formed shortly after the American Heritage River designation. The group, organized by staff of the Woonasquatucket River Greenway Project, has a mission to encourage, support, and promote the restoration and preservation of the Woonasquatucket River Watershed as an environmental, recreational, cultural, and economic asset of the State of Rhode Island.

In 2016, the WRWC completed a special neighborhood project that they and their partners first envisioned in 2013. In recent years, the Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC) cleared a small section of land adjacent to the River in Providence to use as a staging area for a large sewer project. From the time that NBC shared their plans to use the land, the WRWC and nearby neighbors saw the potential of the space as a special enhancement for the Greenway Bike Path and river. The new park not only gives the neighborhood a new look, but also adds greenspace and access to the river. The Greenway Maintenance team, the Woonasquatucket River Rangers, along with neighbors built the park over several months. Anew Vernacular, a local architecture, woodworking, and carpentry group along with the Providence City Forester, worked

together to harvest invasive black locust trees from the river corridor. They seasoned and milled the black locust, some of the hardest natural wood available, to build all of the wooden structures for the park. E. J. Prescott helped by providing the WRWC with the necessary BMP to protect the waterway during park construction. We used 8" diameter Filtrexx Siltsoxx to provide superior sediment protection to safeguard the river.

Executive Director, Alicia Lehrer, is very proud of the project and is excited that after years of planning, fundraising, and work, the WRWC has been able to give the City and its residents more river access and a beautiful new neighborhood park. According to Ms. Lehrer, the new pocket park is a wonderful glimpse into things to come.

EnviroCert International, Inc. Liaison



Team EJP is proud of Pete Hanrahan's recent appointment as Liaison to the Certification Committee of EnviroCert International, Inc (ECI). The mission of ECI is to serve the public trust through the administration and coordination of programs that certify technically and ethically qualified environmental professionals throughout the world. Pete has been a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control with ECI since 2006 and has more than 38 years of industry experience. As the Erosion Control Specialist, Pete supports Team EJP's staff and customers with some of the best industry experience and knowledge available. Congratulations to Pete for the honor of serving and to ECI for having a professional of Pete's caliber to assist furthering your mission and goals.

Let's All Think Safety

There have been a number of incidents recently making national news involving preventable accidents, taking the lives of members of the service community. It is inevitable that accidents have the potential to happen in the heat of the moment: "Let's just get this done real quick," or "I've done it before and we've never had a problem," or "It's no big deal." These are all phrases that could be the last for a crew member on the job. Accidents are called such because no one intended for them to happen. Regulations, rules and standards are set up to help defer the chances of those accidents happening. It is important to impress upon your employees that there is never a situation on the jobsite that is more important than their safety, and they should not compromise themselves for any reason. Review your in-house policies on safety, make sure your team is up to date on their OSHA certifications, and that all the PPE is in good working condition. It is Team EJP's goal to have all of our men and women make it home safely every day to their loved ones, and we are here to support you with the same goal.

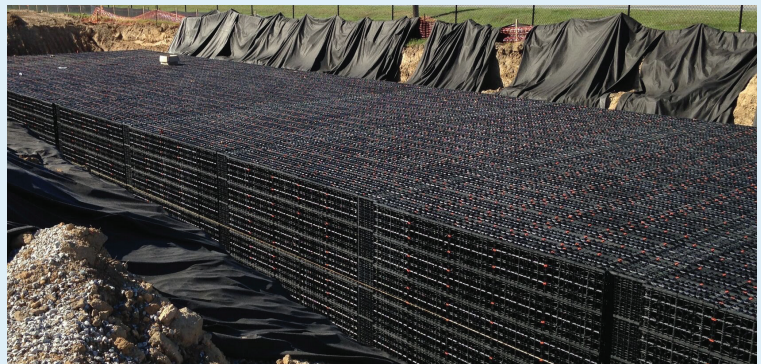
Thank You to Indiana



In conjunction with the 109th Indiana Section AWWA Annual Conference, Team EJP hosted over 200 customers and vendors at The Crane Bay. This event is the highlight of the year for the Midwest team and this year didn't disappoint. Water and Ground Superintendent Josh Hawley had this to say: "On behalf of myself and Josh Bryant of Cordry-Sweetwater, thank you for another wonderful EJP Appreciation Dinner. These types of events truly showcase EJP's commitment to its customers, and that loyalty and dedication is why I continue to choose EJP as my water utility supplier, as my future meter supplier, and why I chose to become a VAS customer. There are several factors that a Superintendent or manager must consider when choosing suppliers, but at the end of the day you're mostly talking about parts that are going to be thrown into the ground regardless of supplier; the difference is the people. EJP continues to impress from top to bottom and we are pleased to call ourselves EJP customers." Team EJP is proud to be a member of the waterworks community in the Midwest and we look forward to seeing everyone at next year's event. We would like to thank our event sponsors: ADS, AFC, American, Ford, GPK, Sensus, Sigma, SIP and Romac. As always, we are honored to partner with these great manufactures.

New Stormwater Technology in Louisville

Team EJP's Jeffersonville, Indiana, division completed its first Eco-Rain stormwater management system in Louisville, Kentucky, late last year. The Zoeller Pump Company initiated the project as an expansion to its parking lot. Working with Koetter Construction out of Floyd Knobs, Indiana, EJP's John Meador and team were involved every step of the way from the initial work with the engineer at Civil Design Inc. to the delivery and installation handled by Louisville Paving Co. The Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District has been very pleased with the project results. Team EJP Jeffersonville is looking forward to its next project with Eco-Rain and helping customers understand the new and innovative ways to manage stormwater.



Confined Space Safety

In January, tragedy struck in Key Largo, Florida, when 3 utility workers from a private contractor tasked with fixing a roadway climbed into a hole in the ground and, ultimately, to their deaths.

The hole was just wide enough to fit a body and about 15-feet deep. The hole was filled with hydrogen sulfide and methane gas created from years of rotted vegetation. One by one, the workers entered the hole and, one by one, the workers succumbed to the toxic fumes.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. Between 80-100 workers per year fall victim to the hazards of working in confined spaces.

To understand the perils of working within a confined space an employee has to be aware of the potential hazards as well as overall management of the task at hand. Below are some safety tips that will help prevent tragedies such as the one that claimed three lives in January.

The Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA) defines a confined space as:

- Large enough for an employee to enter fully and perform assigned work.
- Not designed for continuous occupancy by the employee.
- Has limited or restricted means of entry or exit.

These spaces may include: storage tanks, pits, ducts, sewers, tunnels, underground utility vaults, pipelines and others.

Permit-required confined spaces have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Contains or potentially contains a hazardous atmosphere.
- Contains material that could engulf someone upon entering the space.
- Has an internal configuration that could potentially trap or asphyxiate an entrant by inwardly converging walls or by a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross section; and/or
- Contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazards.

Hazards associated with confined spaces:

- Hazardous Atmosphere
- Engulfment
- Falling Objects
- Extreme Temperatures
- Noise
- Entrapment
- Oxygen Deficiency
- Oxygen Enrichment
- Flammable or Explosive Atmospheres
- Flowing Liquid or Free Flowing Solids
- Electrical

Confined Space Safety Tips

- In general, employers must evaluate the space to determine if a permit is required. Keep in mind that one's senses to identify contaminated air cannot be trusted. Not all contaminants have a taste or smell and we cannot determine if a space is oxygen deprived without the use of special equipment. Use a gas detector before entering a confined space and continuously monitor the atmospheric conditions.
- Always wear the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while working in a confined space, to include include respirators, tri-pods, retrieval gear, harnesses, etc.
- Utilize an attendant at all times in case an emergency arises.
- Do not enter a permit-required confined space without proper training or a permit to enter.
- Before entering a permit-required confined space be sure to follow OSHA standards and employers' procedures.
- Know how to recognize the signs and symptoms of exposure and all other hazards that could occur in a confined space.
- When you recognize signs and symptoms of exposure or hazards, know how and when to exit.

For more information or assistance with your confined space program, contact the Safety Department at Team EJP.

Congratulations on Your Retirement

After serving the City of Columbus for over 39 years, Jim Wright has retired as the Water Department's Water Distribution Supervisor. Jim is looking forward to spending more time with his wife Amanda. Together, they are planning to do a lot of camping, a pastime they both enjoy. Team EJP will miss Jim and will look forward to working with the new Water Distribution Supervisor, John Gully. Jim, congratulations from your friends at EJP. We wish you all the best in this next chapter of your life.





32 Prescott Street
 Libby Hill Business Park
 P.O. Box 600
 Gardiner, Maine 04345

Phone: (207) 582-1851
 Fax: (207) 582-5637
 Email: ejp@ejprescott.com
 Website: www.ejprescott.com

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Best Wishes to Larry Meyer

Shortly before the Christmas break, team member Larry Meyer began his retirement. Larry had been with Team EJP for eleven and a half years, serving as an estimator in Ohio for the duration of his career. Larry's service was marked by excellent service to his customers and a good working relationship with his co-workers. Larry is looking forward to spending time with his wife and traveling to the Carolinas to visit with family. Team EJP would like to thank Larry for his years of service and congratulate him on his retirement.

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