

Western Conference

By Charles Bausch, Training Specialist

This year the Western Conference is September 13, 14 and 15. The 13th, once again, is our preconference which is over work place safety. The first few sessions will cover confined space safety and trenching and shoring safety. The second part of the preconference covers personnel safety in the work place. This session will help you avoid work place hazards, tell you when and where the most workplace injuries happen and why. The next session will cover tag out lockout and why this is an important routine to follow and implement. This session will also explain all the ins and outs to running a good tag out lockout program. The final session will cover chemical safety for those chemicals that are most commonly found in water and wastewater treatment plants. This session will discuss how to handle chemicals, the proper way to dispose of those chemicals and when they are no longer needed or good.

The official start to the conference is September 14 at 12:30 pm with Jack Daniel and his DHHS Update. The rest of the day will cover SRF, Security, and USDA funding availability and all the projects these agents are funding. NEWARN will discuss their website and how to navigate around the site. This will come in handy when Kris Luebke discusses the flooding issues that hit the state this year and how the systems were able to keep operating.

The final day, Thursday, September 15, will start with breakfast at 6:30 am with the first session starting at 7:30 am. Some sessions on Thursday include Rule Manager Update, water rate studies, water main flushing, water tower maintenance and several backflow classes. As always, we try to bring you new technology and sessions that will help you operate your system better on a day to day basis. For a complete look at all the sessions, turn to the conference agenda page with all the sessions and their descriptions. Also, if you have a session that you would like to see at a future conference don't hesitate to contact me.