



Newsletter

Western Michigan Chapter

December 2023

WESTERN MICHIGAN

This months meeting info: [Grand Rapids Meeting:](#) [Kalamazoo Meeting:](#)

Dates:
December 14th

Location:
Paddock Place
1033 Lake Dr SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Location:
No Kalamazoo Meeting

Speaker:
Coby Mack
Caleffi

Time:
5:00 Social
5:30 Presentation & Dinner

Subject:
Mixing and Balancing in
Domestic Hot Water
Systems

[Important Information:](#)

[Christmas Party in Grand Rapids](#)

This year's Christmas party will be at Paddock Place in Grand Rapids.

Tickets for this event are sold out. If you have purchased a ticket and do not plan to use it, please let us know.





NO PITCH STORM DRAINAGE

EDUCATION SESSION (1 ASPE CEU or 1 AIA or 1 PDH)

WHAT'S WRONG W/ TRADITIONAL GRAVITY STORM DRAINAGE?

- Large Diameter Pipework = Increased Material Cost
- Sloped Pipes = More Chase Room Needed
- Pitch Dictates Pipe Routing & Discharge = More Chases Throughout Building
- Increased Vertical Drops = Only Slope so far Before Entering Livable Space
- Unachievable Routing for Overflow = Cannot Slope to Needed Discharge Location
- Added Civil Connections = Need for Civils to Meet Where Pipe Slope Limits
- Increased Building Elevations = Accounts for Slope in Pipe
- Increased Ponding Rates & Standing Water = Increase for Clogs, Leaks, Roof Collapse

CLASS TOPICS COVERED

- ✓ Bracing Requirements
- ✓ Code Approval - IPC & UPC
- ✓ Tolerances for In-Field Changes
- ✓ Application Limitations
- ✓ How to Layout a Siphonic System for Design
- ✓ How to Reduce Maintenance Costs

SIPHONIC DRAINAGE TOP 5

- 1 Pipe Installs w/ No Pitch, No Slope
- 2 Pipework is 1/2 diameter of Traditional Gravity
- 3 Eliminate Verticals by Collecting More Drains Together
- 4 Eliminate Civil Connections
- 5 Eliminate Material + Labor + Coordination + Inspections w/ Less Connections

Wed, Nov 8th @ 12PM EST
Canopy Hilton - 131 Ionia Ave SW,
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Thurs, Nov 9th @ 12PM EST
Park Club of Kalamazoo - 219 W. South Street,
Kalamazoo, MI, 49007



Speaker
Brennan Doherty



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Chapter President—Brian Peceny

Is it a meeting? Is it a dinner? Is it a party?

It's all the above. I'm hoping to see many guests join us for our December Holiday educational and informational.... Meeting. This month we will have Mr. Cody Mack with Caleffi mixing valves. We will focus on balancing of domestic hot water systems. Besides learning the balance hot water, we are expecting a visit from our very own ASPEWM Santa. Should be a good time.

I like to thank all those who attended out November meetings. Mr. Brennan Doherty with MIFAB provided a great overview of siphonic storm drainage. It's one of those meetings that got me excited about maybe implementing that design on my next project. I'm that guy who has been doing it a certain way for many years and have been skeptical of change (hey, what was wrong with roof area conversion to drain size?). But these systems have been up and running for many years and it certainly make sense for large facilities with large roof areas. Sure, would be nice to not to worry about gravity sloping large pipe in a potentially busy ceiling area.

I don't have anything exciting to report from ASPE National. From the did you know that file, it's called the American Society of Plumbing Engineers, but we also cover all of Canada and Puerto Rico. Ontario and Toronto are affiliated to the same Region as Grand Rapids. Please check out the ASPE national and our local websites for useful information.



Brennan Doherty from MIFAB



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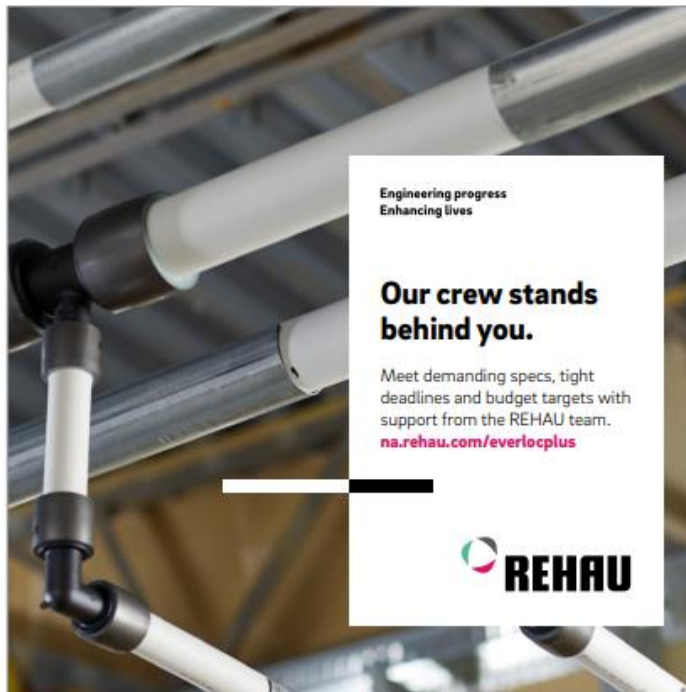
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VP Technical—Nick Von Myhr

I would like to give a shoutout to Brennan Doherty with the MIFAB team for last month's excellent presentation on siphonic drainage systems. Lots of great information and very well presented. I look forward to working with the MIFAB team on future siphonic designs.

For the month of December, the ASPE group welcomes Cody Mack with Caleffi. Cody will be educating the west Michigan community with his many years of experience when dealing with mixed water temperatures and hot water recirculation systems. Properly designed recirculation systems have tremendous impacts on energy savings and Legionella management. Please join me in making Cody feel welcome to our community. I look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Party

VP Education—Tom Kingshott

Merry Christmas!!!

We are currently working on a Plumbing 101 seminar for Spring 2024 with CEU's available. This is going to be focused on our AYP members, but all will be able to attend. Those of us on the more experienced side may even be able to pick up some new tips!

Don't forget that great educational programs (most at no charge to members of ASPE) are available from the ASPE website: <https://education.aspe.org/RLE> and <https://education.aspe.org/on-demand-webinars>.



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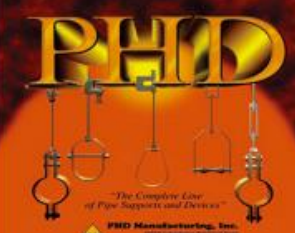


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VP Membership—John Cassady

We are currently at 91 members in the West Michigan chapter.

All new members moving forward will receive a voucher for a free meeting, redeemable at checkout when registering for an event.

For those of you who have a membership expiring by the end of January, you should have received an email reminder from the national society already. I will send out follow-up reminders to you all as well.

When you are renewing your membership, please be sure to select West Michigan as your “home chapter”. Any “at large” members may miss out on communication from the chapter.

You can also update your chapter affiliation by logging in to ASPE.org and following My Account > My Profile and editing your information.

If you have a coworker interested in joining our chapter, please have them reach out to me with questions about membership.

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Humidifier Feed Water Design, Issues & Solutions

It's the time of year when everyone is firing up their humidification systems. Household humidifiers can use up to 12 gallons of water per day, while large offices and hospitals can use hundreds (if not thousands) of gallons per day. Treatment gets even more critical for operating & clean rooms. Especially in January & February when demand is typically higher than other times of the year.

Humidifiers fed with raw water contain minerals that lime-up and clog the media (or the element) and **generally lead to leak problems & poor flow or humidity that is too low due to that clogging.**



Bacteria in the water can lead to **slime, clogging, and contaminates** that later end up in the air that we breathe. This is especially critical in applications like surgery rooms, or the storage of fine wood products such as custom furniture, or musical instruments (guitars, violins, & pianos). Without the proper humidity levels, things like heirloom clocks, tables, or dressers, can lead to cracking and thousands of dollars of damage.

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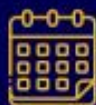


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REGION 2 AYP WEBINAR



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11am - 12pm

MedGas 101

Learning Outcomes

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- 2) General Knowledge of Medgas Equipment
- 3) Pipeline Products
- 4) Source Equipment



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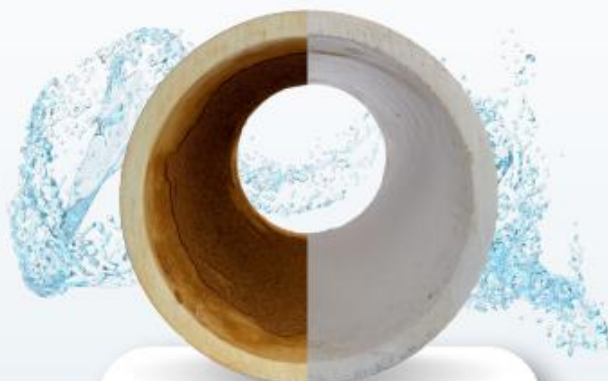
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VP Legislative —Luciana Kayo

Have you been to a job site to find an existing water heater and wonder if needs to be replaced?

A water heater is a vital appliance that ensures you have a reliable supply of hot water in the building for various uses. However, like any appliance, water heaters have a finite lifespan and can exhibit signs of wear and tear over time. Recognizing these signs is crucial to avoid potential issues such as leaks, inefficiency, and unexpected breakdowns. In this article, we will explore key indicators that suggest it might be time to consider replacing a domestic water heater.

1. Age:

One of the primary considerations for water heater replacement is its age. Most water heaters have a lifespan ranging from 8 to 12 years. If the unit is nearing or has surpassed this timeframe, it may be more prone to malfunctions, making replacement a prudent choice. You typically can find out about the age of a water heater by looking at information on the water heater tag. If a year is not stated, you can look at the serial number and the manufacturer's website will tell you how to determine the year it was manufactured. Even if the water heater has not reached the end of its lifespan and looks good, but it is close to 10 years, it is recommended to replace it so the owner will not experience any hot water issues soon after the building renovations are over.

2. Leaks:

Visible water around the base of a water heater is a clear indication of a potential leak. Addressing leaks promptly is essential to prevent further damage and potential water-related issues in the building.

3. Rust or Corrosion:

The presence of rust or corrosion on the tank or in the water itself is a red flag. Such signs suggest deterioration of the tank, and replacing it may become necessary to maintain optimal functionality.

4. Inadequate Hot Water:

If a water heater no longer provides sufficient hot water or delivers inconsistent water temperatures, there may be issues with the heating element or the tank. In such cases, replacement might be the most effective solution.

5. Strange Noises:

Unusual sounds emanating from a water heater, such as popping, cracking, or rumbling



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Armstrong

VP Legislative —Luciana Kayo (continued)

noises, could be indicative of sediment buildup. If flushing the tank does not resolve the issue, it might be time to consider a replacement.

6. Visible Damage:

Inspect a water heater for any visible damage, such as dents or bulges. Such structural issues can compromise the unit's integrity, necessitating replacement.

7. Pilot Light Issues:

For gas water heaters, frequent pilot light outages or difficulty in maintaining a lit flame may signal deeper problems.

8. Increased Energy Bills:

A decline in energy efficiency resulting in higher utility bills may be a sign that a water heater is no longer operating optimally. Newer models often offer improved energy efficiency and could be a wise investment.

9. Frequent Repairs:

If you find that the owner has called for repairs on a regular basis, especially as the unit ages, it may be more cost-effective in the long run to invest in a new water heater.

10. Rusty or Discolored Water:

Discolored hot water, particularly if it appears rusty, may suggest internal corrosion in the tank. This is a clear indication that a water heater is deteriorating and replacement should be considered.

In summary, regular maintenance, including flushing the tank to remove sediment, can help extend the life of a water heater. However, recognizing the signs that a domestic water heater may need replacement is crucial for ensuring a consistent and efficient hot water supply in a building and ensure that the owner will not experience hot water issues in the near future.

Hope to see you at the Christmas Party!

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2023-2024 ASPE Western Michigan Meetings

September 13th & 14th
Tyler Ismert
Schier Products
Grease Interceptor Sizing

December 14th (Christmas Party)
Cody Mack
Caleffi North America
Mixing And Balancing In Domestic
Hot Water Systems

March 13th & 14th
Stadium Design
Julius Ballanco

October 11th & 12th
Josh Pedraja
Patton's Medical
Medical Gas 101

January 10th & 11th
Thad Kuzma and Joe Hancock
Flow-Tech Systems
Legionella Filtration

April 3rd & 4th
Marco DeAngelo
Arkema Inc.
Codes And Standards In The
Plenum With Corrosive Waste
Drainage

November 8th & 9th
Dawn Cole
Quality Water & Air Inc.
Siphonic Storm Drainage Systems

February 7th & 8th
Bob Taylor
McWane Plumbing Group
The History Of Cast Iron

TBD
ASPE Annual Golf Outing

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Western Michigan Chapter

Help promote your business and support your local ASPE chapter by advertising in the 2023/2024 Western Michigan ASPE Society Newsletter which reaches local plumbing and mechanical engineers as well as local wholesale members. Choose the advertising level that best suits your needs. This increase in publicity for your company will be an asset for all parties involved.

Business card: \$150

Manufacturer Ads:

1/8 Page \$260

1/4 Page \$475

Full Page \$880

Included with your fee:

(9) issues of the newsletter

(9) inserts of the Business Card Ad in the newsletter

ASPE will once again be allowing you to rotate your advertisement throughout the year! If you wish to change your ad during the 2023/2024 session, email the new ad to me, and it will be changed in the following newsletter.

Advertising space can be purchased on the West Michigan ASPE website:

[Click here to purchase advertising space in the 2023/2024 newsletter](#)

Please send a copy of your ads and/or business cards to Jonathan Burke:

Phone: (616) 217-1399 Email: jmburke@burkeagency.com

Thank you for supporting your local ASPE chapter.