



2026

Operations Challenge



ELEVATE YOUR BRAND IN FRONT OF THOUSANDS OF WATER INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

Show your company's commitment to clean water, innovation, and industry excellence by sponsoring Rhode Island's own Operations Challenge team, **RISING SLUDGE!**

The Rhode Island Clean Water Association (RICWA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is inviting partners to help fund the team's journey to **WEFTEC**, the world's largest water quality event, attracting over **20,000 professionals** every year. After earning second place overall at the 2026 NEWEA regional competition, our team is heading to the national stage for an 11th consecutive year...a testament to their skill, dedication, and the strength of Rhode Island's clean water community.

This year's national competition takes place at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, September 26–30, 2026.

What is the Operations Challenge?

Dubbed the “**Wastewater Olympics**,” this fast-paced competition puts the industry's best operators to the test. Four-person teams compete in five specialized events; **1) Maintenance, 2) Collection Systems, 3) Safety, 4) Process Control, and 5) Laboratory**...each designed to simulate real-world challenges faced every day in wastewater treatment. Top regional performers earn the honor of representing their states on the national stage at WEFTEC.

Your Sponsorship Makes a Difference

By supporting Team Rising Sludge, your company will gain wide-reaching visibility and recognition within the water sector...all while helping Rhode Island's top operators compete at the highest level.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

250 MGD LEVEL (\$250)

- Certificate of appreciation
- Company logo and website link on the RICWA website for 3 months

500 MGD LEVEL (\$500)

- Certificate of appreciation
- Company logo and website link on the RICWA website for 6 months
- Company name/logo on team jerseys worn at WEFTEC and the 2026 regional competition

1000 MGD LEVEL (\$1,000)

- Certificate of appreciation
- Company logo and website link on the RICWA website for 12 months
- Company name/logo on team jerseys worn at WEFTEC and the 2026 regional competition

2026 SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

☐ YES! I want to support the 2026 Operations Challenge Team!

Contact Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

PLEASE E-MAIL PAGE 2 TO ricwa@ricwa.org & peterconnell@verizon.net

Select Your Sponsorship Level:

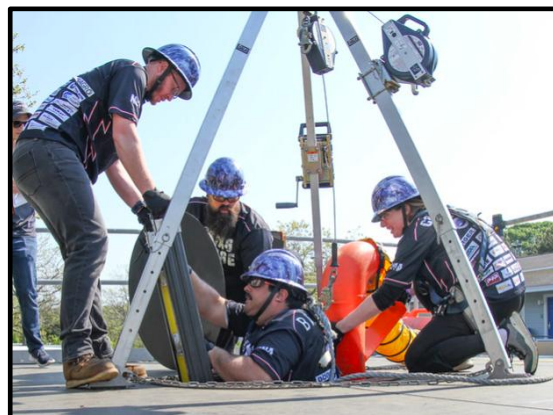
- ☐ 1000 MGD \$1,000
- ☐ 500 MGD \$500
- ☐ 250 MGD \$250
- ☐ Other \$ _____

Payment Options:

Check Enclosed ☐ Check No. _____

Credit Card ☐ Click on link below:

https://ricwa.org/event/https-ricwa-org-wp-content-uploads-2025-04-img_8149-rotated-jpg/



Please make check payable to RICWA and mail the payment & sponsorship form to:

Rhode Island Clean Water Association
PO Box 8805
Cranston, RI 02920

If you have any questions, please contact peterconnell@verizon.net.