

AEG OREGON NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 1



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September Meeting

The Critical Importance of the
Geotech Report in Designing
Construction Blasting Projects

[RSVP here.](#)

Meet the Presenter

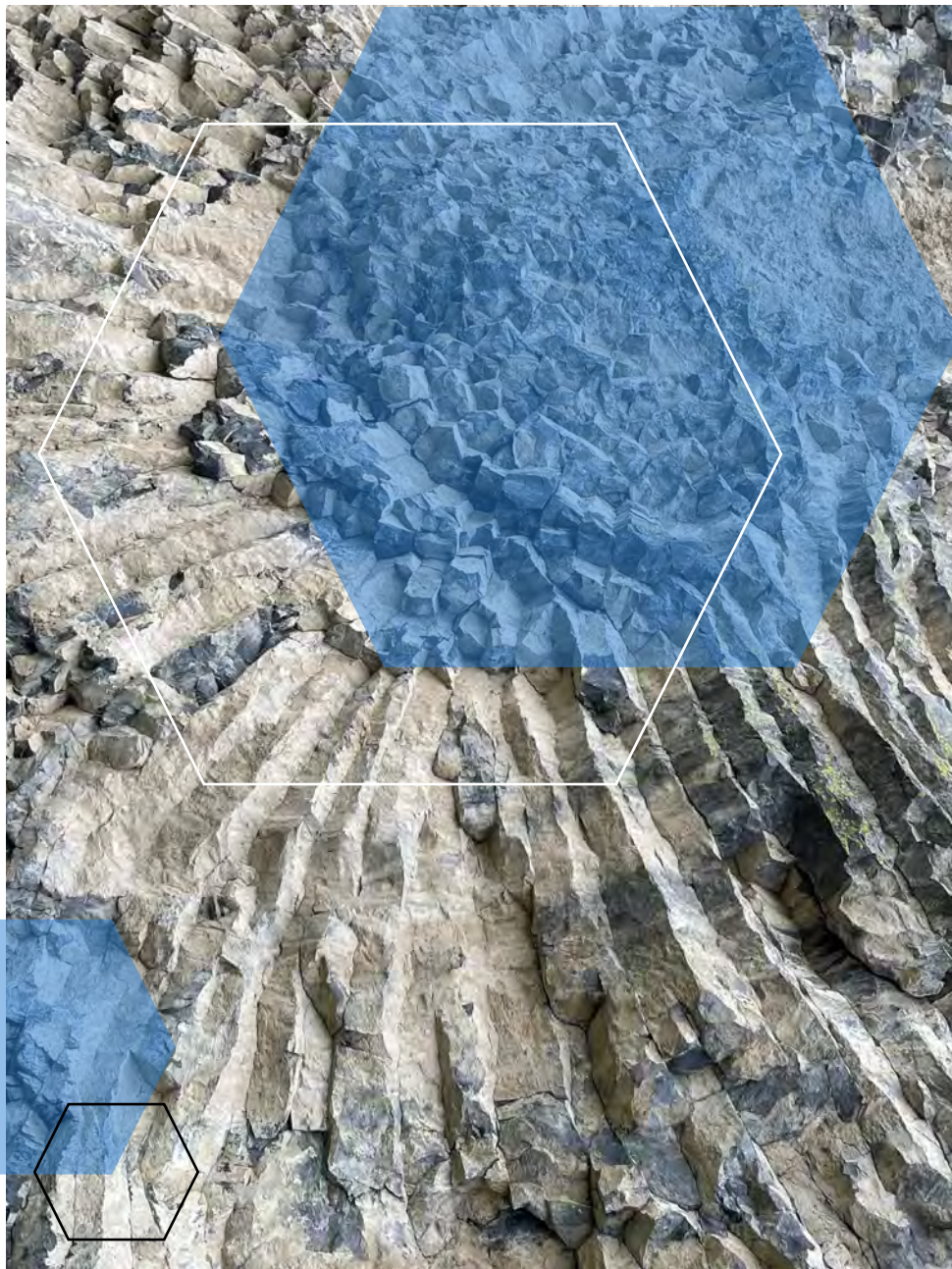
Jerry Wallace

Letter from the Chair

Meet new Chair Justin McCarley.

AEG Oregon Bulletin

Local industry goings-on.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

Jerry Wallace, *The Critical Importance of the
Geotech Report in Designing Construction
Blasting Projects*

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard
Portland, Oregon

OCTOBER 13, 2026

Presenter TBD—*Do you have a topic related
to environmental geology? This could be
you!* Contact Nathan Villeneuve at
nvilleneuve@gri.com.

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard
Portland, Oregon

OCTOBER 25, 2026—FIELD TRIP!

Ian Madden, Sandy River Canyon Field Trip

Meetup Location TBA

NOVEMBER 10, 2026

Ben Leschinsky, *Post-Fire Debris Flow Study*

Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard
Portland, Oregon

DECEMBER 15, 2026

Adam Booth, *Patterns of Paleolandslides and
Paleoearthquakes in Oregon and
Washington*

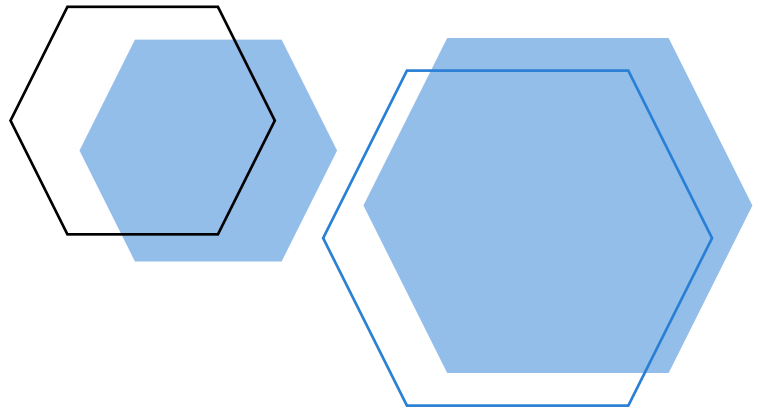
Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard
Portland, Oregon

SEPTEMBER MEETING

THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE GEOTECH REPORT IN DESIGNING CONSTRUCTION BLASTING PROJECTS

The presentation gives a walk-through on how to use the information in geotechnical reports to design blasting for close-in civil construction projects such as foundations and trench lines.



MEETING DETAILS

Date:

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Agenda:

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Social
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Dinner
7:00 p.m., Presentation

Location:

Old Market Pub
6959 SW Multnomah Boulevard

RSVP:

Ticket prices vary. Use cash or check to pay at the door. If you want to pay with card, [RSVP here](#).

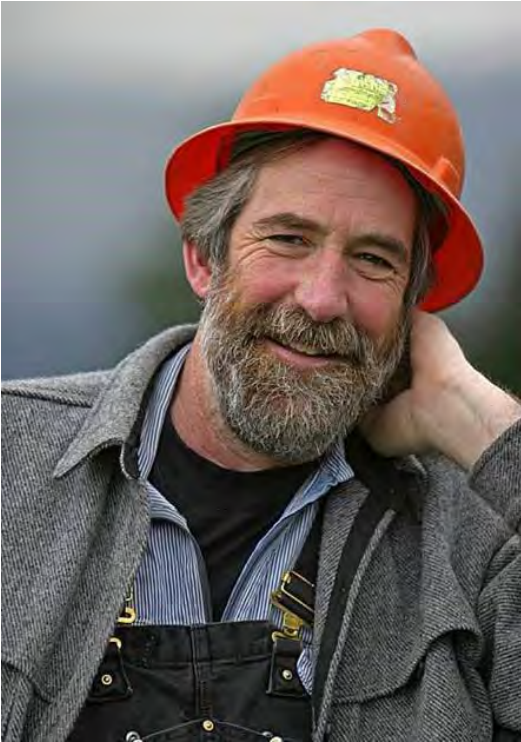
YOU COULD BE OUR NEXT SPEAKER!

We are currently seeking a speaker for the October 13, 2026, meeting. Ideally, we could use a topic on the subject of environmental geology. If you have a potential topic, please contact Nathan Villeneuve at nvilleneuve@gri.com.



Image of 17-foot-deep trench line for sewer separation on High Street in Oregon City, Oregon. Picture windows of business are less than 10 feet away.





MEET THE PRESENTER

JERRY WALLACE

President & Owner, Wallace Technical Blasting, Inc.

Jerry Wallace has been a licensed blaster in multiple states for over 45 years and has been the president and owner of Wallace Technical Blasting, Inc. (WTB) for more than 30 years. WTB provides a full range of technical blasting services, primarily to the construction industry, as well as consulting services to industry, government, and professional organizations. WTB specializes in critical, close-order, and unique blasting situations.

AEG OREGON OUT AND ABOUT

In June of this year, members of AEG Oregon attended a short course taught by Kenneth Neal on how to develop cross-sections in the field.





LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

MEET THE NEW CHAIR

Welcome to the AEG Oregon Chapter 2026–2027 year! I am privileged to serve as your newly elected Chair. As I begin this role, I'd first like to thank our outgoing Chair, Nick Farney, for his leadership and service to AEG over the past year. He provided a great template for how to fill the role, and I'm thankful that he'll continue providing guidance as Past Chair. I would also like to congratulate our newly elected officers: Cathleen McMahon, Chair-Elect; Darlene Verduzco, Treasurer; and Rachel Collins, Secretary. I'm looking forward to working alongside this dedicated group as we continue to serve our AEG community. I also want to recognize the many members who generously volunteer their time and expertise throughout the year—often behind the scenes—to ensure that the association continues to run smoothly. Thank you, Nathan Villeneuve, Program Chair; Brittini Bishop, Field Trip Chair; Paige Stuhlmuller, Website Editor; and Sarah Norton, Newsletter Editor.

As is the tradition for the incoming Chair, allow me to take a moment to introduce myself. I'm a Portlander born and raised. I completed my M.S. in Geology at Portland State University and have had the opportunity to work at DOGAMI and Cornforth Consultants, where I am currently a Project Geologist. My work there has allowed me to participate in a wide variety of exciting and challenging projects and travel across the U.S., both of which I greatly enjoy. I have attended AEG Oregon meetings regularly since my college days, participating in Student Poster nights and enjoying the wide variety of talks, and am excited to now take on the opportunity and responsibility of serving as Chair.

Our speaker for the upcoming September meeting will be Jerry Wallace of Wallace Technical Blasting, Inc. I'm very much looking forward to his talk, which I'm sure will make quite a bang! (Sorry, I had to.)

As we look ahead, I am enthusiastic about the year before us and the continued sense of community AEG provides. In an increasingly digital world, I think there is great value in maintaining in-person interaction. My goal is to help build upon the excellent work of those who have served before us while supporting engaging technical talks, professional development, and opportunities for members to connect and contribute. I encourage each of you to remain involved and share your input. Together, I am confident that we can continue to make our AEG chapter a great one.

Justin McCarley, C.E.G.





SUSTAINABLE SLOPE PROTECTION

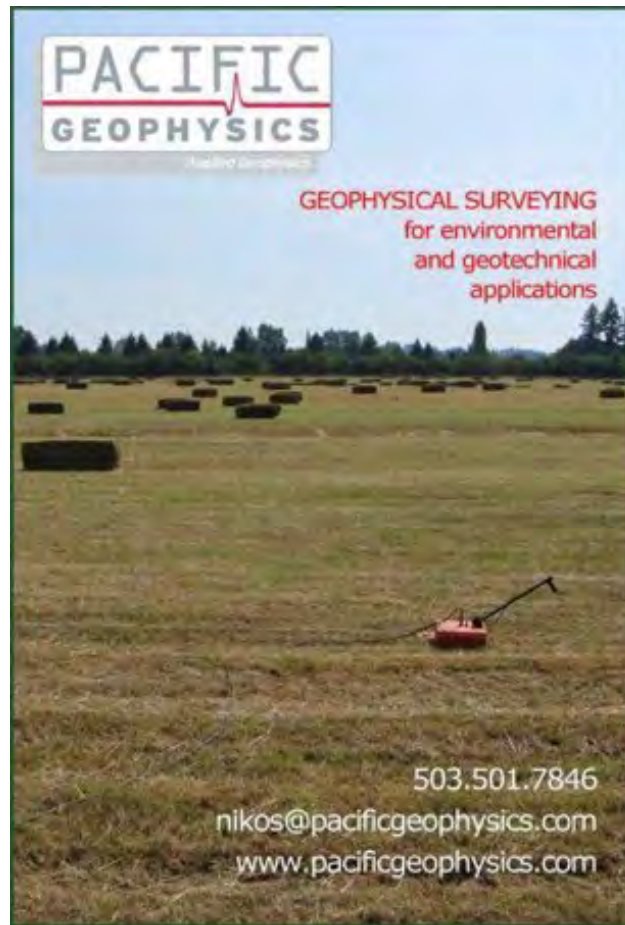
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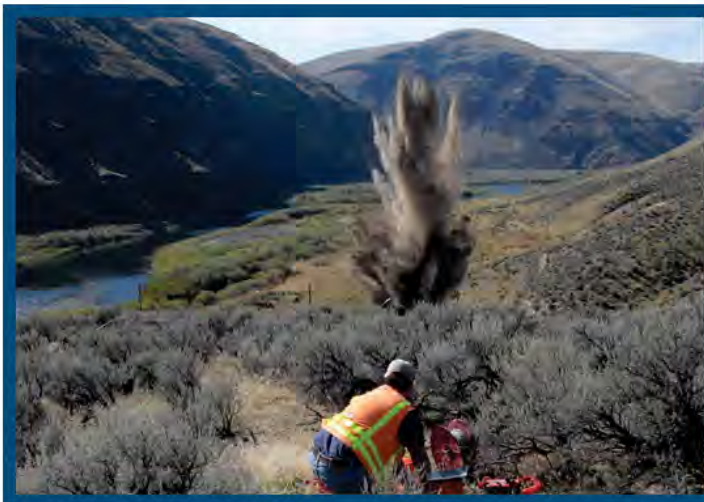


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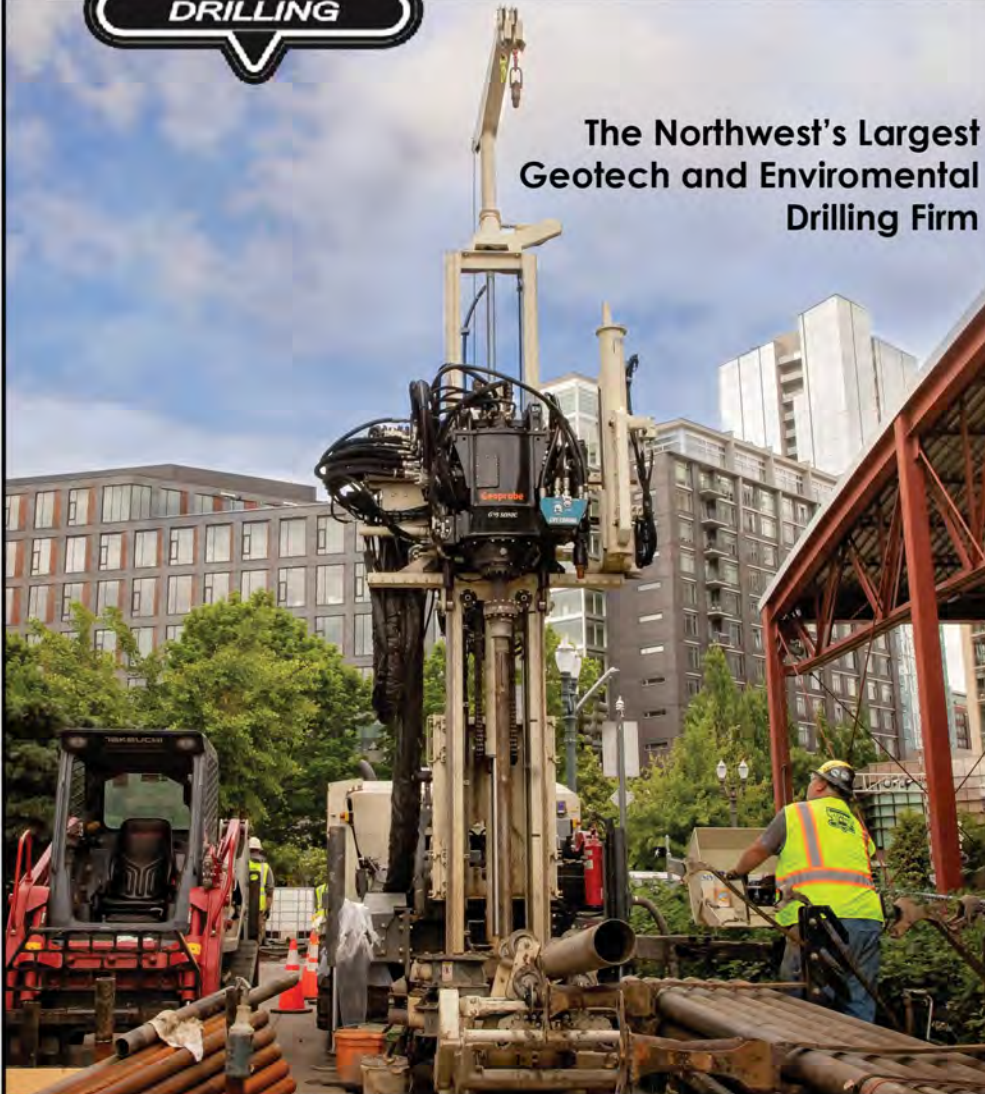
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AEG OREGON BULLETIN

TEST DATES

Oct. 2, 2026: ASBOG exam

PSU STUDENT CHAPTER

The PSU student chapter of AEG Oregon has a new board! Congratulations to:

Madeline Moore, President

Kim Scottaline, Vice President

Emma Brady, Secretary

Sheadon Lawes, Treasurer

Alexa Drake, Outreach Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 11, 2026: Geological Society of the Oregon Country presents Paul Hammond, *Bimodal Volcanoes: The Injection Volcanism Model*. Portland State University, Cramer Hall, Rm. 53, Portland, Oregon, and online, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Sept. 13, 2026: Oregon State Parks presents Roland Begin, *Landslides, Earthquake Faults, and Tryon Creek Geology*. Tryon Creek State Natural Area, Portland, Oregon, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Sept. 25, 2026: Deschutes Land Trust presents Deniele McKay, *Geology Hike, Paulina Creek Preserve*. Paulina Creek Preserve near La Pine, Oregon, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Oct. 15, 2026: Portland State University Civil and Environmental Engineering Department presents the 2026 Disaster Resilient Infrastructure Symposium. Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/DRI-PSU>

CALL FOR CONTENT!

We would love to hear from you! Tell us about your recent projects, career milestones, events, awards, and job postings or submit articles and visual elements. Send newsletter contributions to Sarah Norton at snorton@gri.com.

2026 – 2027 CHAPTER OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

MEET THE NEW BOARD!



CHAIR:

Justin McCarley, Conforth
Consultants
justin.mccarley@ccilt.com



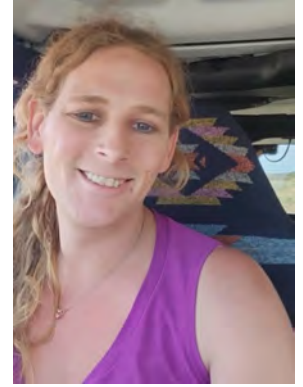
CHAIR-ELECT:

Cathleen McMahon, GRI
cmcmahon@gri.com



TREASURER:

Darlene Verduzco, Haley &
Aldrich, Inc.
dverduzco@haleyaldrich.com



SECRETARY:

Rachel Sweeten, Certerra
Northwest
rachel@earth-engineers.com



PAST CHAIR:

Nicholas Farny, FHWA Western
Federal Lands
nicholas.farny@dot.gov

?

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Volunteer Needed
This could be you!



PROGRAM CHAIR:

Nathan Villeneuve, GRI
nvilleneuve@gri.com



LEGISLATURE CHAIR:

Sebastian Durringer, South Fork
Water
sebastiand@sfbwbor.gov



FIELD TRIP CHAIR:

Brittini Bishop, PSU
brbishop@pdx.edu



PSU STUDENT CHAPTER

PRESIDENT:

Madeline Moore, PSU
madmoore@pdx.edu



NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Sarah Norton, GRI
snorton@gri.com



WEBPAGE EDITOR:

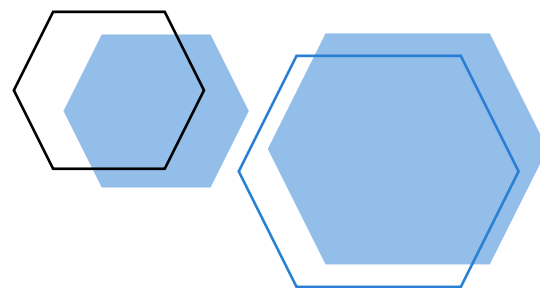
Paige Stuhlmuller
paigestuhlmuller26@gmail.com



THANKS FOR SUPPORTING AEG

A BIG THANKS TO OUR...

Members, Volunteers, DOGAMI, Earth Dynamics LLC., Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Geobruigg, ODOT, Oregon State University, Pacific Geophysics, Portland State University, and Western Oregon University.



THE OREGON CHAPTER IS ALSO ON THE WEB

<http://www.aegoregon.org>

NATIONAL AEG WEBPAGE

<http://aegweb.org>



THE AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public's welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

The AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through May. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Oregon Chapter or other Chapters and other interested people. E-mail subscriptions are free. Subscribe to the newsletter by filling out our form [here](#). News items are invited and should be sent to: Sarah Norton, AEG Oregon Newsletter Editor, at snorton@gri.com. Deadline for submittal is the 20th of the month. Advertising: business card size \$100/yr; ¼ page \$200/yr; ½ page \$350/yr; 1 page \$450/yr.

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