

2016 MICHIGAN Winter Operations Conference



October 18 & 19, 2016
Shanty Creek Resort - Bellaire, MI

 **Center for
Technology & Training**

**Attend the
largest
snow
fighters'
conference
in Michigan!**

Network for Success

It won't be long before snow starts to fly. Preparing for successful winter maintenance is essential to local agencies. Changes in operational practices, routine maintenance, and new technology can help your agency save money as you gear up for the winter season. Plan to attend the Michigan Winter Operations Conference, where you can meet with your peers from state, county, and municipal agencies to share and learn new ideas.

Build Your Program

Registered attendees have full access to a variety of technical presentations, including presentations for operators and mechanics, managers and supervisors, and exhibitors.

Meet Industry Experts

The conference will also bring in suppliers of winter maintenance equipment, materials, and services from across the country. Learn more about latest technologies and techniques for managing ice and snow. The showcase will open, starting at noon on the first day of the conference.

The 2015 Winter Operations Conference attracted over 200 operators, superintendents, managers, and directors from state, county, and municipal agencies.



**County Road Association
OF MICHIGAN**



**Michigan's
Local Technical
Assistance Program**

Date and Location

Oct. 18 & 19, 2016
Shanty Creek Resort
5780 Shanty Creek Rd
Bellaire, MI 49615



SHANTY CREEK RESORTS®

Shanty Creek Resorts is a four-season destination resort and conference center spanning 4,500 acres and three distinct villages: Summit, Schuss and Cedar River, each with lodging, dining, golf downhill skiing, and cross country trails. It is conveniently located 31 miles northeast of Traverse City, MI.

Hotel Accommodations

Overnight rooms at reduced rates are available at Shanty Creek Resorts. Studio parlors (\$99/night) or Standard guest rooms (\$89/night) are both located within the resort (see photo to the right). Book your room [online](#).

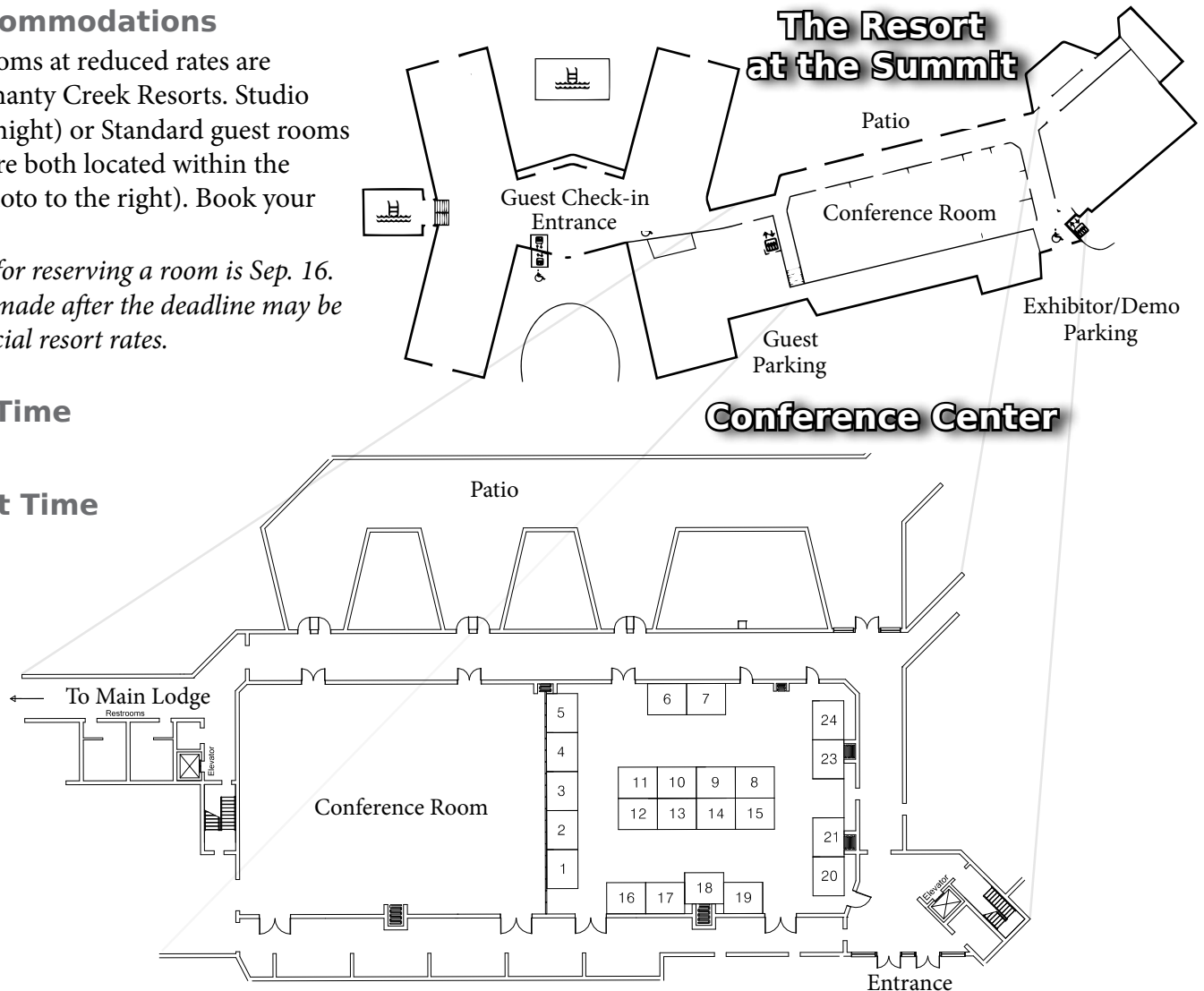
The deadline for reserving a room is Sep. 16. Reservations made after the deadline may be subject to official resort rates.

Check In Time

5:00 pm

Check Out Time

12:00 noon



Cost & Registration

Registration fee is \$160.00. The registration deadline is Oct. 7.

Registrations after Oct. 7 will be charged \$190.00 per attendee.

Registration fee includes:

- Conference handouts and other materials
- Food and refreshments for all meals and breaks listed on the agenda
- Full access to all technical sessions, exhibit space, and outdoor equipment area
- After dinner networking session on Oct. 18

Register [online](#) for the conference.

Questions? Email ctt@mtu.edu or call 906.487.2102.

No-shows or cancellations within three business days of the conference will be charged the full registration fee. Substitutions will be accepted.

Door Prize Raffle

Prizes Include:

- Gift cards
- Jacket
- Trail cam
- Golf bag
- Golf umbrellas
- and more!

Prizes will be drawn throughout the exhibitor show from 1:00 to 5:00 on Tuesday, Oct. 18. Must be present to win.

Enter before 1:00 pm on Oct. 18

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Wilfrid Nixon

University of Iowa, Professor

Dr. Wilfrid Nixon is the vice president for Science and the Environment at the Salt Institute, a non-profit Trade Association representing the salt producers of North America. Wilf received his Bachelor's and Doctorate degrees in engineering from Cambridge University, England, in 1981 and 1985, respectively. Wilf moved to the United States in 1984, working first as a visiting professor at Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH.



In 1987, Wilf moved to the University of Iowa and became a faculty member in the College of Engineering, rising to Professor in 1998 and then to an Emeritus Professor in July of 2015. Wilf started his research in winter highway maintenance in the late 1980's working initially on ways of improving snow plow performance. He has conducted research for a number of federal and state agencies and covered topics relating to plow and cutting edge performance, optimal chemical usage, snow fence design, plow and truck instrumentation, optimal uses of novel technologies in winter maintenance, and information management, and decision making in winter maintenance.

Session Topics Will Include:

- Winter Plowing & Liability Issues
- Public Relations – Panel Discussion
- Dealing with the Media
- Clear Roads Research Project
- Brine Production Panel Discussion
- Snow Storage Panel Discussion
- Driver Interaction with the Public
- Worker Safety
- Calibration Presentation & Demonstration – RexRoth joy stick controller

For an agenda and event details, see www.CTT.mtu.edu/WinterOps

Planning Committee

Tom Bruff

Manager, SEMCOG Transportation Planning and Policy Development

Willis Greer

Superintendent, Road Commission for Oakland County

Brian Gutowski

Engineer-Manager, Emmett County Road Commission

Melissa Howe

Region Support Engineer, Michigan Department of Transportation

Ryan Kempainen

Operations Superintendent, Ottawa County Road Commission

John Kiefer

Training Coordinator, Center for Technology & Training

Bryan Pickworth

Road Maintenance Supervisor, City of Farmington Hills

Jake Welch

Project Manager, Barry County Road Commission

Matt Wiktorowski

Field Operations Senior Manager, City of Novi

Discussion Topics



Professional Development

Training strategies and best practices; innovations from in the trenches; training program for plow drivers; transitioning from shop floor to fleet manager.



Materials

Agricultural bi-products for snow and ice control; minimizing salt bounce and scatter; controlling ice without chlorides; direct liquid application; high-performance salt pre-wetting agents.



Equipment

Results of tow plow test; designing infrastructure for winter maintenance; refurbishing trucks; calibrating equipment; choosing the right cutting edge; snowplowable LED lane markers.



Technology

Weather forecasting; road weather information systems; environmental sensing stations; maintenance decision support systems.



The Center for Technology & Training is located on the campus of Michigan Technological University. Programs managed by the CTT include Michigan LTAP, Roadsoft, MERL, and the Bridge Load Rating Program. The CTT's mission is to develop technology and software, coordinate training, and conduct research to support the agencies that manage public infrastructure. For more information, visit www.ctt.mtu.edu.