



2026 WINTER OPERATIONS CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 20-21, 2026 • MUSKEGON, MI

**Delta Hotels Muskegon Conference Center
939 Third St, Muskegon, MI 49440**

Registration (Virtual & In-Person):

To register, please visit [our registration page](#).

Early Bird Registration: \$200 per person

Early Bird Registration Deadline: October 11, 2026

Registration After Deadline: \$240 per person

Optional Networking Event: 5:00 PM (ET) on October 19 at Socibowl

Exhibitor Show: 3:00 - 6:00 PM (ET) on October 20

Lodging:

Visit the [conference room block page](#) for the rate of \$144 per room

Last Day to Book at this rate: October 07, 2026

Visit the [government rate room block page](#) for the rate of \$110 per night

Last Day to Book at this rate: September 19, 2026

To reserve a room, use the links above, or call **1-833-999-0181** and use code: **MWO** to request the conference rate, or code: **MWG** to request the government rate.

Fees: The registration fee includes access to all technical sessions, materials, handouts and meals listed on the agenda; it does not include lodging. The Center for Technology & Training's continuing education policy is available [here](#). Requests related to a disability or dietary need should be made by ten business days prior to the event to ctt@mtu.edu.

No-shows/cancellations within three business days of the event are charged the full registration fee; substitutions accepted. Michigan Technological University is an Equal Opportunity Educational Institution/Equal Opportunity Employer that provides equal opportunity for all, including protected veterans and individuals with disabilities. Email ctt@mtu.edu with any questions.



**Michigan's
Local Technical
Assistance Program**



**CENTER FOR
TECHNOLOGY
& TRAINING**

AGENDA

DAY 1 - OCTOBER 20, 2026

07:00 AM REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST BUFFET

07:55 AM WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Ingrid Sandberg, PE - Center for Technology & Training

08:00 AM LIQUID ROUTE FOR THE FIRST TIME

Karl Hanson - Wexford County Road Commission

08:30 AM WEATHER UPDATE

Brandon Hoving - National Weather Service

09:15 AM BREAK

09:30 AM MULTI-LANE PLOWING, TOW PLOWING, WING PLOWING (PANEL)

Andy Moran - MDOT

Matt Schluckebier - MDOT

TBD - Mason County Road Commission

10:00 AM SALT MEASURING AND REPORTING TOOL & NEXUS RC BARRY COUNTY

Steve Wessels - Mason County Road Commission

Jake Welch - Barry County Road Commission

11:00 AM PLOWING GRAVEL ROADS AND SHOULDERS

Moderated Menti Discussion

11:30 AM CALIBRATION - HOW IT GOES WRONG

Bryan Pickworth - City of Farmington Hills

12:00 PM LUNCH

01:00 PM BOUNCE, SPREAD, SCATTER, PRE-WETTING, GRIT: LESSONS LEARNED AND BEST PRACTICES (PANEL)

Bob Chapin - MDOT

Adam Lape - Washtenaw County Road Commission

Steve Roon - Kent County Road Commission

01:30 PM USING TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE YOUR SNOWFIGHTING

James Postema - City of Grand Rapids

02:15 PM LIQUIDS: WHAT TO KNOW AS AN OPERATOR (PANEL)

03:00 PM EXHIBITOR SHOW

If you are interested in becoming a vendor at the Winter Operations Conference Exhibitor Show, please email ctt@mtu.edu for registration details.

AGENDA

DAY 2 - OCTOBER 21, 2026

07:00 AM REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST BUFFET

07:55 AM WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Ingrid Sandberg, PE - Center for Technology & Training

08:00 AM BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE WINTER MAINTENANCE TRAINING PROGRAM

Luke Bush - MDOT

Mitch Smith - Ottawa County Road Commission

Ted Breen - Kent County Road Commission

Huron County Road Commission

08:45 AM IN-HOUSE TRUCK BUILDOUT AND SPEC WRITING

Matt Pratt - MDOT

Ken Harris - Washetenaw County Road Commission

09:30 AM BREAK

09:45 AM HEALTH AND WELLNESS FOR SNOWFIGHTERS

TBD

10:30 AM TRUCK AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT SIMULATOR FOR TRAINING

George Smith - Kent CRC

TBD - Michigan Center for Truck Safety

10:45 AM TRUCK SAFETY TOPIC

TBD - Michigan Center for Truck Safety

12:00 PM LUNCH



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