

2026 Ohio Drilling & Blasting Conference
Cherry Valley Hotel & Event Center, Newark, Ohio
Thursday, March 26, 2026
6th DRAFT AGENDA

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

4:30pm – 5:30pm **Exhibit Set Up**- Woodhull
5:30pm- 7:00 pm Reception/Mixer – Woodhull
Dinner on your own.

7:00 am – 7:45 am **Sign-in and Continental Breakfast** (pastries, coffee, juice, in conference room)

7:45 am – 8 am **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Pat Jacomet, Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association (OAIMA)

8 am – 8:30 am **Verification Form Instructions and ODNR/DMRM Regulatory Updates**
Mike Mann, ODNR/Div. of Mineral Resources Mgmt.

MORNING SESSION CHAIR: Steve Kullman

8:30 am – 9:30 am **Effects of Blasting & Non-Blasting Forces on Soils and House Foundations**
Dr. Cathy Aimone-Martin, Aimone-Martin Associates, LLC

9:30 am – 10:15 am **Blast Records and Liability**
Ralph Burnham, Esq., Nobel Insurance Services; J. Kelly Ratliff, Esq., Cors & Bassett, LLC

10:15 am – 10:45 am **BREAK** (soft drinks and snacks)

10:45 am – Noon **Proper Drill Selection/Drilling Accuracy/Drill Logs**
(Lief Olmstead, Robit Group; Tamara Arnette, RAM, Inc.)

Noon – 1 pm **LUNCH BUFFET**

AFTERNOON SESSION CHAIR: Wayne Proctor

1 pm – 1:45 pm **High-consequence Blasting and Mitigating Risks**
Dr. Anthony Konya, Precision Blasting Services

1:45 pm – 2:30 pm **Blasting Near Water Wells**
Benny Staudt, Vibra-Tech Inc.

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm **Redefining the “8-ms Rule” to Apply to Electronic Detonators**
Dr. Josh Hoffman, Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME)

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm **BREAK** (soft drinks and snacks)

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm **Unique Blast Design Applications (tandem hole sets; inter-shot pauses; layering)**
Neal Lee, Nelson Bros.

4:15 pm – 5 pm **Toronto (Ohio) Coal Plant Demolition**
Paul Pitzel, Rakowski Demolition

5:00 pm **Conference Evaluation and Door Prizes**

EXHIBITORS: ATF, Blasters Tool & Supply; ISEE, Rubbertec; Sauls Seismic, LLC; Stemlock, Inc.; Thaman Rubber; Vibra-Tech, Inc.; Wampum Hardware Co., Quick Supply Co., Dr. Edward J. Walter & Associates, Inc., R.A. McClure, Inc., Austin Powder, Pneu Wave Consulting