

Rising Waters: Facing Flooding Head-On

Our Great Lakes State is no stranger to water, but what happens when it rises?

The saying goes, “April showers bring May flowers.” While this rings true, April showers mixed with melting snow can bring flooding too.

Flooding occurs when water submerges commonly dry land for a short period of time. Floods are the nation’s most common and costly natural disaster – causing millions of dollars of property damage every year. While flooding can seem uncontrollable and make you feel hopeless, Prein&Newhof has the experience and resources to help.

There are many dynamics in Michigan that can lead to flooding. These can include a naturally high water table, increased precipitation, ice build-up on rivers, rapid snow or ice melt, and inadequate storm water drainage. It can affect one property or an entire community.

Prein&Newhof’s professional engineers can help determine the cause of your flooding problem and provide you with options to address your situation.

For those with property in or near a known Flood Zone, you may benefit from a **Flood Elevation Survey**. This includes P&N surveying the area, studying flood maps, examining the data, and depending on the results, applying on your behalf for a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that oversees revisions to the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. A Flood Elevation Survey is a great investment for those considering purchasing a property, as well as for homeowners, landlords, and businesses that are concerned about the risk of damage to their



property and the cost of flood insurance. A Flood Elevation Survey will likely reduce your insurance rates, whether it shows the property inside or outside the Flood Zone.

If flooding is impacting a larger area, P&N’s engineers recommend a **Hydrologic Study**. This has a broader scope that includes evaluating a watershed area, forecasting the probability of various flood levels, evaluating the storm sewer capacity, and providing recommendations.

Land development also has an impact on flooding. By reducing the surface area of infiltration, it increases the rate of water runoff. Engineering solutions for this can range from stormwater detention or retention ponds, to smart design elements like permeable pavement, bioswales, or rain gardens.

If you’re facing flooding problems, call P&N Senior Project Manager **Tom Smith, PE** at 616-364-8491.

Prein&Newhof

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“The time to make preparations for a flood is not when it’s raining.”

Tom Newhof, P&N Founder

Prein&Newhof buys airport firm QoE Consulting, PLC

Prein&Newhof announces that it has acquired Lansing-based QoE Consulting, an 8-year-old company that specializes in airport engineering and consulting. Prein&Newhof is now the only Michigan-based airport engineering firm serving Michigan’s public and private airports. With the acquisition, P&N’s aviation team has over 200 years of combined aviation service experience.

QoE founders **Gordon Bogner, PE** and **Michael Borta, PE** joined Prein&Newhof and plan to continue working to meet the needs of their clients. Borta explains why QoE decided to seek acquisition, “Gordy has 50 years of experience and I have 48 years, so we needed a company transition plan to maintain our clients and our staff.” Bogner adds, “We had a good

understanding of P&N’s culture and experience, and felt it was compatible with QoE.”

Prein&Newhof President Thomas J. Newhof is confident in the decision to acquire QoE. “We are honored that QoE trusts Prein&Newhof to take care of its clients and its employees. With team members in our Grand Rapids, Holland, and Traverse City offices who are experienced in airport engineering and consulting, we are uniquely suited to serve airports throughout Michigan. We are pleased to welcome the QoE clients and look forward to fulfilling their consulting needs. We are also excited to offer our airport clients decades of airport electrical engineering experience in addition to our general civil services.”

Kalamazoo Office Move

We recently moved our Kalamazoo office into a larger space. Our new address is:

1707 South Park Street, Suite 200
Kalamazoo, MI 49001



Three P&N Employees Recently Retired

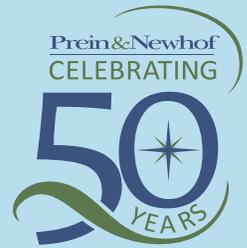
We said farewell and expressed our appreciation to three longstanding employees as they retired this winter. Their experience, professionalism, loyalty, friendship, and mentoring will be greatly missed.

Mike Oele retired as a Senior Surveyor after 40 years of service to Prein&Newhof and its clients.

Ken Thompson retired as a Construction Observer after working for Prein&Newhof for 31 years.

Art Christiansen retired as a Construction Observer and CADD Technician for airport projects. He began his 50-year airport industry career working for Peckham Engineering at the Cherry Capital Airport in Traverse City and continued this position as a P&N employee following the firm’s acquisition of Peckham in 2011.

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Kalamazoo • Cadillac
Muskegon • Traverse City



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Eleven More Professionals Join Prein&Newhof

Gordon Bogner, PE began working as a Prein&Newhof Senior Project Manager following the acquisition of QoE. He has 50 years of consulting engineering experience in the aviation industry. Gordy holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University.

Michael Borta, PE also works as a P&N Senior Project Manager following the QoE acquisition. Mike comes to us with 48 years of airport engineering experience. He graduated from Michigan Technological University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

Sarah Diemer joined Prein&Newhof as an Administrative Assistant working at our Laboratory. Sarah came to P&N with 11 years of experience as an Administrative Assistant and a Laboratory Technician.

Jeffrey Fischer joined P&N as a Construction Observer. Jeff has 16 years of County Road Commission experience as a Construction Project Manager.

Hunter Holliday works as a Survey Technician in P&N's Grand Rapids office. Hunter has four years of surveying and laser scanning experience.

Carlee Klenotich joined Prein&Newhof as an Engineer-in-Training following her graduation from Michigan Technological University. Carlee holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

Julia Reigler works as a P&N Survey Office Technician. Julia has experience as a Land Survey Technician and earned a bachelor's degree in environmental studies and sustainability from Michigan State University.

Ben Schmier became a full-time Prein&Newhof Survey Technician after interning for us in the summer of 2018.

Eric Seguin, PE works from our Cadillac office as a P&N Project Engineer. Eric graduated from Michigan Technological University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and has 15 years of engineering experience in northern Michigan.

Scott Smith joined P&N following the QoE acquisition as a CAD Technician. Scott worked as a CAD Technician at QoE Consulting for seven years.

Diane Van Male works as a Prein&Newhof Laboratory Technician. Diane has 23 years of experience working as an Analytical Chemist and Department Supervisor. She earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry at Central Michigan University.

Prein&Newhof specializes in:

- Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Consulting
- Surveying
- Geographic Information Systems
- Laboratory Testing
- Landscape Architecture

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