**CEU Application – Agenda, Program and Instructor Information, and Relevance to Wastewater Professionals**

**2024 ACWA Annual Conference**

**Wednesday-Friday, July 24-26, 2024**

CEUs requested: This webinar conference contains 13.03 hours of eligible content, equating to 1.3 CEUs being requested.

This document includes the information required to demonstrate eligibility for general CEUs, including: 1) the educational need for the program provided; 2) the learning outcome for attendees; 3) an outline of the course content; 4) the qualifications of the instructors; 5) the time schedule; and 6) the method of tracking on-line attendance for the duration of the workshops.

## Educational Need and Learning Goals:

The ACWA Annual Conference is convened annually to educate and update wastewater and stormwater management professionals and utility managers across the state on current issues and trends impacting their work to protect Oregon's water quality; in particular, the conference focuses in on the water quality and regulatory compliance challenges facing wastewater agencies, and innovative, science-based solutions. The goal of the conference is to increase the knowledge and understanding of wastewater and stormwater managers, engineers and operations professionals regarding current and anticipated water quality regulations, water quality challenges, and technologies and operational controls for managing and improving water quality in the face of emerging pollutants issues of concern.

The course emphasizes science-based information, regulatory compliance pathways and strategies, and national and statewide priorities and actions that impact wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. The course also educates attendees regarding emergent issues and challenges that must be addressed through adaptive management, such as climate change impacts and affordability issues in the wastewater utility sector. Finally, the conference addresses sustainable utility management practices that are applicable to the wastewater sector.

## Method of Tracking Attendance:

All attendees wishing CEUs will be required to sign a CEU registration and certification roster for the sessions, which will be attended by a conference logistical coordinator. ACWA will monitor attendance and the roster and will sign and maintain the roster as required.

| Time | Topic | Presentation Description, Relevance to Oregon Wastewater Professional Knowledge; Instructor Information |
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| **9:30 am** | **Welcome and ACWA Announcements**<br>...Torrey Lindbo, ACWA Chair | Torrey Lindbo will provide an introductory overview of the conference. |
| **9:40 am** | **Oregon's Water Future—A Sustainable Path is Within Our Reach**<br>…George Hawkins, Esq., Founder and President, Moonshot Missions<br><br>**Moderator:** Torrey Lindbo | **Session Information Including Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>George Hawkins has had a long career in the wastewater and water infrastructure management sector and has innovated solutions to many water quality and infrastructure challenges during his long tenure as the CEO of DC Water and in his work as the CEO of Moonshot Missions. This experience has given Mr. |

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| | | Hawkins a broad understanding and direct experience delivering cost-effective, successful solutions to intractable water quality and infrastructure challenges. Hawkins will kick off the conference by sharing his assessment of the high priority water quality challenges, infrastructure conditions, and equity/environmental justice concerns across the nation today and will discuss how the public wastewater sector needs to evolve and/or take on new approaches to achieve clean water objectives, affordable and equitable services, and community resiliency going forward. He will provide case examples with relevance to Oregon. This session is relevant to wastewater professionals as it will broaden attendees' awareness of approaches, partnerships, and programs that can support Oregon utilities in developing permit compliance strategies, implementing cost efficiencies, and creating paths to community resiliency.<br><br>**Speaker Information:** *George Hawkins* launched the non-profit Moonshot Missions after stepping down as CEO of DC Water. George helps agencies deliver better service and lower cost, with a focus on water equity. George transformed DC Water with innovations from Green Infrastructure to clean energy. George is an advisor to Xylem, Inc. and served as Director of the DC Department of the Environment and served non-profit organizations and USEPA. He has a Bachelor's degree from Princeton University (Summa Cum Laude) and a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School (Cum Laude). |
| **10:40 am** | **Break** | |
| **11:00 am** | **Advancing the Science of Water-Updates from the Water Research Foundation**<br><br>…Maureen Hodgins, Regional Liaison, Water Research Foundation<br><br>**Moderator:** Torrey Lindbo | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>The Water Research Foundation (WRF) is the leading research organization advancing the science of all water to meet the evolving needs of the water sector. WRF is a nonprofit, educational organization that funds, manages, and publishes research on the technology, operation, and management of drinking water, wastewater, reuse, and stormwater systems—all in pursuit of ensuring water quality and improving water services to the public. This presentation will focus on recent and ongoing projects in the areas of "Healthy Communities and Environment" and "Efficient Resource Use and Recovery," including nutrient removal and recovery, contaminants of emerging concern, receiving water quality management, biosolids, green infrastructure, and GHG mitigation. This is relevant to wastewater personnel because it will present the latest research on these topics and leading practices that utilities can employ to achieve regulatory and sustainability goals.<br><br>**Speaker Information:** *Maureen Hodgins* is the Regional Liaison for WRF, working with WRF's member utilities in the U.S. Northwest and Canada. Maureen has worked at WRF since 2005, initially as a Research Program Manager where she led the research on water demand, water loss control, and worked extensively in climate change and asset management. Before joining the utility water sector, Maureen worked in marine science supporting research in Antarctica and University of California – |

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| | | Santa Cruz. She has a B.S. degree in Biology from Oberlin College, Ohio. |
| **12:00 pm** | **Lunch with roundtable discussions** | |
| **1:30 pm** | **Making Reuse a Reality in Oregon**<br><br>…Anne Thebo, PhD, Research Scientist, Climate and Energy Group, University of Washington<br><br>**Moderator:** Jared Kinnear | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>Climate change is fundamentally altering the timing, availability, and quality of freshwater flows in Pacific Northwest watersheds. These changes directly impact the quantity and reliability of water available for people and the environment. Water reuse is one strategy that can help build resilience to the hydrologic impacts of climate change while also supporting important co-benefits such as reducing nutrient and wastewater discharges, supply diversification, supporting working lands and greenspaces. This presentation will share Northwest relevant findings from a series of three Water Research Foundation projects focused on understanding the potential for reuse, assessing benefits and tradeoffs of reuse, and strategies water agencies have employed to help overcome barriers to water reuse. The first portion of the presentation will share research quantifying the supply of water potentially available for reuse in the Pacific Northwest. These findings will then be contextualized relative to factors impacting demand for recycled water such as proximity of potential recycled water supplies to irrigated croplands. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of incentives and barriers to reuse in Oregon and strategies employed by wastewater agencies to help advance water reuse programs.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Anne Thebo* is a research scientist with the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group (CIG). Her work at CIG focuses on characterizing water-related impacts of climate change and supporting the advancement of resilient water systems. Her research combines stakeholder engagement with spatial analysis and modeling to assess opportunities, benefits, and tradeoffs of integrated water management, water reuse, and alternative supplies in the urban and agricultural sectors. Prior to joining CIG, Anne was a senior researcher at Pacific Institute. Anne holds a Ph.D. in civil and environmental engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, a M.S. in environmental engineering from Stanford University, and B.S. degrees in civil engineering and environmental science from Ohio State University. |
| **2:30 pm** | **Break** | |
| **2:50 pm-3:50pm; Repeat 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm** | **<u>Concurrent Sessions</u>**<br>1. **Oregon's Renewable Natural Gas Trail Blazers—A journey from concept to generating revenue by converting wastewater solids to RNG for sale into the market place**<br><br>…Heather McKenna, PhD, P.E., engineering Supervisor, Portland BES | **Session 1 Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>Upgrading wastewater derived biogas to Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) is thought by many to provide the greatest environmental and financial benefits to wastewater utilities compared to other biogas technologies like cogeneration. However, there are only two utilities in Oregon currently taking advantage of this opportunity to gain efficiencies and maintain affordable wastewater services. This session will feature a discussion with a panel of Oregon experts on the drivers for and approaches to investing in RNG projects as well as some of the key project |

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| | …Mark Van Eeckhout, P.E., Civil Engineer, Springfield/MWMC<br>…Brittany Park, P.E., Renewable Development Manager, NW Natural<br><br>**Moderators:**<br>2:50--Josh Newman<br><br>4:00—Kathleen Kelleher | implementation challenges encountered. This is relevant to wastewater professionals because there is an increasing need to address the greenhouse gas emissions from treatment plants, and because RNG can be a cost-effective strategy to include in wastewater operations.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Heather McKenna*, PhD, PE is an Engineering Supervisor for the City of Portland's Treatment and Pumping Systems Division of the Bureau of Environmental Services. She has worked as an engineer for the City of Portland, since 2018. She focuses on progressing process control and automation for the City's wastewater treatment plants and pump stations. Prior to this appointment, she worked as an engineering consultant for several engineering firms since 2009. She holds a B.S., M.E., and PhD in Environmental Engineering Sciences from the University of Florida in Gineville.<br><br>*Mark Van Eeckhout* is a Civil Engineer with the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) and the City of Springfield Environmental Services Division. He serves as a project manager for the MWMC, overseeing capital projects including the construction of Renewable Natural Gas facilities. He has worked for the City of Springfield since 2013, prior to which he worked for Los Alamos National Labs as an environmental engineer. Mr. Van Eeckhout holds Bachelor's (1996) and Master's (2002) degrees in Civil/Water Resource Engineering from University of New Mexico (UNM) and a M.B.A. from Anderson School of Business-UNM (2006).<br><br>*Spencer Goodro* is an Operator for the City of Eugene Wastewater Treatment Facilities and MWMC. He has served as the Renewable Natural Gas Lead Operator since 2021. He has responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the MWMC RNG facilities. He is an Oregon certified Grade 2 Operator.<br><br>*Brittany Park* leads the business development of new decarbonized gas opportunities for NW Natural. Brittany is a professional engineer and prior to NW Natural has over 10 years of experience in management of industrial and municipal wastewater treatment capital improvement projects. She holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Oregon State University and a. M.S. in Infrastructure Engineering and Management from the University of Surrey, UK. |
| | 2. **Beneficial Use of Biosolids—The Present and Future of Sustainable Biosolids Management, Why it's More Important than Ever, and How We Can Get There**<br><br>…Jim Dunbar, P.E., General Manager/Business | **Session 2 Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This session will bring wastewater utility professionals current on the state of biosolids management regionally and nationally. Trends in projections for regulation, public acceptance, and utility operations and planning for biosolids management will be discussed. New and emerging technologies will be discussed. Finally, the session will highlight the innovative approach the City of Albany has taken to transform unstabilized sewage sludge into |

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| | Development Manager, Lystek International, Ltd<br>…Sarah Deslauriers, P.E., ENV SP, CA Association of Sanitation Agencies<br>…Kristin Prestin, P.E., Operations Manager, City of Albany<br><br>**Moderators:**<br><br>2:50—Frank Dick<br><br>4:00—Jeff Buystedt | Class A compost—a resource for broad use in the community. With ongoing changes in regulations and public acceptance of biosolids management practices due to emerging pollutants of concern and other factors, it is important for wastewater professionals to stay abreast of the information that may impact their future operations.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*James Dunbar, P.E.,* is the General Manager for Lystek International (US). Jim has a BS degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, and a Masters of Business Administration from St. Xavier University. He is a Professional Engineer with more than 25 years' experience in the management of solid waste and treatment of liquid wastes in the US and Europe. Jim is also the current Board President for the Northwest Biosolids Association.<br><br>*Sarah Deslauriers* is the Director of Air, Climate, and Energy Programs for the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA). Her 22-year career includes 19 years of engineering consulting focused on assessing the vulnerability of water and wastewater systems to climate change and other hazards, managing greenhouse gas emissions, and assessing biosolids management approaches and innovative technology in balance with developing regulations/legislation. She is a former chair of the American Water Works Association's (AWWA) Climate Change Committee. Sarah has a BS and MS in Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Space Science, an MS in Engineering in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering, and a graduate certificate in the Program of Industrial Ecology from the University of Michigan. She is a registered professional engineer and credentialed Envision Sustainability Professional.<br><br>*Kristin Preston, P.E.* has served as the Operations Manager/Assistant Public Works Director for the City of Albany since 2021. Previous to holding this position, she served the City as the Wastewater Superintendent since 2013. Prior to joining the City of Albany, she worked for TriMet in Portland for seven years as the Environmental Compliance Manager. She holds an M.S. in Civil Engineering from Oregon State University and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Maine. She is a registered engineer in the State of Oregon. |
| | 3. **Renewing your Wastewater NPDES Permit—What You Need to Know to Have a Smooth Renewal Process and Get a Permit You Can Implement**<br>**Moderator:**<br>2:50—Todd Miller<br><br>4:00—Scott Mansell | **Session 3 Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This session will help water quality agencies gear up for the planning, analysis, and careful review needed to have a successful National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater permit renewal process. The session is designed to refresh participants' NPDES knowledge, help them better understand DEQ's permitting approach and point them to the tools and resources they need to successfully negotiate permits that protect water quality, are defensible and implementable, and that |

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| | | maximize cost-effectiveness, environmental benefits, equity, and affordability.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Amanda Haney* is the Environmental Regulatory Coordinator for the City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services, a position she has held since 2016. Amanda administers the Environmental Permit Compliance Program, which oversees compliance with State and Federal environmental permits required for operation of Portland's wastewater treatment plants including the NPDES wastewater discharge permits, NPDES industrial stormwater discharge permit, State air contaminant discharge permits, and the solid waste disposal permit for an on-site landfill. Prior to this position, she worked for the Oregon Military Department as Chief of the Environmental Branch. Amanda has a B.S. in Geology from the University of Albany in New York and has completed graduate coursework in Environmental Geochemistry at Boston College.<br><br>*Julia Crown* is a Water Resources Analyst for Clean Water Services where she implements NPDES permit requirements such as creating and updating plans, contributing to reporting requirements, and tracking and negotiating regulatory permit requirements. She previously worked for the City of Gresham in the Industrial Pretreatment Program and at Oregon DEQ developing TMDLs and analyzing data for the Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships Program. Julia is the incoming ACWA Water Quality Committee co-chair. Julia has a B.S. degree in Biology from Simmons College and an M.S. degree in Bioresource Engineering from Oregon State University.<br><br>*Jeff Navarro* is a Senior Water Quality Program Analyst for Oregon DEQ. Jeff's primary focus is on NPDES Individual permit development and issuance according to annual and 5-year plans. Jeff coordinates with multiple state agencies, government jurisdictions, community organizations, or private sector businesses. Jeff oversees permitting processes and development of process improvements to continually improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the NPDES permitting program and compliance with permit issuance plans and schedules. Prior to his service at DEQ, Jeff worked for ATI Cast Products as the Environmental Health and Safety Manager. Jeff has a B.S. in Biology from Western Oregon University and an Executive Degree in Lean Management from Ohio State University. |
| | 4. **Building a Professional Water Work Force—Training, Recruitment, and Retention**<br><br>**Moderators:**<br><br>2:50—Carrie Pak | **Session 4 Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This session addresses the growing challenge in Oregon and nationally to maintain a professionally qualified workforce in the wastewater utility sector. One third of water and wastewater operators in the U.S. will be eligible to retire by 2030 and the water sector has been facing challenges with recruitment and retention of water professionals. Steve Harrison, Director of Operator Programs for the Water Environment Federation, will discuss challenges to attracting, preparing, and retaining the next |

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| | 4:00—Carrie Pak | generation of water quality professionals; potential solutions; and the professional development potential of participating in WEF's Operations Challenge program. Jim Baird, General Manager for the Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority, will present three case studies (from Southern Illinois University, King County, WA, and Umpqua Community College, Roseburg, OR) of innovative programs that have been developed and implemented to build the water work force.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Steve Harrison* is Director of Operator Programs at the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and is coordinator of the Operations Challenge, WEFTEC's award winning professional skills competition. He has a B.S. in Natural Resources Management from the University of Maryland, is a Board Certified Environmental Scientist, a Certified Mission Critical Professional, has a NASSCO Pipeline Assessment Certification Program credential, and is a member of Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers.<br><br>*Jim Baird* is the General Manager for the Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority (RUSA), a position he has held since 2017. He has over 35 years of experience in the wastewater industry as a technician, project manager, design technician, Engineering and Operations Manager and General Manager. He has served on many advisory boards and committees, and has served as president of the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association and the Southwest Oregon Operators Section. Jim has served on the Oregon DEQ Wastewater Operator Certification Advisory Committee since 2021. Jim has an A.S. degree in Civil Engineering Technology from Umpqua Community College and holds Grade III Wastewater Collection System and Grade II Wastewater Treatment System Operator certifications. |

**Thursday, July 25, 2024**

| Time | Topic | Presentation Description, Relevance to Oregon Wastewater Professional Knowledge; Instructor Information |
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| **7:30 am – Optional** | **Utility Management Committee Breakfast Meeting**<br>**Host:** Carrie Pak, Co-Chair | Optional breakfast meeting |
| **7:30 am – Optional** | **Presentation by Michael Campbel of Stoel Rives LLP** | Optional breakfast presentation on current litigation related to inclusion and implication of "cause or contribute…" language in NPDES permits. |
| **8:30 — 9:15 am** | **Tribal Perspectives and Approaches to Reducing Toxics in the Columbia Basin**<br><br>…Dianne Barton, PhD, Chair, National Tribal Toxics Council; Water Quality Coordinator, | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>The United Nations Global Chemical Outlook II (2019) reports that global chemical manufacturing is increasing at a rate of about 3-5% per year and is on track to double by 2030. Wastewater treatment systems will be challenged to keep up with increasing chemical releases while continuing to protect human health and |

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| | Cloumbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission<br><br>**Moderator:** Ron Wierenga | the environment. More effective regulation of hazardous chemicals in commerce has been promised by the 2016 reauthorization of EPA's Toxics Substances Control Act (TSCA) and is an important step in achieving pollution prevention targets and manageable wastewater treatment costs. New TSCA as it is known is also mandated to protect potentially exposed and susceptible subpopulations. Tribal communities are such populations and can be burdened by chemical pollution's harmful impacts through higher exposures and greater susceptibility. The National Tribal Toxics Council has met with some success in advocating for consideration of tribal exposure pathways such as higher fish consumption in recent TSCA risk evaluations. It is important for wastewater professionals to understand Tribal concerns and actions related to toxics, and this session will help inform wastewater professionals about Tribal research and findings.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Dianne Barton* is the Water Quality Coordinator at the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission in Portland, Oregon where she provides technical expertise related to water quality, environmental toxics, regulatory processes, and fate and transport of contaminants. She also serves as the Chairman of the National Tribal Toxics Council (NTTC) which is an EPA tribal partnership group for the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics. Key issues for the NTTC include advocacy for programs to minimize the disproportionate exposure of tribal members to toxic chemicals, increasing tribal capacity to monitor natural resources for toxic chemicals, and enhancing tribal consultation on chemical risk management and pollution prevention policies.<br><br>Dianne holds a Ph.D. in Geochemistry from the University of Arizona and is a member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. |
| **9:15—10:00 am** | **From Science to Action on PFAS—How Oregon Wastewater Utilities are Facing the PFAS Challenge**<br>…Kevin Masterson, Sr. Environmental Consultant, Stony Creek Consulting<br>…Scott Mansell, Principal Engineer, Clean Water Services<br>…Amanda McGarry, Environmental Services Specialist, Clean Water Services<br>**Moderator:** Ron Wierenga | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This session will cover the current nutrient permit and the compliance needs for the regulated community; the 58 plants that discharge into Puget Sound. It will describe the role the Association of Washington Cities has played in providing technical support for planning and rate evaluation activities as well as compliance with the State of Washington's Environmental Justice permit language. The permit is facing a legal challenge before the Pollution Control Hearings board; some permit provisions are on hold pending a court ruling. This session is of particular importance to wastewater professionals because Oregon has not had widely applied nutrient requirements and is now beginning to tackle a statewide regulatory framework for nutrients. The wastewater sector needs to get prepared for upcoming regulations and strategies to address them. |

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| | | **Speaker Information:**<br>*Kevin Masterson* is a Sr. Environmental Consultant with Stony Creek Consulting, focusing on toxics reduction and assessment initiatives with non-profit organizations such as ACWA. Prior to joining Stony Creek Consulting, Mr. Masterson worked for Oregon DEQ; he has over 35 years of experience developing, implementing, and evaluating pollution management and reduction programs for public agencies. Masterson holds a B.S. degree Economics and an M.S. degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon.<br><br>*Scott Mansell* is a Principal Engineer in the Research and Innovation Program at Clean Water Services. He currently leads research efforts at Clean Water Services for the areas of advanced sensing, PFAS, and emerging contaminants, advanced hydraulic and water quality modeling, and data analysis/machine learning and is an active participant in projects in many other areas including stormwater management, climate change, and integrated planning. Scott worked in consulting for 5 years before coming to Clean Water Services in 2017. He is a registered engineer in the State of Oregon and is the outgoing co-chair of the ACWA Water Quality Committee and the Pacific Northwest representative for the WateReuse Association Research Committee. Scott has an M.S. and PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering from UC Berkeley, and a B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Utah.<br><br>*Amanda McGarry* is an Environmental Services Specialist with the Regulatory Affairs Department at Clean Water Services. Amanda works in the pretreatment program where her focus is on industrial wastewater permitting, compliance, and illicit discharge detection and elimination. She leads the source control efforts within the PFAS Investigation Team and helped develop PFAS Management Plans for source mitigation. She has a background in biological sciences and earned her B.S. degree in Biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. |
| **10:00 am** | **B R E A K** | |
| **10:20 - 11:10 am** | **USGS Water Quality and Aquatic Life Research: Pharmaceuticals, PFAS, and Other Toxics**<br>…Elena Nilsen, PhD,Research Chemist, Team Leader, USGS Water Science Center, Portland, OR<br><br>**Moderator:** Torrey Lindbo | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>Elena Nilsen, PhD, will be talking about contaminants and other stressors on aquatic food webs. She'll describe what is meant by the term Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs) and describe some of the challenges in assessing the effects of CECs on organisms and food webs. She will cover several case studies focused on CECs including pharmaceuticals and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in several different fish species and food webs in the Columbia River basin. Finally, she also will briefly present some results from national scale studies on PFAS and pharmaceutical compounds across the nation. This information is very important to the professional wastewater community because water quality standards and numeric permit limits are ultimately set by both human and aquatic health criteria. |

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| | | **Speaker Information:**<br>*Elena Nilsen* is a Research Chemist and Team Lead at the U.S. Geological Survey Oregon Water Science Center in Portland, OR. She studies contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) and other threats to aquatic food webs in rivers, estuaries, and coastal ocean habitats. Elena has worked extensively on methods development and refinement in collaboration with the USGS National Water Quality Laboratory. She started with the USGS as a Mendenhall Post-doctoral Fellow with the USGS Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center in the San Francisco Bay Area studying impacts of contamination on estuarine ecology and geochemistry. She has been with the Oregon Water Science Center since 2007.<br><br>Nilsen has a B.S. degree in biology from UC San Diego and a PhD in marine geochemistry from UC Santa Cruz. |
| **11:10 am - 12:00 pm** | **EPA Region 10 Updates—Federal Perspectives on Clean Water Act Contemporary Topics**<br><br>…Mathew Martinson, P.E., Branch Chief, Permitting, Drinking Water, and Infrastructure, US EPA Region 10<br><br>**Moderator:** Torrey Lindbo | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>Mathew Martinson, EPA Region 10, will cover updates on contemporary Clean Water Act permitting, water quality standards, and infrastructure funding topics. He will also provide an update on national implementation trends associated with the historic infrastructure funding. It is important for wastewater utility professionals to be aware of and to anticipate new regulations that will ultimately make their way into discharge permits. It is also important for them to stay abreast of current funding opportunities and projections for what will happen to the federal CWSRF funds in the coming years.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Mathew Martinson, P.E.,* is a career Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. He has served at four federal agencies including the Indian Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and currently, the EPA. He started his work as a field engineer in the Indian Health Service, Sanitation Facilities Construction Program in northern Wisconsin, and over the course of about two decades progressed to the role of a regional Division Director for the Sanitation Facilities Construction program in the Pacific Northwest, overseeing a program of 30 to 40 staff. In 2019 he transferred to EPA where he is a Branch Manager in EPA Region 10, Water Division.<br><br>Mathew has a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from North Dakota State University and an M.S. degree in Engineering in Engineering Management from Univ. of Idaho. He has been a registered Professional Engineer for 24 years. |
| **12:00 pm** | **L U N C H** | |
| **1:20 pm** | **2024 ACWA Priorities, Recognition of ACWA Board and Committees, and Announcements**<br>…Jerry Linder, Executive Director, ACWA | |
| **1:40 – 2:40 pm** | **Hot Topics in Oregon DEQ Water Quality Programs**<br><br>…Jennifer Wigal, Oregon DEQ | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This panel of DEQ Water Quality Division Managers and the Administrator will update ACWA members regarding current |

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| | …Connie Dou, Oregon DEQ<br>…Steve Mrazik, Oregon DEQ<br>…Rebecca Bodnar, Oregon DEQ<br>…Ben Benninghoff, Oregon DEQ<br><br>**Moderator:** Jerry Linder | program and policy development that will impact future local government water quality permits, program management, and compliance with water quality regulations. The panelists will also give the audience a preview of upcoming water quality assessments and policy development that will lead to future requirements in NPDES and WPCF permits and TMDL implementation plans. The panel has been asked to address how the agency will partner with local government agencies and engage with local government water quality experts and program implementers to assist the Department in developing achievable, implementable programs that will achieve the environmenta/water quality objectives. It is important for wastewater and stormwater management professionals to understand the regulatory drivers and mandates DEQ is delegated to implement, including the impacts of updated Total Maximum Daily Loads, water quality standards and litigation results.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Jennifer Wigal* is the Administrator for the Oregon DEQ Water Quality Division. Prior to this appointment, she served as Deputy Administrator since April of 2018, and as the Water Quality Program Manager before that. Ms. Wigal is responsible for administration of all DEQ Water Quality Programs, including Water Quality Permitting, Water Quality Standards, and Water Quality/Watershed Assessments. Prior to coming to DEQ in 2008, Jennifer built her expertise in water quality programs through various positions at U.S. EPA Headquarters during her 10 years there. Jennifer holds an MS degree in Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University and a BS degree in Civil Engineering from Washington State University.<br><br>*Connie Dou* is the Water Quality Program Manager in the Water Quality Division in Oregon DEQ. She currently manages the Water Quality Standards, Water Quality Assessment and the Drinking Water Protection programs. Before joining DEQ, she worked in water quality standards, TMDL and permitting in the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. She started her current position in December 2018. Connie obtained her Ph.D. degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Nebraska. Connie is also a registered Professional Engineer.<br><br>*Steve Mrazik* works as a water quality manager overseeing the TMDL and Nonpoint Source programs for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). He has worked for DEQ since 1997 in the water quality programs, the laboratory, and the environmental assessment division. Steve has a B.S. degree in Zoology (Aquatic Ecology) from the University of Wisconsin in Madison.<br><br>*Benjamin Benninghoff* serves as the Stormwater and Underground Injection Control program manager with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). During the past 24 years, Benjamin has worked for DEQ and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in the wastewater (pretreatment, septage) and |

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| | | stormwater fields, including the past 18 years focusing on many aspects of urban and agricultural point and nonpoint source runoff programs and management. Benjamin has a B.S. degree in Environmental Geography from the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh, and an M.A. degree in Water Resources Management from the University of Guelph (Ontario, Canada). |
| **2:40 pm** | **B R E A K** | |
| **3:00 pm** | **Anticipating and Integrating New Permit Requirements into Facilities Plans—Approaches and Case Studies**<br>…Todd Miller, Springfield/MWMC<br>…Ron Wierenga, Clackamas WES<br>…Johnny Leavy, City of Medford<br><br>**Moderator:** Raj Kapur | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This session will elevate awareness of the need for wastewater utilities to pay attention to, anticipate, and plan for new water quality standards and other regulations that will be translated into new limits and requirements in renewed NPDES and WPCF permits and to explicitly incorporate these new considerations into their facilities planning processes. This session will also highlight planning frameworks, such as the EPA Integrated Planning Framework to use in planning compliance strategies and facilities. Three case examples will be provided that will illustrate regulatory drivers addressed, planning process considerations, successes, and lessons learned.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Todd Miller* is the Planning and Policy Supervisor for the City of Springfield's administration of the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission for the Eugene/Springfield, Oregon metro area. Todd is in his 17th year with the City of Springfield, capping a 35-year career in water resources and environmental assessment, cleanup, restoration, and management. In his capacity with the MWMC Todd has helped develop their water quality trading compliance program, Class A recycled water use partnerships, and innovation of poplar wood use from the MWMC's Biocycle Farm biosolids management facility. Under Todd's leadership, the MWMC is updating their 20-Year Comprehensive Facilities Plan, which will include an integrated planning component and opportunities plan. Miller holds an M.S. degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Oregon and a B.S. degree in Geology from the University of Rochester in New York. He is a Registered Geologist in Oregon.<br><br>*Ron Wierenga* is a 25-year professional in public works and environmental services. He is currently the Deputy Director for Clackamas Water Environment Services (WES) where he manages the District's Business and Environmental Services. His scope includes administrative services, budget administration and finance plans and policy development, regulatory affairs, and strategic planning. Prior to joining WES, he worked for Clark County Washington for 13 years where he was responsible for the County's Clean Water and Legacy Lands programs. Ron has B.S. and M.S. degrees from Washington State University in Environmental Science.<br><br>*Johnny Leavy* has served as the Water Reclamation Division Manager for the City of Medford since 2022. Johnny joined the City as a Lab Supervisor in 2019. Previous service included four |

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| | | years working for the City of St. Helens as an operator and then Pretreatment Coordinator. He has also been a contract operator with Operations Management, International (OMI) in various locations in Oregon and Washington. Johnny maintains a Grade IV-Treatment certification and has an AAS degree in Manufacturing Technologies: Industrial Electronics from Southwestern Oregon Community College, Coos Bay. |
| **4:00 pm (optional)** | **DEQ Staff Available for One-on-One Discussions**<br>*List of DEQ staff available to be determined* | O*ptional informal discussions.* |
| **4:00 pm (optional)** | **Informal Activities** | |
| **6:30 pm** | **No-Host Reception** | |
| **7:00 pm** | **Dinner on Patio** | |

**Friday, July 26, 2019**

| Time | Topic | Presentation Description; Relevance to Oregon Wastewater Professional Knowledge; Instructor Information |
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| **7:30 – 8:30 am** | **Energy Committee (potentially joint with Utility Management)** | Energy Committee and partners will meet for updates on current incentives, regulatory context and challenges related to pursuing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in the wastewater industry. |
| **8:30-9:15 am** | **Building a Strong Foundation for Oregon's Clean Water Future**<br><br>… Leah Feldon, DEQ Director<br><br>**Moderator:** Torrey Lindbo | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>In this presentation, Director Feldon will identify her priorities and approach for leading the department, and her commitment to building upon strong program foundations that have been established in various aspects of the agency's work. She will also discuss the importance of state agency and local government partnerships in furthering wastewater and stormwater management objectives throughout Oregon. This presentation is relevant to wastewater professionals because it is important for them to understand and anticipate DEQ's priority regulatory initiatives and opportunities to work through water quality challenges in partnership.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Leah Feldon* serves as the Director for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. She first joined DEQ in the Office of Compliance and Enforcement in 2005 and became manager of that office in 2009. Since 2009, Leah has held short-term positions within DEQ as Acting Eastern Region Administrator, Acting Eastern Region Solid and Hazardous Waste Manager, and Interim Air Operations Manager at Headquarters in which she managed permitting regulatory and policy work, as well as diesel and greenhouse gas policy initiatives. In 2016, she was appointed Special Advisor to the Director for Cleaner Air Oregon, an initiative by Governor Kate Brown to overhaul industrial air toxics regulations. Leah was appointed to be the Deputy Director in |

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| | | 2016. She holds a J.D. degree from Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland and a B.A. degree in Sociology from University of Dayton Ohio. |
| **9:15 – 10:00 am** | **National Issues and Trends for Wastewater and Stormwater Utilities**<br><br>…Amanda Waters, General Counsel and Deputy General Manager, AlexRenew<br><br>**Moderator:** Torrey Lindbo | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This presentation will update ACWA members on the current issues and trends at the national level, including recent developments at US EPA, in Congress and in the courts that relate to or will impact local implementation of water quality programs and compliance with NPDES permits. Amanda will discuss key EPA rules, potential implications of the upcoming elections, and pending cases before the Supreme Court on Chevron agency deference and the legality of generic permitting provisions requiring that discharges not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards. This presentation is important to wastewater professionals because it is important for them to understand the critical water quality and infrastructure funding discussions, legislation, and litigation going on at the national level and how they can get involved to have their concerns heard as individually and collectively through ACWA and NACWA.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Amanda Waters* has more than 20 years of public and private sector experience counseling on governance and regulatory compliance issues, with an emphasis on the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. Currently, Amanda holds the position of General Counsel and Deputy General Manager at AlexRenew, the wastewater treatment authority serving Alexandria, Virginia. She is responsible for providing legal counsel, developing and advising on policy, and assisting in the management and operational direction of the authority. She has also held the role of General Counsel at the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), where she oversaw the legal advocacy program to safeguard the interests of municipal wastewater and stormwater utilities. Amanda's extensive career includes serving as General Counsel and Director of Public Advocacy for the Water Environment Federation, as well as holding positions such as General Counsel and Deputy Executive Director for Sanitation District No. 1 of Northern Kentucky (a public wastewater and stormwater utility), and Deputy General Counsel for the State of Kentucky Environmental & Public Protection Cabinet. Amanda has a J.D. and Certificate of Environmental Law from PACE University School of Law, White Plains, NY, and a B.S. in Biology from the Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY. |
| **10:00 am** | **B R E A K** | |
| **10:20 am** | **A Career in Cleaning Water and Creating a Better Environment—Reflections and Ripple Effects**<br><br>…Mark Jockers<br><br>**Moderator:** Julie Cortez | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>Mark Jockers worked at what is now Clean Water Services for 32 years before retiring in 2023. Over those years, his professional roles included implementation and oversight of the utility's education, community engagement, communications, media relations, legislative affairs, government relations and organizational development and equity programs. Over that time, |

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| | | Mark spearheaded and/or ran numerous communications and government affairs efforts needed to successfully achieve Clean Water Services new and innovative programs, and to maintain the much needed support from elected officials, rate payers, and other community and environmental stakeholders. In this presentation, Mark will discuss what has worked and what hasn't worked, and he will address ways in which utilities are going to need to engage with the public, media, elected officials, and a wide range of stakeholders to succeed in implementing successful solutions to the environmental and community challenges that lie ahead. He will discuss the importance of building the communications and engagement aspects of wastewater/water quality improvement projects and agency budgets and policy changes early in the process to program them for success. This information is becoming increasingly relevant to wastewater professionals as increasing regulations and aging infrastructure are requiring new facilities and new approaches that require buy in from the community.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*Mark Jockers* has spent nearly 35 years in the water and natural resource sector. Hired in 1991 to manage the Unified Sewerage Agency's environmental education program, he retired from what is now known as Clean Water Service in 2023 as the Chief of Staff where he directed the utility's government relations, legislative affairs and enterprise-wide policy development and implementation. Over more than 30 years at CWS, Mark worked in education, community engagement, communications, media relations, legislative affairs, government relations and organizational development and equity. Mark served on the ACWA Board for more than 10 years as Chair of the Education Committee and, later, Vice Chair of the Legislative Committee. He served as Chair of WEF's Public Communication and Outreach Committee; Chair of The Wetlands Conservancy and on the US Water Alliance's One Water Council. Mark was active in NACWA, WateReuse Association, Water Research Foundation, International Water Association, the Global Water Partnership and was a founding member of the Pure Water Brewing Alliance. Mark holds a B.A. degree in Journalism from the University of Oregon. |
| **11:05 am** | **The Best of the Best—Annual ACWA Awards**<br><br>**Moderators:** Torrey Lindbo, Johnny Leavy, and Jerry Linder | |
| **11:25 am** | **Blood, Sludge, and Slime on the Willamette—Insights and Inspiration from Twentieth Century Water Pollution Abatement Efforts**<br>…James Hillegas-Elting<br>**Moderator:** Johnny Leavy | **Session Information and Relevance to Wastewater Professional Knowledge:**<br>This presentation will provide an historical overview of the water quality problems that were faced on the Willamette River decades ago, the efforts implemented to clean it up, and the progress that has been made. This final presentation, which includes a documentary film produced by the speaker, provides important context for the work of wastewater professional and provides important lessons learned from past efforts. It is important to leave |

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| | | wastewater professionals with the understanding that their efforts and their daily work to maintain and protect water quality in Oregon is important.<br><br>**Speaker Information:**<br>*James V. Hillegas-Elting* is an historian of the 20th century urban environment in North America, specializing in the science, engineering, policy, and politics of the physical infrastructure that makes modern cities possible: transportation, sanitation, and energy. In 2018 Oregon State University Press published his book Speaking for the River: Confronting Pollution on the Willamette, 1920s-1970s. He earned his M.A. degree in History from Portland State University and a B.A. from Fairhaven College (Western Washington University), Bellingham, Washington. |
| **Noon** | **ADJOURN** | |