



Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA) Application for Wastewater CEUs for a stormwater professionals workshop May 20, 2026, entitled:

2026 ACWA Stormwater Summit

General CEUs requested:

- Pre-Stormwater Summit Optional Workshop—1 hour = .1 CEUs
Choice between “Stormwater 101” and “Groundwater 101”
- Stormwater Summit--A total of 4.75 hours of instruction--0.475 (or .5 if you can round up) CEUs—is requested for the main workshop.
- Attendees to all sessions, including the pre-Stormwater Summit workshops would be eligible for a maximum of 0.575 (or .6 if you can round up) CEUs.

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 expanded program including a description of the course content and importance to stormwater/wastewater/water quality professionals; 4) the qualifications of the instructors; 5) the time schedule; and 6) the method of tracking attendance.

Educational Need and Learning Goals:

The ACWA Stormwater Summit is convened annually to update stormwater management and other water quality/wastewater management professionals across the state on current issues and trends impacting their work to protect Oregon’s surface and ground water quality. CEUs have been approved for this instructional event every year for over 30 years. The goal of this workshop is to increase the knowledge and understanding of wastewater and stormwater managers, engineers and operations professionals regarding water quality regulations, water quality challenges, and technologies, operational controls, and green infrastructure best management practices (BMPs) for managing and improving stormwater quality and adapting stormwater management systems and practices to emerging issues of concern.

The course emphasizes science-based information on stormwater pollutants and the effectiveness of stormwater management practices and facilities intended to improve water quality. It also focuses on regulatory compliance pathways and innovation in best management practices centered on low impact, green infrastructure, as well as best management practices to meet pollution reduction objectives. The course also educates attendees regarding emergent issues and challenges that must be addressed through adaptive management, such as climate change impacts and water quality impacts associated with microplastics, tire wear particles, pesticides and other pollutants. Finally, the workshop provides important up-to-date information on the legal and regulatory backdrop for municipal stormwater programs.

A variety of research scientists, technical experts and experienced practitioners are included in the program as speakers/instructors. The workshop will be convened in person at the LaSells Stewart Conference Center on the Oregon State University campus, as described in the expanded program/course outline below.

Method of Tracking Attendance for CEU Certification:

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.

Course Outline (Program), Instructor Information, and Time Schedule:

2026 ACWA Stormwater Summit—Wednesday, May 20, 2026:

Pre-Summit Workshop; 8:45 am to 9:45 am: Stormwater 101 – Stormwater Management Basics and Regulations (Optional—0.1 FTE requested)

Krista Reininga, P.E., Water Resource Engineer, Brown and Caldwell

The “Stormwater 101” Pre-Summit Workshop is intended to introduce new stormwater professionals and permittees to the basics of stormwater quality and quantity management, the regulatory framework, best management practices, evolving permit requirements and implementation strategies, and resources. This session provides important background for professionals that are new to stormwater and other water quality management programs and is a good refresher for people who have worked in the field but have not kept their knowledge current.

Krista Reininga, P.E. is a Water Resources Engineer with Brown and Caldwell Consultants. Krista has thirty-nine years of experience working on stormwater management related issues for municipal clients. Her focus has been on stormwater master planning for capital planning, stormwater design standards development, climate resiliency planning, and providing support related to regulatory compliance with NPDES MS4 permits and TMDLs. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University and a Masters in Environmental Science from Indiana University.

Pre-Summit Workshop; 8:45 am to 9:45 am: Groundwater 101—Everything you Ever Wanted to Know (Optional—0.1 FTE requested)

Matt Kohlbecker, R.G., Supervising Hydrogeologist, GSI Water Solutions

The “Groundwater 101” Pre-Summit Workshop is intended to introduce new stormwater professionals and permittees to the basics of using underground injection control (UIC) and other groundwater infiltration measures to manage stormwater quality and quantity. He will review current research findings and examples of successful methods, and will address the regulatory framework for these methods, including Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) permits. This session provides important background for professionals that are new to stormwater and other water quality management programs who may be contemplating use of groundwater injection or infiltration facilities and is a good refresher for people who have worked in the field but have not kept their knowledge current.

Matt Kohlbecker, RG, is the President and a Principal Hydrogeologist with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. which is an employee-owned company with offices in Portland, Corvallis, and Bend. Mr. Kohlbecker has over 22 years of experience helping municipalities and businesses solve stormwater infiltration challenges and developing groundwater supplies. His broad experience includes applying innovative infiltration techniques, preparing groundwater protectiveness evaluations for underground injection control (UIC) permits, infiltration testing, and using stormwater recharge to augment water supply. Prior to rejoining GSI, Mr. Kohlbecker worked for 3 years at the Oregon DEQ, serving as the technical lead for the UIC program.

Wednesday, May 20th Stormwater Summit Program-- 10:00 am to 4:30 pm; with a 70-minute lunch break and afternoon breaks totaling 30 minutes.

Note: update all times, titles, speaker name and academic degrees

10:00 am – 12:15 pm	Plenary Session
10:00 am	Welcome & Introductions Geoff Rabinowitz, DPA, Executive Director, ACWA
10:10 am	Water Quality Updates from DEQ Mike Kucinski, Water Quality Division Deputy Administrator, Oregon DEQ Mr. Kucinski will discuss how DEQ’s Water Quality Division is implementing Governor Kotek’s priorities on housing and economic prosperity. He will highlight how the DEQ Water Quality Division is preparing for the 2027-29 biennium including budget development and legislative concepts. It is important for 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. <i>Mike Kucinski</i> has been with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for 32 years, serving in a variety of staff and management positions in the Land Quality and Water Quality Divisions. Mike has a degree in Environmental Science with a Minor in Soil Science from Oregon State University. Mike has been in management since 2003, supporting policy and program development operations across land quality and water quality programs. As the Deputy Water Quality Administrator, Mike supports DEQ’s permitting programs including stormwater, wastewater, reuse, biosolids, 401 dredge and fill, wastewater operator certification, onsite septic systems, and data management and reporting.
10:30 am	National News—An Update from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) Matthew McKenna, Government Affairs Director, NACWA Mr. McKenna will provide an overview of current legislative, regulatory, and legal happenings at the national level. In particular, he will provide a Washington, DC–based update on federal policy and regulatory developments affecting stormwater managers and clean water utilities. Attendees will hear the latest on Clean Water Act issues, infrastructure funding, and Congressional activity relevant to stormwater programs. The presentation will also highlight NACWA’s advocacy priorities and what to watch in the months ahead. <i>Matthew McKenna</i> is the Director of Government Affairs at NACWA. In his capacity, Matt works with both NACWA’s legislative and regulatory affairs teams to engage with Congress and the Administration on the critical federal issues that impact NACWA’s members. Before coming to NACWA, Matt served as the Director of the Great Lakes Washington Program at the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a nonprofit and nonpartisan research, education, and policy organization. Matt has also worked in the policy shop of a large, Midwest-based law firm and on Capitol Hill. He holds a BA degree from George Washington University in Washington, DC.
10:55 am	30 Years Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Portland Adrienne Aiona, PE, Civil Engineer, City of Portland BES

	Portland has long been recognized as a national leader in green stormwater infrastructure (GSI), with more than 30 years of implementation shaping its approach. Ms. Aiona will discuss how Portland’s unique geology, storm systems, and local priorities have shaped the city’s approach to GSI—its benefits, limitations, and practical applications. She will highlight early implementation efforts, monitoring results, and pilot projects that helped build community and institutional support for GSI. The presentation will also trace the evolution of facility designs, current program priorities, and the challenges and lessons learned along the way. Portland’s experience demonstrates how green and gray infrastructure can be effectively integrated, offering a valuable case study for cities seeking to expand or refine their own GSI programs. Adrienne Aiona, PE, is a civil engineer with the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES). She has spent more than twenty years working in restoration, stormwater and water quality. Adrienne currently manages the team that writes BES’s codes and administrative rules including the Stormwater Management Manual. Adrienne has a BS in engineering from Swarthmore College and an MS in water resources engineering from U.C. Davis, CA.
12:15 pm	LUNCH
1:30 pm – 2:20 pm	Concurrent Workshops—Session A
Ag Production Room	Approaches to Determining When Stormwater Facilities Require "Public" Maintenance Alena Beltz, PE, Utilities Engineer, City of Medford; Joe Deardorff, Natural Treatment Systems Supervisor, City of Albany; David Gilbey, Environmental Services and Regulatory Affairs Manager, City of Corvallis; Jacob Klinko, Green Infrastructure Specialist, City of Eugene Maintenance of post-construction stormwater facilities is a core requirement for all MS4 permittees, yet communities vary widely in how they define ownership, responsibility, and long-term care for these systems. As reliance on distributed green infrastructure continues to grow, ensuring consistent performance across both publicly and privately maintained facilities is becoming an increasingly complex operational and funding challenge. This panel brings together municipal leaders and practitioners to share how Oregon communities are distinguishing public versus private responsibility, conducting inspections, maintaining facilities, and managing expanding system inventories. Panelists will offer practical insights into funding strategies, asset management approaches, and tools that support sustainable and resilient stormwater programs. Alena Beltz is the Utility Engineer for the City of Medford. She's a licensed Engineer with Civil Engineer Bachelors and Masters of Engineering degrees from Oregon State University and has more than 15 years of experience performing various sewer and storm drain tasks including hydraulic design, environmental compliance, and sanitary sewer system modelling for public agencies. Over the last 5 years, Alena has been in in charge of engineering and planning for the storm drain and sanitary sewer systems in Medford which includes managing compliance with the City's phase 2 MS4 permit, approving stormwater facility designs and working with Operations on facility maintenance. Joe Deardorff is the Natural Treatment Systems Supervisor for Albany Public Works. He manages approximately 900 vegetated stormwater facilities and oversees the Talking Water Gardens wastewater treatment wetland. His work centers on vegetation as treatment infrastructure. He founded the Albany ShrubHub, a municipal native nursery that employs

	recycled water and biosolids compost to produce thousands of plants for stormwater facilities, riparian restoration, and public outreach. Joe’s background includes watershed restoration project management and native plant nursery operations. He holds a BA in Environmental Studies, with a minor in Spanish Language, and a graduate certificate in Urban Forestry from Oregon State University. David A. Gilbey is the Environmental Services and Regulatory Affairs Manager for the City of Corvallis Public Works Department, with over two decades of experience in municipal stormwater management and TMDL development in Oregon. His work includes MS4 program delivery, regulatory compliance, water quality monitoring, and field operations. He combines agile program management with advanced environmental data and GIS applications to develop practical, scalable solutions to complex water-quality and regulatory challenges, supporting long-term watershed health and effective public service delivery. Jacob Klinko is a Green Infrastructure Specialist with the City of Eugene’s Parks and Open Space Division, bringing two years of experience in his current role and a total of five years working in landscape and green infrastructure maintenance for the city. He specializes in private vegetated stormwater management, including inspection, education and outreach, and code compliance. Jacob leverages his technical background and collaborative approach to support property owners and community partners in implementing effective stormwater management practices that protect life and property from flood hazards, safeguard water quality, and contribute to a resilient stormwater system.
Ag Leaders Room	Stormwater Utility Rates and SDCs-Considerations and Lessons Learned with Portland’s New Stormwater Rate Structure Anthony Martin, Budget and Finance Manager, City of Hillsboro; Adrienne Aiona, PE, Civil Engineer, City of Portland BES Calculating stormwater rates and system development charges (SDCs) is a foundational responsibility for stormwater utilities, yet the methods, constraints, and policy considerations behind these calculations are often complex. This session will introduce the fundamentals of how rates and SDCs are developed, what they can be used for, and the state laws that guide their calculation. Presenters will also outline common approaches cities use to structure stormwater rates and ensure they align with service needs and regulatory requirements. Using Portland’s recent rate study as a case example, the session will highlight opportunities, challenges, and lessons learned from applying these principles in practice. The instructors will also discuss how recent legislation aimed at increasing housing density may affect future revenues and financial planning for stormwater programs. This session is especially valuable for staff who are new to rate-setting, financial planning, or stormwater utility management, as well as communities preparing to update their rate structures or SDC methodologies. Anthony Martin has over a decade of experience in public finance. After graduating from the University of Texas at Austin with a master’s degree in public affairs, Anthony worked as a financial and economic consultant for cities and utilities across the Pacific Northwest. He then went to the City of Portland, eventually being promoted to Financial Planning Manager for the \$700 million sewer and stormwater utility. During his time in Portland, he completed the first rate study update in 18 years, updated the financial structure to align with the organization, and advanced equity by helping create the racial equity plan. Anthony currently works for the City of Hillsboro as the Budget and Finance manager for Public Works. Adrienne Aiona, PE, is a civil engineer with the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES). She has spent more than twenty years working in restoration, stormwater and water quality. Adrienne currently manages the team that writes BES’s codes and administrative rules including the Stormwater Management Manual. Adrienne has a BS in

	engineering from Swarthmore College and an MS in water resources engineering from U.C. Davis, CA.
Ag Science Room	Stormwater Legal Update Michael Campbell, Esq., Stoel Rives LLP Recent legal decisions continue to shape how stormwater programs are permitted and enforced. This session will review key court cases affecting the sector—including the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in <i>San Francisco v. EPA</i>—and discuss their implications for MS4 requirements, compliance expectations, and regulatory oversight. Michael will highlight how these rulings may influence permit language, enforcement pathways, and the responsibilities of stormwater permittees. The session will also touch on emerging legal and policy trends relevant to communities managing a mix of green, gray, or underground injection systems. This session is well-suited for stormwater professionals involved in permitting, compliance, or long-term program planning. <i>Michael Campbell</i> is a partner at Stoel Rives LLP in Portland. He’s a graduate of Reed College and the University of Washington School of Law and has more than 30 years of experience representing municipalities and other clients on stormwater and other water quality permitting and enforcement issues.
Construction & Engineering Hall	Scalable, Measurable, Impactful: Education Benefits Go Beyond Compliance Ely O’Connor, Education & Outreach Manager, Clean Water Services Education is a core requirement of every stormwater permit—and a powerful opportunity to spark curiosity and build community understanding. This session will explore how hands-on, engaging learning experiences can meet compliance goals while connecting students and community members to real-world water-quality challenges. Ely will share strategies for weaving pollution-prevention concepts into STEM-aligned activities, partnering with educators, and designing programs that inspire the next generation of water-resource professionals. Drawing on lessons from past community engagement efforts, the session will also highlight how collaborative, inclusive outreach can prepare communities for emerging environmental issues and strengthen long-term watershed stewardship. With more than 20 years at Clean Water Services, <i>Ely O’Connor</i> specializes in making the science of stormwater and wastewater engaging and accessible for all audiences. She holds a Media and Communications degree from Pacific University and previously worked at the Oregon Zoo. A passionate lifelong learner, Ely brings curiosity, humor, and a love of discovery to every educational experience.
2:30 pm – 3:20 pm	Concurrent Workshops—Session B
Ag Production Room	Approaches to Determining When Stormwater Facilities Require "Public" Maintenance Alena Beltz, PE, Utilities Engineer, City of Medford; Joe Deardorff, Natural Treatment Systems Supervisor City of Albany; David Gilbey, Environmental Services and Regulatory Affairs Manager, City of Corvallis; Jacob Klinko, Green Infrastructure Specialist, City of Eugene (Repeat of session from Session A—See information above)
Ag Leaders Room	Industrial and Commercial MS4 Compliance – Right-Sizing Programs to Meet Permit Requirements & Water Quality Goals

	Galen Hoshovsky, Environmental Services Specialist, Clackamas WES; Clay Walker, Groundwater Protection Program, City of Gresham This session explores practical approaches for administering industrial and commercial stormwater programs under emerging DEQ permit obligations, with a focus on the needs of smaller, resource-constrained jurisdictions. Galen Hoshovsky of Clackamas Water Environment Services (WES) will share a Phase I MS4 case study highlighting how WES built and implements its industrial/commercial program—including screening, inventory development, inspections, enforcement under local authority, and key lessons learned in reducing pollutant loads to the MS4 and surface waters. Clay Walker from the City of Gresham will then discuss strategies for creating cross-departmental efficiencies to reduce workload, manage costs, and strengthen relationships with local businesses. Together, these presentations offer practical insights and examples to help jurisdictions develop and refine industrial/commercial stormwater programs that meet permit control measures and support long-term program effectiveness. Galen Hoshovsky is an Environmental Services Specialist with Clackamas Water Environment Services, where he leads industrial and commercial stormwater compliance, including inventory development, inspections, and enforcement across more than 1,000 facilities. He has a Bachelor of Science from Oregon State University and over four years of experience leading Phase I MS4 programs. His work focuses on modernizing stormwater programs through practical, adaptive management and data-driven systems. He supports broader watershed protection efforts through program development and implementation, pollution prevention, spill response, and public education. Clay Walker is the Groundwater Protection Program Senior for the City of Gresham. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Walla Walla University. Clay frequently presents at conferences teaching courses on Groundwater Protection for various municipalities, corporations, and public groups. Clay has served as a consultant on the formation and management of multiple source water and groundwater protection programs across Oregon. Most recently Clay acted as the interim City of Gresham Fog Program Coordinator. During the 6-month window of responsibility his team won the 2025 Swift Comply award for innovation in FOG protection programs.
Ag Science Room	UIC Program Advancements and Updates Kevin Weberling, R.G., UIC Senior Hydrogeologist, Oregon DEQ; Derek Sandoz, Underground Injection Control Program Coordinator, Oregon DEQ This session, presented by DEQ’s UIC Program, will provide updates on the ongoing WPCF UIC Permit renewal process that many ACWA members are currently navigating. Speakers will outline the primary changes proposed for the renewed permit, including revised reporting requirements, updated groundwater protectiveness demonstrations, and key clarifications to language from the previous permitting cycle. The session will also feature a case study of the City of Bend’s updated groundwater protectiveness demonstration, highlighting how these changes may affect permittee UIC inventories and future compliance expectations. Together, the presenters will offer practical insights to help communities prepare for and adapt to the evolving UIC permitting framework. Kevin Weberling is the Senior Hydrogeologist for the statewide DEQ UIC Program. He has been in his current role since 2021 and worked in the private sector for 20 years prior to joining DEQ. Kevin is a registered geologist with the States of Oregon and Washington. He received his master’s degree at the University of California, Santa Cruz and his bachelor’s degree from Central Washington University.

	Derek Sandoz has served as the Underground Injection Program Coordinator at Oregon DEQ since 2013. Prior to this position, Derek worked in the private sector for 17 years in environmental consulting and contracting in the Portland Metro area. Derek holds a bachelor's degree in Comparative Sociology from the University of Puget Sound and studied for one year at Murdoch University in Western Australia with a focus on Environmental Studies.
Construction & Engineering Hall	Using Operational Metrics to Develop a More Efficient Program OR How I Learned to Love the Numbers Geoff Rabinowitz, DPA, Executive Director, ACWA This session will explore how developing clear, meaningful performance metrics can strengthen stormwater program management. By tying metrics directly to program goals, jurisdictions can better establish priorities, set defensible budgets, and make strategic—rather than reactive—program adjustments in both the near and long term. Geoff will discuss how shifting resource pressures can quickly push budgets out of alignment with program and regulatory expectations, and how a structured, metric-based approach can help minimize those impacts. He will outline one method for creating a decision framework built on key performance indicators for staff activities, program outputs, and organizational outcomes, including calculating unit costs and weighing those costs against priorities to support transparent, future-focused decision-making. Geoff Rabinowitz is the Executive Director of the Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA) and brings nearly three decades of experience in stormwater, wastewater, wetlands, water quality, air quality, and environmental program administration. His career includes leadership roles with the Allegheny County Health Department, Oregon DEQ's Water Quality Permitting and Program Development section, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the City of Aurora, the Florida DEP, and multiple consulting firms, including his own, GGR Consulting. Geoff holds bachelor's degrees in Marine Biology and Ecology from the Florida Institute of Technology, a master's degree in Executive Management from Florida State University, and a doctorate in Public Administration from Valdosta State University.
3:20 pm	BREAK
3:40 pm – 4:30 pm	Panel Discussion
Construction & Engineering Hall	Multi-Program DEQ Panel Benjamin Benninghoff, Stormwater UIC Manager, Oregon DEQ; Pablo Martos, Sr. Permit Writer, Oregon DEQ; Kevin Weberling, UIC Senior Hydrogeologist, Oregon DEQ; Mike Kucinski, Deputy Water Quality Administrator, Oregon DEQ; Theresa Burcsu, Water Quality Manager, Oregon DEQ This session will address specific questions submitted by ACWA members and Stormwater Summit attendees for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), covering topics such as MS4 permits, Underground Injection Control permits, and TMDL development and implementation. With multiple DEQ programs represented in one forum, attendees will gain clarity on program requirements as well as how these regulatory areas intersect and overlap.

The discussion is designed to promote consistency in understanding and compliance while also giving DEQ insight into where confusion, challenges, or emerging issues are most concentrated. Ultimately, the session aims to strengthen regulatory clarity and support ongoing efforts to protect and improve Oregon’s water quality.

Benjamin Benninghoff serves as the Stormwater and Underground Injection Control program manager with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. During the past 26 years, Benjamin has worked for DEQ and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in the wastewater (pretreatment, septage) and stormwater fields, including the past 18 years focusing on many aspects of urban and agricultural runoff management. Benjamin has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geography from the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh, and a Master of Arts in Water Resources Management from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Pablo Martos has been the Senior MS4 Permit Writer and Municipal Stormwater Program Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality since 2018. Prior to that he served at the Oregon Department of State Lands as the agency’s Portland Harbor Superfund Specialist for 6 years and spent the earlier part of his career in the private sector at environmental engineering consulting firms. He holds a bachelor’s in Applied Ecology from UC Irvine and a Graduate Certificate in Fisheries Management from Oregon State University.

Kevin Weberling is the Senior Hydrogeologist for the statewide DEQ UIC Program. He has been in his current role since 2021 and worked in the private sector for 20 years prior to joining DEQ. Kevin is a registered geologist with the States of Oregon and Washington. He received his master’s degree at the University of California, Santa Cruz and his bachelor’s degree from Central Washington University.

Mike Kucinski has been with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for 32 years, serving in a variety of staff and management positions in the Land Quality and Water Quality Divisions. Mike has a degree in Environmental Science with a Minor in Soil Science from Oregon State University. Mike has been in management since 2003, supporting policy and program development operations across land quality and water quality programs. As the Deputy Water Quality Administrator, Mike supports DEQ’s permitting programs including stormwater, wastewater, reuse, biosolids, 401 dredge and fill, wastewater operator certification, onsite septic systems, and data management and reporting.

Theresa Burcsu serves as a Water Quality Manager in the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality’s Northwest Region and Water Quality Division. She oversees the Statewide 401 Certification Program and the Northwest Region Watersheds teams, supporting staff in achieving durable, positive outcomes for Oregon’s water resources. Theresa brings extensive experience in applied research, modeling, and technical leadership across academic, nonprofit, and government sectors. She holds a master’s degree in Geography from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a PhD in Environmental Science from Indiana University.