

DRAFT SCHEDULE – VRWA 2023 ANNUAL EXPOSITION AGENDA
April 17-19, 2023

Agenda is tentative. Times and topics are subject to changes

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023

5:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023

8:00 am – 9:00 am Registration – Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 4:00 pm Full Day Class – Pre-Registration REQUIRED

OSHA at a Glance – Eddie Shelton (VRSA)

or

Tools and Tech for Business Continuity – Carl Brown (Getting Great Rates) & Arnab Bhowmick (Aktivov Asset Management)

12 noon – 1:00 pm

Lunch on your own

9:00 am

VRWA Annual Clay Shoot

10:00 am

VRWA Annual Golf Outing

11:00 am – 5:30 pm

Exhibitor Set Up Time

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Registration Opens

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Exhibitors Sneak Preview with light refreshments

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

7:00 am Staff to Set Up Classrooms/Prepare/ Registration

7:30 am – 8:30 am Registration/Exhibit Hall Opens with Breakfast

8:30 am – 9:30 am Concurrent Training Classes (4)

Water – W / Wastewater – WW / Safety – S / Management – M

1) How to Achieve LCRR Compliance with Confidence (W)

Lowell Huffman (120Water)

Complying with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) can be one of the most complex and time consuming of the Smart Water Drinking Act rules. In this presentation, utility leaders will gain an understanding of what the new rule will require and the day-to-day impact to their team.

2) Remote Zero-Discharge and Hybrid Reuse Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems in Virginia (WW)

Bree Mariano & Nitant Desai (Bowman Consulting Group)

This session will discuss two examples of small and remote water reclamation and reuse systems in Virginia. The systems to be discussed are a treatment facility for VDOT in Albemarle County and Cutalong WWTP in Louisa County.

3) Sustainable Water & Wastewater Treatment: Reducing Carbon Footprint of Operations (W/WW)

Tricia Cioni & Raylani Reis (CHA Companies)

This presentation will provide practical solutions to identifying ways to create a more energy efficient and energy resilient plant. The presentation will outline ways to inventory energy use, common changes that can be made to reduce energy consumption, options for adding renewable energy sources to allow for continuous operations.

4) The Show Must Go On: Business Continuity, Succession Planning, Emergency Response (W, WW, M)

Arnab Bhowmick (Aktivov Asset Management)

Organizations cannot risk the chance of being crippled during a pandemic, during natural calamities, in emergencies or during workforce turnover. The session will help attendees strategize during disruptions and come out with a clear idea on how to deal with events in the future.

9:30 am – 10:00 am Break in the Exhibit Hall

10:00 am – 11:30am

Opening Session/Annual Business Meeting – Washington Lecture Hall

VRWA Annual Business Meeting

This is the meeting of the VRWA Delegates to discuss the business of the Association and to elect directors for those seats that have expired.

11:30 am – 2:00 pm Women in Rural Water Luncheon (*Pre-registration REQUIRED*)
Being a Woman in Rural Water (Panel discussion – 1 mgmt CPE)

12 Noon – 1:00 pm Lunch in the Exhibit Hall

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Concurrent Training Classes (4)
Water – W / Wastewater – WW / Safety – S / Management – M

1) Fundamentals of Water Distribution (W)

Dave Burns (Core & Main)

This class is designed to review all aspects of water distribution beyond the treatment facilities. We will discuss the problems with distribution – air accumulation – pressure control valves – pump station issues – tanks and metering. Also, a brief review of excavation safety and confined space. The attendees will gain insight into their own systems, and we will openly discuss current obstacles that utility owners are faced with.

2) Lagoon Aeration Technology: Reduces Energy, Activates & Digests Sludge (WW)

Jim Dartez (Reliant Water Technologies)

In 2010 a new technology was introduced to the global municipal and industrial WWT lagoon market. This session will discuss the 12 years of experience and data available of lagoon aeration technology. See how it works and learn different installation strategies.

3) Basic Asset Management & Preventative Maintenance Equals Lower Costs, Grant Money and Higher Reliability (W / WW)

Drew LaMarca (WATTS)

Learn about asset management and different cloud monitoring solutions. Also see how EPA is promoting asset management through SRFs and WIIN grants.

4) The Art of Direct Procurement: Streamline the Process and Reduce Costs (W / WW / M)

Travis Snead (Kaeser Compressors)

It is key for engineers, operators, and management to make cost-benefit decisions that positively impact the rate payers, operations staff, and the environment. Many times, these decisions are hard to quantify with various technologies, vendors, and manufacturers. This session will explore local equipment market and strategies municipalities can utilize to ensure the right product is delivered for application at hand.

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm Break in the Exhibit Hall

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Concurrent Training Classes (4)

Water – W / Wastewater – WW / Safety – S / Management – M

1) Navigating the Flood of Advanced Metering Technology (W)

Adam Frank (Neptune Technology Group)

Advanced metering technology is designed to help utilities more efficiently provide safe, clean drinking water to their customers while accurately measuring their water use. With all the new technologies, it can be difficult to decide which to select. This presentation will explore the advantages and drawbacks of available metering types to help attendees invest in the right solutions for the future.

2) Anaerobic Treatment: One Solution to High Strength Food & Beverage Waste Streams (WW)

Alan Gould (Inframark)

Learn how the anaerobic process works and pretreatment can benefit the food and beverage industry. See different process configurations of anaerobic treatment and discuss if anaerobic treatment can be used to offset or reduce your carbon footprint.

3) The Future of Pump Control (W / WW)

Don Dickinson (Phoenix Contact) & Mark Royston (Graybar Electric)

This presentation will highlight how technology is taking pump control beyond the basic function of turning pumps on and off by providing new capabilities needed to solve key challenges in the water sector. Combining pump control with artificial intelligence and machine learning enables enhanced asset management and process efficiencies for multi-pump systems that is the future of pump control.

4) Crisis Communications in the Instant Information Age: Lessons Learned from the Texas Freeze (M)

Mike McGill (WaterPIO)

This presentation will cover how to handle internal and external communications during emergencies, based on the Texas Freeze. Learn how to execute crisis communications during a major emergency, including essential COMMS with critical customers.

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Break in the Exhibit Hall

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Concurrent Training Classes (4)

Water – W / Wastewater – WW / Safety – S / Management - M

1) Science of Water Main Breaks & Service Line Leaks (W)

Scott Inspection Services (Scott Shipe)

This presentation will highlight water pressure management, pipe installation including bedding and backfilling of all types of pipe, maintaining control valves, altitude, pressure reducing, back pressure, pump control and pumping station check valves. This presentation will also provide insight into corrosion control for all buried infrastructure.

2) Smart Sewer Technology Tracks I&I and Avoids Spills Across Small Communities (WW)

Paris Neofotistos (SmartCover Systems)

This presentation will focus on how smart sewer technology addresses issues in small communities across North America. See case studies of how some communities used smart technology to deal with aging infrastructure, I&I issues and sewer spills.

3) PFAS Removal – Problem Solved (W / WW)

Mike Cecil (Cecil Consulting, LLC)

This session will discuss technology that can be used to remove PFAS from water and wastewater streams. This will include a discussion on ceramic membranes.

4) Challenges in Supply Chain and Proactive Solutions to Overcome It (M)

Pat Burke (Ferguson Waterworks)

During this session, presenters will discuss the challenges of the supply chain. Attendees will learn how to forecast supply chain needs, how to get ahead, and what to focus on.

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Water Taste Contest – Vendor Night in the Exhibit Hall – light refreshments – Drawing plus a prize drawing

8:00 pm – 10:30 pm

It's Back! Casino Night is Back! Come join in the fun with "Southern Corrosion Casino" brought to us by Astro Entertainment with Kyle Edgell & Creative Associates. Enjoy light refreshments too.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023

7:00 am Staff to Set Up Class Rooms/Prepare Registration

7:30 am – 8:30 am Registration/Exhibit Hall Opens with Breakfast

8:30 am – 9:30 am Concurrent Training Sessions (4)

Water – W / Wastewater – WW / Safety – S / Management – M

1) Efficient Way to Develop a Lead Service Line Inventory (W)

Leann Wishah & Aziz Ahmed (CHA Consulting)

One major update EPA placed on Lead Copper Rule is to require all water systems to prepare an available inventory of lead service lines (LSL) and update it annually. With an approaching compliance date of October 2021, municipal water authorities need to build an asset inventory of their service lines. Using a case study from New Smyrna Beach, participants will gain an understanding of how to proceed and complete a LSL inventory, and how to best estimate lead pipe replacement costs.

2) New Technologies for Joining & Restraining Pipe (W / WW)

Ken Alessi & Vince McCaffrey (Hymax)

Preserving our environment is of the utmost importance in today's world. The pipe connection advancements discussed in this presentation are designed to prevent failures in water and wastewater systems that lead to environmental and economic hardships. Attendees will come away with a broader knowledge regarding pipeline design, installation options, future maintenance considerations, and piping system capabilities.

3) Best Practices for Leveraging Technology in Facility Asset Management (W / WW)

Robert Krallinger & Phil Weser (Bowman)

Learn about best practices of how new technologies in asset management are being applied to improve the way that utility system owners can improve the quality and accuracy of implementing asset management programs. Case histories will be presented to demonstrate the process, challenges, and success.

4) USDA Rural Development Funding Opportunities (M)

Robert Hilt & Darlene Hughes (USDA-RD)

Rural Development will discuss its various financing programs for the funding of water and wastewater projects, including eligibility requirements, who to contact and how to file and application.

9:30 am – 10:00 am Break in the Exhibit Hall

10:00 am – 11:00am Concurrent Training Sessions (4)

Water – W / Wastewater – WW / Safety – S / Management – M

1) Town of Dayton Water Plant Up-Grade Success Story (W)

Tom Stanton (Water Membranes Systems)

In these times of high inflation and supply chain failures, the Town of Dayton successfully upgraded their water treatment facility under budget and with the estimated project completion time. The presentation will discuss the unique approach of selecting and first purchasing the major equipment components and providing the submittal layouts for the engineer to use in the design package sent to contractors for use when assembling their bids.

2) PFAS Considerations (W / WW)

Lindsay Boone (PACE Analytical)

Keep up to date with new changes to PFAS regulations that affect your system.

3) GIS & Construction – They Do Mix (W/WW)

David Reaves (Prism)

This session will discuss using GIS on a large-scale rehab project to organize and present work completed. Participants will understand how to create an as-built through GIS and how to connect reports in GIS for customer access.

4) Teams Matter: How to Increase Morale and Productivity on Your Team (M)

Larado Robinson (City of Salem)

This session will discuss some of the foundational principles of great teams versus those that are dysfunctional and toxic. High functioning teams are critically needed to boost morale and productivity. Individuals on great teams will typically stay in their current job rather than leave and will typically be more productive. This means greater job retention and better work efficiency.

11:00am – 11:30am Exhibit Hall Finale – Vendor Sponsored Drawing

Class Codes: Water – W, Wastewater – WW, Safety – S, Management - M

11:30am – 12:30pm Concurrent Training Sessions (4)

1) Water Treatment Residuals Handling: Overview of Processes and O&M Considerations (W)

Jeff Coyne (Hazen & Sawyer)

The coagulation process at a water treatment plant generates residuals that plant staff must collect and remove from the plant for disposal. Numerous processes and pieces of equipment are used to handle water treatment residuals and can include gravity thickeners, pumps, dewatering equipment, conveyors, and more. This training focuses on the residuals handling processes that are commonly used to water treatment plants and includes equipment and process summaries and O&M and safety considerations.

2) Guarantee the Success of Upgrading Your Wastewater Plant Using the ESCO Model (WW)

Mike Ramsey (Bedford Regional Water) & Barry Wilhelm (Schneider Electric)

The Bedford Regional Water Authority teamed up with Schneider Electric to upgrade the Central Wastewater plant using a design build process that guarantees the performance of the plant for 15 years. Attendees will learn how BRWA achieved greater efficiency by implementing 6 Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs) and by eliminating 3 critical points of failure at the plant.

3) Safety Benefits of Hydro Excavation (W / WW)

Dick Thompson (Vermeer MV Solutions)

Learn about the safety benefits of hydro excavation. Understand the process of soft-dig or non-evasive excavation along with the equipment used and applications. Also learn how to identify existing utilities when excavating underground water lines.

4) How Workforce Management Technology Can Reduce the Staffing Challenges the Industry Faces (M)

Mitch Copman & Kurtis Warne (Cartegraph/ OpenGov)

In today's extremely challenging talent search, water utilities are behind the eight-ball trying to keep good people and finding new people for any open positions. In this session, learn how having the right workforce management software can reduce the staffing pressures the industry is facing.

12:30 pm – 12:45 pm Break

12:45 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch (Attendees Only)

1:30 pm Closing Session / Awards / Prizes