



*Association of Clean  
Water Administrators*

# NUTRIENTS PERMITTING WORKSHOP

# 2017 ACWA NUTRIENTS PERMITTING WORKSHOP



**DECEMBER 5–7, 2017**  
**BOISE, IDAHO**



MEET • FEAST • PLAY • DREAM

## **PURPOSE**

This meeting is intended to help support states and EPA to further identify challenges & barriers to nutrient permitting program implementation, highlight opportunities for program improvement & enhancement, showcase innovations, assist with analysis of training, guidance, tools, and other support material needs, improve administrative efficiencies, clarify roles and responsibilities, promote program streamlining, build stronger linkages to WQS & TMDLs, modernize permit terms and data management, revise program performance measures, identify program areas where targeted technical assistance would be most beneficial, and attempt to solve some of the most intractable nutrients issues.

## **ATTENDEES**

The Nutrients Permitting Workshop is a national event specifically organized by state and federal regulators for EPA and state program staff representatives. Attendees include:

- State program staff involved in managing nutrients programs
- EPA Headquarter and Regional staff involved in nutrient program management
- Partnering state and federal agency staff that provide technical and/or regulatory assistance to the nutrient programs
- Invited guests

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Water Environment Federation, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and the Nutrients Permitting Workshop Planning Committee

# TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

ALL SESSIONS ARE IN THE ASPEN ROOM.

7:30 AM	<b>BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN</b> Each day of the workshop, the Riverside Hotel will offer a breakfast buffet for \$10.99 and lunch specials for \$12.00
8:30 AM	<b>REGISTRATION &amp; SIGN-IN</b>
9:00 – 9:30 AM	<b>WELCOME &amp; OPENING REMARKS (30 MIN)</b> <i>Sean Rolland</i> , Deputy Director, Association of Clean Water Administrators <i>John Tippets</i> , Director, Idaho Dept. of Environmental Quality <i>Kevin Weiss</i> , Chief, State and Regional Branch, Water Permits Division, Office of Wastewater Management, United States Environmental Protection Agency
9:30 – 10:00 AM	<b>SETTING THE STAGE – WHERE ARE WE WITH RESPECT TO PERMITTING FOR NUTRIENT POLLUTION? (30 MIN)</b> <i>Danielle Stephan</i> , Water Permits Division, Office of Wastewater Management, United States Environmental Protection Agency <i>Adam Schnieders</i> , Water Quality Coordinator, Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources
10:00 – 11:00 AM	<b>VARIOUS PERMITTING APPROACHES FOR NUTRIENTS AMONG THE STATES (60 MIN)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Using Numeric Nutrient Criteria for Nutrient permitting (30 MIN)</b> <i>Mike Suplee</i>, Water Quality Standards and Modeling Section, Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality</li><li>• <b>Translating Narrative Criteria into WQBELs (30 MIN)</b> <i>Glenn Schmitt</i>, Aquatic Biologist Specialist, Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality <i>Shelly Lemon</i>, Bureau Chief, Surface Water Quality Bureau, New Mexico Environment Department</li></ul>
11:00 – 11:15 AM	<b>BREAK (15 MIN)</b>
11:15 AM – 12:15 PM	<b>VARIOUS PERMITTING APPROACHES FOR NUTRIENTS AMONG THE STATES (60 MIN)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Nutrient Reduction Strategies and Permitting (30 MIN)</b> <i>Adam Schnieders</i>, Water Quality Coordinator, Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources</li><li>• <b>Performance Based Approaches to Nutrient Permitting (30 MIN)</b> <i>Ellen Kutzer</i>, Clean Water Permits Section Manager, Water Quality Control Division, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment</li></ul>
12:15 – 1:45 PM	<b>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN (90 MIN)</b>
1:45 – 2:30 PM	<b>SETTING THE STAGE – NUTRIENT REMOVAL TECHNOLOGIES (45 MIN)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Overview of the various types of technology available</b> <i>David Clarke</i>, Director of Wastewater, HDR Inc.</li></ul>
2:30 – 3:30 PM	<b>PERSPECTIVES ON NUTRIENT REMOVAL TECHNOLOGIES (60 MIN)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Low Cost Nutrient Removal in Montana</b> <i>Grant Weaver</i>, President, The Water Planet Company</li></ul>

- **Struvite harvested as a useful byproduct**  
*Haley Falconer*, Environmental Manager, City of Boise  
*Ron Gearhart*, Wastewater Process Coordinator, City of Boise
- **Biosolids Farming**  
*Ben Nydegger*, Biosolids Program Manager, City of Boise

3:30- 3:45 PM

**BREAK (15 MIN)**

3:45 – 5:00 PM

**SMALL GROUP SESSION – CONCERNS WITH IMPLEMENTING TECHNOLOGIES (75 MIN)**

Attendees will break into small groups to discuss concerns regarding permitting implementation and technology. Groups will then report to the larger audience.

5:00 PM

**MEETING ADJOURN**

5:30 – 7:30 PM

**HAPPY HOUR OUTING**

Clairvoyant Brewing Company  
2800 W. Idaho Street, Boise, ID 83702  
(15 minute walk from Riverside Hotel)

## *WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6*

7:30 AM

**BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN**

8:30 – 10:30 AM

**FLEXIBILITIES IN PERMITTING FOR NUTRIENTS – INNOVATIVE AND NOVEL APPROACHES (120 MIN)**

- **State Variances (45 MIN)**  
*Adrian Stocks*, Wastewater Field Operations Director, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources  
*Mike Suplee*, Environmental Scientist, Water Quality Standards and Modeling Section, Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality
- **Watershed-based Approach (45 MIN)**  
*Allan Brockenbrough*, Manager, Office of VPDES Permits, Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality  
*Mike Templeton*, Manager, Wastewater Permitting Section, Division of Water Resources, North Carolina Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources  
*Rowland Denny*, Supervising Environmental Analyst, Connecticut Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection
- **Integrated Planning (30 MIN)**  
*Steven Wood*, Assistant Engineer (Environmental), Division of Water, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

10:30 – 10:45 AM

**BREAK (15 MIN)**

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

**FLEXIBILITIES IN PERMITTING FOR NUTRIENTS – INNOVATIVE AND NOVEL APPROACHES (90 MIN)**

- **Adaptive Management Approaches (45 MIN)**  
*Adrian Stocks*, Wastewater Field Operations Director, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
- **Implementation through Antidegradation (45 MIN)**  
*Tom Stiles*, Assistant Director, Bureau of Water, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment

12:00- 1:30 PM

**LUNCH ON YOUR OWN (90 MIN)**

1:30 -2:15 PM

**FLEXIBILITIES IN PERMITTING FOR NUTRIENTS – INNOVATIVE AND NOVEL APPROACHES (45 MIN)**

- **Water Quality Trading**

*Bobby Cochran*, Executive Director, Willamette Partnership

*Matt Lindon*, Research Scientist, Effluent Limits, Environmental Analysis & Outcomes, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

*Mike Templeton*, Wastewater Permitting Section, Division of Water Resources, North Carolina Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources

2:15 – 2:45 PM

**PANEL OF STATE PRESENTERS TAKE Q&A FROM AUDIENCE (30 MIN)**

2:45 -3:00 PM

**BREAK (15 MIN)**

3:00 – 5:00 PM

**OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO PERMITTING FOR NUTRIENT POLLUTION (120 MIN)**

This session will focus on identifying the key barriers to implementing nutrient controls in NPDES permits and tee up the small group discussion focused on a “what if” exercise. What would an ideal permitting program/approach look like to control nutrient pollution? The small groups would each report out to the larger group.

5:00 PM

**MEETING ADJOURN**

## *THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7*

7:30 AM

**BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN**

8:30 – 9:15 PM

**THE INTERRELATION OF PERMITTING (45 MIN)**

Panelists will discuss the relation between nutrients permitting and the permitting of other pollutants.

- **Chemical phosphorus removal with aluminum sulfate or poly-aluminum chloride and impacts to aluminum criteria**

*Richard Friesner*, Director of Water Quality Programs, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission

- **Ammonia and Nitrogen: Considering Nitrogen removal when upgrading to meet ammonia standards**

*Tom Stiles*, Assistant Director, Bureau of Water, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment

9:15 – 10:00 AM

**SMALL GROUP SESSION – INTEGRATING TMDLS WITH PERMITS (45 MIN)**

Attendees will break into small groups to identify issues and potential solutions regarding the integration of TMDLs with permits. Groups will then report to the larger audience.

10:00 – 10:15 PM

**BREAK (15 MIN)**

10:15 – 10:45 PM

**NUTRIENT MITIGATION IN BOISE: DIXIE DRAIN (30 MIN)**

*Steve Burgos*, Public Works Director, City of Boise

10:45 – 11:30 AM

**PLANNING FOR FUTURE MEETINGS (45 MIN)**

Based on the conversations over the past two days, the Planning Committee would present a strawman of what the next six meeting topics could be and get feedback from the group on what our priorities should be.

**11:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**WORKSHOP WRAP UP (30 MIN)**

**Mark Patrick McGuire**, Environmental Program Manager, Association of Clean Water Administrators

**Barry Liner**, Senior Director, Water Science & Engineering Center, Water Environment Federation

**1:00 – 4:30 PM (Optional)**

**FIELD TRIP TO THE DIXIE DRAIN**

Shuttles will leave from the Riverside Hotel

***ENJOY THE REST OF YOUR TIME IN BOISE AND HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME!***

**DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS...**

**2018 NATIONAL STORMWATER ROUNDTABLE**

February 20, 2018 - February 23, 2018

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriot

Atlanta, GA

**2018 MID-YEAR MEETING**

March 19, 2018 - March 21, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn – US DC Capitol Hill

Washington, D.C.

**2018 PRETREATMENT WORKSHOP**

April 17, 2018 - April 18, 2018

Tommy Douglas Conference Center (*Tentative*)

Silver Spring, MD

Check with Mark Patrick McGuire, [mpmcguire@acwa-us.org](mailto:mpmcguire@acwa-us.org), for updates!