

Association of Clean Water Administrators

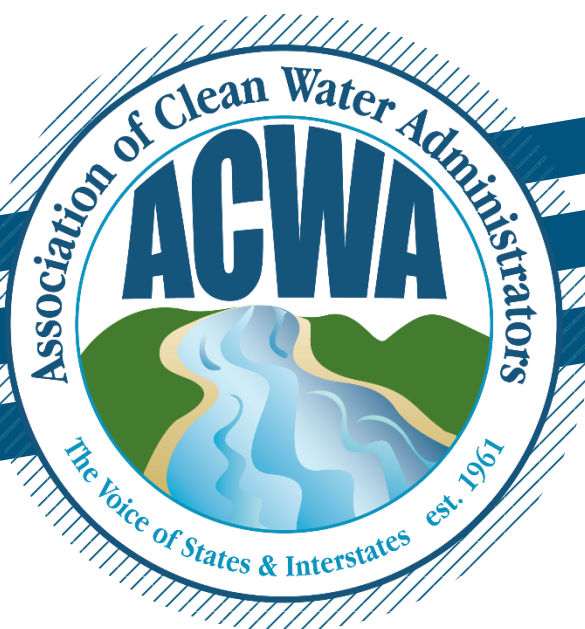
2026 Water Quality Standards Workshop

**Little Rock, AR
April 21-23, 2026**

ACWA will be holding the 2026 Water Quality Standards Workshop in Little Rock, AR, April 21-23, 2026.

This workshop is a national meeting organized by ACWA for state staff involved in state water quality standards programs, as well as for both Regional and Headquarters-based U.S. Environmental Protection Agency managers and staff.

The workshop will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Little Rock. More information can be found on ACWA's [events page](#).



SPECIAL THANKS TO

United States Environmental Protection Agency and the members of the Workshop Planning Committee

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

8:30 – 9:00 AM CT	SIGN-IN
9:00 – 9:30 AM CT	WELCOME Bailey Taylor, Director, Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality
9:30 – 10:45 AM CT	EPA PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES/DISCUSSION OF EPA-STATE COLLABORATION
10:45 – 11:00 AM CT	BREAK
11:00 – 12:00 PM CT	ANTIDEGRADATION Presentations: <i>Missouri Antidegradation Implementation Procedure and Proposed Revisions</i> - Cailie Carlile, Missouri Department of Natural Resources (virtual) <i>Maryland's Tier I / Tier II Antidegradation Policy</i> - Melinda Cutler, Maryland Department of the Environment
12:00 – 1:30 PM CT	LUNCH BREAK (On Your Own)
1:30 – 3:00 PM CT	STATE CASE STUDIES Presentations: <i>Inland Lake Chloride Study</i> - Kevin Goodwin, Water Resources Division, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy <i>Natural Background Site-Specific Chloride Criteria in Nebraska's Salt Creek Basin</i> – Kate Bird, Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment <i>Lake Alum Treatments</i> - Meagan Sims, Maine Department of Environmental Protection
3:00 – 3:15 PM CT	BREAK
3:15 – 5:00 PM CT	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PANEL Presentations: <i>Public Information Access: Mapping, Documents, and Water Quality Data</i> - Jamie Phillippe, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality <i>Bridging the Stream: A Collaborative Pathway to MD's Freshwater Ammonia Criteria Adoption</i> – Matt Stover, Maryland Department of the Environment <i>Making Data Accessible Through Interactive Web Apps</i> - Tanner Senti & Eddy Wild, Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality <i>Chloride Monitoring Partners</i> - Kevin Goodwin, Water Resources Division, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Discussion Topics: - Tools/tips for interacting with stakeholder groups - Communication tools/stakeholder ID + engagement
6:00 PM CT	Optional Networking Happy Hour Fassler Hall, 311 E Capitol Ave, Little Rock, AR 72202

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

8:30 – 9:00 AM CT

SIGN-IN

9:00 – 10:30 AM CT

EMERGING CONTAMINANTS

Presentations: *Microplastics in Michigan* - Eddie Kostelnik, Water Resources Division, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (virtual)
Designing and Implementing Trash TMDLs in Maryland - Anna Kasko, Maryland Department of the Environment (virtual)
An Introduction to Critical Minerals and Rare Earth Elements - Victoria Bushan, Missouri Department of Natural Resources (virtual)

10:30 – 10:45 AM CT

BREAK

10:45 – 12:00 PM CT

HUMAN HEALTH CRITERIA

Discussion Topics:

- Update from Georgia
- Is your state adopting the criteria? Why/why not?
- What considerations are going into it/any modifications?
- Are fish consumption rates changing?
- Cancer Risk Rates
- Relative Source Contributions
- TRR
- EPA Update

12:00 – 1:30 PM CT

LUNCH BREAK (On Your Own)

1:30 – 3:00 PM CT

CYANOTOXINS

Overview of Harmful Algal Blooms in Arkansas: From Monitoring to Advisories – Felicia Osburn, Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality
Cyanotoxins in South Carolina – Drew Edwards, South Carolina Department of Environmental Services
Algal Blooms: Coordinating Satellite Imagery Data with Field Sampling – Jamie Phillippe, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
EPA HAB Updates

3:00 – 3:30 PM CT

BREAK

3:30 – 5:00 PM CT

LEGAL UPDATES

Update on EPA vs SF and Other Relevant Cases - Basil Hicks, Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

8:30 – 9:00 AM CT

SIGN-IN

9:00 – 10:30 AM CT

TRIENNIAL REVIEW

Panel Discussion + Short Presentations

- Mary Barnett, Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality

- Marie Todey, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Nicole Newcomer, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
- Jamie Phillippe, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

10:30 – 11:00 AM CT

BREAK/CHECK OUT OF HOTEL

11:00 – 12:00 PM CT

WRAP-UP and NEXT STEPS