

Association of Clean Water Administrators

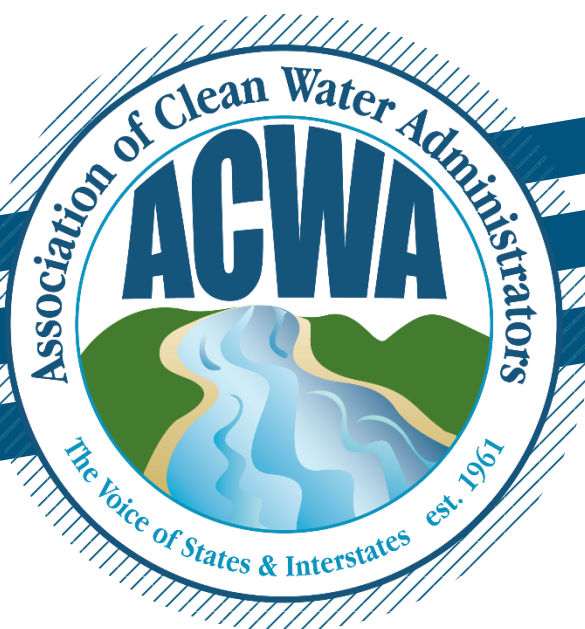
2026 Water Quality Standards Workshop

**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: *Missouri Antidegradation Implementation Procedure and Proposed Revisions* - Cailie Carlile, Missouri Department of Natural Resources (virtual)
Maryland's Tier I / Tier II Antidegradation Policy - 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: *Inland Lake Chloride Study* - Kevin Goodwin, Water Resources Division, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
Natural Background Site-Specific Chloride Criteria in Nebraska's Salt Creek Basin – Kate Bird, Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment
Lake Alum Treatments - Meagan Sims, Maine Department of Environmental Protection

3:00 – 3:15 PM CT

BREAK

3:15 – 5:00 PM CT

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PANEL

Presentations: *Public Information Access: Mapping, Documents, and Water Quality Data* - Jamie Phillippe, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Bridging the Stream: A Collaborative Pathway to MD's Freshwater Ammonia Criteria Adoption – Matt Stover, Maryland Department of the Environment
Making Data Accessible Through Interactive Web Apps - Tanner Senti & Eddy Wild, Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality
Chloride Monitoring Partners - Kevin Goodwin, Water Resources Division, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

► **Discussion Topics:** - Do you have any tools/tips for interacting with stakeholder groups?
- What are some ways for successful communication with the general public?

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:

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

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 Today, 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