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Important Notice: Masks and proof of vaccination or negative test result 72 hours prior to the conference will be required. NO EXCEPTIONS!

AEA 2021 Annual Meeting and Conference

November 16 - 17
Caesars, Atlantic City

Draft Agenda

*3.5 w/ww tchs (11/17)
PE & CEUs pending*

Tuesday, November 16

5:00 p.m.

Conference Opens

Welcome

Keynote

The Honorable Cory Booker, Senator – New Jersey (Invited)
Senator Booker will discuss the status of Federal Water Funding

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Networking Reception

Wednesday, November 17

7:30 a.m.

Breakfast

8:30 a.m.

Annual Meeting

9:00 a.m.

Securing Operational Technology

Ryan Baicher, SHI International

Securing Operational Technology (OT) requires a unique set of people, process, and tools that are often lacking in capability to meet the desired security outcome. The American Rescue Plan could bring a new wave of investment to securing OT environments like water plants which are critical to our national security and stability. Attendees will hear how building the right people, process, and tools are key elements to being able to detect and respond to the threats they face.

9:45 a.m.

21st Century Asset Management Plan

Irene Battaglia, VanCleeef Engineering

This presentation will focus on how the Town of Clinton developed a successful AMP by following several critical steps. Asset management is a planning and organizational tool used by authorities and utilities to improve operations, plan for practical and efficient financial investments, and optimize service to customers. A modern Asset Management Plan (AMP) is a particular challenge at the municipal level, where small- and medium-sized water supply and wastewater treatment utilities, owned and operated by independent public entities, are tasked with increased responsibilities amid reduced resources.

10:30 a.m.

50 Years of Safety in Environmental Authorities

Janette Kessler, Atlantic County UA

This presentation will look at the past 50 years by decade and see how instrumental both AEA and OSHA have contributed greatly to and helped to transform the environmental authorities in and around New Jersey. While a lot has changed over 50 years, the mission of both organizations has not. Each continue to work hard to address the challenges of our industry, ultimately, both with the goal of improving public health and safety.

11:15 a.m.

NJPDES Permits: PFAS, Nitrate, and Other Hot Issues

James Cosgrove, Kleinfelder

The speaker will provide an update on hot issues facing NJPDES permit holders. The presentation will focus on NJDEP's status on regulating PFAS in surface water and how such regulation could impact Discharge to Surface Water (DSW) permits. The presentation will address the nitrate surface water quality standard and summarize the progress with NJDEP on establishing revised standards that will further protect drinking water intakes, yet avoid unnecessary and extremely expensive treatment plant upgrades.

12:00 p.m. Lunch

EPDA Certificate Presentation

1:30 p.m.

What You Should Know: The New Jersey Design-Build Construction Services Procurement Act

Rick Sapir, Hawkins, Delafield and Wood

Megan Sartor, Hawkins, Delafield and Wood

On April 30, 2021, the State of New Jersey enacted the "Design-Build Construction Services Procurement Act". The Act establishes procedures for awarding Design-Build contracts and contains provisions specific to several types of governmental units. The speakers will focus this presentation on local governments such as municipal utilities authorities which are subject to the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law.

2:15

Privatization Panel

Donald Cohen, In the Public Interest

Shar Habibi, In the Public Interest

The speakers will discuss their study of water privatization on the national level and parallel trends in the electricity sector.

3:00 p.m.

AEA Fellowship Presentation

Nicola White, Environmental Defense Fund Climate Corps Fellow

Nicola will showcase an energy profile developed this summer working with AEA as an EDF Climate Corps Fellow. A database of members' status, needs and interests regarding energy efficiency and climate resiliency was created. The speaker will recommend how to make further progress on these important goals, that run-in tandem with the 2019 Energy Master Plan.

3:15 p.m.

NJ Clean Energy Efficiency Programs

Ray Perry, NJ Natural Gas

Description to come

3:45 p.m.

The Next 50 Years

Bernie Bujak, South Monmouth

Christine Ballard, CDM Smith

Brian Brach, Manasquan River RSA

Brian Valentino, Western Monmouth UA

The speakers will discuss how the implementation of the strategic plan will take AEA into the next 50 years.

4:15 p.m.

Door Prizes