



2024 Conference & Trade Show
May 9, 2024
Lake Morey Resort

Tentative Schedule		
8 – 11:30 am	Trade Show Location: Terrace Ballroom (downstairs)	
8:30 – 9:30 am	Regulatory Updates on Wastewater 1 TCH – Wastewater Location: TBD	VOSHA Emergency Preparedness and Response 1 TCH – Water & Wastewater Location: TBD
9:30 – 10 am	Drinking Water Taste Test Judging with Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee Location: Lobby (main floor)	
10 – 11:30 am	Regulatory Updates on Drinking Water 1.5 TCH – Water Location: TBD	Public and Crisis Communications about PFAS 1.5 TCH – Water & Wastewater Location: TBD
11:30 am – 1 pm	Luncheon and Annual Membership Meeting Location: Restaurant (downstairs)	
1 – 3 pm	Trade Show Location: Terrace Ballroom (downstairs)	
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Physical Security Considerations for Water/Wastewater Facilities 1 TCH – Water & Wastewater Location: TBD	State Revolving Funds: Prepare to Apply for Funding 1 TCH – Water & Wastewater Location: TBD
2:45 – 3 pm	Door Prize & 50/50 Raffle Drawings Location: Terrace Ballroom (downstairs)	

Sponsors

Gold

N.A. Manosh
Otter Creek Engineering
Ti-SALES

Silver

Aldrich + Elliott
Weston & Sampson

Bronze

Clow Valve Company
Statewide Aquastore

Class Descriptions

Regulatory Updates on Wastewater

Time: 8:30 – 9:30 am

Credit: 1 TCH – Wastewater

Presenters: Amy Polaczyk, Michelle Kolb, and Heather Collins (Watershed Management Division)

Join DEC Wastewater staff for program updates, including staffing and an overview of the status of the statewide PFAS sampling project. Updates will be followed by a walk-through of the information contained in permits and fact sheets. Discharge limitations, monitoring requirements, phosphorus plans, WET testing, non-compliance notifications, proficiency testing, and general conditions will be covered. If you have questions about what something in your permit means, this is presentation aims to answer them.

VOSHA Emergency Preparedness and Response

Time: 8:30 – 9:30 am

Credit: 1 TCH – Water & Wastewater

Presenter: Miriam Owens (Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Administration)

This will be an overview of employee safety and health considerations to minimize exposure in the event of an emergency. This session will introduce how to use OSHA's Emergency Action E-Tool and discuss how to create an emergency action plan and fire prevention plan. Finally, the session will review response and recovery protocols.

Regulatory Updates on Drinking Water

Time: 10 – 11:30 am

Credit: 1.5 TCH – Water

Presenter: Ben Montross (Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division)

Join Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division (DWGPD) staff to review recent regulatory changes including the Vermont Water Supply Rule as well as upcoming federal rule changes, including Lead and Copper and PFAS.

Public and Crisis Communications about PFAS

Time: 10 – 11:30 am

Credit: 1.5 TCH – Water & Wastewater

Presenter: Mike McGill (WaterPIO)

PFAS concerns are one of the greatest threat to public confidence in water and wastewater services in our industry's history. This presentation will review the current PFAS landscape—including the impacts of the EPA's finalized MCLs, the Health Advisories that are likely to remain in place, and the UCMR 5 results being reported nationwide—and detail successful, proactive communication strategies that will benefit water and wastewater utilities for years to come.

WaterPIO has helped dozens of utilities deal with PFAS discoveries, including a utility in Vermont. This presentation will provide recent case study highlights of utilities managing the reactions to PFAS discoveries to keep their reputations intact. We will go over the methods and messages used to help the public gain a balanced perspective even during media frenzies.

Class Descriptions

Physical Security Considerations for Water/Wastewater Facilities

Time: 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Credit: 1 TCH – Water & Wastewater

Presenters: Gabriel Palazzi (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency) and Kenneth Deschaine (Vermont Intelligence Center)

The goal of physical security is the protection of critical facilities and systems by leveraging well designed, layered security technologies, policies, and procedures. The Physical Security Framework includes elements in categories related to detection, delay, assessment, response, and deterrence. Generally, physical security includes the integrated application of locks, intrusion detection systems, camera systems, electronic access control systems, fences, gates, guards, and related policies and procedures. This overview will be focused on empowering non-security professionals tasked with protecting vulnerable water/wastewater systems in a resource-challenged environment.

State Revolving Funds: Prepare to Apply for Funding

Time: 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Credit: 1 TCH – Water & Wastewater

Presenter: Ashley Lucht (Quantified Ventures)

Securing funding and financing for infrastructure projects is a necessary part of running a utility, but where do you start? This session will outline the “Step 0” tasks necessary to prepare for applying for the three most common sources of capital in Vermont to make infrastructure investments: State Revolving Funds, USDA-RD loans, and the Vermont Bond Bank.



Drinking Water Taste Test



**VERMONT
DRINKING
WATER
WEEK**

Do you have the best tasting drinking water in Vermont? Well, here’s your opportunity to prove it. The Vermont Drinking Water Week Committee welcomes public water systems to enter the 2024 Drinking Water Taste Test.

To be eligible, water systems must have a valid Permit to Operate with no state or federal drinking water violations during the previous calendar year. Submit an entry form by April 27. Full rules and the entry form can be found at vtruralwater.org/conference

Winners will be announced during the conference luncheon. The winning system will be entered into the Great American Water Taste Test, held by the National Rural Water Association, in February 2025.

We are also looking for volunteers to judge the taste test!