



INDUSTRIAL WATER SOLUTIONS

JUNE 23-25 | COLUMBUS, OH

BUILD RESILIENCE THROUGH
TECHNOLOGY, MARKETS,
& INNOVATION

Presented by Water Environment Federation & WaterReuse Association

Industrial Water Solutions June 23-25, 2025 | Columbus, Ohio

Water is the fuel of the new economy, and the circular water economy is key to unlocking its full potential. The Industrial Water Solutions conference will unite industry and utility leaders to build sustainable water management programs that recover resources, minimize waste, and turn waste streams into value streams. This essential event will feature strategies that boost resilience and ensure reliable water for both industry and the communities they serve.

Monday, June 23

1:00PM – 4:30PM **Pre-Conference Workshop: Breaking Barriers for Industrial Water Reuse**

Participants will explore innovative solutions for industrial water challenges in the Breaking Barriers for Industrial Water Reuse workshop. This interactive session features case studies from multiple industries, offering insights into overcoming barriers and implementing effective water reuse strategies. Participants will learn from experts in the field regarding industrial reuse regulations and applicable treatment technologies, then engage in case study exercises where they will collaborate on solutions.

1:00PM – 4:00PM **City of Columbus Compost Facility Tour**

Visit the City of Columbus' compost facility which has beneficially reused 100% of the city's biosolids, with no incineration and no landfill, for nearly a decade. The tour includes a presentation from Ohio State University on research related to combining biosolids with water residuals (alum specific), which adds carbon to the soil while aiding in the sequestering of phosphorus.

1:30PM – 4:30PM **New Albany Business Park Tour** **SOLD OUT**

The central Ohio city of New Albany has become a focal point of the state's data center boom, with over 100 facilities in the region powering everything from tech support to data storage. Encompassing 9,000 acres, The New Albany International Business Park is one of the largest strategically planned business parks in the country and one of the fastest growing in the Midwest. It has attracted over \$6 billion in private investment including hyperscale data centers, biotech industries, manufacturing, and Intel.

5:00PM – 6:30PM **Welcome Reception**



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Tuesday, June 24

7:30AM – 8:30AM Networking Breakfast

8:30AM – 10:00AM **Opening Plenary**

Panel 1: Economic Development Setting the Stage - This panel will explore how industrial water strategy drives economic development contributing to water security, enhancing business competitiveness, and supporting community prosperity. Experts from industry, government, and utilities will share insights on ways in which circular water initiatives strengthen local and regional economies.

John Kmiec, *Tucson Water* (Facilitator)
Shari Whalen, *TRI-GID*
Anh Quach Crandall, *Google*
John Sheets, *CDM Smith*

10:00AM – 10:30AM Networking Break

10:30AM – 12:00AM **Concurrent Sessions (2 Tracks)**

Session 1A: Intersectoral Partnerships - Explore how cross-sectoral collaboration is advancing sustainable industrial water solutions through the circular water economy. This session showcases partnerships that drive water reuse, the recovery of valuable resources, and water as a renewable asset supporting community resilience and economic prosperity.

Rick Warner, *Jacobs* (Facilitator)
Rachel Havrelock, *Freshwater Lab Chicago*
John Newsome, *City of Columbus*
Tim Brown, *Newton County Water & Sewerage*
Aaron U Jit Loong, *Gradiant*

Session 1B: High Tech & Data Center Cooling - As the AI revolution drives demand for high-performance computing, water and energy use in data centers is surging. This session explores innovative cooling strategies through the lens of the circular water economy, focusing on water reuse mechanism for establishing sustainable digital infrastructure.

Ufuk Erdal, *Black & Veatch* (Facilitator)
Michael Skovgaard, *Grundfos*
Tala Tala, *Los Alamos National Lab*
Micah Vieux, *Loudoun Water*
Jared Burdick, *Sundt*

12:00PM – 1:00PM Networking Lunch



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1:00PM – 2:30PM

Plenary & Keynote

Keynote Speaker: Jeffrey Berger, Dalberg

Panel 2: Innovations in Industrial Water Treatment - Explore cutting-edge advancements in industrial water treatment—from biological processes and advanced filtration to data-driven optimization and resource recovery—within the framework of the circular water economy. Experts from research, technology, and utilities will discuss how these innovations are turning waste into value and enabling more sustainable, resilient water systems.

Heather Jennings, *Huma Environmental*

Ryan James, *Battelle*

Peter Fiske, *NAWI*

Saurabh Singh, *BlueTech Research*

2:30PM – 3:00PM

Networking Break

3:00PM – 4:30PM

Concurrent Sessions (2 Tracks)

Session 2A: Food & Beverage - This session highlights innovative strategies, technologies, and partnerships driving sustainable water management in the food and beverage industry. Speakers will explore how the sector is implementing industrial water solutions while maintaining operational efficiency.

Courtney Tripp, *Grundfos* (Facilitator)

John Crisman, *Moleaer*

Nick Butson, *Geosyntec*

Session 2B: Design Build - This session focuses on a broad spectrum of design build approaches for industrial project delivery. Group discussion will focus on addressing project delivery challenges to co-create elements of an industrial project delivery process of the future.

Barb Martin, *WCDA* (Facilitator)

Ernie Maschner, *Victaulic*

Bob Salvatelli, *H2O Innovation*

Tiffany Shaw, *Haskell*

4:30PM – 6:00PM

Cocktails and Conversations

Participants will network and learn in a small group setting while rotating between focused topical conversations.

→ [View the topics](#)



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Wednesday, June 25

7:30AM – 8:30AM Networking Breakfast

8:30AM – 10:00AM **Plenary & Keynote**

Keynote Speaker: Andrew Sawyers, U.S. EPA

Panel 3: Navigating a Changing Landscape - This panel will explore the latest policy developments, regulatory challenges, and strategies for ensuring reliable and cost-effective water solutions. Experts from industry, utilities, and the public sector will share insights on navigating government affairs, managing risk, and leveraging innovation to support industrial growth.

Thomas Iseman, *Veolia* (Facilitator)

Erica Spitzig, *Taft*

Sharon Waller, *MWRD Greater Chicago*

10:00AM – 10:30AM Networking Break

10:30AM – 12:00PM **Concurrent Sessions (2 Tracks)**

Session 3A: Financing - In this panel, speakers will discuss the financial tools and funding mechanisms that currently exist for industrial water solutions projects. Hear various perspectives: from federal representatives to consultants to the industries that implement projects.

Rob Simm, *Stantec* (Facilitator)

Dan Wilson, *Kiewit*

Jorianne Jernberg, *U.S. EPA*

Matthew Silver, *Cambrian*

Session 3B: Energy & Carbon - This TEDx-style session unites trailblazers from the water-energy nexus, showcasing bold ideas from pioneering startups, global engineering firms, and cutting-edge research. The focus will include innovations in the circular water economy, exploring sustainable solutions that link water, energy, and carbon management.

Lucy Pugh, *AECOM* (Facilitator)

Krystal Perez, *Brown & Caldwell*

David Sheh, *Capture6*

Margaret Wild, *Kennedy Jenks*

Mike Hightower, *NM Produced Water Consortium*

12:00PM – 1:30PM **Industry Themed Networking Lunch**

Join a table designated for individuals interested in a particular industrial sector from food & beverage to energy and more.



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1:30PM – 3:00PM

Closing Plenary & Keynote

Keynote Speaker: Mark Cassalia, CEO Water Mandate

Panel 4: Looking Forward - This panel will explore the future of industrial water use, highlighting emerging trends, innovative strategies, and the growing role of collaboration in securing sustainable water resources. Experts from diverse sectors will discuss the intersection of technology, policy, and corporate leadership in shaping the next generation of industrial water solutions.

Greta Zornes, *CDM Smith* (Facilitator)

Alex Setmayer, *Equinix*

Adam Lehmann, *The Nature Conservancy*

Naushita Sharma, *Oak Ridge Institute*

Steven Skripnik, *LimnoTech*

3:00PM

Conference Close

DRAFT

