

2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WATEREUSE TEXAS
CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 15-17
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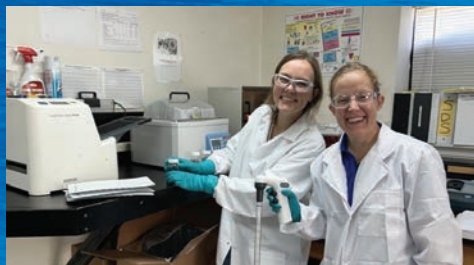
Across North America, Carollo is helping agencies, regulators, community groups, and technical experts break down traditional silos for a unified and holistic approach to reuse. It's a reminder that while water knows no boundaries, neither should our efforts to manage it wisely. Count on Carollo to be your trusted partner at every stage of your reuse project, and together we'll create a more resilient water future.

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CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

The WateReuse Texas Annual Conference is pleased to offer Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and Professional Development Hours for all states.

How Many Educational Credits Can I Earn at the Texas Annual Conference?

By attending all sessions, you can earn up to 13.75 CEUs through TCEQ, pending approval.

When Will I Receive Credits for the Texas Annual Conference?

Certificates will be made available to participants electronically within 8-10 weeks after the Conference for sessions that attendees sign in with the room monitor as having attended. Please keep in mind that, although WateReuse does provide these files, most states will require the individual licensee to report continuing education credits.

General Information

Terminology and education credit requirements and restrictions vary widely. All participants are responsible for checking with their license/certification authority to ensure that the WateReuse technical concurrent sessions meet specific requirements. Please contact wrtxconference@watereuse.org with questions about WRTX provided certificates.

EXHIBITION HOURS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

12:00 pm – 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

8:00 am – 5:15 pm

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8:00 am – 3:00 pm

MEET THE EXHIBITORS

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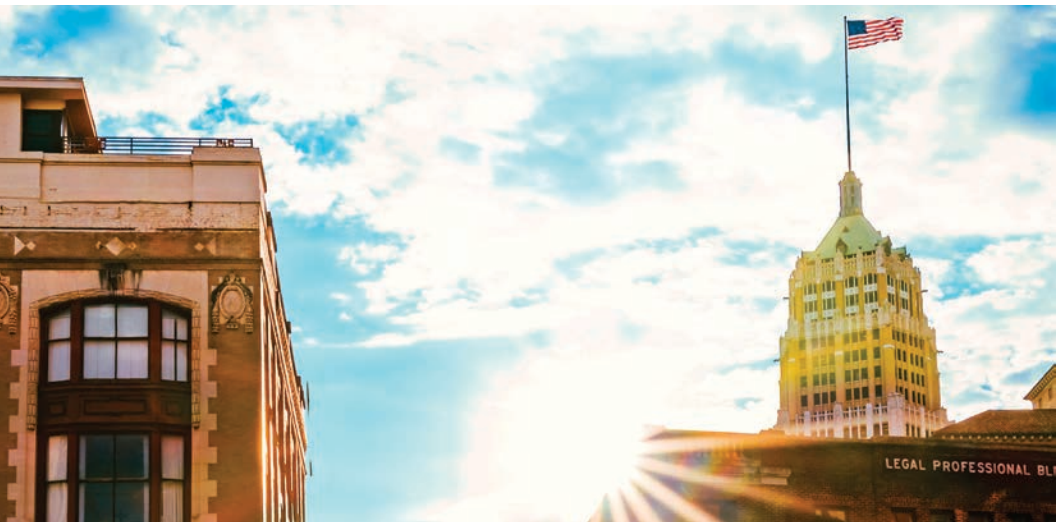
Newterra

Organo

Orthos Filters

Texas Commission on

Environmental Quality



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

WELCOME RECEPTION

Tuesday, September 15 | 5:15 pm – 7:30 pm | Exhibit Hall



Join sponsors, exhibitors, and fellow attendees to kick off this year's conference. Connect with the Texas reuse community while enjoying appetizers and drinks, including a special IPA brewed with recycled water by Senate Ave. Brewing Company.

Featuring Beer Brewed with Recycled Water from:



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OPENING SESSION & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Wednesday, September 16 | 8:30 am | Majestic B&C

GEORGE HAWKINS | Moonshot Missions

George Hawkins is founder and CEO of the innovation-focused non-profit Moonshot Missions, which helps agencies identify and adopt strategies to deliver better service and lower costs, with a focus on small and under-resourced communities and water utilities. He previously served as CEO of DC Water for 11 years.



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

WRTX AWARDS LUNCHEON & INDUSTRIAL REUSE PANEL

Wednesday, September 16 | 12:00 pm | Majestic B&C

Discover how Texas' biggest sectors from oil and gas to food and beverage are recognizing the importance of reuse and how it is helping unlock value.

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MODERATOR

Liz Fazio Hale, Gulf Coast Authority

PANEL

Jacob Wood, Equinix

Brittany Cheben, Chevron

Additional Panelist Pending



REUSE ROUNDTABLE

Wednesday, September 16 | 2:15 pm | Location



Join experts in Texas reuse for a candid and collaborative discussion on some of today's most critical topics, including research, treatment, funding, planning, policy, and outreach. Each table hosted by leaders in specific area of reuse.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

PLENARY PANEL: UTILITY EXECUTIVE PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, September 16 | 4:00 pm | Majestic B&C

With the approval of Proposition 4, Texas communities are setting the bar for creative water reuse projects including onsite reuse and direct potable reuse. Hear how utility leaders are thinking about their priorities in the year to come.

PANEL

Donovan Burton, SAWS

Shay Ralls Roalson, Austin Water

Steve Metzler, San Antonio River Authority

Additional Panelist Pending



BREAKFAST PLENARY: SCALING ONSITE REUSE

Thursday, September 17 | 8:30 am | Majestic B&C

Scaling Onsite Reuse through Utility and Industry Partnerships

MODERATOR

Chandler Crouch, Texas Water Trade

PANEL

Laura Meadors, Apple

Randi Jenkins, Austin Water

Chris Harris, Newterra

Courtney Tripp, Grundfos



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

REGISTRATION OPEN: 12:00 PM - 5:30 PM

	WORKSHOP: REUSE 101 TEXAS	WORKSHOP: ADVANCED PLANNING 201 MAJESTIC A	TRENDING TOPICS SESSION: PRODUCED WATER MAJESTIC B&C
1:00 PM	Introduction and One Water Katie Dreifuerst, Black & Veatch	Introduction & Welcome	Part One Introduction to Produced Water Balaji Rao, Texas Tech University Produced Water and Reuse Panel Moderator: Balajai Rao, Texas Tech University Panelists: Javier Casas, Western Midstream; Karla Mendez, UThealth Houston School of Public Health; Shane Walker, TXPWC Texas Produced Water Consortium (TXPWC) Future Research & Policy Needs Shane Walker, TXPWC
1:15 PM	Water Reuse Overview David Sloan, Freese & Nichols	Planning Water Reuse for a Holistic Water Plan Katie Dreifuerst, Black & Veatch	
1:45 PM	Reuse Treatment Buddy Boyson, Garver	The Role of Reuse in the State Water Plan Britt Buff, Plummer	
2:15 PM	Public Support and Outreach Brent Eidson, Bodewell Group	Regulations & Pre-Permitting for Reuse Baltazar Lucero-Ramirez, TCEQ	
2:45 PM	Break	Break	
3:00 PM	Funding Emily Platt, Carollo Texas Regulations Ellen McDonald, Plummer Introduction to WaterReuse Texas Noelle George or Christina Montoya Halter, El Paso Water and WRTX Board President	What Kind of Pilot Facility is Right for Me? Tyler Hadacek, Stantec	Break
3:30 PM		Reuse Operational Cost Inflation: What Can Be Done? Lee Portillo, Black & Veatch	Part Two Industrial Water Reuse Landscape of Water in Texas Jenny Bywater, CDM Smith Brewing Recycled Water Beer Andrew Mitcham, Senate Ave. Brewing Co.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

4:00 PM	Utility Case Studies Panel Panelists: Christina Montoya-Halter, El Paso Water; Pablo Martinez, SAWS; Hunter Adams, City of Wichita Falls	Utility Perspectives Panel Moderator: Brigit Buff, Plummer Panelists: Chris Boyd, Mustang Special Utility District; Michael Hunter, City of Denton	
5:15 PM - 7:30 PM	WELCOME RECEPTION Drinks and Appetizers: Featuring Beer Brewed with Recycled Water from Senate Ave. Brewing Company		



DRAFT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

REGISTRATION OPEN: 8:30 AM - 5:15 PM

7:30 AM	BREAKFAST ATRIUM Served by hotel in the atrium, attendees are welcome to bring their plate or drink into the opening session or visit with exhibitors.		
8:30 AM	OPENING PLENARY & KEYNOTE MAJESTIC B&C Welcome: WRTX Leadership Opening Remarks: Robert Puente, CEO of SAWS Keynote Address: George Hawkins, Moonshot Missions		
10:00 AM	NETWORKING BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS		
	PLANNING TRACK MAJESTIC B&C	COMMUNICATIONS TRACK TEXAS	RESEARCH & CASE STUDIES TRACK MAJESTIC A
10:30 AM	Making Water Reuse Work in Texas: Feasibility, Phasing, & One Water Integration Brigit Buff, Plummer	Building Public Trust: Effectively Communicating Water Reuse to Any Audience Diana Leonard and Laura Rodriguez Gonzalez, Carollo	From Concept to Construction: Liberty Hill's Carbon-Based DPR Pilot Jeffrey Meadows, Garver; James Herrera, City of Liberty Hill
11:00 AM	Breaking Barriers: Advancing Water Reuse for Economic Growth in Wichita, Kansas Greta Zornes, CDM Smith	Pure Water LHTX: Communicating the Value of DPR for a Growing Community Katie Amsler, City of Liberty Hill; Alec Phillip, Bodewell Group	Optimizing Geochemical Characterization for Successful Water Reuse Kelly Donahue, Brown and Caldwell
11:30 AM	Navigating Water Reuse Regulation from Engagement to Implementation Erin Mackey, Brown and Caldwell	Navigating the Potable Reuse Horizon of CECs & Public Health Perception Eva Deemer, UTH/Rice/Hazen and Sawyer, Karla Mendez, UTH	Process Selection Under Growth & Environmental Pressure: Central TX Case Study Alexandra Doody, CDM Smith; Tim Walker, City of Georgetown

DRAFT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

12:00 PM	LUNCH PLENARY PANEL, WRTX AWARDS PRESENTATION, & LEADERSHIP TRANSITION MAJESTIC B&C Industrial Reuse Panel Moderator: Liz Fazio Hale, Gulf Coast Authority Jacob Wood, Equinix Brittany Cheben, Chevron Additional Panelist Pending
1:45 PM	NETWORKING BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
2:15 PM	REUSE ROUNDTABLE Join experts in Texas reuse for a candid and collaborative discussion on some of today's most critical topics, including research, treatment, funding, planning, policy, and outreach. Each table hosted by leaders in specific area of reuse.
3:30 PM	NETWORKING BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS/POSTER PRESENTATIONS
4:00 PM - 5:15 PM	PLENARY PANEL MAJESTIC B&C Utility Executive Perspectives Donovan Burton, SAWS Shay Ralls Roalson, Austin Water Steve Metzler, SARA Additional Panelist Pending



DRAFT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17			
REGISTRATION OPEN: 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM			
7:30 AM	BREAKFAST ATRIUM Served by hotel in the atrium, attendees are welcome to bring their plate or drink into the opening session or visit with exhibitors		
8:30 AM	BREAKFAST PLENARY MAJESTIC B&C Scaling Onsite Reuse through Utility and Industry Partnerships Moderator: Chandler Crouch, Texas Water Trade Laura Meadors, Apple Randi Jenkins, Austin Water Chris Harris, Newterra Courtney Tripp, Grundfos		
10:00 AM	NETWORKING BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS		
	POLICY & FUNDING TRACK TEXAS	PLANNING TRACK MAJESTIC B&C	RESEARCH & CASE STUDIES TRACK MAJESTIC A
10:30 AM	Scaling Municipal Water Reuse: Lessons from the 2026 Regional Water Plans Jennifer Walker, National Wildlife Federation; Sarah Diring, Sarah Diring Consulting	Strategic Framework for Decentralized Water Reuse in Rural U.S. Frederick Tack and Jasmina Markovski, Consor Engineers	San Marcos DPR Pilot 2.0: Full Advanced Treatment Design and Commissioning Keisuke Ikehata, Texas State University
11:00 AM	When to Engage Regulators: A Framework for Implementing Water Reuse Projects Brigit Buff, Plummer	Visualizing Recycled Water Systems to Support Industrial Reuse Planning Carl Lundin and Maddie Fox, CDM Smith	Cracking the Black Box: Open-Source Modeling for UV Advanced Oxidation Yoko Koyama, Carollo Engineers
11:30 AM	Cracking the Funding Code: Securing Federal & Texas Dollars for Recycled Water Seema Chavan, Brown and Caldwell	TCEQ Water Quality Group Updates Crystal Li, TCEQ	Texas WaterHub Project Updates: UT Austin & Apple Bob Salvatelli, H2O Innovation, Laura Meadors, Apple

DRAFT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

12:00 PM	LUNCH SERVED
12:30 PM	STUDENT POSTER AWARDS, WRTX MEMBERSHIP MEETING, 30-MINUTE PRESENTATION MAJESTIC B&C
1:15 PM	NETWORKING BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
1:30 PM	CLOSING PLENARY PANEL MAJESTIC B&C Looking to the Future: Trends in Texas in Water, Energy, and Climate Margaret Cook, HARC Alan Leonard, Texas Water Foundation Chandler Crouch, Texas Water Trade
3:00 PM	ADJOURN



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RECOGNITION

WATEREUSE TEXAS AWARDS

ARCHULETA AWARD

The Archuleta Award recognizes water reuse leaders who have made outstanding contributions in the field of water reuse within Texas. Awardees have played a significant role in shaping reuse in Texas and have had a lasting impact on the Texas reuse community and industry.

REUSE IMPACT AWARD

The Reuse Impact Award recognizes individuals, projects, facilities, or organizations that have made significant contributions to increase water reuse in Texas over the last two years.

VANDERTULIP BEST PRESENTATION AWARD

The Vandertulip Award is presented for the best conference presentation as voted on by conference attendees.

2025-2026 WATEREUSE TEXAS BOARD MEMBERS

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Brigit Buff, Plummer

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Marcela Tunon, Hazen & Sawyer (Outreach Co-chair)

Michael Hunter, City of Denton (Outreach Vice Chair)

Nathan Vassar, Lloyd Gosselink Attorneys at Law (Policy Chair)

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Keisuke Ikehata, PhD, PE, Peng, Texas State University (Research Chair)

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM & AWARDS COMMITTEE

Laura Rodriguez Gonzalez, PhD, PE, ENV SP, Carollo (Chair)

Dylan Christenson, PhD, PE, Garver (Co-Chair)

Everett Bailey, Hazen & Sawyer (Trending Topics Session Coordinator)

Brigit Buff, Plummer (Advanced Planning Workshop Coordinator)

Katie Dreifuers, Black & Veatch (Reuse 101 Workshop Coordinator)

Carlos Espindola, Black & Veatch (Presentations Manager)

Ian Hamlett, Plummer (Advanced Planning Workshop Coordinator)

Daniel Smith Salgado, SAWS (Utility Liaison)

Maya (Volunteer Manager)

Vacant Positions: Awards Manager, CEU Manager, Speaker Manager,
Sponsor/Exhibitor Manager

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Ellen McDonald, PhD, PE, Plummer (2018 Archuleta Winner)

Daniel Nix, TAWWA (2015 Archuleta Winner)

David Sloan, PE, BCEE, Freese & Nichols (2016 Archuleta Winner)

Eva Steinle-Darling PhD, PE, Carollo (2023 Archuleta Winner)

Gilbert Trejo, El Paso Water (2024 Archuleta Winner)

Shane Walker, PhD, PE, TX Produced Water Consortium (2025 Vandertulip
Winner)

ABSTRACT REVIEW TEAM

Ananta Azad, PhD, Carollo

Eva Deemer, PhD; UT Health Houston

William Delgado, PhD; Texas Water Development Board

Keisuke Ikehata, PhD, PE, PEng; Texas State University

Laura Rodriguez-Gonzalez, PhD, PE, ENV SP; Carollo

Tammy West, City of Pflugerville

Jerry Yan, PhD, Carollo

SPECIAL THANKS

Sarah Orlando, Conference Manager; High-Key Creative



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ANNUAL WATEREUSE SYMPOSIUM

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2027 WRTX CONFERENCE

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