41st Annual Conference on the Environment, November 4, 2026

Air & Waste Management Association - Upper Midwest Section (A&WMA)
Central States Water Environment Association - Minnesota Section (CSWEA)

7:30 - 8:45	Registration, Continental Breakfast Visit Vendor Display Booths and Student Posters	**Minneapolis Convention Center (MCC) Lobby**
8:45 - 8:50	Go to Room M100A/B/J/I for welcome	
8:50 - 9:00	Welcome: Shanna Czeck, CSWEA & Ryan Birkenholz, A&WMA	**MCC Room M100A/B/J/I**
9:00 - 10:00	Keynote Speaker: Ms. Katrina Kessler, Commissioner - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Followed by Q&A	**MCC Room M100A/B/J/I**
10:00 - 10:30	**Morning Break - Vendor Display Booths Open (MCC Lobby)**	
10:00 - 12:00	**Student Environmental Challenge Desktop Presentations (MCC Room M101C)**	

	Session 1 **Wastewater Treatment** Moderator: Uma Vempati, Kimley-Horn **MCC Room M100F**	**Session 2** **Biosolids Management** Moderator: Ethan Redlin, Burns & McDonnell **MCC Room M100G/H**		**Session 3** **MPCA Air Update** Moderator: Jena DeRung, Trinity Consultants **MCC Room M100C/D**	**Session 4** **Waste/PFAS** Moderator: Matt Kilpo, Stantec **MCC Room M100E**
10:30 - 11:00	Surfactant and Quat Inhibition in Biological Wastewater Treatment: Nanobubble Preconditioning Results from Municipal and Industrial Facilities **Patrick Ryan, Moleaer**	Beyond PFAS Destruction: Operational Lessons from a Municipal Supercritical Water Oxidation Biosolids Pilot **Andrew McCabe, Barr Engineering Co.** **Ali Ling, University of St. Thomas**	10:30 - 11:00	Air Quality Regulations: The Year in Review **Hassan Bouchareb, MPCA** **Megan Kuhl-Stennes, MPCA**	PFAS Destruction and Waste Management: Incineration Study Data and Decision Framework for Waste **Diane Ruddle, Clean Harbors**
11:00 - 11:30	Environmental Impacts of Removing and Destroying PFAS from Wastewater Effluent **Becca Vermace, Barr Engineering Co.** **Ali Ling, University of St. Thomas**	A Holistic Look at Infrastructure Replacement: The Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District's Energy Management Master Plan **Lindsey Busch, Carollo**	11:00 - 11:30		PFAS Reporting Requirements and Upcoming Bans **Russell Novotny, Trinity Consultants**
11:30 - 12:00	Deep Dive into Variances: Understanding Their Role in Environmental Compliance and Water Quality Management **Sara Wandrei, Barr Engineering Co.**	Beyond Biosolids Management: Transforming Wastewater Treatment Plants into Resource Recovery Hubs Through Co-Digestion and Renewable Energy Production **Kyler Vossen, Anaergia**	11:30 - 12:00	2026 Emissions Inventory Reporting: Air Toxics and More **Corey Jarrett, MPCA** **Rachel Olmanson, MPCA**	Stacking the Evidence: Is Your PFAS Air Method Answering the Right Question? **Brendan McShane, Burns & McDonnell**
12:00 - 1:00	**Luncheon and Student Challenge Awards (MCC Room M100A/B/J/I) | Vendor Display Booths Open (MCC Lobby) | Student Poster Display (MCC Room M101C)**				

	Session 5 **Nutrients** Moderator: Karalynn Marr, Metropolitan Council **MCC Room M100F**	**Session 6** **Industrial Wastewater Management** Moderator: Mark Enochs, MNX **MCC Room M100G/H**		**Session 7** **Health Risk** Moderator: Jonathan Amos, Xcel Energy **MCC Room M100C/D**	**Session 8** **Environmental Justice** Moderator: Shantal Pai, Fredrikson & Byron **MCC Room M100E**
1:00 - 1:30	Using Nitrifier Oxygen Kinetics and Low Dissolved Oxygen Operation to Balance Nutrient Compliance and Energy Efficiency **Kyle Malin, HDR**	High Recovery Nanofiltration and Brine Management for Sulfate Compliance in Wild Rice Waters **Katie Wolohan, Barr Engineering Co.**	1:00 - 1:30	Draft Minnesota Rulemaking Case Studies: Assessing Risks and Compliance **Jena DeRung, Trinity Consultants**	*Becoming Boring: Effective Public Engagement* --- Clearing the Air: Building Trust and Navigating Misinformation in Community Engagement **Sara Swenson, Goff Public** --- Public Sector Perspectives on Community Engagement **Kai Peterson, Metropolitan Council** --- Community Advisory Councils: Nuts and Bolts and Dos and Don'ts **Jon Bloomberg, Squire Patton Boggs**
1:30 - 2:00	CalPrex®: Acid-Phase Digestion and Brushite Recovery for High-Efficiency Phosphorus Removal and Resource Recovery **Reza Bahreini, Centrisys/CNP** **Gerhard Forstner, Centrisys/CNP**	AI & Retrofit Pump Controls - Open Standards: Source, Hardware, Local Models **Eric Xanderson, Kandiyohi County**	1:30 - 2:00		
2:00 - 2:30	Two-Stage PN-Anammox (AMX®) Performance and Resilience for High-Strength Sidestream Nitrogen Removal: A Full-Scale Pilot Case Study **Victory Dsane, Tomorrow Water**	From Demo to Field: Comparison and Evaluation of Supercritical Water Oxidation (SCWO) Systems for PFAS Destruction **Emily Widstrand, Bay West**	2:00 - 2:30	Human Health Risk Assessment for the Olmsted Waste-to-Energy Facility **Nadine Czoschke, Stantec**	
2:30 - 3:00 Break	**Vendor Display Booths Open (MCC Lobby) | Student Poster Display (MCC Room M101C)**				

	Session 9 **Water Resources Management** Moderator: Salomeh Rostami, Metropolitan Council **MCC Room M100F**	**Session 10** **Facility Planning & Design** Moderator: Katie Wolohan, Barr Engineering Co. **MCC Room M100G/H**		**Session 11** **Legal Issues** Moderator: Joel Trinkle, Barr Engineering **MCC Room M100C/D**	**Session 12** **Air Quality** Moderator: Brendan McShane, Burns & McDonnell **MCC Room M100E**
3:00 - 3:30	Wavelength Effect on Reactive Intermediate Production from Cyanobacterial and Natural Organic Matter in Minnesota Surface Waters Experiencing Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Blooms **Abigail Matheny, University of Minnesota**	Hurry for Helicopters: Engineer-Procure-Construct (EPC) Delivery of an Industrial Manufacturing Pretreatment Facility **Quentin Hahn, Burns & McDonnell** **Ethan Redlin, Burns & McDonnell**	3:00 - 3:30	The Endangerment Finding: What Happened? What's Gonna Happen? **Bill Hefner, North Star Environmental Law, PLLC.**	AI-Assisted Environmental Compliance Audits: Practical Lessons from Real-World Applications **Beau Thurman, Barr Engineering**
3:30 - 4:00	Developing a Watershed-Scale Framework for Phosphorus Offsets in the Red River Basin **Drew Kessler, Houston Engineering**	A Modular Approach to Wet Weather Resilience: Packaged High-Rate Primary Filtration for Capacity Expansion and Peak Flow Management **Victory Dsane, Tomorrow Water**	3:30 - 4:00	Packaging EPR Enforcement and Uncertainty in the Midwest and Nationwide **Claire Williams, Winthrop & Weinstine**	Common Air Permitting Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them **John Ke, Trinity Consultants**
4:00 - 4:30	Integrated Water Resource Modeling Informs Water Reuse, Partnership, and Funding Opportunities **Kathleen Smith, Hazen and Sawyer**	A Systems Approach to Integrating Resilience in Infrastructure Planning **Nadia Vogt, Stantec**	4:00 - 4:30	Privilege at Risk: Navigating Attorney-Client and Work Product Protections in Environmental Matters **Jeremy Greenhouse, Fredrikson & Byron** **Tom Brett, Fredrikson & Byron**	Environmental Permitting for Data Centers in Minnesota **Adam Driscoll, Barr Engineering**
4:30 - 6:00	**Cash Bar and Networking Event (MCC Lobby)**				