

TEXAS WATER 2024

TRACK DESCRIPTIONS FOR TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Joint W/WW - Asset Management

The Asset Management Session focuses on programs and projects that advance the business processes and tools used to optimize each infrastructure asset's overall life cycle costs while delivering the desired service levels. These initiatives would include the development of an asset management framework, policy, organization, and strategy to inventory, determine condition, residual life, replacement costs, levels of service, likelihood, and consequence of failure, and business risk on infrastructure assets.

Wastewater – Biosolids

The biosolids track covers effective and safe treatment and reuse or disposal of residuals and biosolids. Topics range from technology discussions and case studies to biosolids program management, public outreach, sustainability, and regulatory compliance.

Joint W/WW - Construction Issues

The Construction Issues track covers topics and projects related to construction, including alternative delivery, construction sequencing, maintenance of plant operation, risk balancing and mitigation, and constructability challenges. Presentations often connect owners, designers, and contractors, which only reinforces the required collaboration it takes amongst the many stakeholders to successfully complete a project.

Wastewater - Wastewater Collection

The wastewater collection track covers application of advanced technologies, use of advanced analytical tools, case studies, and lessons learned. Topics may include inflow and infiltration modeling and using artificial intelligence, applied apps, data analytics, visualization and predictive modeling.

Water - Drinking Water Quality

The Water Quality track covers all aspects related to source-to-tap drinking water quality issues and solutions. The session addresses conventional and emerging contaminants occurrence, regulations, planning, fate and transport, and management considerations, all of which are central to understanding the challenges posed and potential solutions.

Joint W /WW - Diversity and Inclusion

The DEI track provides a space to share awareness and appreciation for diversity, equity, and inclusiveness throughout the water sector. It creates an opportunity for dialogue and education.

Joint W/WW - Electrical and SCADA / I&C

The Electrical/I&C track aims to present topics that are critical to expanding the knowledge base and understanding of these important portions of W/WW projects.

Joint W/WW – Industrial

The Industrial track covers topics related to the water use and wastewater discharge associated with the many industries in Texas, such as chemical, oil and gas, food and beverage, and power facilities.

Joint W/WW - Infrastructure Financing

The Joint W/WW Infrastructure Financing sessions are meant to provide participants with information concerning the various infrastructure financing programs and options for utilities to apply for funding. These sessions also highlight infrastructure projects that have been funded by the various programs and/or combination of funding sources.

Joint W /WW – Laboratory

The laboratory track covers topics that provide education and general knowledge in laboratory testing for drinking water and wastewater. This track invites water professionals to share their experience and expertise in topics such as quality systems, regulatory, technology, lab management, data value and end use, and bridging the gap between the laboratory and data end users

Joint W /WW - Legislative / Regulatory Issues

The Legislative/Regulatory track includes an update on Texas state legislative activities. The track also covers topics related to regulatory agencies, including an update from national groups such as NACWA, WEF, and AWWA and state-level updates from TCEQ's Water Quality and/or Water Supply Divisions. Additionally, the track usually includes a presentation on an emerging drinking water regulatory issue and a presentation on an emerging wastewater regulatory issue.

Joint W/WW - Water Resources

The Water Resources track supports and promotes the integrated use of adaptive and effective water resources planning and management practices to provide reliable, sustainable, and cost-effective supplies of high-quality water for customers.

Wastewater - Odor & Corrosion Control

The Odor and Corrosion Management track is focused on leading-edge approaches and technologies for identifying and managing odor sources in collection systems and treatment plants, and for understanding and controlling corrosion of system assets, which may or may not be associated with odor issues.

Wastewater - MRRDC (Wastewater Treatment)

The MRRDC track covers topics related to wastewater treatment planning, design, and optimization, specifically focused on the recovery of water, nutrients, energy, and other resources within the liquid treatment train.

Wastewater - Operations & Maintenance

The Operations & Maintenance track focuses on topics related to optimizing performance and increasing efficiency at a wastewater treatment plant.

Joint W /WW - Public Information

The Public Information Track underscores how communicators engage with external and internal audiences using multifaced approaches that create awareness and alliances while building and maintaining trust. The presentations in this track tell our water industry stories by sharing best practices and replicable processes related to communications challenges, opportunities, and successes.

Wastewater – Pretreatment

The Pretreatment track aims to expand our understanding of the federally mandated Pretreatment Program rules and regulations found in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 403 as it applies to Publicly Owned Treatment Works. This unique session invites presenters to relay technical knowledge of Pretreatment categories, regulatory updates, investigations, case studies and/or emerging areas of concern as they relate to pretreatment programs within Texas.

Joint W /WW - Resiliency, Safety and Cybersecurity

The Resiliency and Cybersecurity track focuses on providing information to assist utilities with preparing for, surviving and operating through a disruptive event. The track takes an all-hazards approach to manage and mitigate the risks we face on a daily basis. The sessions will focus on education, best practices and sharing lessons learned to facilitate each utility's journey towards operational resilience.

Joint W /WW - Small Systems

The small systems track is geared towards information sharing of the issues, experiences and solutions specific to small water and wastewater utilities. Our purpose is to educate and collaborate on a broad range of topics that include financial, managerial, and operational aspects of small utilities

University Forum

The University Forum aims to connect graduate students researching emerging issues in the water environment with the Texas water/wastewater industry. The Forum enables water/wastewater leaders to learn of cutting-edge findings and technology and introduces graduate researchers to the stakeholders associated with their research.

Joint W /WW - Utility Management

The Utility Management track's purpose is to enhance the knowledge, professionalism and effectiveness of utility managers with a variety of topics including leadership, workforce and operational optimization.

Joint W/WW - Value of Water Texas

The Value of Water track aims to expand our understanding on how water is essential, invaluable and in need of investment through building trust and communication within communities. This unique session invites presenters to tell their stories by providing interactive and collaborative presentations on promoting water communication successes and/or lessons learned within Texas.

Joint W /WW - Water for People /Intl. Issues

Water For People/International Issues track is designed to raise awareness about charitable causes, stateside communities, and/or design/constructions projects related to water and sanitation issues in the

developing world. The primary purpose of this track is to provide TAWWA/WEAT membership with ways to engage in water and sanitation issues in the developing world to increase their impact.

Joint W /WW - Water Conservation

The Water Conservation Track covers conservation methods for the utility customers or internal processes, that a utility has implemented to increase water efficiency. This may include case studies on specific water conservation programs, communications to the public on why water conservation is the most effective method to manage our precious resource, research on efficient technologies or practices, or best management practices in action (or lessons learned).

Joint W /WW - Workforce Issues

The Workforce Development track aims to strengthen regional collaboration and the alignment of education, training, and workforce development to ensure a strong pipeline of skilled and diverse workers can thrive and succeed in the water and wastewater industry.

Water - Water Distribution

The Distribution Division Track aims to improve education and practice in distribution systems including pumping facilities and transmission mains. Areas of responsibility include distribution system operations and maintenance, pipeline rehabilitation, metering, water loss control, corrosion control and fire protection.

Water - Water Treatment & Operations

Increasingly, water systems are getting challenged by deteriorating source waters and climate-driven impacts and innovation is needed in the design and operation of water treatment facilities. This session provides lessons-learned from planning, design and operation of conventional and advanced surface water and groundwater water treatment facilities resulting in safe, aesthetically pleasant and affordable drinking water.

Joint W/WW - Applied Research

The Applied Research track aims to bring developing and applied research topics to members. Topics can be academic research projects, Water Research Foundation sponsored, privately funded research or new and innovative application of technology in the water utility setting.

Joint W /WW - Watershed Mgmt./Stormwater

The Watershed Management/Stormwater track covers the holistic management of watersheds to address issues that impact stormwater and surface water quality, including flooding, water supply, surface water protection and quality, and land and water use and management. Following a one water approach, topics that highlight the interconnection between stormwater, water supply planning, and wastewater are promoted.

Joint W /WW - Water Reuse

The Water Reuse track covers technologies and regulations that allow for the use of reclaimed water for a variety of purposes, including water supply augmentation. The session consists of presenters involved in cutting edge initiatives to further the one water model at the local, state, and federal levels, sharing

their experiences by providing interactive and collaborative presentations on promoting water reuse successes and lessons learned within Texas and beyond.

Joint W /WW - Young Professionals

The Young Professionals track covers topics related to all aspects of the water/wastewater industry as well as professional development topics. This track is geared towards our young professionals and for those newer to the industry.