

2025 National Pretreatment Workshop Speaker Profiles



Amanda Aspatore

Chief Legal Officer
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Washington, DC

Amanda Aspatore, Chief Legal Officer at the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) in Washington, DC, represents public wastewater and stormwater agencies of all sizes nationwide on legal, regulatory, and policy matters to ensure they have the tools necessary to provide affordable and sustainable clean water for all. Prior to joining NACWA, Ms. Aspatore worked as the Associate General Counsel, Litigation & Environment at the Edison Electric Institute and the Vice President, Water Law & Policy at the National Mining Association. Ms. Aspatore also served as a law clerk in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of VA and the US Department of Transportation's Office of Hearings.

Ms. Aspatore has received certification from the US Environmental Protection Agency's Water Quality Standards Academy, and is a graduate of the William and Mary School of Law, where she served on the Environmental Law and Policy Review, and Washington and Lee University. Ms. Aspatore is admitted to practice in VA.



Joshua Balentine

Senior Manager, National Pretreatment Lead
Brown & Caldwell
Memphis, TN

Joshua Balentine is the Senior Manager, National Pretreatment Technical Lead Brown and Caldwell. He has worked as a pretreatment program manager for the City of Memphis, TN (one of the largest pretreatment programs in the country), as a contractor for the US EPA National Pretreatment Program and numerous EPA Regions and States, and now as a consultant to pretreatment programs. He has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Memphis, currently studying at the University of Alabama's Executive MBA program, and holds Grade 4 Wastewater Operators license in AZ and TN.



Patrick Bradley
Clean Water Act Specialist
Michael Baker International
Virginia Beach, VA

Pat Bradley is a Clean Water Act Specialist with Michael Baker International focusing on compliance issues including NPDES, Pretreatment, CSOs and stormwater. He has over 35 years of experience managing water quality related programs.

Prior to joining Michael Baker, Mr. Bradley worked for RES, the City of Richmond VA, LimnoTech, US Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of the Navy.

He has a BS in Biology from the State University College at Plattsburgh, NY and an MS in Biology from the University of Texas at Arlington.



Tim Braun
Founder
BluTerra, LLC
Cassopolis, MN

Tim Braun, Founder of BluTerra, is a clean water and cleantech leader with a strong track record in scaling innovation. He began in responsible investing, moved into clean tech and venture capital, and later led growth at EmNet, a smart sewer company acquired by Xylem. As a Vice President at Xylem, he advanced

enterprise solutions – connecting digital with Xylem's legacy offerings. Now at BluTerra, Mr. Braun helps innovative companies tackle critical water challenges and build resilient communities.



Kerry Britt
Co-Chair, Pretreatment & Pollution Prevention Committee
Pretreatment Manager
Narragansett Bay Commission
Providence, RI

Kerry Britt is the Pretreatment Manager for the Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC). She has been in this position since 2004. She is responsible for the overall operation of the

Pretreatment Program which includes permitting and inspecting commercial and industrial users, emergency response and ensuring federal and state pretreatment mandates are met. The NBC Pretreatment Program is responsible for the protection of Rhode Island's two largest wastewater treatment plants which receive wastewater from ten cities and towns and overseeing the regulation of over 1,600 permitted users.

Ms. Britt joined the NBC's Pretreatment Program in 1992 and Industrial Wastewater Control Engineer and was promoted to Pretreatment Manager in 2003. Ms. Britt earned her BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Rhode Island in 1986. She currently serves as the Co-Chair of NACWA's Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee.



John Christiansen
Water Quality Specialist
HDR Engineering, Inc.
Columbia, MO

John Christiansen is a Water Quality Specialist that has been with HDR for over 10 years. He has over 20 years of experience assisting clients on a range of water quality regulatory issues including National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), use attainability analyses, site-specific criteria, and water quality trading. Prior to moving back to his native state of Missouri in 2005, he worked as an Impaired Waters Specialist for the Water Resources Division of the National Park Service. Mr. Christiansen holds a bachelor's degree in Biology from Westminster College in Fulton, MO and a master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Texas A&M University. In his free time, Mr. Christiansen enjoys traveling and spending time with his two daughters.



Mickey Conway
NACWA President
Chief Operating Officer
Metro Water Recovery
Denver, CO

Mickey Conway was named Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for Metro Water Recovery in Denver, Colorado in January 2018. He served as Metro's General Counsel for 4 years prior to his appointment as CEO. Metro Water Recovery operates two treatment plants and collection systems that serve over 60 local governments and special districts comprising of approximately 2 million people in the Denver Metro Area.

Prior to working at Metro Water Recovery, Mr. Conway represented wastewater and public entities for nearly twenty years as an attorney. He holds a BA from Southern Methodist University and a JD from the University of San Francisco School of Law. Mr. Conway currently serves as President on NACWA's Board of Directors.



Frank Dick

Co-Chair, Pretreatment & Pollution Prevention Committee
Sewer and Wastewater Engineering Supervisor
City of Vancouver
Vancouver, WA

Frank Dick oversees wastewater treatment engineering functions for Vancouver, including planning, capital project management, O&M contract administration and Vancouver's fully delegated pretreatment program. Vancouver's sewerage area serves a population of 250,000 and includes 13 Categorical Industrial Users, 8 other Significant Industrial Users, 6 Minor Industrial Users, and over 100 other written discharge authorizations, a Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) management program and a dental mercury reduction program.

Prior to his 18 years at Vancouver, he spent 14 years at semiconductor and electronics manufacturing facilities in the Portland-Vancouver area, in consultant and staff positions for facilities engineering and environmental compliance.

Mr. Dick currently serves as the Co-Chair of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies' Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee and is active Oregon ACWA and Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association. Mr. Dick earned his BS in Chemical Engineering from Washington State University.



Cynthia Finley

Director, Regulatory Affairs
NACWA
Washington, DC

Cynthia Finley is Director of Regulatory Affairs at the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), which represents the interests of 350 publicly owned wastewater utilities. She joined NACWA in 2006 and works on regulatory issues related to pretreatment and pollution prevention, wet weather management, collection systems, energy, and security and emergency preparedness. Before joining NACWA, Cynthia was an assistant professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Cynthia earned her PhD in civil engineering from the University of Texas at Austin, a MS in civil engineering from the University of Washington, and a BS in civil engineering from Texas A&M University. Outside of NACWA, Cynthia is kept busy with her family, which consists of her husband, four kids, three cats, two dogs, a turtle, and a crested gecko.

**Nathan Gardner-Andrews**

Chief Advocacy & Policy Officer
NACWA
Washington, DC

Nathan Gardner-Andrews serves as the Chief Advocacy & Policy Officer for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) in Washington, DC, where he has worked since 2006. In his role, he is responsible for coordinating all NACWA's advocacy initiatives and integrating the Association's legislative, regulatory, and legal advocacy work. He has written articles and spoken nationally on a wide range of clean water issues.

Mr. Gardner-Andrews previously served as NACWA's General Counsel, advising the Association and its municipal clean water utility members on a variety of legal matters and managing NACWA's litigation portfolio.

Prior to joining NACWA, Mr. Gardner-Andrews served as a law clerk for the Hon. Michael E. Loney of the Maryland Circuit Court.

Mr. Gardner-Andrews is a member of the Maryland and District of Columbia bars. He received his BA from Columbia University in 2001 and his JD from the University of Maryland School of Law in 2005.

**Todd Gowing**

Compliance Investigator
King County Wastewater Treatment Division
Seattle, WA

Todd Gowing is an environmental scientist with a master's degree in biology and over 18 years of experience in the environmental field. He has worked for King County Wastewater Treatment Division since 2011, where he currently serves as an Industrial Waste Compliance Investigator. In this role, Mr. Gowing manages industrial discharge permits, leads source control initiatives, and enforces environmental regulations across a wide range of industrial sectors.

Before joining King County, he worked as an environmental consultant, focusing on industrial site remediation and environmental monitoring. His experience spans lab analysis, field investigations, and regulatory enforcement, giving him a well-rounded view of both technical and operational challenges in the industry.

Mr. Gowing is known for his thoughtful approach, deep technical knowledge, and commitment to protecting water quality through science-driven, practical solutions.



Robert Griffin

Professional Engineer
Wilmington, NC

Bob Griffin is a registered Professional Engineer who has over 48 years' experience working with Water Sector operations, Chemical Sector, Pharmaceutical Sector, and other governmental and non-governmental clients on a broad spectrum of environmental issues associated with industrial and municipal wastewater treatment, as well as a full range of environmental permitting. A frequent speaker and instructor, Mr. Griffin has taught numerous Pretreatment Courses and Industrial User Classification and Permitting – Pretreatment Training Courses, as well as Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Oil and Grease Course for municipalities. He taught numerous VSAT™ training sessions across the country. He has recently focused presentations on Pretreatment and PFAS at NACWA's National Environmental Law and Compliance Seminar, and the NC Chamber of Commerce Environmental Compliance Conference.

Mr. Griffin has chaired the North Carolina Water Environment Association Committee responsible for developing and implementing training for the certification of operators of physical/chemical treatment systems. He has been associated with operator training for over 35 years.

Mr. Griffin is a Certified Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, and Grade II Physical Chemical Operator in NC. Prior to becoming a consultant, he worked as an Industrial Waste Technician, Chemist, Industrial Waste Division Manager, and System Protection Division Head for a large southeast municipality.



Juan Guerreiro

Public Utilities Director
City of San Diego
San Diego, CA

Juan Guerreiro has dedicated himself to improving the water environment. His vision is to create a sustainable water future so our communities can continue to thrive. His mission is to collaborate with external agencies with openness, honesty, and curiosity, and to optimize internal operations by providing a safe work environment for professionals to serve and grow.

Mr. Guerreiro has over 20 years of experience in the water industry working in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. He earned a MS in Water Science, Policy, and Management from the University of Oxford, and a BA in Public Administration from San Diego State University.

He has worked for the City of San Diego for the last 9 years in a growing capacity and since February 2022 has served as the Director of Public Utilities.



Joy Hall

Director of Laboratory Services
Bloomington-Normal Water Reclamation District
Bloomington, IL

Joy Hall is an environmental professional with over two decades of expertise in water quality management and laboratory services. Currently serving as the Director of Laboratory Services at the Bloomington Normal Water Reclamation District, she brings a comprehensive background spanning research, analytical work, and leadership in environmental science. With a MS in Biology from Illinois State University and a BS from Western Illinois University, Ms. Hall has progressively advanced her career from chemist to her current leadership role, overseeing laboratory analysis, administrative duties, biosolids analytical compliance, and the implementation of the District's industrial pretreatment program.

An active leader in her field, Ms. Hall holds positions in professional associations including the Vice-Chair of Industrial Pretreatment with the IL Water Environment Association and serves as Chair of the IL Association of Wastewater Agencies' Industrial Pretreatment Sub-Committee. Beyond her professional responsibilities, she remains committed to community service through the Bloomington Normal Sunrise Rotary, where she leads ecology-focused community service projects and serves as Chair of the RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards).



Joseph Jenkins

Regulatory Specialist
EEC Environmental
Orange, CA

Joseph Jenkins has 18 years of experience in the environmental regulatory field and has managed EEC's industrial pretreatment and fats, oils, and grease (FOG) control programs for the past 10 years. Mr. Jenkins manages and schedules EEC's inspection programs and provides training and quality control/quality assurance of EEC's inspectors. Additionally, Mr. Jenkins has served as the Project Manager for multiple industrial user pretreatment compliance projects. These projects included local limits development, categorical determinations, process waste stream reviews, permit application preparation, and local control authority negotiations.

Mr. Jenkins holds a BS in Business Administration from York College in NE; a certificate in Environmental Management from the University of California, Irvine, Extension; a certificate

as a Grade I Environmental Compliance Inspector through the California Water Environment Association; and a certificate as a Qualified Industrial Stormwater Practitioner (QISP). Mr. Jenkins also maintains a certification in OSHA 40-hour HAZWOPER training.



Reilly Kirk

Compliance Software Specialist
SwiftComply
Portland, OR

Reilly Kirk is a Compliance Software Specialist who has spent his last 6 years at SwiftComply. During his time, Mr. Kirk has assisted hundreds of cities across the country in achieving their water and wastewater compliance goals. His main area of focus is with local governments and their Industrial Pretreatment programs, helping clients understand the regulatory landscape as well as how to navigate that successfully with customized software solutions that take a collaborative approach.



Adam Krantz

Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Washington, DC

Adam Krantz is currently Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), where he has served in a number of positions since May 2001. Mr. Krantz directs an unparalleled team in DC, that advocates on behalf of the nation's public clean water agencies on an array of regulatory, legislative, legal and communication initiatives. NACWA's goal is to maximize the influence of the nation's public clean water agencies and to broaden the awareness of the vital role they serve in ensuring clean and safe water for all.

Prior to his position at NACWA, Mr. Krantz was an associate editor/reporter at Inside Washington Publishers where his work focused on covering the US Environmental Protection Agency's, Congress's and the federal court system's national water quality initiatives. Before entering the environmental arena, Mr. Krantz worked as an attorney in the DC law firm, Dickstein, Shapiro, Morin & Oshinsky on litigation matters.

Mr. Krantz served as the President of the Federal Water Quality Association and also served as the first Vice President of the Clean Water America Alliance (now the US Water Alliance). Mr. Krantz also serves on the Board of WFX (the Water Finance Exchange) and has degrees from Columbia University in New York City, the American University's Washington College of Law in DC, and the University of Chicago. He is a member of both the DC and MD Bar Associations.

**Gorman Lau**

Associate
Larry Walker Associates
Davis, CA

Gorman Lau is an Associate with Larry Walker Associates with over 22 years of experience providing wastewater and stormwater management services. He has BS and MS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He has expertise in pretreatment and source control, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting, wastewater quality, water quality sampling, and stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) design. He has worked with dozens of municipal agencies and special districts on updating, developing, and implementing all aspects of Pretreatment Programs including updating local limits, Sewer Use Ordinances, Enforcement Response Plans, and industrial user permits and applications, reviewing industrial users proposing new discharges, conducting industrial user inspections and sampling, investigating pollutant source(s), supporting enforcement actions for non-compliant industrial users, working with regulatory agencies, and providing training. He is also a member of the CA Water Environment Association (CWEA) and regularly presents on various Pretreatment topics and trainings at Pretreatment, Pollution Prevention, and Stormwater (P3S) conferences or other CWEA workshops.

**Quinn Moss**

Digital Business Developer
Xylem, Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA

Quinn Moss is the Digital Business Developer for Municipal Services at Xylem. She has a BS in Materials Science and Engineering from Purdue University and an MBA from Carnegie Mellon University. In her five years at Xylem, she has focused on wastewater quality challenges such as odor and corrosion control, methane emissions, pollution monitoring, and digital solutions. She has been published in WE&T and has previously presented at several water industry conferences, including NEWEA, Tri-State, and WEF Collections System Conference.



Martina Nelson

Industrial Waste & Pollution Prevention Manager
Metropolitan Council Environmental Services
St. Paul, MN

Tina Nelson leads the industrial pretreatment program for the Metropolitan Council, a regional utility that owns and operates 9 water resources recovery facilities in the Minneapolis- St. Paul metropolitan area, which serves 111 communities and over 3 million residents. She is responsible for the overall operation of the pretreatment program, which regulates over 950 industrial users and 825 dental clinics. She has held this position since 2021 and started her professional career in the Metropolitan Council's pretreatment program in 1999.

Ms. Nelson earned BS degrees in environmental engineering from Michigan Technological University and in management information systems from the Carlson School of Management (University of Minnesota). She served as project manager for the implementation of the Metropolitan Council electronic reporting system and holds a Project Management Professional license and a Professional Engineering license in MN.



Nichole Schaeffer

Environmental Department Manager
Baxter & Woodman, Inc.
Mokena, IL

Nichie Schaeffer is a 24-year seasoned environmental engineer with a passion for Pretreatment. She holds both BS and MS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Iowa, is a licensed PE in IL, and is a Board-Certified Environmental Engineer. As the Environmental Department Manager at Baxter & Woodman Consulting Engineers, she leads a dynamic team that has worked with 30 federally approved Pretreatment Programs across IL, WI, and FL. Her commitment to pretreatment over the last 14 years led her to Chair the IL Water Environment Association Pretreatment Committee in 2022, and bring pretreatment professionals together to learn, network, and grow in their roles. Outside of work, she loves to go on road and gravel bike adventures with her husband, visit National Parks, and cook food from around the world.



Mary Thompson

Pretreatment Program Coordinator
City of Santa Barbara, Public Works
Santa Barbara, CA

Mary Thompson has been in the Water and Wastewater field over 20 years, her earlier experience being at the City of Ventura's and the City of Santa Barbara's Laboratories. Mrs. Thompson's earlier experience in the laboratory included everything from analyzing metals via atomic absorption to determining coliform bacteria counts. Mrs. Thompson's current job functions include overseeing the City of Santa Barbara's Pretreatment Program. Mrs. Thompson, as the sole Pretreatment Staff for the City of Santa Barbara, oversees monitoring and permitting of industrial users.

Mrs. Thompson is proud that she has been in public service for her entire career, including time spent serving her country as a Certified Surgical Technologist in the US Army. She loves the ocean and spends a lot of time on the water fishing with her husband. Mrs. Thompson spends likes to spend time cultivating plumeria. She is also an active Mustang enthusiast and participates in track events racing her Shelby GT500.



Elizabeth Toot-Levy

Project Scientist
Geosyntec Consultants
Cleveland, OH

Beth Toot-Levy is a Senior Scientist based in Ohio with more than 23 years of experience in environmental and regulatory compliance, specifically Clean Water Act (CWA) compliance. She leads projects related to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting and the CWA across the country for municipalities, industries, attorneys, and other consultants. She specializes in regulatory compliance related to water quality and focuses on evaluating new and existing permit requirements, rules, regulations, and legislation for scientific legitimacy, achievability, and appropriateness. Her evaluations include reviewing or setting effluent limits that are based on technology and water quality, analyzing and interpreting data, and reviewing associated NPDES permit limits to assess whether water-quality standards and waste load allocations have been properly applied. She works with municipal clients to develop or update their industrial pretreatment programs, from revising sewer-use ordinances to calculating local limits and developing industrial user permitting programs. She supports industrial clients with compliance issues regarding their discharge permits and has helped municipalities incorporate growing industries, such as manufacturing of EV batteries and microchips, into their programs. She has been instrumental in expanding Geosyntec's industrial pretreatment practice.

Ms. Toot-Levy serves as a key technical and policy resource for clients such as the Agricultural Nutrient's Policy Council, the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Associations, Ohio



Soybean Council, and the Association of Ohio Municipal Wastewater Agencies. She is actively involved with the Ohio Water Environment Association (OWEA) and serves as the appointed chair of the OWEA's Government and Regulatory Affairs Committee, where she volunteers as a leader concentrating on nutrient issues and other emerging water-quality issues. In addition, she represents OWEA on the Water Environment Federation (WEF) Government Affairs Committee and is the WEF Government Affairs representative to the association's Technical Practice Committee. She is also active in the Northeast Section OWEA Pretreatment Committee and was awarded the *section's pretreatment award* in 2022. She was recently awarded the *OWEA's F.H. Waring Award* for her contributions to industrial pretreatment in OH. She is also a member of the National Association of Clean Water Agency's Water Quality and Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committees.