



2026 Pretreatment Training

Permitting Decisions & Discussion - Approaches to Permitting Nondomestic Dischargers

May 5 | 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Longfellow Room | The Westin Portland Harborview | Portland, ME

Instructors:

Kimberly Cole, DROP Collaborative, MO

Paul Ebert, Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority, IA

Tony Pisano, City of Owensboro Regional Water Resources Agency, KY

Morning

7:30 – 11:00	Registration
7:30 – 9:00	Continental Breakfast
8:00 – 8:05	Welcome and Introduction
8:05 – 8:30	Module 1 – General Discussion: Input and Goals for the Day
8:30 – 9:00	Module 2 – Industrial Inventory and Identifying Nondomestic Discharges
9:00 – 9:45	Module 3 – Gather Information: Site Visits, Application Information, and Characteristics
9:45 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 11:00	Module 4 – Categorical and SIU Determinations
11:00 – 12:00	Module 5 – To Permit or Not to Permit (inc. Hauled Waste Considerations)

Afternoon

12:00 – 1:30	Lunch (on your own)
1:15 – 4:00	Registration
1:30 – 2:30	Module 6 – Controlling the Discharge (i.e. what goes in the permit)
2:30 – 2:40	Break
2:40 – 3:40	Module 7 – Small Group Breakout: Real-World Examples
3:40 – 3:50	Break
3:50 – 4:30	Module 8 – Recap & Review
4:30	Adjourn

About the Instructors:



Kimberly A. Cole
Principal
DROP Collaborative
St. Louis, MO
[LinkedIn](#)

Kim Cole is Principal of DROP Collaborative (previously KimHEC), an environmental engineering and software firm based in St. Louis, Missouri, dedicated to helping communities manage nondomestic wastewater. DROP Collaborative strengthens local legal authority and helps implement tools needed to regulate nondomestic discharges through clear, defensible, and data-driven approaches. Through using her company's proprietary software (DROP), she assists utilities in centralizing monitoring data, evaluating the impacts of nondomestic discharges, identifying contributors that require control mechanisms, and developing enforceable, defensible limits.

Ms. Cole has a BS in Civil Engineering from Purdue University and an MS in Environmental Engineering and Science from Clemson University. She founded her company in 2016 and has more than 23 years of experience.



Paul Ebert
Regulatory Compliance Manager
Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority
Des Moines, IA
[LinkedIn](#)

Paul Ebert is the Regulatory Compliance Manager for the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority (WRA) which treats wastewater from 18 member communities with a combined population of 500,000 in central IA. He manages the WRA's industrial pretreatment program, which has over 80 permitted industrial users, and its hauled waste program, which receives various commercial and industrial wastes from a six state region in the Midwest. Mr. Ebert joined the WRA in 2009 and has 15 years of experience in industrial wastewater pretreatment. Mr. Ebert received his BS in Water Resources Management from Winona State University in 2002, then spent four years in the private environmental consulting industry in WI before receiving his MS degrees in Hydrogeology and Environmental Science from Iowa State University. Mr. Ebert holds a Grade IV Wastewater Operator's license in the State of IA.



Anthony Pisano
Environmental Scientist
City of Owensboro Regional Water Resource Agency
Owensboro, KY

Tony Pisano is the Environmental Scientist for Regional Water Resource Agency (RWRA) in Owensboro, KY. RWRA has two wastewater treatment facilities that combined serve a population of

94,000. Among other environmental and plant health responsibilities, Tony manages the Pretreatment Program for RWRA which consists of 25 permitted SIUs. He graduated from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in 2010 with a BS in Chemical Engineering and holds a Class III wastewater license in the state of Kentucky. He worked for 12 years in the pulp and paper industry in various roles, including operations and environmental responsibilities. He has over 10 years of experience in wastewater, as well as additional experience in drinking water, air, and solid waste operations and regulations. He transitioned to RWRA in January 2022 where he has been striving to modernize and improve the pretreatment program.



Mike Martin

Director of Pretreatment & Pollution Prevention
Hampton Roads Sanitation District
Virginia Beach, VA

[LinkedIn](#)

Mike Martin is the Director of Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD)'s Pretreatment & Pollution Prevention (P3) Department. HRSD is a regional utility in southeast VA, comprised of 20 cities and counties and a service area of nearly 5,000 square miles. HRSD has 16 wastewater plants with a combined treatment capacity of 225 million gallons per day.

The HRSD P3 Department is responsible for enhanced source control and oversight of the commercial and industrial discharges to HRSD's regional wastewater treatment plants which includes SWIFT™, a managed aquifer recharge program.

Prior to becoming Director in 2019, Mr. Martin served as a Pretreatment Manager for 12 years where he had direct oversight of some of HRSD's largest industrial users. Other prior experience includes field work in sample collection of various matrices such as wastewater, groundwater, stormwater, and air.

Mr. Martin received a BS degree in Fisheries Science with a minor in Environmental Science from NC State University and has been with HRSD for 25 years.