



2026 National Pretreatment Workshop + Training

May 5-8 | The Westin Portland Harborview | Portland, ME

All meeting rooms are located on the ground floor unless otherwise noted.

As of May 5, 2026

Tuesday, May 5

7:30 – 4:00

Main Lobby

Training Registration

8:00 – 5:00

Winslow Homer Room

TRAINING COURSE: Pretreatment 101 – Introduction to the Pretreatment Program for Wastewater Utilities

This optional, full-day training course is geared toward pretreatment professionals in the first few years of their pretreatment careers. The [Agenda](#) has more information about this course. **Separate registration is required.**

8:00 – 5:00

Longfellow Room

TRAINING COURSE: Advanced Local Limits

This optional, full-day training course will provide an in-depth focus on local limits, answering all the “who, what, when, where, why, and how” questions about local limits. The [Agenda](#) has more information about this course. **Separate registration is required.**

8:00 – 4:30

Eastland Ballroom

TRAINING COURSE: Permitting Decisions & Discussion – Approaches to Permitting Nondomestic Dischargers

This optional, full-day training course will provide a detailed look at the permitting process, starting with the nondomestic survey and continuing through categorical determinations and different types of control mechanisms. The [Agenda](#) has more information about this course. **Separate registration is required.**

Wednesday, May 6

6:30

Hotel Lobby

Morning Run/Walk through Portland

Join fellow *Workshop* participants for an hour of exercise to begin your day. Runners and walkers of all levels are invited – we will divide into groups of different paces. Rain or shine, please meet us in the lobby!

8:00 – 12:00

Main Lobby

Registration

9:00 – 9:25

Eastland Ballroom

Opening Remarks

Frank Dick, Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee
Wastewater Treatment Engineering Manager
City of Vancouver | Vancouver, WA

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

Scott Firmin, General Manager
Portland Water District | Portland, ME

9:25 – 10:00

National Pretreatment Program and Effluent Guidelines Update

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters staff will update Workshop attendees on national issues affecting the pretreatment programs at utilities. The latest Effluent Limitations Guidelines (ELG) Program developments will be discussed, including the ongoing studies related to PFAS discharges from the Metal Finishing category, the Landfills category, and other industrial categories, as well as the status of the planned study of PFAS discharges to utilities.

Jan Pickrel, National Pretreatment Team Coordinator
Water Permits Division, Office of Wastewater Management
Office of Water
US Environmental Protection Agency | Washington, DC

10:00 – 10:40

Impacts of Federal Water Policy Actions on Pretreatment

As EPA finds its footing in the Trump Administration and Congress and the courts continue to look at water issues, including PFAS, federal actions can have significant implications for pretreatment. This panel of NACWA staff will provide updates on the current regulatory, legislative, and regulatory landscape, and how the Association's advocacy is seeking to ensure that the interests of clean water utilities and their pretreatment programs are represented in these arenas.

Nathan Gardner-Andrews, Chief Advocacy & Policy Officer
NACWA | Washington, DC

Amanda Aspatore, Chief Legal Officer
NACWA | Washington, DC

Cynthia Finley, Director, Regulatory Affairs
NACWA | Washington, DC

10:40 – 11:00

Networking Break

11:00 – 11:55

Eastland Ballroom

Extending Beyond Pretreatment to Enhanced Source Control for Water Reuse

Several states have finalized or are in the process of writing potable reuse regulations that include implementation of an "enhanced source control program" (ESCP). An ESCP extends beyond federal pretreatment program requirements, with additional control measures to protect public health. These programs represent a measurable increase in effort and cost for wastewater utilities. Small agencies with little industry still must define and regulate dischargers, whereas larger agencies have to adapt and expand their programs. This presentation will describe the shared components of an ESCP across several state regulations. Implementation challenges, and case studies. The hurdles utilities had to overcome provide beneficial lessons learned for any utility looking at source control for reuse or any other purposes.

Mary Kate Forkan, Lead Scientist
Carollo Engineers, Inc. | Reno, NV

11:55 – 12:00

Closing Remarks

Frank Dick, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*

12:00 – 2:00

Lunch (on your own or optional networking lunch)

Whether you are attending the *Workshop* for the first time or are a repeat attendee, the optional networking lunch will be a chance to get to know some new people and share conversations over lunch. After registering for the *Workshop*, you will receive a confirmation email that will include a link to a form that will ask for a few pieces of information from you if you would like to be included in a networking group. We will assign you to a small group and provide a list of nearby restaurants. Each participant will be responsible for paying for their own lunch.

1:45 – 4:00

Main Lobby

Registration

2:00– 2:05

Opening Remarks

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

2:05 – 3:25

Eastland Ballroom

Where Is All the PFAS Coming From? Developments in Source Identification

The amount of data collection and monitoring for PFAS has increased tremendously over the last few years, but utilities can still face challenges in determining the sources of PFAS in their influent. These case studies will demonstrate how a utility can undertake a collection system study to pinpoint potential industrial sources, and how machine learning algorithms might make this process easier for utilities. The results of a Water Research Foundation study to determine if existing machine learning applications can be expanded to identify PFAS sources in POTW influent and if machine learning can identify correlations between commonly measured influent water quality parameters and PFAS, which could significantly reduce costs and time associated with meeting PFAS source identification requirements and the cost associated with future treatment if source control is implemented.

Jamie Lefkowitz, Innovation Development Leader
Brown and Caldwell | South Lake Tahoe, CA

Kirsten Bshara, Environmental Compliance Coordinator
Portland Water District | Portland, ME

Scott Firmin, Portland Water District

3:25 – 3:30

Closing Remarks

Kerry Britt, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*

3:30 – 3:45

Networking Break

3:45 – 5:15

Eastland Ballroom

EPA Regional Roundtable Discussions

The Regional Roundtable session provides an opportunity for EPA, state, and municipal *Workshop* participants to discuss priority issues in each EPA Region. Regional EPA officials and experts will be on hand to take your questions.

5:30 – 6:30

C2 (Congress Squared)

Welcome Reception

This complimentary reception is open to all *Workshop* participants and their guests.

6:30 – 7:45

Eastland Ballroom

Special Film Screening – Unless Something Goes Terribly Wrong

We invite you to the screening of "Unless Something Goes Terribly Wrong," a film that was shot right here at a wastewater utility plant in Portland, ME. Join us for an evening full of community appreciation and celebration as we showcase this remarkable work.

Thursday, May 7

6:30

Hotel Lobby

Morning Run/Walk through Portland

Join fellow *Workshop* participants for another hour of running or walking through Portland. Rain or shine, please meet us in the lobby!

8:00 – 12:00

Main Lobby

Registration

8:30 – 9:30

Eastland Ballroom

Pretreatment Issues Roundtable Discussions – Round 1

This session will provide an opportunity for *Workshop* participants to network with other pretreatment professionals and discuss issues affecting their programs. Tables will be labeled with a topic of discussion, and *Workshop* participants should sit at the table of their choice. Pretreatment issues for discussion will include the following:

- Best Management Practices & Site-Specific Limits
- Centralized Waste Treatment Facilities
- Electronic Data Management & Mobile Apps
- Enhanced Source Control for Reuse
- Extra Strength Surcharges
- Fats, Oils & Greases (FOG)
- Hauled Waste
- Local Limits Development & Enforcement
- Marijuana Product Producers
- Mercury Minimization & Dental Amalgam Programs
- Microbreweries, Craft Distilleries, & Wineries
- PFAS, PFOA, PFOS, etc.
- Pollution Prevention & Source Control
- Wipes & Other Flushed Products
- Zero Discharge & Non-Significant Categorical Industrial Users

9:30 – 9:50

Networking Break

9:50 – 9:55

Eastland Ballroom

Opening Remarks

Frank Dick, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*

9:55 – 11:55

Eastland Ballroom

Local Limits and Surcharges: Strategies for Shared Utility and Industry Success

How long has it been since your utility did a comprehensive evaluation of your local limits and surcharges? Maybe it has been a long time, or even if it was fairly recent, perhaps you only considered your limits and surcharges the same way your utility has always done it. This session will take a deep dive into local limits and surcharges, and how the two intersect. Topics will include how to make sense of the past with local limits at your utility, any new permit requirements that you have, and how to construct local limits that will work in the future, considering what is fair and

equitable for both existing and future industrial users. The goals of surcharges – managing capacity and recovering costs – will be explored, along with the different options for achieving these goals to the benefit of the treatment plant and industries.

Chris Desiderati, Environmental Services Supervisor
Clackamas Water Environment Services | Oregon City, OR

Beth Toot-Levy, Senior Water Resources Scientist
Geosyntec Consultants | Seven Hills, OH

Forrest Lindsey, Senior Associate, Environmental Scientist
Brown and Caldwell | Little Rock, AR

11:55 – 12:00

Closing Remarks

Frank Dick, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*

12:00 – 2:00

Lunch (on your own or optional networking lunch)

As on Wednesday, *Workshop* participants will have the option to be assigned to a small group for a networking lunch.

1:45 – 4:00

Main Lobby

Registration

2:00 – 2:05

Eastland Ballroom

Opening Remarks

Kerry Britt, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*

2:05 – 2:35

Eastland Ballroom

Sustainable Life Cycles for Consumer Products

Pretreatment programs are excellent at regulating discharges to industries, but they have no control over discharges from consumer products. When these products are disposed of improperly, contaminants can enter the sewer system and the water environment. This presentation will discuss product stewardship – ensuring that the manufacturers and retailers that profit from consumer products are also responsible for their proper disposal – and how state legislation is leading the way to improve product stewardship policies.

Jennifer Schultz, Senior Associate for Policy and Programs
Product Stewardship Institute, Inc. | Boston, MA

2:35 – 3:25

Eastland Ballroom

How Clean is “Green”? Pretreatment for Data Centers and New Technologies

Data centers, recycling operations, and other “green” technologies seem to be popping up everywhere. While national attention has been drawn to their energy and water use, their discharge of emerging pollutants will be of most concern for the pretreatment programs where these industries are established. This presentation will include an examination of data from different types of facilities, and will discuss practical strategies for permitting these industries to protect wastewater treatment and the environment.

Sonya Harrison, Senior Environmental Specialist
Goldie & Associates | Seneca, SC

3:25 – 3:30

Eastland Ballroom

Closing Remarks

Kerry Britt, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*

3:30 – 3:45

Networking Break

3:45 – 5:15

Winslow Homer

NACWA Pretreatment Committee Meeting

All *Workshop* participants are invited to attend this meeting, whether or not they are members of the Committee.

5:30 – 6:30

Ballroom Foyer

Reception

This complimentary reception is open to all *Workshop* participants and their guests.

Friday, May 8

6:30

Hotel Lobby

Morning Run through Portland

Join fellow *Workshop* participants for a final hour of running or walking through Portland. Rain or shine, please meet us in the lobby!

8:15 – 10:30

Main Lobby

Registration

8:30 – 9:30

Eastland Ballroom

Pretreatment Issues Roundtable Discussions – Round 2

Using the same format as the roundtable session on Thursday morning, this second roundtable will provide an additional opportunity for *Workshop* participants to choose a pretreatment issue to discuss with other pretreatment professionals. Pretreatment issues for discussion will include the following:

- Best Management Practices & Site-Specific Limits
- Centralized Waste Treatment Facilities
- Electronic Data Management & Mobile Apps
- Enhanced Source Control for Reuse
- Extra Strength Surcharges
- Fats, Oils & Greases (FOG)
- Hauled Waste
- Local Limits Development & Enforcement
- Marijuana Product Producers
- Mercury Minimization & Dental Amalgam Programs
- Microbreweries, Craft Distilleries, & Wineries
- PFAS, PFOA, PFOS, etc.
- Pollution Prevention & Source Control
- Wipes & Other Flushed Products
- Zero Discharge & Non-Significant Categorical Industrial Users

9:30 – 9:50

Networking Break

9:50 – 9:55

Eastland Ballroom

Opening Remarks

Frank Dick, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*

9:55 – 10:30

Eastland Ballroom

Marijuana is Spreading Like a Weed – How Should Your Pretreatment Program Prepare?

Many states throughout the US have or are in the process of legalizing or otherwise changing the legal status of marijuana and other cannabis plants. As such, cannabis grow facilities are becoming widespread, but since they do not have the same

history of pretreatment regulation that other industries have, utilities may have a steep learning curve in dealing with them. This presentation will provide information to help utilities get started and avoid potential surprises at these facilities.

Jonathan Thompson, Water/Wastewater Engineer
HDR Engineering, Inc. | Fort Worth, TX

10:30 – 11:25

Eastland Ballroom

When Pretreatment Fails: True Stories and How to Prevent Them

Pretreatment programs break down not because of a single violation, but through small, compounding failures—missed warning signs, weak source control, and overreliance on paperwork over field verification. This presentation uses real-world case studies where pretreatment failures led to environmental harm, treatment plant upsets, and regulatory consequences, unpacking what went wrong and why. Each story concludes with practical, actionable strategies that municipalities can apply to strengthen programs, prevent repeat failures, and detect problems before they escalate.

Joshua Balentine, Senior Manager, Client Services
Brown and Caldwell | Memphis, TN

11:25 – 11:30

Closing Remarks

Frank Dick, *Co-Chair, Pretreatment and Pollution Prevention Committee*