2026 Pretreatment Virtual Workshop
Speaker Profiles



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

Joshua Balentine serves as the Pretreatment Program Technical Advisor for Brown and Caldwell, supporting municipal pretreatment programs and enhanced source control initiatives across the US and Canada. He brings extensive experience in pretreatment consulting, having managed one of the largest and most complex pretreatment programs in the country, and previously served as a contractor for both the US EPA and state pretreatment programs.

Mr. Balentine holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Memphis and an Executive MBA from the University of Alabama. He is also licensed as a Grade 4 Wastewater Treatment Operator in both TN and AZ.



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

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.



Cynthia Finley
Director, Regulatory Affairs
NACWA
Washington, DC
LinkedIn

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.

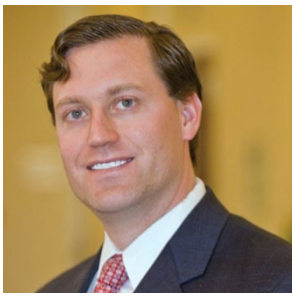


Aaron Fletcher
Discharge Assessment Lead, Environmental Safety Specialist
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH
LinkedIn

Aaron Fletcher is an Environmental Safety Specialist serving as the Discharge Assessment Lead with the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati, where he provides technical leadership in discharge assessment and dry-weather overflow investigations within the utility's Consent Decree Program.

His work focuses on identifying, investigating, and evaluating sewer system discharges through the integration of real-time monitoring, field investigations, hydraulic and rainfall analysis, geographic information systems, and operational data. He coordinates with wastewater collection and treatment personnel, municipal utilities, and other stakeholders to investigate overflow conditions, identify contributing sources, and support corrective actions and regulatory compliance.

Mr. Fletcher develops analytical tools and automated workflows to improve the consistency, efficiency, and defensibility of sewer system assessments and regulatory reporting. His work emphasizes translating complex monitoring and environmental data into practical information that supports operational decisions and long-term system improvements.
He holds a MS in Geosciences from Ohio University and undergraduate degrees in Geology and Environmental Studies from the University of Cincinnati. His academic and professional interests include urban hydrology, groundwater-surface water interactions, wastewater infrastructure, and the application of geoscience to environmental management.



Nathan Gardner-Andrews
Chief Advocacy & Policy Officer
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Washington, DC
LinkedIn

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.



Sonya Harrison
Senior Environmental Specialist
Goldie Associates
Seneca, SC
LinkedIn

Sonya Harrison works as a Senior Environmental/Pretreatment Specialist with Goldie Associates in Seneca, SC. With 27 years at Goldie and a total of 37 years in Wastewater and Pretreatment, Ms. Harrison brings a wealth of experience to the table in her work with municipalities and industries.

One of Ms. Harrison's strong suits is working with industries to protect the municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants, while optimizing the capabilities of the treatment plants to enhance the economic attractiveness of the community for industries.

Her work as an industrial consultant, as a municipal regulator, and as an environmental and pretreatment specialist provides her with a well-rounded knowledge with which to serve her clients.



Emily Remmel
Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Washington, DC
LinkedIn

Emily Remmel serves as the Director of Regulatory Affairs for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) in Washington, DC, where she has worked since early 2017. In her role, Emily works on PFAS, water quality, water reuse, and stormwater among other issues.

She earned a JD in Environmental Law and a certificate in water resources law from Vermont Law School and served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Vermont Journal of Environmental Law. She also holds a BS and MS in zoology from the University of Oklahoma where she specialized in aquatic ecology and has numerous publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

She also currently teaches water resources advocacy and introduction to water law, both online undergraduate courses at the University of Oklahoma.



Kelly Small
Environmental Specialist III
Polk County Utilities
Lakeland, FL
LinkedIn

Kelly Small is an Environmental Specialist III with Polk County Utilities (PCU)'s Environmental Affairs team, where she works in the Industrial Pretreatment Program. She has played a key role in developing PCU's FDEP-approved pretreatment program, including sampling, inspections, ordinance development, and standard operating procedures. Her responsibilities also include FOG, biosolids land application inspections, wastewater compliance, SSO and odor response, and Direct Potable Reuse support. Prior to joining PCU, Ms. Small worked as an Engineering Specialist with FDEP's Southwest District, permitting industrial wastewater, potable water, and utility infrastructure projects. She holds a bachelor's degree in Marine Resource Management, multiple FIPA certifications, and is a Certified Code Enforcement Officer. Before entering the environmental field, Ms. Small spent 17 years as a baker and cake decorator for Publix.



Sophia Smith
Senior Environmental Officer
KC Water
Kansas City, MO
LinkedIn

Sophia Smith is a Senior Environmental Officer for KC Water in Kansas City, MO. She works with industries and treatment plant staff on wastewater permitting, monitoring, and compliance. Ms. Smith holds a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Central Missouri.



Kristina Surfus
Managing Director, Government Affairs
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Washington, DC
LinkedIn

Kristina Surfus joined the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) in 2015 and now serves as Managing Director, Government Affairs. In this role, Ms. Surfus leads NACWA's federal legislative and regulatory teams to support the work of public clean water agencies. Prior to joining NACWA, Ms. Surfus worked on Capitol Hill and as a municipal environmental and economic consultant. Ms. Surfus earned a Masters of Freshwater Science and Policy from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee and BS in Environmental Analysis & Policy and International Relations from Boston University.