

# AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Friday, December 13, 2024 | 8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

The Power of Collaboration: Towards a One Water Future

✦ CELEBRATING 10 YEARS ✦

**JERSEY WATERWORKS**  
**CONFERENCE 2024**

DECEMBER 13 ✦ THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY ✦ EWING

## 8:00–9:00 a.m. Door Opens, Registration, Networking, Exhibitor's Table

### 9:00–9:45 a.m. WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- Deandrah Cameron, New Jersey Future / Jersey Water Works (JWW)
- Saraly Gonzalez, UrbanPromise USA
- Andy Kricun, Moonshot Missions and JWW Steering Committee Co-Chair

*KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Shawn M. LaTourette, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*

### 9:45–10:00 a.m. BREAK

### 10:00–11:15 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1

1. Advancing Public Health: Lessons Learned From Two Years of Accelerating Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) in New Jersey Communities
2. Unlocking the Potential of Stormwater Utilities: Perspectives and Progress in New Jersey
3. Advancing Green Infrastructure: Navigating NJ PACT REAL Updates
4. Towards a One Water Future: Effective Combined Sewer Overflow Solutions with Active Community Involvement
5. Securing Water Infrastructure Funding: Expert Office Open Hour

### 11:15-11:30 a.m. BREAK

### 11:30-12:45 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2

1. Get the Lead Out: Updates to Lead in Drinking Water: LCRI and NJ LSLR Implementation
2. Tackling PFAS Pollution: State Policy Updates and Advocacy Examples
3. Strategic Vision for Water Infrastructure: Shaping the Water Agenda with New Political Leaders
4. Enhancing Climate Resilience through Municipal Watershed Improvement Plans

### 12:45-1:30 p.m. LUNCH

### 1:30-3:00 p.m. GENERAL SESSION AND AFTERNOON KEYNOTE

#### General Session

- MC: Nicole E. Brown, Client Development Manager, Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc.; Emerging Water Leaders of Color Leadership Circle, Black Water Professional Alliance
- Greetings from Title Sponsor: New Jersey American Water
- Fireside Chat: Philanthropy's Role in Advancing Water Equity

*KEYNOTE ADDRESS: George Hawkins, ESQ, Founder and CEO, Moonshot Missions*

### 3:00-3:30 p.m. TOAST TO TEN YEARS & NETWORKING RECEPTION

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS INFORMATION

### 9:00–9:45 a.m. GENERAL SESSION

#### MORNING GENERAL SESSION | WELCOME AND KICKOFF: THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

**Session Description:** Join us for a dynamic welcome session focused on the importance of collaboration for sustainable water management. Deandrah Cameron from New Jersey Future will kick off the discussion, followed by Saraly Gonzalez from Camden, who will address the connection between our rivers, water resources, and youth involvement. Andy Kricun, co-chair of the JWW Steering Committee, will reflect on ten years of collaboration before we hear from New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Shawn LaTourette, who will share insights into the state's vision for water sustainability.

**Speakers:**

1. Deandrah Cameron, New Jersey Future / Jersey Water Works (JWW)
2. Saraly Gonzalez, UrbanPromise USA
3. Andy Kricun, Moonshot Missions and JWW Steering Committee Co-Chair
4. **Keynote Address:** *Shawn M. LaTourette, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*

### 10:00–11:15 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1

#### TOWARDS A ONE WATER FUTURE: EFFECTIVE COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW SOLUTIONS WITH ACTIVE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

**Session Description:** Stay informed with the latest updates from the North Hudson Sewerage Authority and Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority as they work to advance on their Long Term Control Plans to manage Combined Sewer Overflows. Discover their enhanced public participation and engagement practices designed to involve the community and foster collaboration. You'll learn strategies to facilitate teamwork between permittees and the public, ensuring community voices are integrated into decision-making processes. This session is ideal for municipal officials, environmental advocates, and individuals who want to strengthen connections and collaborate on water infrastructure solutions.

**Speakers:**

1. Lu Bivona, Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (CCMUA)
2. Timothy Feeney, CCMUA
3. Andrea Jovie Sapal, Jersey Water Works and Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers
4. Scott Schreiber, CCMUA
5. Omar Vicioso, North Hudson Sewerage Authority
6. Moderator: Michele Langa, NY/NJ Baykeeper and Hackensack Riverkeeper

## ADVANCING PUBLIC HEALTH: LESSONS LEARNED FROM TWO YEARS OF ACCELERATING LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT (LSLR) IN NEW JERSEY COMMUNITIES

### Session Description:

Drinking water systems, governments, and stakeholders face numerous obstacles in complying with the legislation in their efforts to accelerate Lead Service Line Replacement. Overcoming these challenges requires clear standards and communication, sustainable financing models, and education of property owners about the benefits of LSL replacement. Join us for an informative session on lessons learned from two years of on-the-ground accelerating LSLR initiatives.

### Speakers:

1. Deandrah Cameron, New Jersey Future
2. Yolanda McCollom, Ridgewood Water
3. Jyoti Venketraman, New Jersey Future, Jersey WaterCheck Data Dashboard
4. Moderator: Debbie Mans, TWENTYTWENTY Public Affairs Partner, Lead-Free Steering committee Chair, Glen Ridge Borough Mayor

## ADVANCING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: NAVIGATING NJ PACT REAL UPDATES

**Session Description:** Join us for an in-depth overview of the latest updates to the NJ PACT REAL program and an exploration of Green Infrastructure Stormwater Management Rules. This session will provide valuable insights for professionals involved in green infrastructure and stormwater management.

### Speakers

1. Anushi Garg, Environmental Defense Fund
2. Anthony Robalik, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
3. Jim Waltman, The Watershed Institute
4. Moderator: Chris Sotiro, New Jersey Future

## UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF STORMWATER UTILITIES: PERSPECTIVES AND PROGRESS IN NEW JERSEY

**Session Description:** Explore the latest developments, opportunities, and challenges in implementing stormwater utilities in New Jersey. Gain valuable insights from municipalities such as Princeton, Newark, and Maplewood, which have conducted feasibility studies. Learn about the process from experts from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), who lead the way in NJ stormwater utility grants.

### Speakers:

1. Kareem Adeem, Newark Water & Sewer Utilities
2. Victor DeLuca, Maplewood Township
3. Timothy Ebersberger, NJDEP Stormwater Permitting and Water Quality Management
4. Moderator: Nathan Walker, AICP, Gannett Fleming Transystems

## SECURING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING: EXPERT OFFICE OPEN HOUR

**Description:** Meet with NJDEP and IBank representatives in a personalized setting to explore funding opportunities for water infrastructure projects. This session will provide valuable one-on-one interactions and registration sign-up for individual consultations.

**Speakers:**

1. Ryon Bassi, NJDEP
2. Brandon Carreno, NJDEP
3. Lee Clark, MABC, New Jersey Future
4. Tess Clark, Syracuse University Center for Sustainable Community Solutions / Environmental Finance Center
5. John Notte, NJ Infrastructure Bank
6. Christina Petagna, Environmental Policy Innovation Center
7. Filina Poonolly, NJDEP

## 11:30-12:45 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2

### GET THE LEAD OUT: UPDATES TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER: LCRI AND NJ LSLR IMPLEMENTATION

**Session Description:**

This session will delve into critical updates surrounding EPA's final Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) requirements, examples of effective service line communication strategies, and recommendations for effective partnerships between utilities and community organizations.

**Speakers:**

1. Kristin Epstein, PE, CDM Smith
2. Chelsea Kulp, New Jersey American Water
3. Shanikwa Lemon, Paterson Alliance
4. Bryan Frierson, Passaic Valley Water Commission

Moderator: Rshan Prailow, The Think Group, Lead-Free New Jersey Steering Committee Chair

### TACKLING PFAS SOLUTIONS: STATE POLICY UPDATES AND ADVOCACY EXAMPLES

**Session Description:** Join us for a session featuring updates from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on their PFAS policy. Clean Water Action will also share insights on how they are educating policymakers and the public about the risks of PFAS chemicals, their uses, potential solutions, and the importance of holding polluters accountable. Additionally, we'll explore relevant developments in other states that can provide valuable lessons for New Jersey.

**Speakers:**

1. Kati Angarone, NJDEP
2. Amy Goldsmith, New Jersey Clean Water Action
3. Alesha Vega, New Jersey Future

## **STRATEGIC VISION FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE: SHAPING THE WATER AGENDA WITH NEW POLITICAL LEADERS**

**Session Description:** Join us for a discussion on advancing water infrastructure policy and fostering collaborative efforts amid changing national and state administrations. With new leadership comes shifting policy goals and priorities- how can we ensure that the critical needs of water systems continue to be met? Together, we'll explore strategies to influence incoming state and federal administrations on water policy priorities that align with JWW's shared goals and examine the role of collaborative networks in sustaining effective advocacy during transitions in government leadership.

### **Speakers:**

1. Larry Levine, Natural Resources Defense Council
2. Ryan Sharpe, Utilities & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey
3. Shereyl Snider, East Trenton Collaborative
4. Moderator: Diane Schrauth, New Jersey Future

## **ENHANCING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH MUNICIPAL WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT PLANS**

**Session Description:** This session will focus on integrating climate resilience into municipal watershed improvement plans. With the recent allocation of \$72 million from NOAA for a Regional Climate Resilience Project in New Jersey, there is an increased urgency to address climate-related challenges. The session will explore the incorporation of climate resilience strategies into existing watershed improvement plans, emphasizing the retrofitting of past developments with stormwater management systems and implementing urban heat island mitigation measures such as tree planting and reducing paved surfaces. Attendees will gain insights into how municipalities can leverage their MS4 permit requirements to drive climate-resilient initiatives and start implementing projects that enhance overall climate resilience.

**Speaker:** Christopher C. Obropta, Ph.D., P.E., Rutgers University

## **TOWARDS A ONE WATER FUTURE**

**Session Description:** Shape and explore the vision of a One Water future! This session will provide valuable insights into statewide initiatives (including philanthropy's role) and successful national models that are shaping the way we think about and manage our drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater.

**Speakers:**

1. General Session MC: Nicole E. Brown, Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc.; Emerging Water Leaders of Color Leadership Circle, Black Water Professional Alliance
2. Greetings from Title Sponsor: Mark McDonough, New Jersey American Water
3. Fireside Chat: Philanthropy's Role in Advancing Water Equity
  - a. Jyoti Venketraman, New Jersey Future
  - b. Pamela Russo, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  - c. Alana Vega, The Fund for New Jersey
4. **Keynote Address:** *From Conflict to Collaboration: Unlocking the Door to One Water*  
George Hawkins, ESQ, Founder and CEO, Moonshot Missions

## **TOAST TO TEN YEARS**

Celebrate and network!