

Announcement & Call for Abstracts



Water Environment
Association of Texas

Collection Systems 2020 Boots Up the Rio Grande: Protecting Your Sewer Assets

June 2-5, 2020
El Paso, Texas, USA

ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL DEADLINE: October 8, 2019

This conference is held by the Water Environment Federation in cooperation with the Water Environment Association of Texas.

The Specialty Conference Committee is soliciting abstracts on the following topics. *Suggested subtopics provide content guidance and are not limited to those listed.*

1. Utilities of the Future

A.I. and Machine Learning, America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, SMART Technology, Predictive Modeling, Sensored Networks in Collection Systems, Internet of Things, Active Management of the Collection System, Radar/Advanced Forecasting, System Optimization for Overflow Reduction.

2. Funding Options

Funding Alternatives, Feasibility Analysis, Rate Impact Studies, Affordability Analysis, Use of Various Financing Instruments, Methods of Charging for Wastewater Flows, Innovative Solutions, Stakeholder Involvement, Public-Private Partnerships, Federal Grants/Loans, State Grants/Loans.

3. Integrated Wet Weather Planning

Water Quality Improvements, Water Quantity Reductions, Regulatory Approach, Pre-Treatment, Sewer Separation for Inflow Reduction, Source Control. Asset Management, Managing Maintenance Data. Wet weather flow management, NPDES, Water Resource Planning, Clean Water Act compliance, Green Infrastructure, Regional Planning, Innovative Technologies, Water Quality Based Requirements (TMDL), Sustainable Infrastructure, Supplemental Environmental Projects, Long Term Control Planning.

4. Sanitary and Combined Sewer Overflows

Master Planning, Long-term Control Planning, Implementing SSO/CSO Control/Reduction Plans, SSO Response Plans, Reporting, SSO/CSO Volume Estimation, SSES, Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Reduction, Managing Water Across Political Boundaries, TMDL Compliance, Storage/Treatment Options, Consent Decrees/Administrative Orders, Stakeholder Involvement, Overflow Signage and Public Notification Programs, Data Management, GIS Applications, Public and Political Education, Green Infrastructure, Evaluating Flow Reduction, Innovative Communication Tools.

5. Personnel Development

Succession Planning, Growing Talent, Presentation Training, Public Speaking, Business Development, Technical Specialties, Licensing, Continuing Education

6. Design and Construction – Delivering Capital Projects

Capital Improvement Project Validation, Sustainability Design Issues, Money matters, Stakeholder Involvement, Life cycle Issues, Critical infrastructure, Alternate Project Delivery, Construction Management, Design Criteria and Standards, Conventional vs Alternative Sewers, Rehabilitation, Construction Issues, Lessons Learned, Easement Access, Community Involvement

7. System Operations and Maintenance (O&M)

Operator Engagement, Operating and Maintaining Systems for Sustainable Use, Odors and Corrosion, Effective Computerized Maintenance Management Systems, CMOM, Applying Best Appropriate Management Practices, Sewer Inspection Techniques, Budgeting for O&M, Application of Floatables Control, Developing Standard O&M Procedures, New Technologies and Practice for O&M, CSO/SSO Alarm and Notification Systems, Lessons Learned, Benchmarking, SCADA Monitoring, Data Collection QA/QC

8. Asset Management and Sustainability

Level of Service, Risk Management; Asset inventory and Valuation; Asset Management Plans; Information Systems Management Tools and Processes; Condition Assessment, Data Integrity, Flow Monitoring, Modeling, Design Standards, Construction Specifications and Inspection, Sewer System Evaluation Surveys, Planning and Measuring Results of a Rehabilitation and Replacement Program; Developing Business Case Evaluations; Culture Change - Getting Buy-In, Financial Planning, IT, Staff Training, Enterprise Asset Management Case Studies, Capital Budgeting and Improvement Plans, Benefit/Cost Analysis.

9. Trenchless Technologies (TT), Rehabilitation and Private I/I

Trenchless Rehabilitation Technologies, Tunneling in Soft Ground, Rock, and Mixed Face, Tunnel Geotechnical Investigations Best Practices, Design and Construction Best Practices, Lessons Learned, Tunnel Risk Approaches and Risk Registers; Contractor Outreach during Design, Private Property Rehabilitation, Education and Community Involvement.

10. Pump Stations/Force Mains

Sanitary/Combined/Stormwater Pump Stations, Lift Station Grit Removal; Screening Approaches; Large and Small Diameter Force Mains, Force Main Maintenance, Design Life Considerations, Retrofitting, Investigations. Design and Construction Best Practices, Innovative Forcemain Inspection Methods, Risk Mitigation, Air Release Valves

Important Information about Collection Systems 2020 Abstracts

Method of Submittal: Online only please. Please visit www.wef.org/CollectionSystems for a direct link to the online submittal site. Abstracts must be received by Midnight Eastern on **October 8, 2019**.

Review Criteria: Abstracts shall be no longer than 9,000 characters (approx. 1000 words). One additional page may be submitted with tables, graphics, and/or images

Clearly defined and addressed in the abstract submittal:

- State Purpose – What message or knowledge transfer will be provided?
- Benefits of Presentation – Clearly state why this presentation should be selected and will provide a benefit to our industry. Is it unique, new technology, a different spin on an old concept, etc.
- Status of Completion – At the time of submittal, is the project related work complete, if not, when will it be complete? Consideration for completed projects is weighted more than incomplete projects.
- Conclusion – Clearly state the take-away message. Example: If several products or methods are being evaluated, there should be a definitive conclusion stated in the abstracts to why one was chosen over the others.

After Selection: All authors will be notified of their placement in the technical program in December 2019. Per WEF's policy, selected authors are required to submit manuscripts prior to the deadline of May 4th.

Presenters are expected to register for the Conference and pay the appropriate registration fee.

No travel or assistance funds are available for speakers.

For Questions or Additional Information Contact:
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