



Public Health and Water Conference & Wastewater Disease Surveillance Summit 2022

WDS Summit: March 21, 2022
PHW Conference: March 22-24, 2022
Duke Energy Convention Center
Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL DEADLINE: Tuesday, September 28, 2021

This conference is organized by the Water Environment Federation in cooperation with the US Centers for Disease Control and the Ohio Water Environment Association.

The Public Health and Water Conference and Wastewater Disease Surveillance Summit will convene researchers, professionals, and leaders from the public health, health care, and water sectors for interdisciplinary collaboration on a wide range of water and public health topics. The Summit will be the foundational event for the National Wastewater Surveillance System and will focus on making data actionable. The Conference will include oral presentations, interactive discussions, workshops, exhibits, opportunities for networking in dynamic settings, and virtual components. Potential speakers are invited to submit an abstract for a podium presentation, workshop, or session. The steering committee will decide which presentations will be presented at the summit and conference.

Original research, systematic reviews, and case studies, especially those that highlight the connections between public health and water/wastewater data, are welcome on the following topics:

- A. Wastewater Disease Surveillance** – What have we learned when applying this tool to the COVID-19 pandemic and other prior use cases, such as polio and influenza, and what should we be focused on in addition to COVID and its variants?
- B. Emerging Pathogens** – How do we better prepare for the next pandemic? What specific threats should we be tracking? What technologies are available or are emerging to assist?
- C. PFAS & Chemical Contaminants of Concern** – What do we know about the health implications of PFAS compounds in water-wastewater, biosolids, and recycled water?
- D. Indicator Organisms** – What are the relative merits of different indicator organisms and how do we best use these organisms through the wastewater, water reuse, and drinking water cycles?
- E. Occupational Health** – What tools and tips can we use to protect worker health, especially during infectious disease outbreaks?
- F. Communication and Public Education** – How can we optimally convey water and public health information, including data uncertainty, to the public?
- G. Health Equity & Environmental Justice** – What equity, legal, ethical, and privacy considerations should be top-of-mind for water and public health? What successes and other lessons can we learn from (especially as it relates to Tribes/Territories and underserved areas)?
- H. Connection between Public Health and Climate Change** - How does climate change affect the quality of our water? What is its connection to public health?
- I. Public Health and Epidemiology** – What other topics are relevant to the linkage between public health and wastewater? How should the public health system work together to address these topics?

Information on how to submit and review criteria on the next page

**Abstracts must be submitted online no later than midnight Eastern on Tuesday, September 28th.
To submit, go to: www.wef.org/PublicHealth**

If you would like more information on submitting an abstract, please see our Speaker Information page:
www.wef.org/sc-speaker-information

Abstracts will be evaluated and ranked for selection based on their total score using criteria in the following table:

Abstract Evaluation Criteria				
Scoring Level	Originality	Content	Benefits & Significance	Quality
1	Nothing new	Just a concept	Of no interest to audience	Minimal text, limited discussion of project
2	Represents small advancement	Well defined concept and clear objectives	Modest benefit to focused audience	Clear relevant text but no tables or figures
3	Modest incremental advancement	Well defined concept, clear objectives and methods	Modest benefit to broad audience	Clear text and either one table or figure
4	Very significant incremental advancement	Clear objectives and methods. Outcomes suggested but not fully described	High interest and benefit to focused audience	Clear text with figures and tables but presentation or logic could be improved
5	Potential breakthrough	Clear objectives, methods described, and (anticipated) conclusions outlined	Broad benefits to broad audience	Well written logical text with high quality figures and tables

Abstract Preparation and Submittal

Abstracts must be submitted prior to midnight Eastern on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 via WEF's online submittal portal at www.wef.org/PublicHealth

Abstracts should be a maximum of 9000 characters (approx. 1000 words) with the option to upload figures and tables separately, which is encouraged. Selected abstract authors will be notified in December and will need to complete a final manuscript. Manuscripts will be subject to revision or rejection if lacking in quality. In accordance with policy, accepted authors who do not submit a manuscript by the required deadline will be removed from the program.

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 Please Contact:

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Education and Training
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