

# WLI20 Welcome Directory

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# Alec Mackenzie

**Name:** Alec Mackenzie, M.Eng, P.Eng.

**Job Title:** Project Manager – Capital Delivery

**Employer:** EPCOR Water Services

**City:** Calgary, Alberta

**Country:** Canada

**Phone:** 403-801-7741

**Email:** [amackenzie@epcor.com](mailto:amackenzie@epcor.com)

**LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com/in/alec-mackenzie-0b338763](https://www.linkedin.com/in/alec-mackenzie-0b338763)

**Bio:** I'm a process engineer and work in municipal water and wastewater. I spent the first 9 years of my career as an engineering consultant, and now I work for a water utility as a project manager. When I'm not working, I enjoy spending time in mountains skiing, hiking, and backcountry camping.

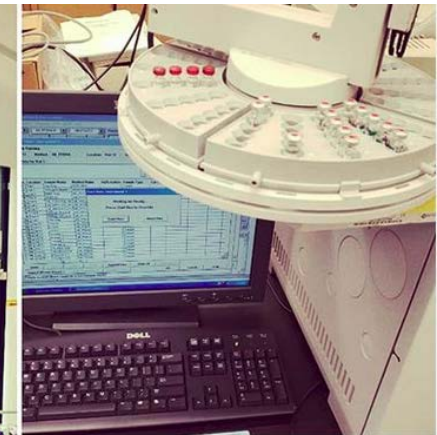
I'm also active in industry associations and currently serve as the Vice-Chair for Western Canada Water Environment Association (WEF MA) and on the Board of Directors for Western Canada Water.



# Alma Beciragic

Research Assistant/ Doctoral Student  
UNC Chapel Hill  
Gilling's School of Global Public Health  
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I was born in Zagreb, Croatia; my family and I moved to the United States in 1994 as refugees from Bosnia. My family currently lives in Charlotte, NC. In May 2014, I received my BS in Environmental Science from Queens University of Charlotte. In Aug 2014, I began my doctoral studies in the UNC Environmental Sciences and Engineering department. I am interested in analytical chemistry, drinking water quality, water treatment technologies, and advancing water stewardship through water reuse research. I currently work with a variety of analytical tools (including GC-ECD, GC-MS, LC-UV, and LC-APCI-MS) to study nanofiltration membrane leachates and help ensure safe drinking water. I expect to graduate this summer and look forward to the next chapter. When I'm not in lab, I love to be outdoors: swimming, hiking, biking. I have an 18-year old cat that I grew up with who loves to cuddle and sleep on my laptop.



# ANA J. PEÑA-TIJERINA, PH.D., P.E., BCEE

Engineering Manager  
City of Fort Worth  
Water Department  
Texas, USA  
817-392-4982 office  
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I am originally from Mexico and came to the USA in 1998. I have more than twenty years of experience in the water industry in public, private, and academic sectors. My area of expertise is water and wastewater treatment processes. I am an active member of WEF and WEAT and participate in several committees including MRRDC, LEOS & LIFT.

I love God and my family and strive to become the best version of myself. My hobbies are reading, learning, walking, and eating.



# ASHLEY B. WARREN

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

MWRDGC  
111 E. Erie Street  
Chicago, IL 60611

ashley.warren@mwrdd.org  
Office: 312-751-3021  
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- Alumna of Northern IL University
  - B.S. Public Health
    - Emphasis: Environment & Health
  - President of Minorities in Science Association while at NIU
- Member of WEF
- Member of WEF's Students & Young Professionals Committee (SYPC)

### Three Interesting Facts:

- Worked on the tour boat crew at MWRD
- First person in my department to be selected for WLI
- Feb 2020- attended the SYPC Midyear Springboard Meeting in San Antonio, TX

**PhD candidate / Advanced wastewater treatment**

**Portland State University, City of Roses, Oregon, USA**

Through last 5-year PhD journey, I have been working as a researcher, teaching assistant for almost 350 students, mentor for 62 graduate mentees from 20 countries! It has been a truly multi-cultural learning journey. I'm international student and I grew up in Iraq and lived there until mid of 2013.

Besides conducting my research, I'm currently focusing on learning the sustainability principals (theory and applications) through Transformational leadership in water industry.

I enjoy running my babies (lab bioreactors), love collecting stuffed microbes and keychains. Also, I enjoy cooking, coffee tasting and walking around to see the beauty of Portland.

**Bashar Al-Daomi**



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# Becca Erickson

I graduated from Colorado School of Mines with a BS ('15) and MS ('18) in Environmental Engineering, and have been working at the South Platte Water Renewal Partners WRRF since. I am extremely passionate about wastewater and am always looking for ways to share my excitement with others, whether it be through volunteer work, giving tours, or over a cold beer. Creating clean water, soil, and energy is all you need to sustain life! Outside of work I love cooking, traveling, rock climbing, snowboarding, mountain biking, and cuddling my adorable cat, Waffles.

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## WILLIAM ("BILLY") SEARLES

TITLE / COMPANY: PROJECT MANAGER AT KIEWIT

WORK LOCATION: LOS ANGELES, CA

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**I HAVE A BEAUTIFUL WIFE AND TWO KIDS (3 AND 8)**



**I LIVE IN NEWPORT BEACH, CA**

I'VE BEEN IN THE INDUSTRY SINCE 2006 AND SPENT THAT ENTIRE TIME WITH KIEWIT. I'VE BOTH WORKED IN CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS AND DESIGN / DEVELOPMENT. PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS INCLUDE WINNING THE DBIA PROJECT OF THE YEAR FOR THE CARLSBAD DESALINATION PROJECT AND HELPING PAVE THE WAY FOR DESIGN BUILD / PROGRESSIVE DESIGN BUILD WATER PROJECTS IN CALIFORNIA.

WHEN NOT WORKING, MY TIME IS SPENT WITH MY FAMILY. WE ARE VERY ACTIVE AND LOVE SPENDING TIME OUTDOORS, PLAYING SPORTS, AND ENJOYING OUR LOCAL BEACHES.



# ROBERT (BOB) FROST

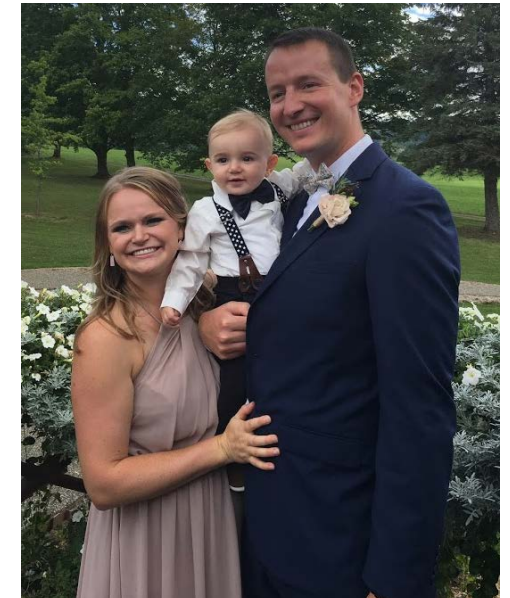
I have been working as a design engineer and project manager at Hazen since June 2011. My work is primarily for the City of New York, but I also get involved in other wastewater projects throughout the Northeast.

I grew up in a rural area near Albany, NY, and, accordingly, my family had a variety of barnyard pets including potbelly pigs. I now live in Clinton, NJ, with my wife and son, and our dog Jack Frost. I enjoy snowboarding and basketball in my free time.

As with all parents, if you want to get to know me more, ask me about my son Robby. And no, I do not write poetry!



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# *Brad Lovett*

U.S. National Organizer,  
Stockholm Junior Water Prize

Water Environment Federation



SJWP! National Winner  
Sonja with Tom Kunetz



Luxembourg (my  
French is awful)



Anacostia River Trail,  
DC – happy place



DC Water



~houseplants~



Nephew, Mr. Wade  
(14<sup>th</sup> of 14!)



## BRIAN HILL

I've worked at the Water Environment Federation as the acquisitions and development editor on technical publications since 2018. Before moving to DC in 2013 and getting my start in the publishing industry, I went to grad school in Minnesota, where I worked on a PhD in medieval military history. Most of my energy outside work goes toward indoor rock climbing and chasing my dog, Titus Pullo, around the house.



- Acquisitions and Development Editor
- Water Environment Federation
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# BRIAN TIERNEY

Technical Sales Engineer - Evoqua Water Technologies - Waukesha, WI  
262.521.8495 - [brian.tierney@evoqua.com](mailto:brian.tierney@evoqua.com) - [LinkedIn Profile](#)

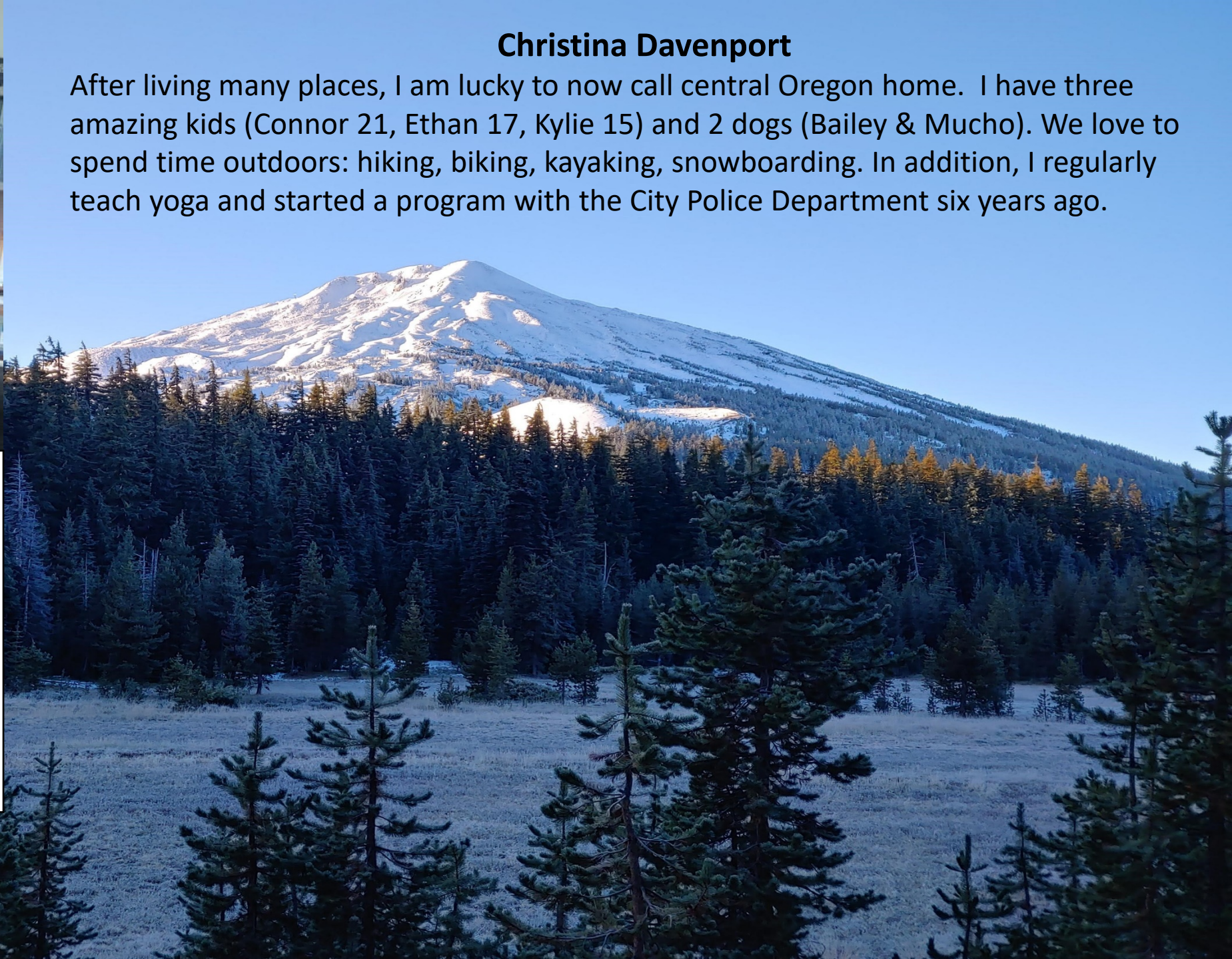
I've been working for Evoqua the past six years, currently responsible for Evoqua's Jet Tech product line in the West and Midwest US. Prior to Evoqua, I worked in consulting on both water and wastewater projects. I attended the Milwaukee School of Engineering where I earned a master's degree in environmental engineering. When not working, I enjoy spending time with my family: Amy, Asher, and Silas. We also have two Boston Terriers that keep us busy. In my free time, I captain an Ultimate Frisbee team (Asian Carp) that plays in the Milwaukee Ultimate Club.





## Christina Davenport

After living many places, I am lucky to now call central Oregon home. I have three amazing kids (Connor 21, Ethan 17, Kylie 15) and 2 dogs (Bailey & Mucho). We love to spend time outdoors: hiking, biking, kayaking, snowboarding. In addition, I regularly teach yoga and started a program with the City Police Department six years ago.



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## Elaine Samuel

Infrastructure Management EIT

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[LinkedIn Profile](#)

### Hi everyone!

- I live in Toronto, but am originally from Vancouver
- I am working in consulting engineering in Toronto in wastewater infrastructure planning, flow monitoring, collection system modelling, and climate change adaptation
- I started a Young Professionals group at my company in 2019 and love learning about and improving about organization cultures and team dynamics
- I am the proud co-founder of [enggirlproblems.com](http://enggirlproblems.com), a blog by and for women in engineering to share stories and experiences of professional and personal development
- I also enjoy craft beer, traveling, and in my spare time I love to tap dance!





## Elle Frier

*Freese & Nichols, Inc | Professional Engineer*

*Dallas, TX*



### Cell Phone

(720)695-5375

### Email

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### [LinkedIn](#)

### About me

I am passionate about the WEF organization and dedicated to the growth of student and young professional involvement in our industry.

### Professional Background

I graduated with a BS in Environmental Engineering from Southern Methodist University. My project experience includes pump station design, water and wastewater facility design, cost analysis, construction and design-build project management. I am currently an active member of SMU's CEE Advisory Board, Empowering Women in Industry Steering Committee, Hydraulic Institute Standards, and WEAT.

In 2015, I helped develop and lead a mentoring program for the WEAT Student Design Competition. In 2017, I was elected to serve as the WEAT Student Competition Chair.

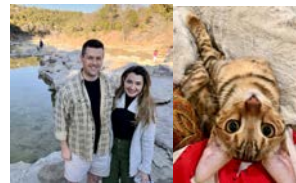
In 2018, I was elected to serve as the Deputy Treasurer for WEAT in the North Texas Section. I continue to lead the region-wide competition, the WEAT Clean Shores Challenge, formally Texas River Cleanup Challenge, which focuses on organizing groups across the state to remove trash and debris from Texas rivers, lakes, streams, and beaches.

### What are you doing when you aren't working?

I spend as much time as I can outdoors with my husband grilling, hiking, or biking. We enjoy taking road trips whenever we can get away for a weekend or staying home to hang with our cat!



2017-18 WEAT River Cleanup Challenge Competition, North Texas Section



# Erik Simmons, PE

*HDR, Pasco Water Lead*

*Pasco, WA*

*USA*

*(509) 546-2074*

*erik.simmons@hdrinc.com*



I am a project manager with experience leading multidisciplinary teams on water and wastewater infrastructure projects. Some of my recent projects include the design of several water transmission mains and a 6 MG reservoir and pump station. I have also recently worked on several WWTP outfall upgrade projects. Three interesting things about me include:

- I have three rambunctious kids.
- I recently purchased a Trek Bicycle and I am trying get into cycling.
- I have lived in Venezuela and the West Bank

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# FELICIA GLAPION, PE

Program Manager, Engineering and Planning

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*stinkbugs*



*campfires*



*motivational*

“When something goes wrong in your life just yell ‘Plot Twist!’ and move on.” –Molly Weiss



I have worked in the water industry for over 17 years. In that time, I have grown from an undergraduate research assistant working under Dr. Nancy to a senior project manager in the private sector responsible for the design and management of several simultaneous projects and teams.

Most of my time in the water sector has been spent on the private side learning about and viewing industry challenges through the lens of a consultant. I entered the public sector about a year ago in search of new challenges and a deeper understanding of the issues currently faced by utilities.

# GARRETT BERGEY



## Professional Info:

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## ABOUT ME:

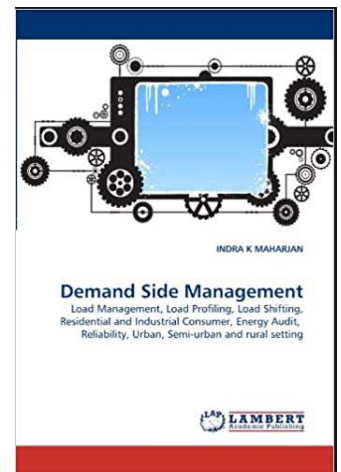
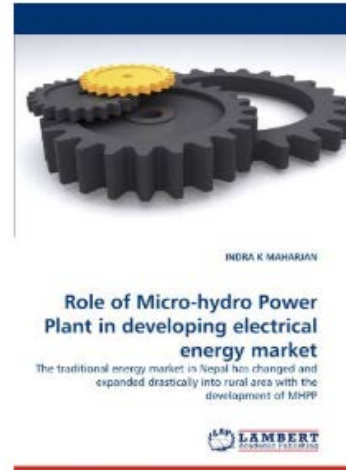
Even though I work in MA I actually live in the Mad River Valley in Vermont and telecommute most of the week. I love skiing and being outdoors. I have a 4 year old Bernese Mountain dog (Magellan) and am getting a second Berner in a couple of weeks.



Indra Maharjan, P.Eng., CEM, CMVP  
Director, Innovation, Technology and Alternate  
Delivery – Ontario Clean Water Agency

Indra Maharjan is a Senior Engineer with an extensive history with energy conservation and energy efficiency projects. He currently leads OCWA's Innovation, Efficiency and Technology group and delivers efficiency and resource recovery programs to municipal clients across Ontario. He brings first-hand knowledge of the opportunities and challenges of the municipal W/WW sector in the province working with more than 150 municipalities across the province. He has been a driving force behind municipal W/WW conservation and resource recovery through co-digestion in Ontario with many successful and innovative projects.

He is largely involved with various industry associations, namely OWWA, WEAO, ONEIA, Ryerson Urban Water and PEO committees and has been an active mentor for many Young Professionals in our sector. Indra believes in a One Water approach and supports the active role OWWA can play to promote the approach with its large member base. He feels OWWA has an opportunity to play a more active role in the development of programs and policy that would support various emerging issues and extend the participation of small and medium municipal communities in its delivery model.



**Personal Information:**

Jaren Murphy  
Business Development Manager  
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**Short Bio:**

Jaren is McCarthy's National Water Business Development Manager and has worked in the industry since 2013 on Water, Wastewater, and Aquatic projects. He received his Bachelors Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Brigham Young University in 2013 and currently resides in Gilbert, AZ with his wife and 10-month-old daughter.

**Three Interesting Things:**

Favorite thing to do boating  
Oldest of five boys  
Fluent in Spanish



# Jen Cobb, P.E.

## BIO

I have 20 years of experience in the stormwater, drinking water, sanitary sewer, and solid waste fields in public and private sectors. I have a B.S. in Biological Systems Engineering and a Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management, both from Virginia Tech. I am the Vice Chair of VWEA's Stormwater Committee.

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- LINKEDIN: N/A



## Interesting Things

- Aside from the typical faith and family, my passions include water, wolves, and the color purple.
- I am a military wife. He's getting out soon!
- I am a thrill seeker (i.e. ziplines, skydiving, Flowrider).



MY PETS:

VALKYRIE



STORM



SPOOKY



# Jennifer Loconsole

I have been working at Black & Veatch in Chicago since January 2016. I currently serve as a Civil Engineer in the water business and have recently transitioned into a position with our wastewater process group. I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and live downtown now. In my spare time, I love exploring the neighborhoods of Chicago and trying new restaurants. I love traveling to new places and staying active, especially running.



- Civil Engineer at Black & Veatch
- Chicago, IL
- LoconsoleJ@bv.com



I have been with HRSD for about 15 years. In my current position I enjoy both field work and the added responsibilities of management.



# Jenny Reitz

▶ WATER QUALITY SUPERVISING SPECIALIST

▶ HRSD

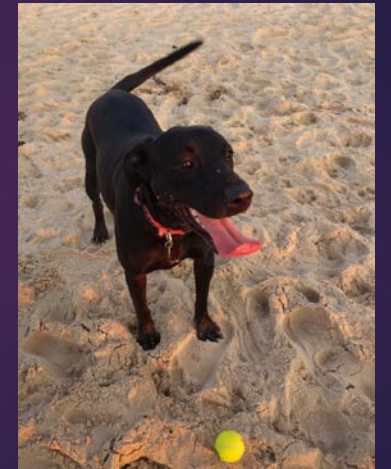
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I have 2 amazing children and 2 "almost" equally amazing dogs. In my free time I enjoy traveling, live music, and sporting events.





Bere Island, County Cork Ireland

I am a born and raised Arkansan and graduated from the University of Arkansas. I started my career at Beaver Water District as a Plant Operator and earned a promotion to Operations Supervisor 6 years ago. I have been married to my wife, Sarah, for 18 years. We have two sons ages 13 and 10. We have 1 dog, 3 cats and 3 fish. I enjoy anything related to water; fishing, skiing, canoeing/kayaking, swimming and making it safe for human consumption. I have been blessed to visit Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica and Ireland.



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# Jonathan Leitch

I currently manage the Infrastructure division for Southern California, Hawaii, and Guam. I have over 12 years' experience working for Victaulic, the global leader in pipe joining and flow control solutions. I have served in a variety of roles within Victaulic, throughout various territories in the Western U.S. Professional experiences include both global and domestic projects, with a focus on project management, procurement, & engineering through multiple sectors of the construction industry; including commercial, industrial, infrastructure, transportation, wastewater, and clean water. My hobbies and extracurricular activities include, coaching, traveling, fishing, skiing, basketball, lifting weights, and supporting my family in their endeavors.

Victaulic Company of America  
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# Joseph Massimo

- Role: Global Sales Tools & Process Leader at SUEZ
- Trevoise, PA USA
- 215-970-1097
- Email: [Joseph.Massimo@suez.com](mailto:Joseph.Massimo@suez.com)
- LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/josephmassimo/>
- Bio: Born in Folsom, PA (outside Philadelphia). I received a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Penn State. Hired on with GE Water (now part of SUEZ) right out of school where I have remained since working in various roles: engineering, operations and sales.
- 3 Things:
  - Lived in 5 different cities in my career: Norfolk, VA, Greenville, SC, Philadelphia, PA, St. Louis, MO, and Houston, TX
  - There is a chance my wife may love our dog more than me
  - I really enjoy the Jersey Shore (location, not the show. Though I did enjoy the show)



ready for the resource revolution



# Karoline Terrazas



I am relatively new to the Wastewater industry with 4 years at Union Sanitary District. As a lean organization I wear several hats and responsible for activities related to:

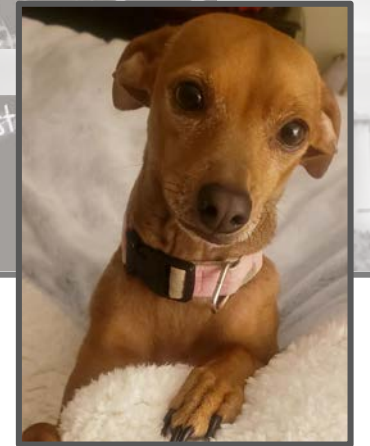
- organizational performance, continuous improvement, key performance indicators.
- safety and leadership training
- emergency response coordination

Prior to USD I worked 15 plus years in private education at a training and development capacity.

Airforce daughter with early years in Germany, and have considered Northern California, Bay Area my home for the last 25 years! Passionate about personal/professional development and enjoy reading books, blogs, and articles related to leadership. When not in the office I am raising a future basketball star and quite possibly the next international diva. Enjoy Saturday morning walks through my local farmers market and having a coffee with my pup, Emma.

Current addiction is binge watching the 17 seasons of Hell's Kitchen.

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# Kerry Reed

- Senior Environmental & Stormwater Engineer for Department of Public Works in Framingham, MA (since 2014)
- Chair, Massachusetts Statewide Municipal Stormwater Coalition
- Grew up in New Jersey → West Point → Army (WA, MO, SC, Korea) → Grad School (Missouri) → Private Consulting (North Carolina) → Private Consulting (Massachusetts) → Public Sector (MA)
- Married with two kids – Lucas (11) and Grayson (8)
- Patriots Fan, Hockey Mom, youth football coach, perpetual volunteer



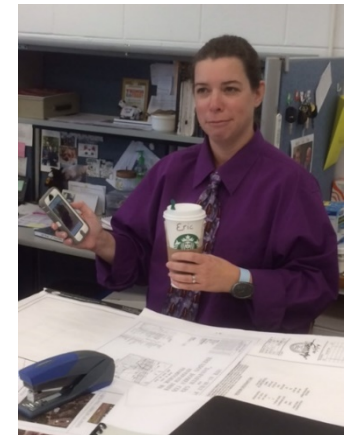
#ILookLikeAnEngineer  
stormwater outfall monitoring



I love talking to kids  
about STEM & water



Family vacation to Acadia National Park



Dressed as the City Engineer  
for Halloween

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[LinkedIn Profile](#)

# Kristen McGillivray

Hey there! I have been with WCWEA for five years and recently became their Executive Director.

- Busy mom of three (6,6 & 8).
- Food is my love language and I really enjoy being in the kitchen.
- Huge ice hockey fan (and player).



Kristen McGillivray, Executive Director  
Western Canada Water Environment  
Association  
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# Kristin Johansen, PE, CWP

**Biography:** I am a water/wastewater engineer for the City of Santa Fe. I received my BS in environmental engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder and BA in Chinese Language from Fudan University in Shanghai. I volunteer on the board of the Rocky Mountain Water Environment Association as a trustee and chair the New Mexico Professional Water/Wastewater Operator Seminar. I am a certified Biosolids Land Applier and enjoy growing jalapeños with local biosolids!

## Santa Fe city employee darts everywhere in training for Olympic dream

By James Barron [jbarron@sfnewmexican.com](mailto:jbarron@sfnewmexican.com) Feb 28, 2020 Updated Feb 29, 2020



### Top 3 About Me:

- ❖ Qualified for the 2020 US Olympic Marathon Team Trials
- ❖ City employees nicknamed me “Correcamino” (Roadrunner) because I run to project sites and around our water treatment plants
- ❖ Volunteer firefighter who speaks 5 languages



- ❖ **Engineer, Water Division**
- ❖ **City of Santa Fe**
- ❖ **Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA**
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- ❖ **[kgjohansen@santafenm.gov](mailto:kgjohansen@santafenm.gov)**
- ❖ **[LinkedIn Profile](#)**



# Kurt Kinney

With 7 years of experience in the wastewater and water industry I've worked on design, master planning, and risk and resilience assessments.

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  - [www.linkedin.com/in/kurt-kinney-4272a5133](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kurt-kinney-4272a5133)
- 

- I really love fishing, from through the ice to the everglades I always bring a pole and some lures wherever I travel.
- Outside of work my passion is leading bible studies, I'm a deacon in Dwell Community Church here in Columbus
- I've swam with sharks, 50-60 Caribbean Reef Sharks in the Bahamas. It was thrilling!



# ELIZABETH GUILFORD

Project Engineer I

Walsh Construction

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I have been working as a project engineer for Walsh since September 2018. Before that I was a student at the University of Washington, Seattle studying Civil and Environmental Engineering and minoring in Global Health. I grew up in Belmont, CA and came back to the area to be closer to family and my sixteen-year-old dog, Charlie. When I am not working I like to travel to as many places as possible. My next trip is two weeks in Belize on a motorcycle at the end of March. Tell me about your favorite place to visit.





I'VE SPENT THE LAST 17 YEARS LEARNING EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT THE WATER UTILITY INDUSTRY – RANGING FROM LAB QUALITY ASSURANCE AND STORMWATER COMPLIANCE TO INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT. I'M CURRENTLY APPLYING THIS KNOWLEDGE IN MY ROLE AS THE SENIOR WATERSHED MANAGER FOR THE INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM, WHERE I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER DISCHARGES ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CITY ORDINANCE, STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

THREE UNIQUE THINGS ABOUT ME:

- 1) BORN AND RAISED IN ATLANTA, GA (SUPPORTER OF ALL THINGS ATL!!!!!!!!!!!!)
- 2) COLLECTOR OF JIMI HENDRIX PARAPHERNALIA (T-SHIRTS, SWEATSHIRTS, ALBUMS, ARTWORK, ETC.)
- 3) CERTIFIED YOUTH SOCCER REFEREE AND RECREATIONAL LEAGUE PLAYER (2018 LEAGUE CHAMPIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)

JIMI  
HENDRIX



# LORENZO D. FREEMAN

WATERSHED MANAGER (DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT)  
CITY OF ATLANTA – DEPARTMENT OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT  
ATLANTA, GA, USA

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[LINKEDIN PROFILE](#)





# Lou Storino

Principal Civil Engineer

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

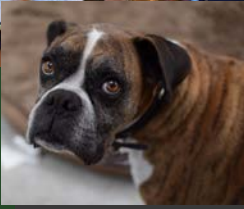
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- I have been with the MWRD for the last 22 years.
- I currently work in the Engineering Department – Infrastructure Division.
- I live in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois, USA, with my wife and two girls ages 7 and 4, and enjoy travelling with my family.
- I have served as President of the Illinois Water Environment Association and am currently the Treasurer.
- I have been inducted into the Illinois Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers (15S).
- I enjoy running and have completed 12 marathons, including Chicago, New York, Big Sur, St. Louis, Marine Corps, Bataan, Extra Terrestrial and Fox Valley.



## Marc Serna, Chief Engineer

South Coast Water District, Laguna Beach, CA  
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LinkedIn

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I have been in my current position since April 2019 and have nearly 30 years of experience in both the private and public Water Resource Industry, including water resource management, design, construction, and design-build project delivery. I am a registered professional engineer in California, Grade 4 Water Treatment Plant Operator, and graduated from Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, with BS and MS in Civil Engineering.

I have lived my entire life in Southern California and currently reside in Irvine, California with my wife, Laurie, and our 4-year old boy, Sebastian.

My free time is taken up mostly with immediate family, but I also enjoy various sports, camping, family and friend outings, and especially the **Green Bay Packers!!**



Pictured here are my lovely wife and daughter, Kimberly and Katie. My wife and I share passions for travel and real estate. My furry friend Hogan, pictured below, has a passion for squirrels and relaxation.



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# *Michael Rhoten*

Group Leader/Project Manager

S&ME, Inc.

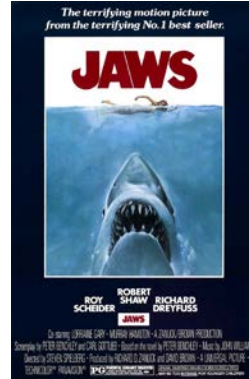
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## Things to know:



Greatest Film Ever  
Made



I Waste My \$\$\$ On



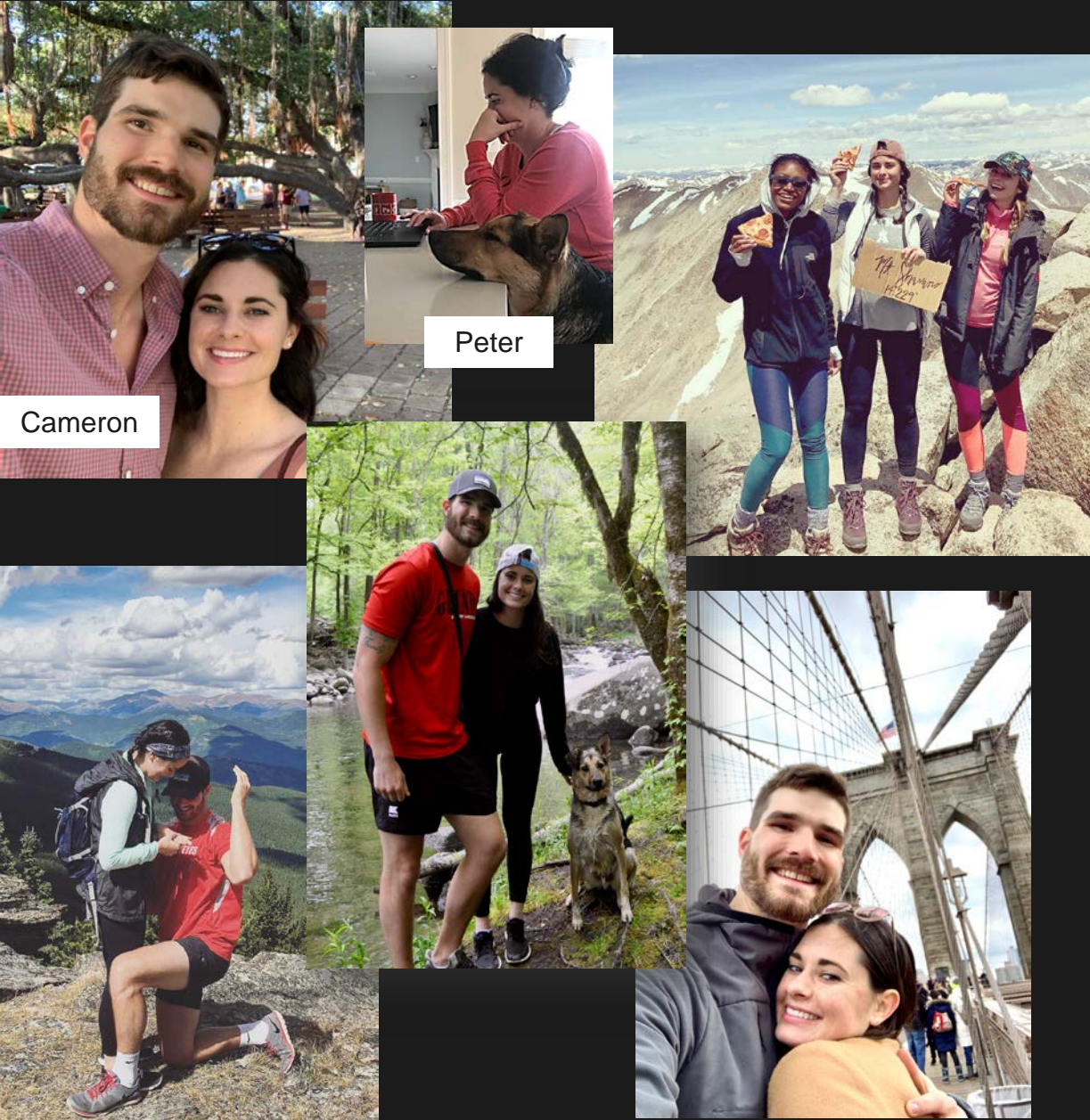
Role Model

## Bio:

I have been a Water Services Consultant at S&ME since August 2012. I grew up in Virginia, went to school in Tennessee and Wisconsin, and spent 11 years seeing the world by conducting Engineer Reconnaissance with the United States Army. I love hiking, biking, and kayaking so you can find me on a trail or a river anytime I'm not at work.

# Nicole (Nikki) Stephens, PE

Environmental Engineer  
Stantec  
Raleigh, NC USA



Born and raised in Denver, CO.

Went to THE Ohio State University. Go Bucks!



5 years with MWH/ Stantec as a water/wastewater process engineer. I prefer wastewater and biosolids.

I'm focused in planning-level projects including bench and pilot-scale evaluations and economic analyses... but construction and startup services are my favorite.

## Things I love:



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# HELLO EVERYONE!!!

MY NAME IS DEESSE OLGA DJOUMESSI. I'M FROM CAMEROON, A FRENCH-SPEAKING COUNTRY IN THE CENTRAL PART OF AFRICA. I GREW UP AND EARNED A BACHELOR DEGREE IN BIOLOGY THERE. I HELD A SAMPLING TECHNICIAN ROLE THERE FOR 2 YEARS BEFORE MOVING TO THE U.S 3 YEARS AGO.

I'M INTERESTED IN PURSUING A PROFESSIONAL CAREER IN THE WATER INDUSTRY HERE IN THE U.S AND CURRENTLY TAKING WASTEWATER TREATMENT CLASSES TO BECOME A WASTEWATER OPERATOR.

I'M AN EASY-GOING PERSON WHO REALLY ENJOYS WORKING AND INTERACTING WITH PEOPLE. I ENJOY GETTING MY HANDS ON THINGS AND SPEND MY FREE TIME WATCHING SPORTS (ARTISTIC GYMNASTIC, TRACK AND FIELD ARE MY FAVORITES) AND LISTENING TO NEWS AND MUSIC. I LOVE COOKIES AND DARK CHOCOLATE BY THE WAY.

I'M SO EXCITED TO BE AMONG YOU ALL IN THIS LEARNING PROGRAM AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN THE COMING MONTHS.



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# Palencia Mobley, P.E.

- I'm a change of life baby; my mom had me at the age I am now, 40.

*(Photo: My mom pregnant with me.)*



**MODEL THAT**

- I was the face of a national advertising campaign for the plus sized clothing brand Eloquii to frame the conversation around weight based discrimination in the workplace. *(Photo: One of the advertising ads.)*

- I am an avid baker and I love hosting large family gatherings.

*(Photo: A crowd favorite, my red velvet cake.)*



Bachelor of Science  
Chemical Engineering



WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
Master of Science  
Civil & Environmental Engineering

I was appointed Deputy Director and Chief Engineer of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department by Mayor Mike Duggan and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners in January 2016. I play an integral role within the city's water and sewer department, overseeing multiple divisions improving response times to system maintenance and rebuilding the city's infrastructure. In addition, I am also responsible for implementation of the department's green infrastructure program and the City of Detroit's first post construction stormwater ordinance.

In 2006, I became one of the youngest minority women to ever attain licensure as a Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan. In July of 2018, I was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to the Michigan Infrastructure Council, a state led board responsible for implementing an asset management strategy for infrastructure for the next 30 years.

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# Paula Monaco, PhD, PE

Plummer Associates, Inc | Project Engineer



PLUMMER

I have been working as a water engineer with Plummer’s wastewater treatment team in Fort Worth since graduating from TTU with my Doctorate in 2016 . I grew up in Richardson, Texas and come from a family of Engineers. Both my parents are electrical engineers, my sister and her husband are computer engineers and my brother is a mechanical engineer by education. As the youngest of three, I was well aware of engineering careers; however, water found me when I began my classes at TTU. As a graduate from the EnvE program, I was introduced to the vast field of water professionals and am loving the opportunity to be apart of such a great community. Since a pictures are worth a 1,000 words, I have included a few of the last photos from my phone ☺

(Fun Fact: At any given time I will have a photo from a WWTP on my phone ☺)

## What are you doing when you aren’t working?

My passion is traveling and exploring other cultures with friends and family. I have a 3-year-old lab/pit mix who I rescued 2 years ago! I like to explore local parks and trails with my dog, Maxi. Finally, I’m always in for watching my favorite teams: All Texas Tech sports, Spurs basketball, Dallas Stars and USWNT!

### Education

Ph.D., Civil Engineering,  
Texas Tech University, 2016

M.Eng., Environmental  
Engineering,  
Texas Tech University, 2013

B.S., Environmental Engineering,  
Texas Tech University, 2013

### Registrations

PE - TX, CO, OK, NM

### Years of Experience

4

### Contact Information

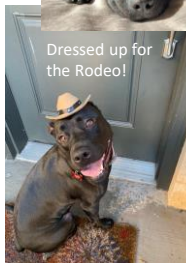
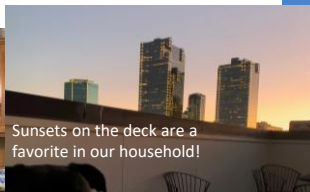
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# Peter Buehlmann

Process Design Engineer  
Brown and Caldwell  
Alexandria, Virginia USA  
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pbuehlmann@brwncald.com

I have been working with Brown and Caldwell since July, 2019. Prior to joining Brown and Caldwell, I was attending graduate school through Virginia Tech and conducting my research at Hampton Roads Sanitation District's SWIFT program. Prior to moving to Alexandria this past summer, I took a spontaneous cross-country road-trip and made it to the Grand Canyon in only 4 days!



**Roanna Purcaru** PMP, IntPE

Project Manager

GHD Inc

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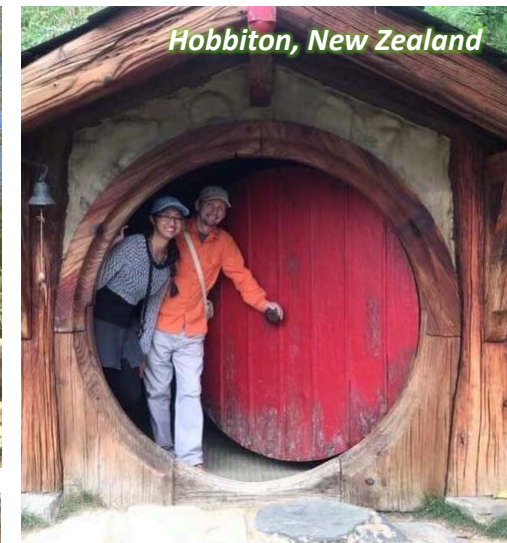
I have been working with GHD as a Project Manager and Engineer since 2011, mainly on water infrastructure design projects, and catchment management and planning. I relocated to Arizona in 2018. One of my most memorable work experiences was my assignment as a Volunteer Water Engineer for the Cook Islands Office of the Prime Minister, where I scoped water supply improvement initiatives for 'outer' islands. I have been an advocate for development and humanitarian engineering through my experience with Engineers Without Borders and Volunteer Service Abroad.

Natively from the Philippines, I grew up in Saudi Arabia before migrating to New Zealand and becoming a New Zealand citizen. I love to hike and enjoy nature with our German Shepherd Dog named Phoenix. We named him after the beautiful city we now live in.

To remember those who need access to clean water, to care for the environment, and to do my best to spread kindness wherever I go, are my high level goals and overall purpose in this professional life.



*Phoenix the GSD in Phoenix, Arizona*



*Hobbiton, New Zealand*



*Cultural Presentation in the Cook Islands*



*Papago Mountains, Phoenix, Arizona*

# Ryan Radspinner, P.E.



Hydraulic Analysis Manager

Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD)

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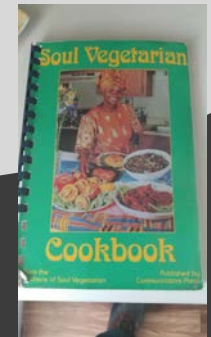
[LinkedIn](#)

I have served HRSD as a Hydraulic Analysis Manager since 2009. My position allows flexibility to be involved and lead many different types of projects. Prior to joining HRSD I was a graduate research assistant at Virginia Tech. I grew up in a small town in West Virginia where I developed a passion for all things outdoors including stewardship of the environment. This helped to guide my ultimate career path and involvement in WEF.

I am looking forward to getting my two boys (ages 0&2) out of diapers and into skiing, camping, and fishing. I also enjoy trying different whiskeys from around the world.

# Saa (Suh-ah) Shemsu

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- Gresham Smith
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I just began my new adventure as a Project Executive with Gresham Smith on January 27<sup>th</sup> of this year. Prior to Gresham Smith, I was a Plant Operator, Plant Engineer, and Field Services Manager for Construction for Montgomery County Environmental Services. I have worked for several consultants including Metcalf & Eddy, Malcolm Pirnie, XCG Consultant, and LJB Inc. One the things I enjoy most about water resources is working in the field. For fun and pleasure, I love to play soccer, travel, learn Latin dance, cook and find great vegan food, go on family adventures, and study technical analysis of capital markets.

# Sabrina Parker

Water and Sewer Manager

City of Olathe

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sabrina-parker-a1795595/>



I've been with the City of Olathe for seven years and worked as a Project Manager before being promoted to Water and Sewer Manager three and half years ago. Before I landed in the middle of the USA, I worked on both the East and West Coasts. I'm a graduate of the University of Central Florida. I love quilting and reading. Most recently, I've been a part of the Female's Hydrant Hysteria Competitive Team and place 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Nation.

Growing up on the coast, I love the beach, and everything associated with water.



## Samantha “Sam” Rucinski



I was born in Detroit, Mi, however mainly grew up down in Charlottesville, Va. I graduated from Virginia Tech in Environmental Engineering. After school I had a brief stop at American Water Works Association in their DC office, before being hired by GE Water (now SUEZ) where I have been ever since. With SUEZ I have lived in a few places (Chicago, Virginia Beach, Philadelphia) and was an Application Engineer before switching to Sales a year ago. I recently tried to start fostering dogs, but quickly failed with my first foster Tanner and ended up adopting him a month later. I love cooking and travel often. My next trip destination being Glacier National Park then up to Banff (accepting recommendations).

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# Sarah Hunt P.E.

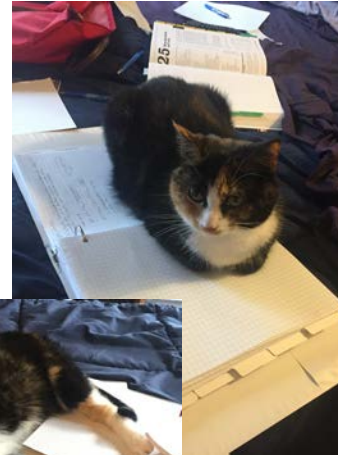


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I have been working as an engineering consultant for almost 5 years since earning my bachelor's degree (Cornell University '15). I have worked on a variety of planning and design projects in both water and wastewater. Enjoy learning new things, especially ways to do things differently and implementing digital tools.



- Have a cat named Seneca (here she is "helping" me study for the PE exam)



- I spend a lot of my free time playing sand volleyball. This is my family (parents and 2 sisters) at a fundraiser tournament I organized for Engineers Without Borders.



- Studied abroad in Sydney, where I also got SCUBA certified



- Also enjoy waterskiing in the summer

**Excited to meet everyone in May!!**



# SHELBY BEAUCHEMIN

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
CITY OF LARGO, FL, USA

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<http://linkedin.com/in/shelby-beauchemin-3866025b>

I moved to Florida 14 months ago to pursue a career and lifestyle change. For the first 11 years out of school I was in the consulting business with a focus on water and wastewater rehabilitation. I wanted to feel the connection to one community instead of spreading myself thin working for multiple clients so a career change was in order. I moved to Florida from CT 14 months ago to pursue a municipal position in wastewater.



- I enjoy cooking and exploring new restaurants
- I earned my SCUBA certification last year
- I am from Massachusetts and the Florida move is the first big move of my life and I love it!

# Shelley Porter, P.E. (WV and KY)



I became an Engineering Manager at West Virginia American Water in December 2019, leading the company's Engineering and GIS employees. Prior to joining West Virginia American Water as a Project Manager in March 2013, I was a Project Engineer for six years at Chapman Technical Group in the environmental engineering group. Aside from my engineering duties, one of the highlights of my job is participating in STEM outreach with our customers and performing as our utility mascot Puddles the Duck. I spend my free time on Scary Creek Rd, in Scott Depot, WV, kayaking, counting birds, and hanging out with my husband Brandon and my pets Charlie and Casper.



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# Sophie Frances Manley

Sanitary Engineer III · City of Chicago Department of Water Management

Sophie.Manley@cityofchicago.org · [LinkedIn Profile](#)

Work: 312-744-8195 · Cell: 262-308-5762

Chicago, Illinois, United States

## Biography

I graduated with an Environmental Engineering degree from the University of Notre Dame in 2016 and have been working with the City of Chicago Department of Water Management ever since. I have my Engineer In Training certification and hope to get my Professional Engineer (PE) license in 2020! I am on a Water Research Foundation Project Advisory Committee about flushing to reduce *Legionella*, and I recently published my first featured article in *Journal AWWA*. I love to travel with my family and recently returned from a trip to Thailand with my dad (ask me about cooking for the elephants!). I am involved in numerous local community groups and charities, and I co-founded a Young Professionals group in my neighborhood in 2018.

## Interesting Facts

1. Classically trained harpist
2. Third-generation engineer
3. Loves all things water – swimmer & former lifeguard, scuba diving, sailing, fishing, and water quality (of course!)

# Stacy Thompson

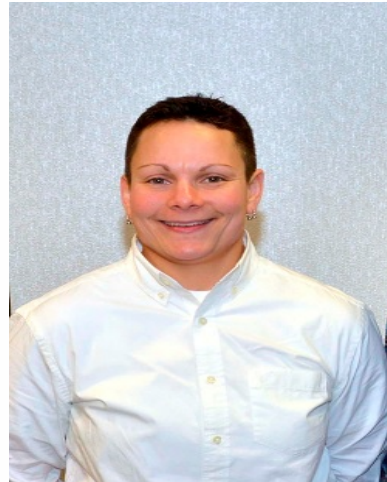
I have been with the City of Saco WRRD for just over 11 years. I started as the Laboratory Technician, then moved to the Lead Operator position and was promoted to Deputy Director in 2016. Prior to working for the City of Saco, I was employed with Katahdin Analytical Services. At Katahdin, I was responsible for the analysis of volatile organics and also some information technology functions. I graduated from St. Joseph's College of Maine with a B.A. in Biology and from Thomas College with a B.A. in Information Technology.

Some fun facts.....

- Proud owner of an 11 year old golden retriever and a 7-9 year old (rescue from NYC) rottweiler mix.
- Played running back and linebacker for a women's football team for six years.
- Played for the Portland Women's Rugby Club for two years.
- Recently began playing pickleball!
- Love boating off the coast of Maine, which I think is one of the most beautiful places.
- I have residential lobster traps during the summer.
- Favorite place: New York City!

LinkedIn Link (not great at using 😊):

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/stacy-thompson-226097184/>



CITY OF  
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*friendly by nature*

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# STEPHANIE SPALDING



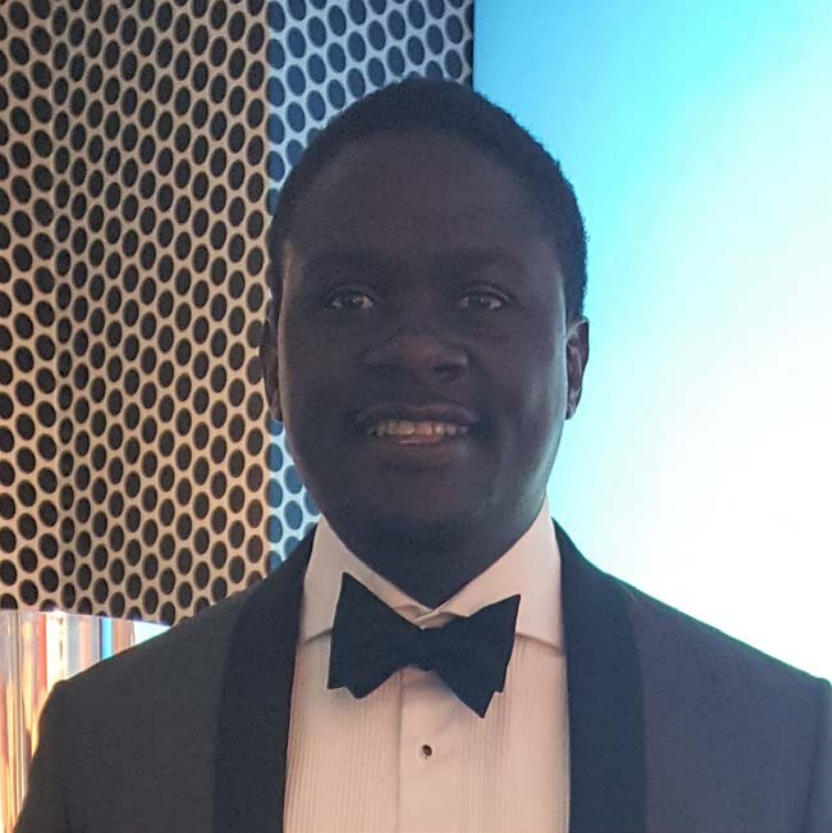
Parker, my 10 year old daughter, is very active with travel soccer, cello, and girl scouts. I'm one of her leaders and love leading the campouts – especially playing with fire. Other than her activities, we love to travel and to go to boomerang tournaments. My husband is a former boomerang world record holder and former member of the United States Boomerang team (which exists). One of my favorite places in the world is a dude ranch at the base of the Grand Tetons in Wyoming, where we go on vacation for a week each summer.



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I've been with HDR in Virginia Beach for 8 years, primarily focused on biosolids and advanced digestion. I'm a leader for HDR's Biosolids Practice Group and spend a lot of time traveling both nationally and internationally evaluating and implementing new biosolids technologies.





# TAYO OLATUNJI

I have worked at DC Water my whole career. I started as an Asset Management Technician, planning and monitoring system-wide construction activities, valve operations, and fire hydrant operations. I was then promoted to Engineer III where I started off working with the Public Space Restoration team. Later, I worked with the contract management team assisting with managing emergency projects and contracts. I'm currently responsible for the technical and administrative direction and implementation of the Sewer Department's construction contract projects.

I grew up in Lagos, Nigeria. I'm now married with 2 kids, the younger was born in January 2020 😊. I spend my free time with the family and playing soccer or tennis. I also like reading and traveling.

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I joined TriCo Regional Sewer Utility in 2013, since leading TriCo's Engineering Department and driving all capital projects in a rapidly growing service area. Prior to joining TriCo, I worked as a design and consulting engineer for nine years. I am a registered professional engineer and hold BS and MS degrees in Civil Engineering from Missouri S&T.

My wife, Katherine, is a wastewater process engineer for a local consulting firm. We have two wonderful children Michaela (4) and Jonathan (1). I am a life-long competitive swimmer and avid home brewer.

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