

ELEVATING EXCELLENCE

2022 Annual Conference



August 10-12 | Resort at Squaw Creek | Olympic Valley, CA

CASAweb.org  @CASACleanWater  @CASA_CleanWater

Preliminary Program (Subject to Change)

Wednesday, August 10

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | CSRMA Breakfast & Training Seminar |
| 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | Registration |
| 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | CASA Board of Directors Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Guest: Joaquin Esquivel, Chair, State Water Resources Control Board |
| 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. | Associates Committee Meeting |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch on Your Own |
| 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Concurrent Sessions |
| 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. | Track 1A: Renewable Energy and Climate Action
Moderator: Sarah Deslauriers, CASA
This track will focus on recent developments in the air, climate change, and energy (ACE) space, including the recent draft update to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Scoping Plan and how it could impact your agencies. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Matthew Botill, CA Air Resources Board▪ Sarah Deslauriers, CASA |

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Track 2A: Tracking Plastics

Moderator: Jared Voskuhl, CASA

This track will feature a local agency’s perspective on the complexities of sampling for and analyzing microplastics, as well as an update from the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), which is leading an effort to find more effective and accurate methods of quantifying the presence of microplastics in various media.

- Mary Lou Esparza, Central San Microplastics Work
- Dr. Charles Wong, SCCWRP

2:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Networking Break

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Track 1B: Collection System Updates and What’s Next for WBE

Moderator: Steve Jepsen, SCAP

The Sanitary Sewer System Waste Discharge Requirements (SSS WDR), the governing document for virtually all collection systems in the state, is getting its first full update in more than a decade. Hear about what these changes could mean for your collection system management practices. This track will also feature experts in wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE), and what the future could hold for tracking viruses through wastewater sampling.

- SSS WDR Update
 - Jim Fischer, Fischer Compliance
- What’s Next for Wastewater Based Epidemiology
 - Pablo Calabuig, Go Aigua
 - Alexandria Boehm, PhD, Stanford University

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Track 2B: PFAS Priorities and Actions

Moderator: Greg Kester, CASA

Local, state and federal efforts to address PFAS are all proceeding at a rapid pace. This track will feature an update and data analysis on the results of the State Water Board’s PFAS Investigative Order, which required analysis of PFAS in influent, effluent, and biosolids. This track will also feature the impact of various proposals on biosolids management and land application across the country and lessons on the messaging surrounding PFAS for water and wastewater agencies.

- Roshan Aflaki, CDM Smith
- Greg Kester, CASA
- Sylvia Ornelas, Rancho Water (*Invited*)

3:30 p.m.– 4:30 p.m.

Associates Engineering and Research Subcommittee

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Federal Legislative Committee Meeting

Join CASA’s federal legislative committee and our dedicated federal advocates as we cover the latest developments in Washington D.C. related to infrastructure funding, “Build America, Buy America” mandates, wipes legislation, USEPA activities, and much more. This is an official committee meeting, but all conference registrants are welcome to attend!

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

CSRMA Executive Board Meeting

- 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **CASA LEAD Mentor Networking/Meeting**
Are you curious about CASA’s Leadership, Advancement, Education and Development (LEAD) programs? Were you part of this year’s mentorship group, or interested in joining the upcoming 2023 class? Join us for an informal networking gathering and meet others who share your passion for supporting the next generation of emerging leaders in the wastewater sector.
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Associates Recognition Reception (Outdoors)

Thursday, August 11

- 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Registration
- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. CASA Education Foundation Board Meeting
- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. CSRMA Board of Directors Meeting
- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Women’s Networking Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Morning Sessions & Business Meeting**
President Jasmin A. Hall, Presiding
- 9:05 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **Keynote: Larry Adam, Raymond James (Invited)**
Larry Adam is a nationally recognized Chief Investment Officer and commentator who spoke to CASA virtually back in 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic. At that time, Larry provided his perspective on what to expect from the economy and the country as a result of the unprecedented changes we all faced. Now, two years later, we will hear from him (in person!) about how things may have changed, what to expect from inflation and the market, and a variety of topics that provide crucial economic perspective extending beyond the water sector.
- 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Cybersecurity for Local Water Agencies: A Looming Threat**
Malware, ransomware, and other forms of cyberattacks have been an issue for the past decade, but have increased exponentially in these last few years. Defined as critical infrastructure by the federal and state government, local agencies have become a focal point for attacks, as have efforts by agencies to ensure our systems are safe and secure. This panel will feature discussion on what is being done nationally to support agencies in boosting their cybersecurity readiness, as well as an on the ground perspective from a local California water agency, and what we can learn from their experience. This panel is exceptionally valuable for agencies worried about their cybersecurity in the coming years.
- Andrew Hildick-Smith, Water|SAC
 - Mark Scott Northrup, LADWP (*Invited*)
 - Jason Martin, Rancho Water

- 11:00 a.m.– 11:45 a.m. **Workforce Development: Recognizing Needs, Finding Solutions**
 Everyone knows that there is a critical need to attract workers to the water and wastewater sector as we face a wave of looming retirements and the lack of an adequate pipeline for key jobs that support our operations. This panel will focus on identifying those needs, and what different groups across the state are doing to try and attract new talent to the water and wastewater sector. This panel will also feature a leader who has designed and implemented systems to recruit and retain talent to the wastewater sector and will discuss what it takes to keep your workforce engaged.
- Elizabeth Toups, JVS/Baywork
 - Rowena Holden, Woodard & Curran
- 11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Annual Business Briefing
- 12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Luncheon**
- 2022 CASA Awards of Excellence Presentation
 - 2022 CASA Education Foundation Scholarship Presentation
 - Special Recognition Ceremony for Honorary Members
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Afternoon Sessions**
- 2:00 – 3:15 p.m. **Driving Sustainability: A Local, State and International Perspective**
Moderator: Sofie Hyldal Thorgaard, Consulate General of Denmark
 Sustainability is more than just the mantra of the water and wastewater sector: it has become a core component of all that we do. This panel will focus on local, state and international efforts to drive sustainability, including a large agency perspective on incorporating sustainability and resiliency into the planning and construction of capital projects. Also hear what the state CPUC is doing to encourage and incentivize sustainability and renewable energy generation at local wastewater utilities and get an international perspective on how advanced benchmarking systems can help agencies achieve your goals.
- Mariana Chavez-Vasquez, City of San Jose
 - Karin Sung, CPUC
 - Jesper Koks Andersen, Consulate General of Denmark
- 3:15 - 4:00 p.m. **The Future of Non-Flushables**
Moderator: Jessica Gauger, CASA
 The wastewater sector has achieved a string of amazing successes in the battle against non-flushable wipes in recent years, but those efforts are far from over. Much of that success has come from working more closely with manufacturers of these wipes products, and as we move into the next phase of our advocacy on wipes issues, cooperation and communication on public messaging will be crucial to reducing the impacts of wipes on our systems. This panel will feature updates on upcoming information campaigns, studies, and federal legislation.

- Lara Wyss, Responsible Flushing Alliance
- Jessica Franklin, INDA

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

CASA Communications Committee Meeting

Join CASA’s communications committee and our entire communications team as we cover a variety of topics critical to your agency, including the development of public messaging related to PFAS, how to engage your ratepayers, and much more. This is an official committee meeting, but all conference registrants are welcome to attend!

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Statewide Biosolids Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Networking Reception

Friday, August 12

8:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Registration

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

State Legislative Committee Meeting

Join CASA’s state legislative committee and our legislative team as we cover the latest developments in Sacramento, including CASA’s sponsored PFAS legislation, water conservation legislation, the state budget, and what to expect from the end of the legislative session. This is an official committee meeting, but all conference registrants are welcome to attend!

9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Closing Session

Vice President Georgean Vonheeder-Leopold, Presiding

9:15 – 9:45 a.m.

State and Federal Legislative Updates

- Jessica Gauger, CASA
- Eric Sapirstein, ENS Resources

9:45 – 10:15 a.m.

Closing Speaker: John Ashford, The Hawthorn Group

John Ashford has been a staple at CASA conferences and our Washington D.C. Policy Forum in recent years and is always an exceptionally well received speaker. John offers unique insight into the political landscape in D.C. and across the country and does so in a comprehensive yet accessible and engaging format. With the Congressional midterm elections around the corner this November, John will provide an inside view on what to expect and how the balance of power could shift across the country.

10:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Closing Speaker: Nichole Morgan, State Water Board

Nichole Morgan is the most recent appointee to the State Water Board and is uniquely able to speak to wastewater issues given her background, having worked as a consultant and engineer in the water sector. Hear from Board Member Morgan about her first year on the Board as well as the Board’s actions and priorities for the coming year.

10:45 – 11:15 a.m.

Passing of the Gavel & David Cardenas Remembrance

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Attorneys Committee Meeting