



# NAVIGATING UNCHARTED WATERS



## 2023 Winter Conference

January 25 - 27 | Hilton Palm Springs Hotel | Palm Springs, CA

CASAweb.org  @CASACleanWater  @CASA\_CleanWater

### Winter Conference 2023 Navigating Uncharted Water Preliminary Program (12/8/22) Subject to Change

#### Wednesday, January 25

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **CSRMA Training Seminar (Separate Registration Required)**

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration**

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **CASA Board of Directors Meeting**

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Associates Committee Meeting**

Arvind Akela, Director of Engineering and Environmental Services at Silicon Valley Clean Water and most recent CWEA President, will speak about how a medium sized agency approaches risk management and innovation to get successful outcomes for their organization at all levels. Throughout Arvind's 15+ years of experience in engineering and project management in both water and wastewater, he has been heavily involved in developing and implementing the agency's capital improvement projects.

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **CSRMA Executive Board Meeting**

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch on Your Own**

1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Roundtable Series**

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Session 1 (Table Topics Listed Below)

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Networking Break

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Session 2 (Repeat from Session 1)

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. **Communications Committee Meeting**

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. **Federal Legislative Meeting**

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. **CSRMA Board of Directors Meeting**

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Welcome Reception**

**Thursday, January 26**

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Registration**

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Women’s Networking Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **CASA Education Foundation Board Meeting**

9:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Morning Sessions**  
**Vice President Roland Williams, presiding**

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Keynote: Erin Brockovich On PFAS**  
A renowned consumer advocate and environmental activist who was a crucial part of one of the largest toxic tort injury settlements in U.S. history, Erin is a celebrated author and regularly appears on national news programs. Ms. Brockovich will share her lifetime of experiences championing clean water and public transparency, as well as her most recent effort on PFAS, a critical issue for water and wastewater agencies.

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Recruiting For Retention: An Agency Perspective**  
Moderator: TBD  
Josh Boudreaux, Koff & Associates  
Sophia Crocker, Las Virgenes MWD  
Cara Morin, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Whether it is the impending silver tsunami or a shortage of qualified frontline workers, workforce issues are a constant concern for business. Wastewater agencies strategies for robust and effective recruitment and retention programs help effectively manage their personnel. The panel will focus on two agency perspectives: one developing their program currently and another with a successful program in place. This is a must see for any agency concerned about the future of their workforce.

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Networking Break**

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Luncheon**  
**Federal and State Legislative Updates**  
(Eric Sapirstein and Jessica Gauger)  
**CEF Presentation**

1:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Afternoon Sessions**

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **Energy Resiliency at POTWs: Efforts to Conserve, Distribute, Electrify**  
Moderator: Jamie Ferro, West Yost  
Karen Douglas, Governor’s Office ([Invited](#))  
Tony Brasil, CA Air Resources Board  
Doug O’Brien, West Yost (Microgrids /Electric Market)

Climate change mitigation and energy resiliency are two areas that are increasingly impacting local wastewater agencies. This panel will feature presentations focusing on the value and implementation of microgrids,

advanced clean fleet regulations and how they could impact POTWs, plus opportunities to support and fund innovative projects.

2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Cyber-Physical Security and Resilience Across Critical Infrastructure**  
Dave Baber, Toffler Associates

Dave Baber advises executives across commercial and government sectors on strategic initiatives that build and protect an organization's value. His talk will focus on Cyber-Physical Security and how entities are creating resilience across critical infrastructure, the challenges those organizations are facing, and how the next tranche of IIJA investment could be allocated to support these Cyber-Physical solutions.

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Associates Engineering and Research Subcommittee**

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Statewide Biosolids Meeting**

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **LEAD Mentor/Mentee Meeting**

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Associates Recognition Reception**

### **Friday, January 27**

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Registration**

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. **State Legislative Committee Meeting**

9:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Closing Session**  
**President Georgean Vonheeder-Leopold, presiding**

9:15 – 10:15 a.m. **Closing Speaker: Todd Swingle, Toho Water (City of Orlando): Disaster Preparedness and Hurricane Response**

As the Executive Director for the Toho Water Authority in Florida, which serves over 100,000 metered connections with services that include water, wastewater, and reclaimed water, this region was hit hard by Hurricane Ian in 2022. Todd's presentation will focus on lessons learned from that disaster as well as emergency preparedness advice for the future. While we don't face a hurricane risk here in California, we do need to prepare for extreme weather events. Toho Water's lessons learned in terms of resiliency, preparedness, public communication, and recovery efforts are acutely applicable to local agencies here in California.

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. **President's Closing Remarks**

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Attorneys Committee Meeting**

<b>Roundtables</b>	<b>Facilitators</b>
New Collection System Requirements: SSS WDR Update	Paul Causey
Emerging Biosolids Issues and Related Opportunities	Greg Kester
Drought, WaterReuse, Water Recycling	IEUA
PFAS and Microplastics: State and Federal Efforts	Jared Voskuhl
Investment Solutions and Local Government Investment Pools	Todd Winslow, CalTrust

CASA 2023 Federal Priorities	Eric Sapirstein/Sarah Sapirstein
Citizen Academy 101	Christina Gee, Central San
Stormwater Programs	Karen Cowan
TAC and Emission Issues	Sarah Deslauriers