

# Arkansas Agriculture, Forests, and Water Resources Conference 2024

## Agenda for Tuesday, July 16, 2024

- 9:30 am**      **WATER, A WICKED PROBLEM, AND DISINFORMATION** – Moderator: Kent Thornton  
                  “It Is Not What You Don’t Know That Gets You in Trouble.  
                  It’s What You Know That Isn’t So...” - Mark Twain
- 9:30 – 9:40      Welcome, Wicked Problems and Water – Brian Haggard, AWRC
- 9:40 – 10:00     Disinformation, It Even Happens with Dihydrogen Oxide – Kent Thornton, Formerly FTN Associates
- 10:00 – 10:25    It’s All About Yield – Adam Chappell, Producer, Cotton Plant AR
- 10:25 – 10:50    It’s All About Profit – Eugene Jamison, Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation
- 10:50 – 11:15    It’s All About Regulations – Bailey Taylor, Division of Environmental Quality
- 11:15 – 11:30    General Discussion and Follow-up Questions
- 11:30 pm**      **LUNCH**
- 12:30 pm**      **POSTER SESSION**, Poster Presenters Hang Out at Your Posters
- 1:30 pm**      **SCIENCE AND MONITORING BEHIND THE WATER STORIES** – Moderator: Brian Haggard
- 1:30 – 1:50      The Fallacy of Flying Phosphorus – Helen Jarvie, University of Waterloo
- 1:50 – 2:10      What Drives Algal Growth, Buffalo National River Case Study – Lucas Driver, United States Geological Survey (USGS)
- 2:10 – 2:30      The Complexity of pH Trends and Influences in the Forested Mulberry River, Joshua Blackstock, USDA (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
- 2:30 – 2:50      Ground Conservation Efforts and the Water Quality Story in the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watershed Initiative – Amanda Mathis, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Arkansas, and Dan Devun, Equilibrium
- 2:50 – 3:00      General Discussion and Follow-up Questions
- 3:00 pm**      **BREAK**
- 3:30 pm**      **MODELING AND DESIGNS BEHIND THE WATER STORIES** – Moderator: Kent Thornton
- 3:30 – 3:50      What’s Causing the Floods, Hydrologic Analysis of the Illinois River Basin, Arkansas and Oklahoma – Jaysson Funkhouser, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- 3:50 – 4:10      Floodplain Conservation, Large-Scale River Restoration, and Recreation on the West Fork White River – Matt Van Eps, Watershed Conservation Resource Center
- 4:10 – 4:30      Conceptual Designs Happen: Lake Frances, Wetlands, and Educational Opportunities – Steve Patterson, Bio x Design
- 4:30 pm**      **GENERAL DISCUSSION – SO, WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THIS WICKED PROBLEM OF DISINFORMATION?** – Moderator: Kent Thornton
- 4:45 pm**      **Adjourn for the day**
- 6:00 pm**      **Social and Pizza**  
Marley’s Pizzeria, 609 W Dickson St, Ste 103, Fayetteville

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- 8:30 am**      **GROUNDWATER MODELING AND HYDROGEOLOGY**, Moderator: Laura Ruhl, USGS  
8:30 – 8:50      Hydrogeologic Framework Development in Arkansas – Angel McVay, US Geological Survey
- 8:50 – 9:10      Arkansas Groundwater Initiative: Understanding Groundwater, Surface Water, and Conservation Efforts in the Cache and Grand Prairie Critical Groundwater Areas – Allegra Pieri, US Geological Survey
- 9:10 – 9:30      Groundwater Modeling of the Grand Prairie and Cache Critical Groundwater Areas – JP Traylor, US Geological Survey
- 9:30 – 9:50      What Dye Tracing Has Taught Us about Deep Springs along the Eureka Springs Escarpment – Ben Miller, US Geological Survey
- 9:50 – 10:00      Follow-up Questions and Discussion
- 10:00 am**      **BREAK**
- 10:30 am**      **STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTIONS OF GROUNDWATER VALUE, RISKS, AND CONTESTS –**  
Moderator: Chris Henry
- 10:30 – 10:45      Lessons Learned from Six Years of the Most Crop per Drop Irrigation Contest – Chris Henry, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, University of Arkansas
- 10:45 – 11:00      Insights from Arkansas's 'Crop per Drop' Contest Case Study – Eva (Stephani) Caroline, Public Policy, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, University of Arkansas
- 11:00 – 11:15      Producers' Perception of Climate and Water Shortage Risks and their uses of Irrigation Best Management Practices – Gertrude Bampoe, Environmental Dynamics Program, University of Arkansas
- 11:15 – 11:30      Valuing Arkansas Groundwater in the Mississippi Valley Alluvial Aquifer – Kent Kovacs, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, University of Arkansas
- 11:30 pm**      **LUNCH**
- 12:30 pm**      **POSTER SESSION**, Find Those Posters You Missed!
- 1:00 pm**      **ENGAGING COMMUNITIES IN STORMWATER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH –**  
Moderator: Leif Kindberg
- 1:00 – 1:20      Know the Flow: A Regional Solution to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Compliance and Educating New Audiences – Jane Maginot, Washington County Cooperative Extension Service
- 1:20 – 1:40      Rooted Solutions: Integrating Culturally Significant Plants into Stormwater Management – Annie Sales, Green Infrastructure Program Manager, Illinois River Watershed Partnership
- 1:40 – 2:00      The Power of the Narrative: Storytelling as a Catalyst for Conservation Buy-in – Morgan Keeling, Associate Director, Illinois River Watershed Partnership
- 2:00 – 2:20      Larkin Creek-L'Anguille River Watershed Study – Aaron Boll, Olsson
- 2:20 pm**      **BREAK**
- 2:50 pm**      **CONSERVATION EFFORTS, FLOODPLAINS, AND FORESTS –** Moderator: Joy Wasson  
2:50 – 3:10      Wetland Conservation Efforts of a Grass Roots Conservancy in the White Oak Bayou – Greg Phillips, Alliance Technical Group, Formerly GBMC Associates

- 3:10 – 3:30 Water Relationships in Open Forest Management – Brett Lawrence, RAVEN Environmental Services
- 3:30 – 3:50 Silviculture and Carbon and Nutrient Cycles in Forests – Michael Blazier, Arkansas Forest Resources Center, University of Arkansas at Monticello
- 3:50 – 4:10 Carbon Markets for Forested Landowners: Compliance and Voluntary Markets Q&A – Tim White and Ed Horton, NativState
- 4:10 – 4:30 *“Keeping It in the Family”* The Sustainable Forestry African American Land Retention Program – Joe Friend, Forester, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, and Justin Mallett, Consultant Forester, Deceiper Creek Forestry Services, LLC
- 4:30 – 4:40 Discussion, Follow-up Questions, and Adjourn for Day
- 4:40 pm ARKANSAS FORESTS AND DRINKING WATER COLLABORATIVE QUARTERLY MEETING**  
Stick around to learn more, if interested!

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## Agenda for Thursday, July 18, 2024

- 8:30 am STATE WATER AND NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING UPDATES –**  
Moderator: Tate Wentz
- 8:30 – 8:50 Arkansas Water Plan Update – Chris Colclasure, Director, Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Division
- 8:50 – 9:05 Arkansas's Nonpoint Source Management Plan: Five Year Status Update – Sarah Weems, Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Division
- 9:05 – 9:20 Watershed Management Planning in the Upper White River Watershed: Data, Modeling, and Stakeholder Input – Erin Scott, H2Ozarks
- 9:20 – 9:35 Upper Saline River Watershed Management Plan Update – Tyler Fox, The Nature Conservancy
- 9:35 – 9:50 Watershed Management Plan Update for the Illinois River: A Decade of Implementation and Future Strategies – Tate Wentz, Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Division
- 9:50 – 10:00 General Discussion and Follow-up Questions
- 10:00 am BREAK**
- 10:30 am SOURCE WATER PROTECTION, LESSON LEARNED –** Moderator: Brian Haggard
- 10:30 – 10:50 Water Quality Case Study: Taste and Odor Treatment Optimization – Mark Ferguson and Daniel Lawrence, Conway Corporation
- 10:50 – 11:10 Dividends from Long-term Water Quality Monitoring of a Central Arkansas Drinking Water Reservoir – Halvor Halvorson, University of Central Arkansas
- 11:10 – 11:30 Spatial Differences in Nutrient Limitation and Phytoplankton Community Composition for a Central Arkansas Reservoir – Felicia Osburn, University of Central Arkansas
- 11:30 – 11:40 Follow-up Questions, Discussion, and Adjourn This Year's Conference
- 11:40 am Adjourn Conference**  
Thank you! And See You Next Year!

