



➤ **Mission Statement**

The Chesapeake Water Environment Association (CWEA) is dedicated to improving water quality and protecting the water environment in Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. The Association strives to do this through public education, the exchange of technical and scientific information among water quality professionals, the training of wastewater and water treatment plant operators, and by offering technical expertise and advice to the law-making and regulatory processes.

➤ **Membership**

- CWEA is a Member Association of the Water Environment Federation (WEF)
- CWEA has approximately 750 members
- CWEA includes Delaware, District of Columbia and Maryland
- All CWEA members are also Water Environment Federation members



➤ **Budget**

- Our annual budget exceeds \$ 195,000.00

➤ **Structure**

- 30 standing committees, including technical and business-related committees, and several joint committees with the Chesapeake Section of the American Water Works Association, Inc. (CSAWWA)
- Conducts annual Tri-Association Conference and Short Course with the Water and Waste Operators Association of MD, DE & DC (WWOA) and CSAWWA
- Leadership structure consists of a 13 officer Executive Board, which includes two (2) WEF Delegates
- 501(c)(3) non-profit status granted in 2013
- Joint CWEA/WWOA magazine, known as the "Ecoletter" published quarterly
- Website: www.chesapeakewea.org

➤ **Key Facts/Programs**

- Water Environment Federation (WEF) 2015 Member Association Achievement Award
- Numerous technical seminars throughout the year, including
 - Collection Systems Committee seminars, spring and fall
 - Hosted WEF 2014 Collection Systems Specialty Conference, Baltimore, MD, March 11 – 14, 2014
 - Stormwater Committee seminars, spring and fall
 - Plant Operations & Maintenance Committee seminar
 - Joint Water Reuse Committee seminar
 - Joint Spring Meeting
 - Asset Management Committee seminars, spring and fall
 - Monthly Webinar Series
 - Annual Ed Norton Open Golf tournament sponsored by the Collection Systems Committee to benefit local charities – a local Science Fair Winner – CWEA has partnered with the Federal Water Quality Association to award a scholarship to a local high school student.
- Annual Tri-Association Conference & Annual Short Course
 - Both conducted jointly with WWOA and CSAWWA
 - Provide accredited training for operator certification
- Partnered with Pennsylvania Water Environment Association (PWEA) in a joint member reception at WEFTEC annually since 2013
- Hosted WEF 2015 Residuals and Biosolids Conference with Federal Water Quality Association (FWQA), Washington, DC, June 6-10, 2015
- Award winning mentoring program, YH2O, in partnership with the City of Baltimore and the Mayor's Office of Employment Development.

➤ **Breakdown Of Membership**

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|--|---------------------------------|----------------|
| • Students: 24 | • Professionals: 533 | • Corporate: 2 |
| • Young Professionals: 49 | • Life, Honorary, & Retired: 53 | |
| • Professional Wastewater Operator: 75 | • Executive: 7 | |

For more information on CWEA, please contact:



Laura Jo Oakes is an engineer with over 15 years of experience in the water/wastewater industry. Ms. Oakes is a professional engineer in the state of Maryland, and has both a Bachelor and Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Clarkson University. She has served as an Engineer and Project Manager at EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC based in Hunt Valley, Maryland since 2005. In college, she served as President for the University's NYWEA student chapter as well as several other roles. Upon moving to Maryland in the summer of 2005, Ms. Oakes became a member of the CWEA. In 2006, she expanded her involvement with CWEA by assisting in the review of abstracts for the WEF Nutrient Control Specialty conference and participated in a YP Community Service event at Roland Park Elementary School. In 2007, she became and has since stayed an active member of the Spring Meeting Committee and served on the Board as the Maryland Trustee from 2015 to 2018.

President

Laura Jo Oakes

EA Engineering,
Science & Technology
410-584-7000
loakes@eaest.com

President-Elect

Gian A. Cossa

DC Water
202-787-2708
gian.cossa@dcwater.com

Vice President

Cece Nguyen

RJN
571-334-5045
cece.nguyen@rjnmail.com

Past-President

Aaron Hughes

WSSC Water
301-206-8776
Aaron.Hughes@wsscwater.com

Secretary

Cheryl Paulin

ADS
717-634-0094
cpaulin@idexcorp.com

Treasurer

Alan Will

JMT
301-908-8096
awill@jmt.com

WEF Delegate

Tim Wolfe

KCI Technologies
410-316-7849
timothy.wolfe@kci.com

WEF Delegate

Ellen Frketic

MD Environmental Service
410-729-8307
efrketic@menv.com

Trustee-DC

Gary Moore, Sr.

Bryant Associates, Inc.,
301-276-4014
garymoore.sr@gmail.com

Trustee- DE

Rebecca Winer-Skonovd

BIOHABITATS
667-401-8434
rwinerskonovd@biohabitats.com

Trustee-MD

Clarence Beverhoudt

Washington Suburban
Sanitary Commission
301-206-7575
clarence.beverhoudt@wsscwater.com

Utility Member Representative

Jessica Shiao

WSSC Water
301-206-8272
jessica.shiao@wsscwater.com

CTA Representative

Kraig Moodie

Flowav
717-580-0123
kmoodie@flowav.com

**For more information
on CWEA, please contact:**

Traci Storm

CWEA Executive Administrator

Traci@ChesapeakeWEA.org

410-960-5514.

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social networks:**

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