



**Chesapeake Wea**

Chesapeake Water Environment Association

**MEMBERSHIP**  
**ENGAGEMENT GUIDE**

[www.chesapeakewea.org](http://www.chesapeakewea.org)

## MESSAGE FROM CHESAPEAKE WEA’S EXECUTIVE MANAGER

I began my time with Chesapeake WEA in January 2020, a year when many events were canceled – including, for the first time ever, the Tri-Association Conference. Because of that, it’s especially exciting to see so many of our committees becoming increasingly active today.

The Chesapeake WEA Membership Engagement Guide is designed to give you a better understanding of the Association – its history, committees, leadership, and member benefits. With this information, you’ll be better equipped to find where you can contribute your talents and passions while connecting with like-minded professionals and helping advance the water, wastewater, and stormwater industry.

There are numerous opportunities to get involved through both our Associative and Technical Committees. Your engagement not only benefits the Association but can also support your career growth, your organization, and your colleagues in the industry.

Chesapeake WEA committees make a meaningful impact at all levels. We engage elementary students through programs like Water Palooza and are working to expand our involvement in middle and high school science fairs, which can lead to participation in the WEF Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition. We also fund scholarships for two high school students selected by FWQA. In partnership with MOED and Baltimore City DPW, we support the YH2O program by providing Career Coaches for recent graduates. Additionally, we have student chapters at UDC and Howard University, and our SDC Committee supports the Student Design Competition, featuring teams from regional universities.

For those new to the industry, the Young Professionals Committee is a great place to get started, though members are welcome to join any committee. As you gain experience, leadership opportunities become available. Serving as a

committee chair is an excellent way to begin your leadership journey within Chesapeake WEA. Our membership spans from Young Professionals to experienced leaders and even retirees who continue to share their valuable knowledge and expertise.

As we look ahead, Chesapeake WEA will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2027. We’re planning member appreciation events, giveaways, and a few fun surprises. Now is the perfect time to get involved and be part of the celebration!

I hope this guide helps you find a role that feels like a natural fit. I’d be happy to help you explore opportunities and answer any questions you may have.

I’d like to specifically thank Cheryl Paulin for the idea of creating this type of resource and helping me to get it across the finish line.



**Traci Storm**, Chesapeake WEA Executive Manager

**Traci Storm**



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## ONE HUNDRED YEARS CHESAPEAKE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

By Alan Will, Chesapeake WEA Member, Bylaws Committee Chair, and unofficial Association Historian

### HOW IT BEGAN

Chesapeake WEA traces its history back to 1927, when Dr. Abel Wolman led the formation of the Maryland Water and Sewerage Association. This actually predated the 1928 birth of the Federation of Sewage Works Associations, the national organization known today as the Water Environment Federation, of which Maryland was one of eight charter members. The Association expanded in 1930 to include Delaware and again in 1936 to add the District of Columbia. Both Chesapeake WEA and the national federation have undergone numerous name changes over the decades.

The first four decades of this history were shared with the current WWOA. In 1968 the Association split into two separate organizations. The Chesapeake Water Pollution Control Association was created as a new entity related to wastewater only. The Water and Waste Operators Association of Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia was formed around continuation of the original 1927 policies and programs plan. WWOA and Chesapeake WEA have continuously maintained a close and cooperative relationship since that time.

### SHORT COURSE

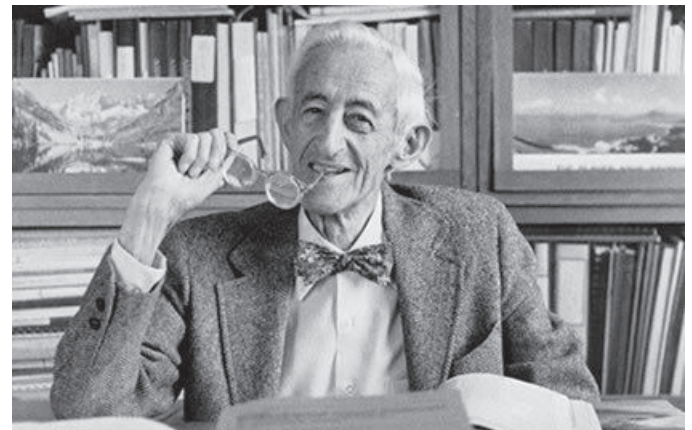
One of the most significant and longstanding efforts with WWOA has been the Operators Short Course, now held annually along with Chesapeake Section of AWWA. The first one, then known as the Short School for Operators (changed to Short Course in 1949), was held at the University of Maryland in 1935 when the two associations were still a single organization. It is believed that Short Course has been held almost annually since, with notable exceptions for the last year of World War II and for the Covid pandemic in 2020. Training is an important part of what our organizations focus on.

### CONFERENCES

Under Dr. Abel Wolman's leadership, the first conference of Maryland Water and Sewage Plant Operators was held in 1927 and has been conducted almost every year since, with essentially the same exceptions as the Short Course. Since the split in 1968, Chesapeake WEA and WWOA have held a joint conference. In 1993 they were joined by CSAWWA for the first-ever Tri-Association Conference in Ellicott City, Maryland. The success of that event led to a practice of holding a "Tri-Con" every three years. That made so much sense that the gap was eventually shortened to two years and then to every year beginning in 2010.

### INCORPORATION

As our scope and finances have grown significantly over the years, we have from time to time encountered the need for significant updates as a corporation. In early 2000, it was



*Dr. Abel Wolman*

### Did you know there were two CWEAs?

Even though they are on different sides of the country, members were still getting the two confused. To eliminate that confusion, but also to highlight our region, we've gone from CWEA to *Chesapeake WEA*. Our logo has also adapted to reflect our name revision. Be sure to use #ChesapeakeWEA for social media shoutouts!



### Membership Guide sponsored by:



Thank you to the sponsors that have made this Membership Engagement Guide possible.

We also thank WEF for the association grant.

If you would like to become a Chesapeake WEA Annual Sponsor or prefer to choose a sponsorship from our A La Carte Brochure, please visit our sponsorship page on the Chesapeake WEA website! We have many options to promote organizational visibility! [www.chesapeakewea.org/open\\_for\\_2026\\_chesapeake\\_wea\\_s.php](http://www.chesapeakewea.org/open_for_2026_chesapeake_wea_s.php)



*Ecoletter Magazine Spring 2007*

determined that being a 501(c)(3) corporation [business league or trade association focused on member benefits] was inappropriate for our purpose and function. What we needed was IRS recognition as a 501(c)(3) [charitable/ educational geared towards public benefit]. The change involved a lengthy, somewhat complex process including new bylaws, new Articles of Incorporation, and applications for tax-exempt status. Similar

efforts were needed around 2012 when a new 501(c)(3) called the Chesapeake Tri-Association, Inc. was formed to allow the Tri-Association Conference and the Short Course to operate under a legal structure in place of the informal partnership of the three participating associations.

## THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

As Chesapeake WEA approaches the start of its second century, it is as vibrant and relevant as ever. We are an essential and integral component of the year-round work and



*Stormwater Issues Around the Bay, October 2010*

success of Tri-Con, one of the premiere technical conferences on the Atlantic Seaboard. Companies and municipalities look to us for leadership and education. Outreach to the water environment community is continually present through the robust activity of many volunteers working hard among dozens of committees.

The past century has seen the contributions of hundreds of Presidents and other Board Officers, helping to guide us through industry developments from the start of chlorination through today's AI transformations. As we look ahead to the challenges and celebrations of the next one hundred years, this organization needs the support and energy of one individual in particular to match and exceed all of that past success. You can find that face in the mirror. Let's do it!



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## NAME HISTORY

Regional Organization	
1927	Maryland Water and Sewerage Association
1930	Maryland-Delaware Water and Sewerage Association
1952	Maryland-Delaware Water and Sewage Association
1962	Maryland-Delaware Water and Pollution Control Association
1968	Chesapeake Water Pollution Control Association (CWPC)
1972	Chesapeake Water Pollution Control Association, Inc.
1993	Chesapeake Water Environment Association (CWEA, then Chesapeake WEA)

National Organization	
1928	Federation of Sewage Works Associations
1950	Federation of Sewage and Industrial Wastes Associations
1960	Water Pollution Control Federation
1991	Water Environment Federation

# ABOUT OUR COMMITTEES... FIND YOUR ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY HERE!



Chesapeake WEA's 32+ committees fall under one of four categories: Administrative, Associative, Technical, and Liaison. Read on to see where you would be the best fit and like to volunteer. Did you know that, as much as we would love to have you join us as a Chesapeake WEA member, you are not required to be a member to volunteer on a committee! Using your knowledge and talents to further the association in reaching its vision and mission goals is always appreciated.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Committees responsible for the general operations, financial responsibilities, organization, marketing, plans for maintenance and growth, and all related administrative functions to maintain and grow the association.

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

- **Audit** – reviews the monthly financials and reconciliation.
- **Awards** – reviews and decides on award nominations and/or suggests nominees for awards.
- **Budget & Finance** – reviews, creates, reports on the annual budget and related line items.
- **Business Practices** – establishes and/or refines Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for committees and positions.
- **Bylaws** – ensures that the association bylaws are adhered to and leads any revision process.
- **Leadership Workshop** – plans, creates the agenda, and facilitates the Leadership Workshop.
- **Nominations** – reviews, discusses, and decides on board nominations to suggest the initial Slate of Officers to the board.
- **Publications** – assigns, creates, collects, and/or edits articles for the *Ecoletter* magazine each quarter.
- **Sponsorship** – creates brochure, and recruits, markets, and promotes the annual sponsorship campaign.
- **Strategic Planning & Implementation** – facilitates the creation and implementation of the strategic planning process.
- **Technical Education** – facilitates and moderates all Chesapeake WEA committee webinars.

**ASSOCIATIVE:** Committees responsible for creating and maintaining engagement with the Association's membership, while pursuing objectives to increase membership. These committees have a place for YOU to join!

### ASSOCIATIVE COMMITTEES:

- **Culture & Belonging** – monitors current policies and trends while looking for ways to improve on educational opportunities throughout the association.
- **Membership** – monitors membership and plans events to create networking, engagement, and recruitment opportunities.
- **Public Communications & Outreach** – plans events focused on improving our regional environment and/or facilitating educational opportunities for the public/students, including high school science fairs and the SJWP.
  - **Water Ploozza** – plans and facilitates a hands-on, educational, activity day for elementary school students.
  - **PWE Big Truck Day** – hosts the Chesapeake WEA booth and facilitates a kid-friendly activity for the public.
- **Student Activities** – organizes and facilitates plant tours and Panel events geared toward graduating students and young professionals.
  - **Joint Hiring Event** – assists joint committee with planning and facilitating a hiring event geared toward graduating college students.
  - **Student Chapter Liaison** – is the representative between Chesapeake WEA and the student chapters, to relay important information between the association and the chapters.
  - **Student Design Competition** – facilitates, organizes, and oversees the Student Design Competition from beginning of the season through the winning team's attendance at WEFTEC.
- **Young Professionals** – organizes and facilitates opportunities and events for young professionals to meet, network, and learn more about the industry from several sources, including experienced professionals.



# ABOUT OUR COMMITTEES... FIND YOUR ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY HERE!

**TECHNICAL:** Committees responsible for creating continuing education events, relating to their specific focus in the industry, for the purpose of offering membership benefits, opportunities to earn PDH/CEU credits, and leading educational opportunities for the improvement of the water environment. Some of these committees are also a joint committee with CSAWWA. These committees are tasked with presenting webinars, seminars, and related events on relevant topics within their respective areas of expertise. These committees are open for you to participate, some needing leadership roles fulfilled!

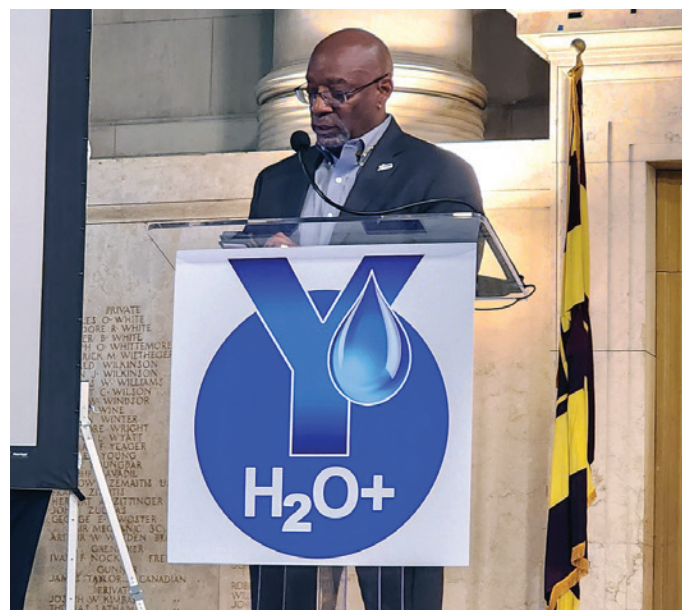
## TECHNICAL COMMITTEES:

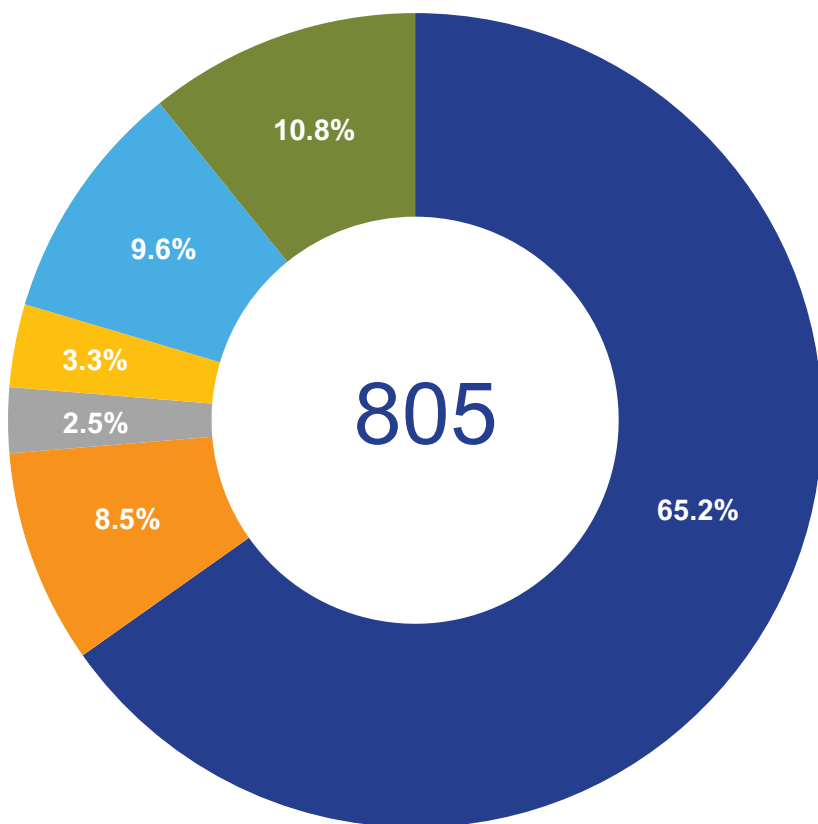
- **Joint Asset Management** – provides a forum and support network for the free exchange of Asset Management (AM) knowledge, experiences, and information.
- **Collection Systems** – provides opportunities for networking, information exchanges, continuing education, and more within the collection systems and related communities.
- **Government Affairs** – strives to stay updated on state and federal policies that affect the industry, participates in the WEF Water Week Fly-In meeting with key stakeholders in policy decisions, and shares related information with members.
- **Laboratory Practices** – meets regularly with lab technicians across the region to discuss lab practices, findings, policies, and related information.
- **Plant Operations & Maintenance and Safety** – facilitates the sharing of knowledge and experiences between water and wastewater administrative, operational, engineering, and maintenance personnel.
- **Residuals & Biosolids Management** – meets to discuss important issues within the residuals and biosolids arm of the wastewater industry, providing continuing education opportunities, policy updates, and hot button topics.
- **Joint Spring Meeting** – plans the yearly seminar hosted by a municipality or venue with intriguing water/wastewater engineering feats. Topics change each year following current events and other water/wastewater hot topics.
- **Stormwater** – provides a forum for coordination among local governments, the stormwater industry, and consulting stormwater professionals focused on advancing technical knowledge, expertise, and innovating new solutions.
- **Utility Management Conference** – plans a yearly conference focused on utilities by providing speakers and educational presentations related to the industry. CSAWWA takes the lead on this conference and is supported by Chesapeake WEA.
- **Joint Water Reuse** – provides opportunities to discuss and/or provide resources for continuing education and updates on water recycling. This is a joint committee with CSAWWA.

**LIAISON & COORDINATION:** Committees that collaborate with other organizations and/or have developed their own entity to exist as support to Chesapeake WEA and other related associations in facilitating related events or processes.

## LIAISON & COORDINATION COMMITTEES:

- **Chesapeake WEA Short Course Committee:** plans, facilitates, and executes the Short Course educational event with committee members from CSAWWA and WWOA to provide operator credits and testing exams for regional operators.
- **Chesapeake WEA Tri-Association Conference Committee:** meets monthly with committee members from CSAWWA and WWOA to plan, facilitate, and eventually execute the annual Tri-Association Conference.
- **MDE W/WW Board Liaison:** participates in the monthly MDE meetings and reports relevant information back to the Association, also assisting with the operator credit approval application process.
- **YH2O/Mentorship:** assists the Baltimore City Mayor's Office and Baltimore DPW with facilitating training and experience opportunities to young adults selected for the program by providing career coaching and mentorship.





- Professional
- Professional Operator
- Young Professional
- Lifetime/Retiree/Honorary
- Academic/Executive/Exhibitor
- Students

#### JOINT MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Member discounts to WEF events
- Access to industry resources and experts
- Connections with other member associations
- Eligibility for Chesapeake WEA leadership roles
- Eligibility for WEF award nominations
- WEF mailings and email news

## CHESAPEAKE WEA BEGAN ASSOCIATION-ONLY MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS IN JANUARY OF 2026

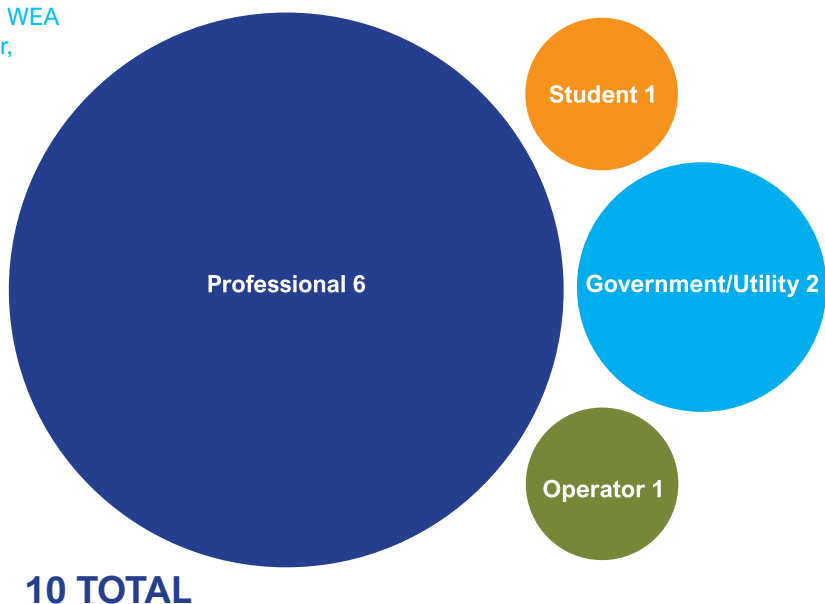
### WHY JOIN WITH ASSOCIATION-ONLY MEMBERSHIP?

An Association-Only Membership serves as a stepping stone to a Joint WEF/Chesapeake WEA Membership. Association-Only Memberships were created for our young professionals who have recently joined the industry, new hires in the industry, students exploring future opportunities, and retirees who no longer volunteer but want to stay abreast of industry practices.

\* Members who wish to volunteer for Chesapeake WEA leadership roles as a Committee Chair, Co-Chair, Liason, Board Member, (or any leadership role not listed) are required to hold a joint WEF/Chesapeake WEA Membership. Members who wish to qualify for WEF/Chesapeake WEA MA awards or discounts for WEF hosted events are also required to hold a joint WEF/Chesapeake WEA Membership.

### ASSOCIATION-ONLY MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Discount on Chesapeake WEA Seminars, Annual Conference, and other Association Events
- Free Chesapeake WEA hosted Webinars
- Subscription to *Ecoletter* and *Chesapeake WEA E-news*
- Participation in Chesapeake WEACommittees
- Access to Chesapeake WEA Networking Events, Plant Tours, and more...



## CONTINUING EDUCATION AND PDH CREDITS

### Committee Seminars

Collection Systems  
Stormwater  
Water Reuse  
Residuals & Biosolids

### Committee Webinars

Stormwater  
Asset Management  
Government Affairs  
Residuals & Biosolids  
Lab Practices  
Collection Systems

### Joint Conference/ Seminar Events

Spring Meeting  
Utility Management  
Conference  
Water Reuse Workshop  
Tri-Association Conference  
(more details on page 9)



## PUBLIC OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION (EDUCATION) AND ADVOCACY

Teaching the public about the water/wastewater industry

### Community Service Projects

Stream Clean-ups  
Park Clean-ups  
Tree Planting Events

### Public Education Events

Water Palooza – geared toward elementary students  
Public Works Museum Experience – Big Truck Day

- Host a booth with water-themed activities for event attendees/kids

### Regional Science Fairs

Serve as judges in regional science fairs  
Judge projects submitted for the Stockholm Junior Water Prize

### YH2O Program

Volunteer to be a Career Coach/Mentee to a YH2O program participant

### Government Affairs

Attend the WEF Water Week Fly-In to advocate for water/wastewater industry issues



Scan to visit the  
Chesapeake WEA  
Events Calendar

## FUN NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

### Young Professional hosted events

Top Golf Night  
Baseball Game Night  
Soccer Game Night

### Membership Committee hosted events

Membership Appreciation Events

### Collection Systems Committee hosted events

Roundtable Luncheons  
Ed Norton/Gary Wyatt Memorial Golf Tournament  
(also a fundraiser)

### 100th Anniversary Celebration events

To view and find registration details for our upcoming events, please visit the Chesapeake WEA Events Calendar at [www.memberleap.com/members/calendar6c\\_responsive.php?org\\_id=CWEA](http://www.memberleap.com/members/calendar6c_responsive.php?org_id=CWEA).

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

**Student Chapters** – currently a chapter at UDC and a chapter at Howard University

**Speaker Panels** – Informational panels on multiple topics

- Tips on passing the P.E. or F.E. exams
- Women in Water panel

### Utility Plant Tours

**Joint Hiring Event** – Students are able to schedule approximately 12 interviews with hiring organizations for a full-day event

**Student Design Competition** – Students form a team within their university to create a problem-solving design to be submitted for judging and the potential for being selected to travel to the National Competition at WEFTEC

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Become involved in one of our Associative or Technical committees**

- Membership is not required to belong to one of Chesapeake WEA's committees (although we'd love to have you join with either a joint membership through WEF or an Association Only membership)

**After volunteering actively on a committee, become a Committee Chair**

- Per our bylaws, a joint membership is required for anyone in leadership
- Committee Chairs are considered Chesapeake WEA leadership

After two years of active membership, and at least one year of volunteering on a committee (bylaw requirement) submit for one of our open board positions during the nomination season, which will go through our election process.

# THE TRI-ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



The Chesapeake Tri-Association Conference ([www.chesapeaketri-con.org](http://www.chesapeaketri-con.org)) is an annual premier water quality event in Maryland, bringing together the Chesapeake Water Environment Association (Chesapeake WEA), the Chesapeake Section American Water Works Association (CSAWWA), and the Water & Waste Operators Association (WWOA) of MD, DE, and DC. Held annually in Ocean City, it focuses on water and wastewater training and networking opportunities. The Tri-Association Conference works within its own entity with representatives from each of the three associations in leadership roles.

Known to attendees, sponsors, and exhibitors as “Tri-Con,” the conference has become a staple for the region, with over 1,700 attendees and over 130 technical sessions in 2024 at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City.

- **The Goal:** The conference serves as a key platform for sharing knowledge on water quality, stormwater management, and wastewater treatment, featuring technical sessions, industry exhibits, and operator competitions.

The conference continues to be a key venue for industry professionals in Maryland to network and discuss improvements in water technology.

Chesapeake WEA holds its Annual Business Meeting with a luncheon during this week at Tri-Con. This is when our “year” begins with our new board members stepping into their roles and our outgoing board members completing their terms. We present the audience of approximately 250 with highlights from the year, presidential messages, our WEF representative presentation, and the presentation of some of our MA awards. See page 10 for more information on our awards. Be sure to attend the Chesapeake WEA Annual Business Meeting Luncheon on Thursday of Tri-Con week!

## 2025 TRI-ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE NUMBERS

Attendees: **1,846**

Sessions:

- Pre Conference Workshop – 1
- Operator Classes – 4 (with exam on Friday)
- Technical Sessions – 156

Exhibitors: **251**



# CHESAPEAKE WEA AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



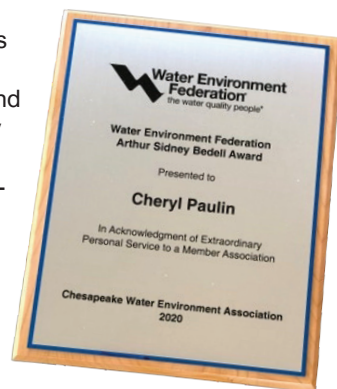
There are several opportunities for members to earn awards or scholarships through Chesapeake WEA. Our awards follow a nomination to election process to choose the awardees.

**ASSOCIATION AWARDS** – these awards are presented by the outgoing Chesapeake WEA President during the annual business luncheon at Tri-Con.

- **President’s Award** – Recognizes an association leader for outstanding performance and service to the Association during the year.
- **Rising Star Award** – Recognizes a Young Professional who exhibits extraordinary personal service to the Association.
- **Association Advocate Award** – Recognizes an organization/business for their strong support of the association through their sponsorships, supporting their associates in their association volunteerism and/or leadership, and event participation.
- **Golden Manhole Award** – Acknowledges extraordinary personal service to the Association while working to promote wastewater collection system understanding, operation and maintenance, training, and continuing education.
- **Golden Raindrop Award** – Recognizes significant contributions to the success of Chesapeake WEA and to promoting professionalism and pride among those working in the design, management, construction operations, and maintenance of stormwater systems.
- **5 S – Secret Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers** – To recognize, honor, (and possibly embarrass) distinguished members of the Chesapeake WEA for their unique, outstanding, and invaluable contributions to our association. Three golden shovels are awarded each year with a special “induction ceremony.”

**WEF/MEMBER ASSOCIATION AWARDS** – these awards are presented during the Tri-Con Awards Ceremony by the visiting WEF Representative. Awardees are chosen by the Association’s Awards Committee but provided by WEF.

- **Bedell Award** – was established to acknowledge extraordinary personal service to a WEF Member Association.
- **Hatfield Award** – is presented to an operator of a wastewater treatment plant for outstanding performance and professionalism.
- **Burke Award** – recognizes a municipal or industrial wastewater facility for establishing and maintaining an active and effective safety program.
- **Lab Analyst Award** – recognizes an individual for outstanding performance, professionalism, and contributions to the water quality analysis profession.
- **WEF Delegate Service Award** – in recognition of the outstanding work by Member Association Delegates in the House of Delegates. WEF provides a service plaque for each retiring Delegate.



**CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNERS!**

**ASSOCIATION COMPETITION AWARDS** – these awards are presented to the winners of the exciting contests/competitions that Chesapeake WEA hosts during Tri-Con.

- **Operators Challenge (OPS Challenge)** – Teams from across the country travel to Tri-Con to compete in different divisions, judged for time and accuracy in the following categories, with awards for each. **The Chesapeake WEA regional team(s) with best score overall and division will be sent to WEFTEC by the Association.**
  - Laboratory
  - Safety
  - Process
  - Maintenance
  - Collections
- **Residuals & Biosolids Beauty Contest** – Residuals and biosolids samples are submitted by regional public facilities for the following categories, with one award being presented for the highest scorer in each.
  - Class A – Fresh/Unblended
  - Class A – Enhanced
  - Class B
  - Residualsto be blind judged on the following criteria:
  - Consistency/Clarity of Product
  - Odor (lack of)
  - Dryness

Some entries are also judged in a fun category for **Best in Presentation**, as those submissions are creative and fun models representing an aspect of the industry. A Best in Presentation Award is also presented to the winner of this category.



**ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** – Chesapeake WEA offers and funds several scholarship opportunities.

- **Federal Water Quality Association (FWQA)** – Chesapeake WEA funds two scholarships that FWQA presents to two high school seniors whose applications were chosen by their scholarship committee. The Ed Norton/Gary Wyatt Memorial Golf Tournament helps to support these scholarships.
- **Short Course Scholarships** – We offer two scholarships for two operators to attend the full week of Short Course, fully funded. Applications are available on the website ([www.chesapeakewea.org](http://www.chesapeakewea.org)) and submissions are reviewed and chosen by some of the Chesapeake WEA board members.
- **Hiram Lee Tanner, Jr. YP Tri-Con Scholarship** – The creation of this scholarship was pursued by Clarence Beverhoudt, Chesapeake WEA President at the time, who considered Mr. Tanner to be a mentor to him. Hiram Lee Tanner, Jr., passed away the previous year. Along with Mr. Tanner's son and a few co-workers, Clarence was able to get the scholarship established. This scholarship is fully funded by Chesapeake WEA and fully funds one YP's attendance to Tri-Con for the week. YPs must submit applications which are reviewed and judged by Clarence Beverhoudt and other board members.



## EVEN MORE MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

**DID YOU KNOW?** As part of our membership benefits, Chesapeake WEA not only offers the following but gives you the opportunity to participate in some of the content!

**Ecoletter** – In conjunction with the Wastewater Operator’s Association (WWOA), this magazine is a quarterly printed publication sent to each of our members. There is also a digital version posted on the Chesapeake WEA website ([www.chesapeakewea.org/ecoletter.php](http://www.chesapeakewea.org/ecoletter.php)) and the option to view past issues. Members from both associations are invited to submit articles and photos from association events and/or industry-related topics through the association’s Publications Committee.

**WE&T** – Our Joint WEF/Chesapeake WEA members will, along with many other benefits, receive issues of the *WE&T* periodical, sent by WEF.



**Newsletter eBlasts** – Chesapeake WEA sends out a weekly email “blast” that lists all of the upcoming events and particular association news (e.g., Call for Nominations, Call for Abstracts, committee activities, etc.) which include all the relevant registration links.

**Career Center Page** – Through our Annual Sponsorship Program or GMO status, organizations are able to submit job openings to our Career Center website page ([www.memberleap.com/members/classifieds4.php?org\\_id=CWEA](http://www.memberleap.com/members/classifieds4.php?org_id=CWEA)). The Career Center webpage is available for viewing to both members and nonmembers.

**Sponsorship Program** – Chesapeake WEA offers an Annual Sponsorship Program that typically opens in October for the following year and closes in April of the current sponsorship year. We also offer many options in our A La Carte Sponsorship Brochure which is open all year. We take great care to ensure our sponsors receive the representation they expect, oftentimes surpassing expectations with extra logo representations.

Our sponsors are extremely valuable to our association. Sponsorships not only help to fund general operating expenses, but allow us to offer scholarships, present awards, offer seminars, webinars, and much more while supporting our mission and vision goals.

In addition to the benefits listed on our Annual Sponsorship Brochure, two “shout out” videos are created near the end of the calendar year, thanking each of our sponsors while featuring event photos and logo representation.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, HAPPY 100TH CHESAPEAKE WEA, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

As you may have put together while reading the History section at the beginning of this guide, Chesapeake WEA is celebrating our 100th Birthday in 2027! One hundred years of giving professionals different ways to support the improvement and education of the water/wastewater industry...

A special committee has been created to plan fun membership appreciation events to celebrate our 100th anniversary while celebrating our members!

Always check our website slideshow for upcoming events.

There will be Meet & Greets in multiple areas of our region, including Delaware and DC. Be sure to come, introduce yourself, and connect with other members in your area!

Watch for special events at Tri-Con 2027 and WEFTEC 2027. Since we share our 100th with WWOA, there will be several partnered events planned.

There will be giveaways and opportunities to learn more about the Association in a relaxed, fun atmosphere. We hope you can attend multiple events!



## BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER! WE WANT YOUR ENGAGEMENT!

All of our leadership, according to our association's bylaws, is required to have a current joint WEF/Chesapeake WEA membership.

Chesapeake WEA has 32+ committees, and all of our Chairs, Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Co-Vice-Chairs, and Liaisons are part of our leadership team.

The Chesapeake WEA Board of Directors consists of 13 volunteer members, and brief summaries of their roles are listed below:

- Past-President** – is available to advise the President and Board on decisions and operations of the Association.
- President** – oversees the operations of the Association, board meetings, and all related responsibilities.
- President-Elect** – coordinates with the President and serves in the President's absence.
- Vice-President** – coordinates with the President and President-Elect and related responsibilities.
- Secretary** – is the Executive Officer of the Association, oversees the expenditures of the Association.
- Treasurer** – coordinates handling of the Association's finances and creates the financial reporting.
- Maryland Trustee** – is the Association liaison for the Maryland region and oversees several committees.
- DC Trustee** – is the Association liaison for the DC region and oversees several committees.
- Delaware Trustee** – is the Association liaison for the Delaware region and oversees several committees.
- WEF Delegates (2)** – are the WEF liaisons for the Association and involved with multiple WEF processes.
- Utility Member Representative** – is the Association liaison for the utility members located in our coverage area.
- Chesapeake Tri-Association Representative** – is the Association liaison for the Chesapeake Tri-Association.

Board meetings are typically held every other month on the third Thursday, scheduled from 9:30 am until 12:00 pm. Most meetings are virtual, but in-person meetings are occasionally scheduled.

An annual Chesapeake WEA Leadership Workshop is planned in the early fall for all of our leadership. We plan presentations from different leaders to educate our team

about the Association, encourage active engagement, provide leadership skills enhancement, and answer any questions about processes and procedures. This is a full-day event that gives the leaders a chance to meet and share ideas. We end the event with a fun activity that encourages a casual time of networking and reviewing the day's information.

## ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPATING IN MEMBER ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

**WEFTEC:** Chesapeake WEA actively participates in the yearly WEF hosted WEFTEC conference. The Executive Manager, WEF Delegates, President, OPS Challenge teams, and the winning Student Design Team receive financial assistance from the Association to attend the event. We are fortunate that many of our members also attend. WEFTEC gives Chesapeake WEA leaders and members a chance to connect with people from other member associations and with WEF leadership. Chesapeake WEA hosts a leadership dinner inviting our Student Design Team members and related leadership and any attending Association leaders. Most of our attendees will participate in the WEF Leadership meeting. Our WEF Delegates will attend the WEF House of Delegate's meeting and other related meetings. The Executive Manager attends several member association (MA) meetings, getting a chance to network and share ideas with other MA executive leaders. Our OPS Challenge teams compete and are able to network with other teams from across the nation, and some international teams. The Student Design Competition team presents for their competition and is able to network with other design team members, along with the opportunity to attend YP events on the national level. WEFTEC is a well-rounded event for our members and encompasses much more than what is listed in this article.

**WEFMAX:** WEFMAX represents the exchange of member association information and each hosts a different theme relevant to association members. Several members of

Chesapeake WEA's leadership are able to attend the WEF-hosted WEFMAXs. The Association attempts to have coverage at each of the four themed events; sending their WEF Delegates, Executive Manager, President, and other board members as availability presents itself. WEF plans presentations and talking points while actively involving all the participants in the sharing of information. Member Associations from across the nation are chosen several years in advance to host an event in their area. Each of the hosting MAs plans a social event in their region to give the participants a "taste" of the area. WEFMAX participants are given a valuable learning experience, along with great connections within the MA community.



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# REHABILITATE RESTORE REPAIR

A photograph showing a worker in a yellow hard hat and safety glasses on the left, and a young man in a white lab coat and safety glasses on the right. They are both smiling. A QR code is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Where Work Meets Purpose.**  
Start here. Grow here. Lead here.  
Looking to pursue your passion?  
Join Team H<sub>2</sub>O.

An aerial photograph of a large water treatment plant with several large circular tanks and a large building with a glass roof. A QR code is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Build What's Next With Us.**  
Explore contracting opportunities that support our Smart One Water mission.

## Smart One Water Mission

WSSC Water ensures all communities thrive by ethically delivering safe, reliable and sustainable water and wastewater services.





# **Chesapeake Wea**

**Chesapeake Water Environment Association**



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