

Calendar of Events

December 12, 2024

PWEA Board Meeting, 10AM - 2PM

10:00 AM - 02:00 PM EST

In-Person at Shippensburg Conference Center OR virtual (link to will be sent to board members)

December 13, 2024

Call for Abstracts | 2025 96th Annual Technical Conference & Expo (PennTec)

12:00 AM - 12:00 AM EST

Melanie Greene,
melaniegreene@pwea.org

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Instructions for Submitting an Abstract/Presentation for the PWEA Annual Technical Conference

*June 22-25, 2025 • Kalahari Resort and Convention Center • Pocono Manor, PA
The Pennsylvania Water Environment Association (PWEA) has issued a Call for Abstracts for its 96th Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition – PennTec 2025.*

Individuals desiring to present at the PennTec Conference should submit an abstract by no later than Thursday, October 17, 2024. Please read the criteria below to be sure your abstract contains the most relevant information. Presentations will be in blocks of 30 minutes, which includes time for questions and answers.

Abstracts will be submitted electronically via this SmartSheet link:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/5b41446769404c90a35eaa7933490511>

** Abstracts mailed or submitted via email will not be accepted.*

There is no limit to the number of abstracts that may be submitted by an individual, company, organization, or institution. However, in order to provide a valuable educational experience for attendees, the Program Subcommittee will work to limit the number of presentations by a single company or organization during a technical session. Membership in PWEA is not a requirement to present. Speakers are responsible for all of their own transportation, lodging and travel related expenses. Discounted registration fees will be offered to the Primary Presenter for the day of presentation, or for the entire conference. (Any additional presenters must register at the regular conference rates.) Please note: only one Primary Presenter per technical session will be published in the PennTec Conference Registration Brochure.

Abstracts are being solicited on cutting-edge and hot topics for Wastewater, Stormwater, and/or Drinking Water in the below categories. The main bullets are the Technical Program categories, indicating the focus for each program. The sub-bullets are suggestions for topics in each discipline. Other topics not included on this list are welcome.

Biosolids

*Innovative usage
WWTP Case Studies
Emerging Technologies
Dewatering
Disposal*

Collection Systems

*Inflow & infiltration
Private property issues
Flow issues related to climate change
Pump station topics
Force main topics*

Measurement – tv – laser – sonar
Smart or intelligent system management
Pipe or lateral rehab
Other relevant issues

Engineering (W/WW)

New techniques and equipment for underground utility verification/location
Improvements related to drinking water or wastewater safety
Mitigation of disinfection byproducts

Construction (W/WW)

Alternative Project Delivery methods
Use of Design-Build for project delivery
New/innovative construction techniques
Constructability reviews for Design projects

Government/Regulatory Affairs (W/WW)

Complying with regulatory requirements
Case studies about regulatory agency and regulated entity cooperation
Needed regulatory program changes
Impact of legislation and/or regulations on facility operations and budgets

Industrial Waste Pretreatment

Innovative Design

Municipal Industrial Pretreatment Program Tasks

Emerging Contaminants
PFOS/PFAS
Water Source Protection
Developing and complying with EPA mandated Industrial Pretreatment Programs

Laboratory Practices (W/WW)

Catalysts and Reagents
Ethics
Equipment
Innovative Techniques & Methods
Data Management

Professional Operations (W/WW)

Ethics/Best Practices
Innovation
Preventative Maintenance
DEP - such as handling NPDES Permit renewals, DEP inspections and/or Regulatory compliance

*PA One Call
Mapping/GIS integration
System Optimization
Smart Development/System Growth Practices
Crisis/Emergency Management*

Safety (W/WW)

*OSHA Updates and Practices
Employee Safety – office, plant and field
Pandemic safety lessons learned*

Stormwater

*Regional approach to stormwater management
Integrated water resource planning
Ramping up a stormwater authority
Water quality at the watershed scale
GIS tools for planning and asset management
Stormwater BMPs – Case studies of funding, performance, and maintenance
Urban climate resilience
Impact of the new normal for weather patterns
Updating codes and ordinances for better stormwater management
Municipal collaboration for meeting MS4 requirements
Model programs for MS4 public education and involvement
Innovative and cost-effective approaches to community stormwater problems
Model programs for flood management
Stormwater rate making*

Drinking Water Topics

*PFAS
Microplastics
Mitigation of Disinfection By-Products
Jar Testing
Lead Contamination
Corrosion Control of Lead Pipes*

Utility Management (W/WW)

*Leadership Development and Organic Growth for Sustainable Management
Working effectively with neighboring utilities and municipalities; Community Outreach
and meeting consumer demands with a focus on system sustainability
Effective Customer Service
Using Technology to Enhance Productivity
Setting rates based on sound operational and financial planning
Budgeting focused on critical activities for sustained performance
Inter-Agency cooperation: Meeting service expectations and regulatory requirements
Levels of Service: Improving responses to emergencies and the security and safety of
assets
Prolonging asset life and improving decisions about asset rehabilitation, repair, and
replacement
Asset Management/Business Case Evaluation/Capital Program Optimization:
Reducing overall costs for both operations and capital expenditures*

*GIS System Integration
SCADA Systems*

Soft Skills

*Time Management
Effective Communication/Conflict Resolution
Adaptability and Work Ethic
Proactive/Critical Thinking / Decision Making*

SUBMISSION FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

*Abstracts will be submitted electronically via the Smartsheet link:
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/5b41446769404c90a35eaa7933490511>*

** Abstracts mailed or submitted via email will not be accepted.*

Abstracts should be a minimum of one and a maximum of three double-spaced full pages of text, including bibliography. Up to three additional pages of supporting tables and graphics may be included. The footer of each page should contain the corresponding author's last name, abstract title, and the page number (example: Smith, Regional Approach to XYZ, page 1 of 3). Abstracts that fail to meet the maximum page requirement will be given consideration after other submissions. PLEASE SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTS AS ONE ATTACHMENT. Abstracts must clearly define the objectives, status, methodology, findings, and significance of the investigation or study. Submissions on hot topics, regulatory issues, and new technologies are especially welcome. The Primary Presenter indicated on the Abstract Submission Form will be notified of acceptance or rejection by December 31, 2024.

CRITERIA FOR ABSTRACT SELECTION

RELEVANCE: The topic presented in the abstract should appeal to the Joint Conference audience; presenting breakthrough technologies, new concepts, novel applications of concepts, original ideas, new twists, hot topics, or application of fundamental techniques to today's problems. The abstract should present ideas, concepts or lessons learned that are transferable and usable at other facilities and situations.

STATUS OF PROJECT: The abstract should establish that the project or case study is well-developed and should present data or results to support the hypothesis or principle being demonstrated. Data should have been subjected, at a minimum, to preliminary analysis. Abstracts showing concrete results with practical applications are more likely to be accepted.

TECHNICAL CONTENT: The objectives and scope of the project should be stated. The conditions under which the data were obtained, and the general procedures/methodology used should be presented. The abstract should address the consequences of the issue/project presented. The consequences, both intended and unintended, could include environmental, economic, and social impacts.

BENEFITS AND SIGNIFICANCE: Actual benefits and applications should be reported. Has the project helped to clean water or has it reduced pollutant discharges? Does the method described save time or money or increase accuracy? Is system management or operations more efficient or effective? Is this a specific finding or of more general application?

CONTENT, CLARITY, AND QUALITY: Authors should prepare clear, concise abstracts that follow the requirements. The quality and content of the abstract are considered indicative of the final technical presentation for PennTec 2025.

January 16, 2025

PWEA Board Strategic Planning Meeting

10:00 AM - 03:00 PM EST

In-Person: Shippensburg Conference Center, 500 Newburg Rd, Shippensburg, PA

January 23, 2025

Safety Training Event - Confined Space - DEP credits available

RETTEW Safety Training Center

5031 Richard Ln, Suite 111

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

10:00 AM - 02:00 PM EST

Melanie Greene,

melaniegreene@pwea.org

The PWEA Safety Committee presents an in-person training event: Permit Required Confined Space - Entrant, Attendant, and Supervisor Training Course on January 23, 2025, at 10:00 AM at the RETTEW Safety Training Center.

Course Description:

This course provides a comprehensive review of confined space requirements, focusing on the responsibilities of entrants, attendants, and supervisors. Participants will engage in hands-on practice with entry and retrieval equipment in compliance with OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.146. The training includes instruction on external rescue procedures to ensure safety in confined spaces.

Date and Time:

January 23, 2025

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Location:

RETTEW Safety Training Center

5031 Richard Ln, Suite 111

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Contact Hours:

4.00 DEP contact hours will be awarded for attending this training.

Price per Participant:

Member: \$150.00

Non-Member: \$200.00

Key Takeaways:

Understanding OSHA standards for confined spaces

Practical use of entry and retrieval equipment

Roles and responsibilities of entrants, attendants, and supervisors

For additional information contact Ed Kauffman at ed.kauffman@rettew.com or Melanie Greene at melaniegreene@pwea.org.

January 29, 2025

PWEA Young Professionals Holiday Party!

12:00 AM - 12:00 AM EST

More information coming soon!

February 13, 2025

PWEA Board Meeting - Virtual Only - 10AM

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST

Virtual only - meeting link will be sent to board members

April 10, 2025

PWEA Board Meeting, 10AM - 2PM

10:00 AM - 02:00 PM EST

In-Person at Shippensburg Conference Center OR virtual. Link will be sent to board members