

# 2022 Fall Joint Environmental Conference



AGENDA

## Speaker Biographies (listed in chronological order)

**LAPRISHA BERRY DANIELS** has over 15 years' experience as a public health social worker. She currently serves as the executive director of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice (DWEJ). Laprisha sets the strategic direction and establishes and maintains strategic partnerships for DWEJ. She is responsible for disrupting and dismantling the status quo that leads to Detroiters bearing an undue burden of environmental hazards that ultimately negatively impact their quality of life. She works to co-develop, implement, and evaluate efforts focused on eliminating environmental health disparities in Detroit.

**JENNY WAUGH:** After serving on Algoma Township's planning commission since 2013, Jenny Waugh was nominated as chairperson in 2019. She serves as the first female on the planning commission and feels the honor is significant for local governments across the state. Jenny works to bring a different perspective to local governance to strengthen and build the community, all while focusing on responsible growth and change management.

**MATTHEW WAGNER** is the Renewable Energy Development Manager at DTE Energy. He began his career with the US-EPA followed by several years of environmental consulting and project management experience before beginning his 27-year career with DTE. Matt has a Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Penn State and his Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from the University of Michigan.

**SCOTT WATSON** is a partner in Warner Norcross + Judd's Resources, Energy, and Environmental group. He is an environmental litigator with a primary focus on environmental cleanup and administrative cases, including lawsuits involving emerging contaminants, state and federal permits, and related compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species Act. Before joining Warner in 2007, Scott was a law clerk for U.S. District Judge Robert J. Jonker in the Western District of Michigan.

**DEREK VAN BERKEL** is Assistant Professor of Data Science, Geovisualization and Design. His research examines the human dimensions of land-cover/land-use change and ecosystem services at diverse scales. It aims to use spatial analysis and geovisualizations of social and environmental data and spatial thinking to develop solutions for today's most pressing environmental challenges. His growing body of interdisciplinary work uses, community engagement, and advanced computational techniques in GIS, big data, machine learning spatial statistics, and spatial-temporal computer modeling.

**LIZ BROWNE** is director of the Materials Management Division in the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), where she manages staff and oversees hazardous and solid waste programs, radiological protection efforts, and sustainability programs, including the Office of Energy. Liz has worked to merge traditional waste programs with pollution prevention, climate, and energy work for Michigan's sustainability and commitment to a circular economy of eliminating waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems. Liz has had management roles in the Superfund and Storage Tank programs, led the division responsible for wetlands, dunes, dams, and shorelines, and worked with drinking water and water-related revolving loan programs. Liz also led the emergency management program for EGLE's predecessor agency.

**ANNETTE SWITZER** is the incoming Division Director for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's Air Quality Division. She has worked for the Air Quality Division for over ten years as a permit engineer and then as the Permit Section Manager. As Permit Section Manager, Annette implemented lean process improvement recommendations and significant enhancements to the Division's public participation process. She has been involved in the New Source Review Subcommittee for the National Association of Clean Air Agencies. Annette graduated from Michigan Technological University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering and maintains her Professional Engineer License.

**MIKE NELLER** is Director of the Remediation and Redevelopment Division of Michigan's Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). He was previously with the Materials Management Division as the Section Manager of the Radiological Protection Section. Mike earned his Bachelor of Science degree at the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned as a Naval Officer. He was trained and educated as a nuclear engineer. Mike attended the Submarine Officer's Basic Course and began a 25-year career as a Nuclear Submarine Officer. He served on four different submarines, both fast attack and strategic missile boats, and was the Commanding Officer of the USS Florida (SSBN 728) when it was part of the nation's strategic nuclear deterrence arsenal. Post 9/11 he was stationed overseas in Naples, Italy where he served as Director of Submarine Operations in the Mediterranean and Chief of Staff of a multi-national intelligence gathering task force. Mike served two years on the Navy's Staff at the pentagon in addition to completing two tours of duty at Cornell and Notre Dame's Naval Reserve Officer Training Units. While at Cornell he co-taught a course offered through the engineering department on Propulsion Systems and Ship Design and while at Notre Dame was both a Department Chair in addition to teaching Leadership and Ethics. After retirement from the Navy, Mike worked in manufacturing operations and maintenance at several companies. Also prior to coming to EGLE, he was the Dean of Students at a private boarding school, in Indiana for several years. He is an East Lansing native.

**TERESA SEIDEL** is the Division Director for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) Water Resources Division. Teresa holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Master of Public Administration in Public Management, both from Grand Valley State University. She has over 30 years of experience in environmental protection. Teresa has worked in agriculture, air quality, and water resource programs over her career.

**MARISSA VAERTEN** (pronounced vare-ten), formerly known as Marissa Stegman, has worked for the Air Quality Division within the SIP unit for 3 years. Her primary efforts have revolved around the planning efforts within the division related to the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone in Michigan. Her ozone related work includes chairing and co-chairing several workgroups, rule writing, and providing visualization and analysis of spatial data used to facilitate discussions. Outside of work, Marissa enjoys renovating her house with her husband and running long distances for fun.

**TRACE McDONALD** is a 24-year veteran in the Air Quality Division. He's served tours of duty in the Grand Rapids District Office as an inspector, and in Lansing as a modeler. He is currently deployed as a member of the SIP unit, working on rules and attainment issues. When he's on R&R, he tries, and mostly fails, to keep one step ahead of his wife and two teenage daughters. When he can't take anymore, he hides in his workshop to do woodworking.

**LILLIAN WOOLLEY** is currently an environmental consultant for Fishbeck working in their southeast Michigan office primarily on air quality permitting and compliance projects. Her clients include manufacturing facilities, food processing plants and electric utilities. Lillian is also the Air Quality Policy Committee Chair for the Michigan Manufacturer's Association and actively involved in discussions on Michigan's ozone nonattainment areas and participates in the Climate Council Workgroups. Prior to her work as an environmental consultant, Lillian worked for DTE Energy for ten years where she supervised their air quality program including personnel working on construction air permits, ROPs, NSR litigation and CEMS. She was the MDEQ SE Michigan Air Quality District Supervisor and participated in the Wayne County Assumption Program. Lillian spent eight years as the Air Quality Manager for ANR Pipeline Company where she supervised work in 15 states and where her group monitored compliance on over 60 compressor stations. She is a licensed professional engineer in Michigan.

**JENIFER DIXON** is a graduate of the Lyman Briggs College at Michigan State University, where she studied Environmental Science and played trumpet in the great Michigan State Marching Band. Go Green! After a short career in environmental consulting for an international firm, she began her civil service career as an air inspector. Since 2015, Jenifer has been working as the Air Quality Liaison in EGLE's Environmental Support Division working as the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program as well as working on communication and training needs for the Air Quality Division.

**BRIAN LEAHY**, Senior Meteorologist with Barr Engineering in Grand Rapids, has over 30 years of experience as an environmental consultant providing air quality permitting, modeling, and regulatory compliance support to Michigan-based clients in the manufacturing, power, refining, and mining sectors. He has conducted hundreds of air dispersion modeling studies across a broad range of regulatory areas, including PSD and minor source permit applications, state air toxic policies, enforcement and litigation, odor response, and accidental releases under Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act. He is an active participant in air quality issues in Michigan, having served on numerous committees, including the Michigan Manufacturing Association committee that negotiated improvements to the AQD's Dispersion Modeling Guidance for Federally Regulated Pollutants.

**CHRIS OCCHIPINTI** is a Project Professional for NTH Consultants, Ltd. He has over 15 years of experience in air quality consulting. He is active in professional organizations including West Michigan AWMA, Michigan Manufacturers Association, West Michigan Clean Air Coalition, and Michigan Waste and Recycling Association. After obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Physics from Michigan Technological University, he headed south to thaw out and obtain a Master of Science in Atmospheric Science from North Carolina State University in 2006. In 2011 he took the opportunity to join NTH and move back to West Michigan.

**STEPHANIE HENGESBACH** is a Meteorologist for the State of Michigan and has been in this position for 19 years. She obtained her Meteorology degree from Central Michigan University. Stephanie serves as one of the air quality meteorologists forecasting ozone and fine particulate levels across the state, issuing Air Quality Action Days when warranted. In this position, she also serves as one of the air dispersion modelers for facilities seeking an air permit with the Air Quality Division.

**JIM HAYWOOD** received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Meteorology in 1979 from Penn State. He was in air quality monitoring and air dispersion modeling at Dames & Moore in Chicago and Madison, Wisconsin for 12 years. For eight years he participated in technical modeling and permitting, marketing, and was an air group manager for Earth Tech in Grand Rapids. Since 1999, Jim has worked in the Air Quality Division at the Michigan Department of Energy, Great Lakes, and Environment (EGLE). His duties include NSR modeling for permit support, modeling for SO2 SIP development and air quality forecasting.

**KURT BRAUER** is a partner with Warner Norcross + Judd. His expertise encompasses all manner of environmental issues, including regulatory compliance, site investigation, cleanup and closure, solid and hazardous waste, due diligence, permitting, wetland and critical habitat protection and mitigation and adaptive reuse. Kurt received his BA from Oakland University and his JD from Wayne State University Law School.

**CARRIE RIVETTE** is a Professional Engineer with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering from Michigan Technological University. She has over 25 years of experience in the environmental and water resources fields. She has been with the City of Grand Rapids for over 10 years and ensures compliance with their MS4 program and the City's green infrastructure policies. In addition, due to her previous over 15 years of experience in soil and groundwater contamination, she oversees and advises on these investigations on select City properties.

**PHILIP TANNIAN** is the Director of Operations Support at US Ecology, Inc./Republic Services, Inc. He was previously the Environmental Director at US Ecology. Over the course of his career, Phil has provided environmental counsel to businesses looking to achieve and maintain compliance. He received his bachelor's degree from Aquinas College and his JD from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School.

**EMILY FREEMAN** has a master's degree in Geology from UW-Madison. She has worked for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Materials Management Division since 2008 and is a member of the West Michigan AWMA chapter board since 2014.

**ANNMARIE SANFORD** is a Member at Dickinson Wright in Troy. She is primarily engaged in environmental remediation, regulatory issues, and counseling clients regarding compliance with federal and state chemical regulations. Since 1990, Ms. Sanford has represented clients at Superfund sites throughout the US, Michigan Part 201 sites, and sites under other state cleanup programs. She has defended companies in cost recovery actions brought by federal and state governments and has advised clients on appropriate responses to unilateral cleanup orders issued by EPA. Ms. Sanford has negotiated numerous agreements with other potentially responsible parties, EPA and state agencies. Throughout her career, she has integrated her scientific technical knowledge for positive client outcomes, to challenge investigation methods, and to address unique issues posed by emerging contaminants such as PFAS. Ms. Sanford is active in the community and has served on boards at EcoWorks and Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision. She has been a LEED accredited professional since 2009. Before attending law school, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering. Ms. Sanford can be reached at [ASanford@dickinsonwright.com](mailto:ASanford@dickinsonwright.com).

**TOM KLOTZ** is an Environmental Engineer with 23 years of experience managing sustainability initiatives and environmental compliance services across a spectrum of industries and organizations. Tom routinely manages programs with multi-faceted sustainability objectives for some of the world's largest organizations including Fortune 100-level corporations. Tom also leads GZA's Sustainability Service area which specializes in the management of Greenhouse Gas emissions and other environmental sustainability aspects, including assessments, disclosure, policy evaluation, strategy development, and risk/reduction opportunities.

**JACOB HUPART** has a multifaceted litigation practice that encompasses complex commercial litigation, securities litigation, including class action claims, as well as white collar criminal defense and regulatory investigations. He has extensive experience handling all phases of litigation before federal and state courts, managing discovery, and conducting settlement negotiations. Jacob has represented clients in a variety of industries, including financial services, energy, healthcare, education, and the media. His complex commercial litigation practice encompasses contract disputes, merger-related litigation, and business tort claims. Jacob also has extensive experience representing corporations, directors & officers of boards, c-suite executives, and other relevant individuals in shareholder derivative actions, securities class actions, and SEC enforcement proceedings. Much of Jacob's representation begins, and finishes, before litigation through risk assessment and mitigation counseling. He has expertise advising companies in a multitude of industries on their ESG disclosures and policies and managing the related risk exposure. Jacob is a prolific thought leader who frequently writes and publishes articles on the legal and regulatory issues impacting ESG disclosures, climate change, and pending environmental litigations.

**DWAYNE KUBACKI** is a Senior Facility Engineer at Detroit Diesel, part of Daimler Trucks North America. He is a Certified Energy Manager and serves as both the Master Electrician and manager of the powerhouse (which include 3 large natural gas boilers) for the campus. Along with his electrician's license, Dwayne holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology from Lawrence Tech, which he gained while worked for Detroit Diesel during his 35-year career. Dwayne is a dedicated member of Detroit Diesel's energy team helping reduce site energy consumption and achieve its CO2 reduction goals.

**DARWIN (DAR) BAAS** is the Director of Public Works in Kent County. Dar's focus is the emerging circular economy - providing leadership and visioning to deliver waste diversion, energy recovery and sustainable material management strategies. Dar has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Davenport University and master's degree in public administration from Grand Valley State University and brings 30 years of environmental management experience in the public and private sector. Dar's work is centered in West Michigan, and he is involved in energy and waste policy at the local, state and national level and currently serves as a member of the board of directors for the Energy Recovery Council and Energy Michigan.