

Join Jacobs at
WEFTEC 2026

September 26 – 30 | New Orleans, Louisiana

Conference program



Jacobs

Challenging today.
Reinventing tomorrow.

Saturday, September 26, 2026

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Room 351

Food and Beverage Industrial Pretreatment for Water Resource Recovery Facilities

- Workshop Facilitator & Presenter:
[Kathryn Crestani](#)

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Room 357

Learning by Playing: A Hands-On Exploration of Water Resource Recovery Facilities Simulators

- Workshop Vice Chair: [Katie McKendrick](#)
- Workshop Facilitator: [Heather Stewart](#)

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Room 245

Safe Operation of Biogas Facilities and Anerobic Digestion Design Considerations

- Workshop Facilitator: [David Parry](#)



Sunday, September 27, 2026

7:55 AM - 3:35 PM

Offsite

Activated Sludge and Biological Nutrient Removal Process Control: Hands-on in the Real World

- Workshop Facilitator: [Cameron Clark](#)
- Workshop Facilitator: [Stephanie Cope](#)

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Offsite

Understanding and Applying Disinfection Fundamentals

- Workshop Facilitator: [Matthew Noesen](#)

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Room 349

Build an Artificial Intelligence Algorithm for Wastewater Treatment

- Workshop Facilitator: [Heather Stewart](#)
- Workshop Facilitator: [Cheng Yang](#)
- Workshop Facilitator: [Jaydev Zaveri](#)

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Room 256

Thickening and Dewatering Optimization: Getting Water Out of Sludge

- Workshop Chair: [Edward Fritz](#)
- Workshop Facilitator: [Zwelani Ngwenya](#)

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Room 346

Biological Nutrient Removal Design: From Principle to Practice

- Workshop Vice Chair and Facilitator: [Jayesh Charthal](#)
- Workshop Facilitator: [Colin Fitzgerald](#)

Monday, September 28, 2026

11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

Hall H, Booth 7249

A Guided Tour of PFAS Liquid Treatment Technologies

- Moderator: [Jayesh Charthal](#)
- Moderator: [Scott Greico](#)
- Moderator: [Jenny Reina](#)

1:30 PM - 1:45 PM

Room 343

Failure Risk Mitigation through Data Analysis

*New Castle County Evaluation of Risk: Rethinking
COF x LOF for Better Rehabilitation Decisions*

- Speaker: [Courtney Kennedy](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 238

Advancing Biosolids Planning Through Optimization and Collaboration

- Lead Facilitator: [Adrian Romero](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 342

LGBTQIA+

- Lead Facilitator: [Amber Lefers](#)

Monday, September 28, 2026

2:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Room 344

Odor Control: Testing, Optimization, Trust

*A Holistic Approach to Improving
WRRF Headworks Odor Control*

- Speaker: [Bart Kraakman](#)

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Hall H, Booth 7249

Three Decades of Experience with Ammonia-Based Aeration Control - Teaser

*Three Decades of Experience
with Ammonia-Based Aeration Control*

- Speaker: [Leiv Rieger](#)

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM

Room 356

A Potpourri of Biofilm Technologies

*Commissioning and Operation of IFAS-BNR
Under Low C/N Conditions*

- Speaker: [Mahdi Bazri](#)

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Room 351

Regulatory Framework for Water Quality Issues

*From Regulation to Results:
15 Years of Watershed Phosphorus Management*

- Speaker: [Natalie Lenz](#)

Monday, September 28, 2026

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Room 240

Transformative Strategies for Urban Flood Resilience

*Practical Urban Flood Mitigation
- A Case Study in the Northeast*

- Speaker: [Daniel Baldwin](#)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Room 335

Decarbonizing Water: Facility Optimization and N2O

- Assistant Moderator: [Amanda Lake](#)

4:30 PM - 4:45 PM
Room 244

End-use Biosolids Management and Pathways

Evaluation of Biosolids Deep Well Injection

- Speaker: [Ruth Roxburgh](#)



Tuesday, September 29, 2026

8:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Room 344

Integrating Climate Change Resilience into Stormwater and Nutrient Management Strategies

Collaborate, Restore, and More Rain: What Multi-Event Field Data Says About Modern Urban Flood Mitigation

- Speaker: [Elise Ibendahl](#)

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Room 235

Particle Size Effects in Intensified BNR Systems

- Assistant Moderator: [Colin Fitzgerald](#)

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Room 349

Retrofitting for Nutrient Removal and Reuse: Case Studies from Three Rural Communities

- Assistant Facilitator: [Jayesh Charthal](#)

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Hall D, Booth 2659

Pin the 3Rs: Morning Challenge Enjoy Coffee & Beignets While you Play

- Speaker: [Kristi Steiner](#)

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

9:10 AM - 9:20 AM

Room 351

Digital Water Solutions for Optimizing Sewer System Operations

Operator-Trusted Forecasts for CSO Real-Time Control Using Physics-Informed Machine Learning

- Speaker: [Jennifer Baldwin](#)
- Speaker: [Diego Calderon](#)
- Speaker: [Suibing Liu](#)

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Room 240

Decarbonizing Water: Best Practice Measurement N2O

Developing Utility Guidance for Monitoring Nitrous Oxide at WRRFs

- Assistant Moderator: [Amanda Lake](#)

1:30 PM - 1:45 PM

Room 253

Ammonia-Based Aeration Control in Practice - Lessons Learned

Three Decades of Experience with Ammonia-Based Aeration Control

- Speaker: [Leiv Rieger](#)

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Room 338

From Insight to Impact: Strengthening Utility Systems

Evaluating the Performance of over 110 Distributed Source Control Projects: Challenges, Methods, and Results

- Speaker: [Andrew Potts](#)

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

1:30 PM - 1:45 PM

Room 354

Successful hybrid digital twin adoption in full-scale facilities

Eleven Full-Scale Implementations in Five Years: Lessons from Hybrid Digital Twin Applications for Operations and Design

- Speaker: [Bruce Johnson](#)
- Speaker: [Cheng Yang](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 240

Alternative Chemical Disinfection Technologies for Wastewater Treatment

- Assistant Moderator: [Joyce Chang](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 343

Beyond Engagement - Taking Action on Community Input

- Assistant Facilitator: [Marci Davis](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 338

From Insight to Impact: Strengthening Utility Systems

- Assistant Moderator: [Madison Polinski](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 351

Watershed Modeling from Simple to AI

- Assistant Moderator: [Vishal Vaidyanathan](#)

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

Hall G, Booth 6310

Meeting Water Demands through Collaboration: Planning for Growth in the AI Era

- Speaker: [Joseph Danyluk](#)

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Hall I1, Booth 8239

Ops Challenge Process Control Event Changes & Preview for 2027

- Speaker: [Christen Wood](#)

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM

Room 346

Scaling Smart: Sidestream P Management for Struvite Control

*Dosing Optimization of Magnesium Hydroxide
for Side-stream Phosphorus Control at the
Bozeman WRF*

- Speaker: [Colin Fitzgerald](#)
- Speaker: [Derek Lycke](#)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Room 335

Advancing Phosphorus Removal: What We Still Have to Learn

- Lead Facilitator: [Jayesh Charthal](#)
- Assistant Facilitator: [Colin Fitzgerald](#)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Room 243

Aerobic Granular Sludge: Design, Integration, and Water Quality

- Assistant Moderator: [Katie McKendrick](#)

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Room 244

Membrane Treatment Applications - Past, Present, and Future

- Assistant Moderator: [Tri Le](#)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Room 352

Public Communications & Outreach

- Lead Facilitator: [Marci Davis](#)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Room 351

Resource Recovery: Methane Was Just the Beginning

- Assistant Facilitator: [Joyce Chang](#)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Room 338

Smarter Ways to Evaluate Peak Flow Management

- Assistant Moderator: [Madison Polinski](#)

4:30 PM - 4:45 PM

Room 343

From Data to Decisions: Modern Digital Tools for Smarter Sewer System Management

*Defining Intelligent Automation (IA) for Reliable
Real-Time Optimization of Sewer Systems*

- Speaker: [Diego Calderon](#)

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Room 351

Advanced Primary Treatment Pathways: High-rate Filtration and Sludge Process Integration

- Assistant Moderator: [Jayesh Charthal](#)
- Moderator: [Arifur Rahman](#)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Room 240

Microplastic Removal and Insights From New Techniques

- Assistant Moderator: [Jenny Reina](#)

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Room 253

PFAS in Biosolids: Fate, Transport, and Land Application

- Lead Facilitator: [Claire Fletcher](#)

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Hall D, Booth 2659

Pin the 3Rs: Morning Challenge Enjoy Coffee & Beignets While you Play

- Speaker: [Kristi Steiner](#)

9:30 AM - 9:45 AM
Room 256

Circular Water Economy Case Studies *Building Better - Embodied Carbon Emissions and How Utilities are Reducing Them*

- Speaker: [Amanda Lake](#)

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Room 346

Decarbonizing Water: Fugitive Methane

*Quantifying Fugitive GHG Emissions
At Metro Vancouver's Lulu Island WWTP*

- Speaker: [Emma Shen](#)

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Room 351

Supercharging Next Gen BNR: Intensification through Smarter Strategic Approaches

*Advancing Sludge Densification through
Sidestream Enhanced Biological Phosphorus
Removal: A Case Study at Ashbridges Bay*

- Speaker: [Rasha Faraj](#)

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Room 354

Integrated Planning: Pathway to Success

- Assistant Facilitator: [Debora Piemonti](#)

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Room 344

Trust is Trending: Harnessing Creativity to Gain Community Support

- Lead Facilitator: [Marci Davis](#)

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Room 256

Challenges and Solutions for Wet-Weather Treatment

*Commissioning of an HRC for Wet Weather
Treatment in the Frigid North*

- Speaker: [Mahdi Bazri](#)

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 346

Charting the Future of MABR Technology

- Moderator: [Tim Constantine](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 253

Fighting PFAS With Fire: Advanced Thermal Conversion for Biosolids Management

- Assistant Facilitator: [Julia Ann Funk](#)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Room 243

Where PFAS Ends Up - RO Concentrate Management for Advanced Water Purification Systems

- Moderator: [Ryujiro Tsuchihashi](#)

2:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Room 356

Digital Twins for Operational Support

*Looking Under the Hood: Live Digital Twin
Supports Operational Decisions for Stable
Biological Phosphorus Removal*

- Speaker: [Heather Stewart](#)

2:10 PM - 2:20 PM

Room 344

From Framework to Field: Climate - Informed Decision Making Across the Water Sector

*Turning the Tide:
Alexandria's Path to Urban Flood Resilience*

- Speaker: [Susan Beck](#)
- Speaker: [Cheri Salas](#)

Join the conversation

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