



California Water Environment Association

Protecting our water environment through education and certification.

CWEA 2017 Annual Conference - Call for Proposals Form

Thank you for expressing an interest in presenting an educational session at the 2017 CWEA Annual Conference which will be held in Palm Springs, California from Tuesday, April 25 - Friday, April 28, 2017. The 2017 CWEA Annual Conference Education Program Team looks forward to working with you to design and develop meaningful sessions where participants can engage, connect and learn.

Over 1,000 professionals in the water and wastewater profession attend this highly regarded annual conference and individual sessions generally attract 40-100 people. As a speaker, you will be able to share ideas to help our industry succeed and establish yourself as a thought leader in the water industry.

There is no limit to the number of sessions proposals that may be submitted by an individual, company, organization or institution. Please submit separate session proposal applications for each proposed session. Please do consider partnering with others to submit one or more proposals - a collaborative approach to developing sessions is encouraged.

Since session proposals are collected using this electronic survey system, we suggest that you first collect your thoughts by reviewing this [PDF of the proposal form](#). [Sample proposals](#) are available to help get you started. Check out additional conference information and process details at [Proposal Requirements](#).

All proposals must be received by midnight PST on Friday, October 14, 2016.

For questions, please contact Monica Myhill, CWEA Director of Education, by phone: 510.382.7800 x 103 or email: mmyhill@cwea.org.

Once you have your ideas together, simply click on the "Continue" button below to begin.

* 1. PRIMARY CONTACT AND PRESENTER FOR THIS PROPOSAL: *You will have the opportunity later in the proposal application process to list co-presenters or proposal collaborators.*

First Name

Last Name

Company, Organization or Agency

Title

Department or Division

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Office Phone

Mobile Phone

Preferred Email

* 2. CWEA MEMBERSHIP: Are you a current member of CWEA?

CWEA membership is not required but highly encouraged. For more info on membership, [click here](#).

Yes

No

Unsure

* 3. PRIMARY CONTACT'S BIOGRAPHY: Please provide a 100 word or less biography of the primary session contact.

Keep biographies simple and brief yet list pertinent experience, employer, position/role, specialty, education, etc. Biographies should be written in complete sentences, will be shared on the conference website and will be used to introduce speakers before the session.

4. PAST PRESENTATION EXPERIENCE: Please provide information on your past speaking experiences. Be sure to include info on your presentation topic, when you presented, where you presented, the audience and evaluation results of your session (if known).

* 5. STUDENT: Are you a student?

- Yes - Undergraduate Student
- Yes - Graduate Student
- No

* 6. SCHOOL ATTENDING: Please list the school that you are attending.

School Name	<input type="text"/>
City	<input type="text"/>
State	<input type="text"/>
Zip Code	<input type="text"/>

* 7. PROPOSAL COLLABORATORS: Was anyone else involved in developing this proposal?

A proposal collaborator may or may not be involved in presenting this session onsite at the conference. Another question on this form will ask for session co-presenters.

- Yes
- No

* 8. PROPOSAL COLLABORATORS: Please list others that were involved in developing this proposal.

Collaborator 1: First Name

Collaborator 1: Last Name

Collaborator 1: Title

Collaborator 1: Company, Organization or Agency

Collaborator 1: Email

Collaborator 2: First Name

Collaborator 2: Last Name

Collaborator 2: Title

Collaborator 2: Company, Organization or Agency

Collaborator 2: Email

Collaborator 3: First Name

Collaborator 3: Last Name

Collaborator 3: Title

Collaborator 3: Company, Organization or Agency

Collaborator 3: Email

* 9. PROPOSAL CO-PRESENTERS: Will you have any co-presenters that will help you to deliver this session on-site at the conference?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure at this time

* 10. PROPOSAL CO-PRESENTERS: Please list the co-presenters that will help you deliver this session on-site at the conference.

Keep biographies simple and brief yet list pertinent experience, employer, position/role, specialty, education, etc. Biographies should be written in complete sentences, will be shared on the conference website and will be used to introduce speakers before the session.

Co-Presenter 1: First Name

Co-Presenter 1: Last Name

Co-Presenter 1: Title

Co-Presenter 1: Company, Organization or Agency

Co-Presenter 1: Email

Co-Presenter 1: Biography of 100 words or less

Co-Presenter 2: First Name

Co-Presenter 2: Last Name

Co-Presenter2: Title

Co-Presenter 2: Company, Organization or Agency

Co-Presenter 2: Email

Co-Presenter 2: Biography of 100 words or less

Co-Presenter 3: First Name

Co-Presenter 3: Last Name

Co-Presenter 3: Title

Co-Presenter 3: Company, Organization or Agency

Co-Presenter 3: Email

Co-Presenter 3: Biography of 100 words or less

* 11. TITLE OF EDUCATION SESSION: What is the title of your session in 10 words or less?

Your title should capture the topic that will be covered. CWEA reserves the right to modify the session title to fit our marketing style and format guidelines for the purpose of the brochure, website and onsite guide.

To view sample session titles, click [here](#).

* 12. PARTICIPANT CHALLENGES: We surveyed our members to uncover the challenges they face and here are some of their top areas of interest. Which challenge area best fits your session? Please check only one.

- Safety First** (confined space; commercial trucks; fall protection; trenching & shoring; dig alert; personal protective equipment in era of antibiotic resistance; collection systems; operations and maintenance; laboratory; pretreatment)
- One Water: The Future of Resource Recovery** (water reuse; stormwater reuse; advanced water treatment operations, maintenance, optimization and new technologies; new biosolids and co-digestion technologies; what do One Water and Utility of the Future concepts look like once implemented by an agency; challenges on the horizon - contaminants of emerging concern; direct potable reuse; what does the drought mean for One Water ideas)
- Operations and Maintenance of the Future** (next-gen plant operations and/or maintenance; new processes; small wastewater treatment plant operations; dealing with high strength sewage; stringent discharge requirements; nutrient removal experiences; operations or technology innovation and alternatives; digesters of the future; building great cross-discipline teams)
- No Drought in Regulations: Surviving & Thriving as Regulations Increase** (how to handle on-site inspections; how to fill out complicated State paperwork/databases; how will regulations coming down the pipeline impact the workforce; looking into the future on how to handle pressure of regulation overload. Specific regulations of interest: Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program; sanitary sewer system waste discharge requirements; indirect potable reuse/direct potable reuse; Industrial stormwater/dental amalgam; nutrient removal; third party sanitary sewer overflow lawsuits)
- Too Little Then Too Much: Building in Resiliency as California's Climate Goes Crazy** (preparing water professionals, systems and cities for drought; maintaining green infrastructure; green infrastructure and stormwater reuse for local water supplies; stormwater diversion impacts on ops and regulations; impacts of stormwater responsibilities on collection systems, compliance inspectors and wastewater agencies; how to deal with drought impacts on rates, maintenance and operations)
- We've Got the Data: Helping Members at All Levels Unlock the Power of Asset Management** (asset management for field crews, engineers, middle managers and executives; how asset management and data can help you; how to make data valuable; converting data to meaningful dashboards/metrics people will use; data management technologies; software solutions – supervisory control and data acquisition {SCADA}, computerized maintenance management software {CMMS}, geographic information systems {GIS}, mobile tech; understanding what data means at all levels of the organization; basic foundational knowledge of asset management)
- Built and Maintained to Last: Pipelines and Pump Stations** (sanitary sewer overflow reduction, cleaning, safety, roots, operation optimization; monitoring, prioritizing and rehabbing pipelines, private laterals, trunk lines and force mains; new pump station best practices; benchmarking and optimizing staffing; new technology on pumps, trenchless and combo units with recycled water)
- Operations of Today** (functional, hands-on sessions covering skills and tasks needed to perform on the job such as pump rebuilds; pump packing; submersible pump maintenance; sludge pump maintenance; handling and installing bearings; centrifuge optimization and maintenance; variable frequency drive optimization; polymer optimization; UV optimization and maintenance; etc)
- Workforce** (future of workforce training; workforce trends and analysis; how to get projects done with shortage of workers and engineers; need to raise the profile and prestige of our profession; replacing workforce and retaining knowledge; succession planning; converting Nintendo generation into pick-shovel workers; need apprentice programs; and how to find more qualified candidates)
- Other Challenge Area - please specify:

* 13. WATER INDUSTRY PRACTICE AREA(S): Which practice areas or fields does your proposal most relate to? Please check all that apply.

- Biosolids
- Collection Systems
- Communication and Outreach
- Electrical Instrumentation and Mechanical Technology
- Engineering and Research
- Laboratory
- Leadership
- Operation and Maintenance
- Pretreatment, Pollution Prevention, and Stormwater (P3S)
- Safety
- Water reuse
- Other Practice Area - please specify:

* 14. SESSION SYNOPSIS: Please provide a 150 word or less summary of your proposed session that describes the session, includes general background info and explains why the session should be selected for the 2017 conference.

This synopsis will be used to review and select proposals, but will not be shared in annual conference marketing materials or with conference participants.

* 15. SESSION MARKETING DESCRIPTION: In 50 words or less, provide a summary description that will be included in the conference brochure. In this description, build on your session title, focus on “what is in it” for the participants, and be as persuasive and concise as possible.

CWEA reserves the right to modify the marketing description to fit our marketing style and format guidelines for the purpose of the brochure, website and onsite guide.

To view sample marketing descriptions, click [here](#).

* 16. PARTICIPANT/LEARNER OUTCOMES: List 3 participant/learner outcomes for your session by completing the phrase “after participating in this session, participants will be able to:”

A learner outcome starts with an action verb and captures the knowledge, skills and/or abilities participants will be able to perform following the session back in the workplace. Strong learner outcomes are observable, measurable (you can evaluate them immediately upon leaving the session) and can be actively done by the participant.

Please avoid beginning a learner outcome with understand, learn or know or stating what you will do as the presenter in this session (e.g., “My plan this morning is to talk about...”).

To view sample learner outcomes, click [here](#).

Learner Outcome 1: After participating in this session, participants will be able to:

Learner Outcome 2: After participating in this session, participants will be able to:

Learner Outcome 3: After participating in this session, participants will be able to:

* 17. LEVEL OF SESSION CONTENT: Please check the participants’ career or experience level that your session is geared towards. Please select one answer only.

- Introduction to; limited knowledge of subject matter/entry level staff
- Intermediate; working knowledge of subject matter/journeyman level staff
- Advanced; extensive knowledge of subject matter/senior level staff

* 18. SESSION TYPE: In which category of session type, does your proposal best fit or would you be interested in pursuing with speaker training and coaching? Please check all that apply.

For further descriptions of session types, [click here](#).

Conference presenters will be provided speaker training and coaching opportunities between January and March 2017. Session facilitators will be determined in February and March 2017.

Workshop: is highly interactive/engaging and covers topics and skills that are critical to the success of participants. A Workshop provides substantive training and opportunities for practice and critical discussion so that participants can immediately apply the learnings back in the workplace.

Focused Session: allows participants to dig into a problem and uncover details and solutions through some interaction/engagement. Facilitators will be present in Focused Sessions and Focused Sessions tend to feature multiple speakers.

Technical Session: covers one topic in depth, rather than giving an overview of many topics. Technical Sessions feature case studies, lessons learned and overviews of technologies and design strategies. Participants are given time to ask questions and discuss the content with the presenter and peers. Facilitators will be present in technical sessions to help guide and encourage questions and discussions.

Other Session Type - please specify:

* 19. PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES: How will you engage the participants during your presentation? What learning techniques will you utilize? Please mark all that apply or you would be willing to consider.

If you are unsure of how to incorporate one or more of these learning techniques into your session, never fear! Conference presenters will be provided speaker training and coaching opportunities between January and March 2017.

- Case study
- Electronic polling or body voting
- Group brainstorming
- Lecturette (10-15 speaker content minutes, then audience activity such as questions and answers or small group discussion, then 10-15 speaker and then activity again)
- Problem solving scenarios
- Questions and answers at the end of session
- Role playing or exercise simulation
- Small group discussions (done by table group, triad group, or pair)
- Other Engagement Strategy - please specify:

* 20. SESSION LENGTH: What is the ideal length of your session?

- 50-Minutes
- Half-Day (3 hours total)
- Full-Day (6 hours total)
- Other Session Length (please specify)

* 21. PREVIOUS DELIVERY/PRESENTATION OF THIS SESSION: Will this session or a similar session be given before the CWEA 2017 Annual Conference?

- No
- Yes

If yes, when will this session be given?

* 22. ALTERNATIVE AVENUES FOR YOUR PROPOSAL: CWEA is fortunate to receive numerous session proposals each year from wonderful presenters such as yourself. Unfortunately, we will not have enough session or room spots for everyone submitting to be selected. Would you be interested and willing to pursue any of the following alternative opportunities or avenues for the content of your session? Please check all that apply.

- Article in CWEA's E-Bulletin** published monthly - this monthly electronic E-Bulletin is filled with news and information about CWEA and its members. It is emailed to all members and is available 365 days a year from any internet connection.
- Article in CWEA's The Wastewater Professional** – this magazine prints quarterly and is a noted resource for a variety of articles relevant to the wastewater treatment industry, including technical articles to keep you in-the-know about current research.
- Session at CWEA Local Section** meeting near you
- Session at another CWEA Education Program/Conference** in the future
- Not interested in alternative option if my proposal is not selected

* 23. SPEAKER AGREEMENT: By typing in my initials, I acknowledge that should my presentation be selected for the 2017 CWEA Annual Conference, I will sign and return my speaker contract, adhere to deadlines, participate in speaker training opportunities, pay a discounted speaker registration fee and ask that my co-presenters do the same.

24. COMMENTS: Do you have any comments or feedback on the Call for Proposals information, form or process? Was anything confusing or unclear?

Thank you for your interest in participating in the 2017 CWEA Annual Conference which will be held in Palm Springs, California from April 25-28, 2017.

Once you have completed your electronic proposal submission, click on the "SUBMIT" button below.