



AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
SINCE 1907

### Don't forget to renew your membership

Renewal can be completed online at the [AWMA Website](#) or using the hardcopy form provided on the website.

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# THE RELEASE

Vol. 50 No. 1 January 2023

Peter Grasso — Editor

## Message from the Chair

Christa Bucior

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Holiday season and had a chance to rest and spend time with family. This Holiday Season will hold a few stories of how we all survived the "Snow Hurricane" and spent several hours shoveling and plowing snow on Christmas Day.

As we get started with the New Year, the Board has a lot of great events planned so please stay tuned for meeting announcements. The first major event will be our Annual Seminar on January 26<sup>th</sup> at Templeton Landing. The Seminar Committee has a great line up prepared, so please consider joining us on January 26<sup>th</sup> for this event.

It is that time of year where the Board begins to plan for next year and who will be part of the Board. A few of our Officer spots and 3 Director spots are open for election. If you are interested in being a part of the Board and help plan next year's program, please let any of the current Board members know. We can provide additional information for what the roles and responsibilities are and what the time commitment is for each open spot. We would love to have you on the Board.

If you have any suggestions for meeting topics or tours, please let the Board know. We are always looking for new and innovative ideas to keep our members engaged and to encourage new members to join. Additionally, we are always looking for ways to engage Young Professionals and Students. We are eager for ideas to engage these groups.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year & hope that 2023 is a great year for everyone - Christa Bucior

## Monthly Meeting Schedule

### JANUARY 2023 ENRICHMENT SEMINAR

The [A&WMA-NFS](#) annual enrichment seminar will be an in person event at Templeton Landing on **Thursday, January 26, 2023**. Again this year, the seminar will be co-sponsored with the Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists.

See page 10 of this newsletter for more information.

Register [HERE](#).

[Mark Your Calendars](#) for the Upcoming Monthly

Dinner Meetings:

- February 23, 2023 — Application of Wastewater Based Epidemiology to Track COVID-19 and Emerging Disease Outbreaks
- March 23, 2023 — DEC Updates  
Regional Director Julie Barrett-O'Neill
- April 27, 2023 — UB Student Presentations
- May 25, 2023 — Tour of Modern Landfill

Visit the website for updates on the Monthly Meetings.

## People on the Move

## Peter Grasso and Mike Emery

Recent changes in job status (that we are aware of) include:

- ⇒ **Lindsey Haubenreich** has been promoted to partner with the law firm Phillips Lytle LLP. Lindsey focuses her practice on environmental law, land use and zoning, and telecommunications law.
- ⇒ **Michael Keller** joined the DEC's Division of Environmental Remediation as an Engineer Trainee. Michael will be working on BCP and other remedial projects throughout the region.
- ⇒ **Mike Emery** has been promoted as the DEC Region 9 Regional Engineer. Mike will be responsible for overseeing the regional Division of Air Resource program, Spills program, Petroleum and Chemical Bulk Storage program, will serve as the Regional Emergency Response Coordinator (RERC) and will assist with implementation of Climate Act and general regional administration.
- ⇒ **Isabel Kulakowski** has been hired as an Assistant Engineer in the DEC's Division of Environmental Remediation DER's Petroleum Bulk Storage (PBS) and Chemical Bulk Storage (CBS) program. Izzy will be performing PBS, CBS, and Major Oil Storage Facilities (MOSF) compliance inspections throughout Region 9. Additionally, she will be assisting with PBS registrations and MOSF licensing.
- ⇒ **Jesse Schwallie** joined the DEC's Division of Water as an Assistant Engineer. She has a degree in Civil Engineering from SUNY Poly and comes to DEC from the Monroe County Water Authority. Jesse will be overseeing wastewater treatment facilities in the SPDES program
- ⇒ **Matthew Slominski** joined the DEC's Division of Materials Management as an Assistant Engineer. Matthew recently graduated from the University at Buffalo with a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering. With the DEC, Matthew will be responsible for compliance inspections of operations and construction activities, as well as design reviews and permitting, of the major active municipal solid waste landfills in Region 9.

## Envirun

## Mary Padasak

Come one, come all, and bring a friend! The Envirun 5k is back for its 31st year on April 22, 2023. The annual event will again be held on Goat Island at Niagara Falls State Park, using the same two-lap course as last year. Come experience the most scenic 5k in Western New York! The committee has been hard at work organizing and preparing already, so come show your support to a great cause. Proceeds from the Envirun 5K are used to fund and sponsor environmental projects in the Buffalo-Niagara Region and towards the Section's high school and college scholarships.

If running (or walking) isn't your thing, we also need as many volunteers as we can find, for things like registration, course flagging, and set up/tear down. The Committee is also open to anyone willing to lend a hand in the planning. If you would like to become an event sponsor, please reach out and we will send you a sponsorship package! Your generous support of time and capital ensures the ongoing success of this event!

(Cont'd on p. 7)



## Membership

**Kathy Moguel**

Currently we have over 76 members in the Air & Waste Management's Niagara Frontier Section with roughly a 45/55 split between international and local affiliates. To check membership status, please log onto the [AWMA-NFS Website](#).

Corporate memberships are valid for one year from the date of renewal while local memberships expire on August 31st annually. New members and renewal applications can be found on our website. Payment can be made either through the website or via mail. Membership categories and dues are as follows:

Local Affiliate Member	\$36	* Corporate Sponsor includes an International Membership for one person and a local affiliate membership for a second person.
Local Affiliate Member [Full-Time College Student]	\$11	
International Member	\$195	** Web Sponsor includes an International Membership for one person and a local affiliate membership for a second person. In addition, the corporate logo of a website sponsor will be displayed on the home page of the AWMA website.
International Member [Young Professional - 35 or younger]	\$98	
International Member [Full-Time College Student]	\$35	
Corporate Sponsor*	\$325	
Web Sponsor**	\$500	

If you have any questions about becoming a member or renewing your membership please contact Kathy Moguel at [awmanfsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:awmanfsmembership@gmail.com). A list of current membership can be found on the [AWMS-NFS website](#).

## New/Returning Members

**Mark Hans and Kathy Moguel**

We would like to welcome or welcome back the following members to the Niagara Frontier Section of the A&WMA:

**Cody Martin** – C&S Companies

**Julia O'Sullivan** – Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC

**Dan Riker** - C&S Companies

**Gurdas Singh Sandhu** – 3DATAZ Inc.

**Sarah Spencer** - Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC

**Ryan Thomas** – Parsons

We would also like to welcome **C&S Companies** as a new Corporate Sponsor.

If you see them at a future meeting, be sure to welcome them to the group.



**Education, Scholarships & Grants****Lori Riker**

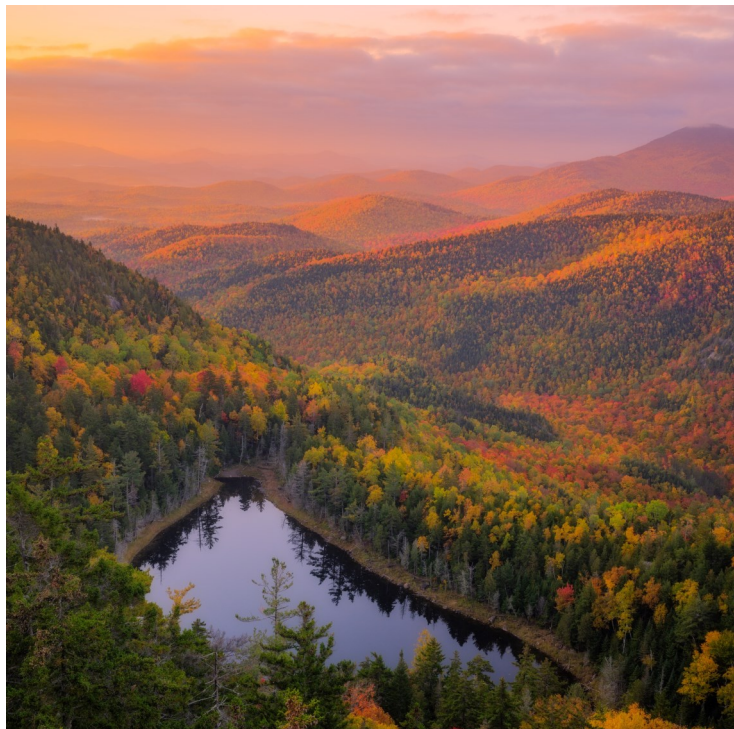
**NYSDEC James G. Strickland Memorial Environmental Education Summer Camp Scholarships:** The Niagara Frontier Section of the Air & Waste Management Association (AWMA) is again sponsoring participation in the NYSDEC Environmental Education Summer Camp (\$350 value). The opportunity provides children ages 11-17 a week-long adventure learning about ecology and the environment while enjoying various outdoor activities like archery, hiking, fishing, swimming, and canoeing. Campers can attend camp at one of four beautiful camps in Allegany County, the southern Catskills, and the Adirondacks. To apply, have your child write a 1-page essay about why they want to attend the NYSDEC Camp. Consult the NFS-AWMA website at <https://awmanfs.wildapricot.org/page-1742978> for additional details on the application requirements. Applications are due Friday, February 10, 2023.



**Earth Day Grants:** AWMA will be awarding one or more Earth Day grants worth up to \$500 each to celebrate Earth Day 2023. Successful Earth Day Grant applicants should clearly describe how their proposed activities will promote environmental awareness in the WNY community. Applications are due by Friday, March 24, 2023.

**High School and College Scholarships:** AWMA will be awarding one or more scholarships to high school seniors and undergraduate college students in amounts ranging from \$500 – \$1,000. Applications are due by Friday, April 7, 2023.

For more information on these opportunities, please visit the Education section of our website by clicking [HERE](#) or contact Education Director Lori Riker at [awmanfs.education@gmail.com](mailto:awmanfs.education@gmail.com).





**Young Professionals****Taylor Monnin**

On October 20th, 2022 the Young Professional's group held an axe throwing event at Buffalo Battleground in Tonawanda, NY. Approximately 15 AWMA-NFS members and guests attended the event to partake in axe throwing and socializing.



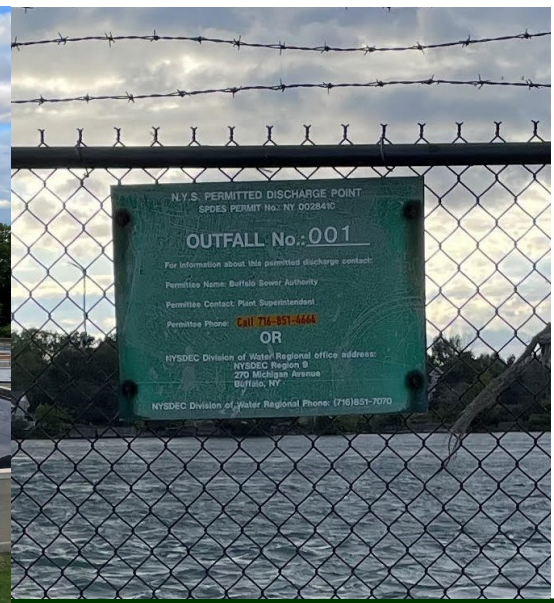


## Buffalo Sewer Authority (BSA) Bird Island Tour

**Peter Grasso**

The September 22<sup>nd</sup> dinner meeting included a tour of the [Buffalo Sewer Authority](#) Bird Island Sewage Treatment plant lead by Alex Emmerson, the Treatment Plant Superintendent. Approximately 30 AWMA-NFS members and guests participated in the walking tour of the plant

In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the historic federal Clean Water Act, in October 2022 Governor Kathy Hochul announced the start of construction on a \$55 million wastewater improvement project at the Bird Island Wastewater Treatment Facility. New York State is investing [\\$55 million to fund the project](#), which is part of the Buffalo Sewer Authority's long-term plan to modernize the Bird Island facility and significantly reduce the amount of pollution that enters the Niagara River.





**Envirun (Continued)****Mary Padasak**

Information and registration links will be posted soon. If you are looking for more information, sponsorship opportunities, or for volunteering on race day or for the committee, please contact Mary Padasak, Envirun Chair, at [awmaenvirun5k@gmail.com](mailto:awmaenvirun5k@gmail.com)

We look forward to another successful year with your support!





BSA Bird Island Sewage Treatment Plant tour



## Corporate Sponsors

**Mark Hans**

We would like to thank our Corporate Sponsors for their continued support of our organization. The money provided through our prorated sponsorship program is used to help fund our various scholarships. A list of our current Corporate Sponsors follows:

- ⇒ **Alpha Analytical** (<https://alphalab.com>) is a full service analytical laboratory with offices located throughout the Northeast. The local office is in Tonawanda. For more information, please contact Pat Filey ([pfiley@alphalab.com](mailto:pfiley@alphalab.com)).
- ⇒ **Benchmark Civil/Environmental Engineering & Geology, PLLC** (<http://www.benchmarkturnkey.com/>) is a licensed professional engineering company that provides comprehensive civil and environmental engineering services. TurnKey Environmental Restoration, LLC is a sister company that provides site investigations, remediation and infrastructure construction, and environmental and site management services. They are located in Lackawanna. For more information, please contact Lori Riker ([lriker@bm-tk.com](mailto:lriker@bm-tk.com)).
- ⇒ **CADEX of Western NY** (<http://cadex.net/>) supplies industrial equipment, focusing on environmental and waste issues. For more information, please contact Will Wilesovich ([will@cadex.com](mailto:will@cadex.com)).
- ⇒ **C&S Companies** (<https://www.cscos.com/>) is national consulting firm which offers a wide range of services. They have a local office in Buffalo. For more information, please contact Dan Riker ([driker@cscos.com](mailto:driker@cscos.com)).

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**Corporate Sponsors (Continued)****Mark Hans**

- ⇒ **Hodgson Russ LLP** (<https://www.hodgsonruss.com/>) is a legal firm with offices along the eastern seaboard. Their local office is in Buffalo. For more information, please contact Michael Hecker ([mhecker@hodgsonruss.com](mailto:mhecker@hodgsonruss.com)).
- ⇒ **The Knoer Group** (<http://knoergroup.com/>) is a local law firm located in Buffalo. For more information, please contact Robert Knoer ([rknoer@knoergroup.com](mailto:rknoer@knoergroup.com)).
- ⇒ **Linde, PLC** (<https://www.linde.com/>) is a leading global industrial gases and engineering company. They have a local office in Tonawanda. For more information, please contact David Copeland ([dave.copeland@linde.com](mailto:dave.copeland@linde.com)).
- ⇒ **Modern Corporation** (<https://www.moderncorporation.com/>) is a local waste and recycling management company. They are located in Model City. For more information, please contact Krysta Cione ([kcione@modern-corp.com](mailto:kcione@modern-corp.com)).
- ⇒ **OXY Chem** (<https://www.oxy.com/>) is a worldwide manufacturing company. They have a local plant in Niagara Falls. For more information, please contact Timothy Bathory ([timothy.bathory@oxy.com](mailto:timothy.bathory@oxy.com)).
- ⇒ **Phillips Lytle LLP** (<https://phillipslytle.com/>) is a legal firm with offices along the eastern seaboard. Their local office is in Buffalo. For more information, please contact Luke Donigan ([ldonigan@phillipslytle.com](mailto:ldonigan@phillipslytle.com)).
- ⇒ **Trinity Consultants** (<https://www.trinityconsultants.com/>) is a worldwide environmental consulting firm. Even though their closest office is in Albany, NY, they have a growing list of clients in WNY. For further information, please contact Brian Noel ([bnoel@trinityconsultants.com](mailto:bnoel@trinityconsultants.com)).
- ⇒ **Watts Architecture & Engineers** (<https://watts-ae.com/>) offers a wide range of architecture and engineering services. They are located in Buffalo. For more information, please contact Kevin Janik ([kjanik@watts-ae.com](mailto:kjanik@watts-ae.com)).
- ⇒ **WSP** (<https://www.wsp.com/en-us>) is a worldwide, multi-sector consulting company. Their local office is in Amherst. For more information, please contact Patrick Martin ([patrick.martin@wsp.com](mailto:patrick.martin@wsp.com)).

**People on the Move (Continued)****Peter Grasso and Mike Emery**

- ⇒ **Peter Rueben** has been promoted to DEC Region 9 Spills and Petroleum/Chemical Bulk Storage program supervisor. Peter will be responsible for oversight of chemical and petroleum spill response, petroleum spill clean-up and above ground/underground storage tank inspection, compliance, and enforcement. He will also be the region's Deputy Regional Emergency Response Coordinator.
- ⇒ **Donna Kiersz** retired from the DEC Region 9 Division of Air Resources in November.
- ⇒ **David Locey** retired from the DEC Region 9 Division of Environmental Remediation in November.

**2023 A&WMA-NFS Seminar****Mark Hans and Sean Donahue**

The 2023 A&WMA-NFS Seminar will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at Templeton Landing, 2 Templeton Place, Buffalo, NY 14202. The seminar is sponsored by the Air & Waste Management Association – Niagara Frontier Section, the Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists and The Erie Institute of Law and will run from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm. Registration is now open on our website. We will have five presentations and we are pursuing five PDH credits for Engineers and Geologists as well as 2 CLE credits for attorneys.

We hope to see you at the seminar. The program schedule follows:



Air & Waste Management Association  
Niagara Frontier Section  
Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists &  
The Erie Institute of Law

2023 Annual Enrichment Seminar  
January 26, 2023

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

TIME/EVENT	
7:30 - 8:15 Registration	Continental Breakfast & Exhibits
8:15 - 8:30 am Welcome	Welcome & Opening Remarks
	<b>PRESENTATION SCHEDULE</b>
8:30- 9:30 am SESSION I *+	EJ, CLIMATE IMPACTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: LESSONS TO A FIRST YEAR CONSULTANT Christopher Whitehead, ESI and Robert E. Knoer, Esq., The Knoer Group, PLLC
9:30 - 10:00 am BREAK	EXHIBITS & COFFEE BREAK Sponsor - Alliance Technical Group 
10:00- 11:00 am SESSION II*	SAVING THE USS SULIVANS - THE NYSDEC'S ROLE Michael Emery, P.E., NYSDEC Region 9 Office
11:00 - 12:00 pm SESSION III*	THE EVOLUTION OF SITING AND PERMITTING UTILITY SCALE RENEWABLE PROJECTS IN NY Mike Morgante, WSP USA Inc. 
12:00- 1:00 pm LUNCH	Lunch Sponsor: WSP USA Inc.
1:00- 1:30 pm KEYNOTE SPEAKER	UPDATE ON INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN WNY Mike J. Finn, P.E., Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation COUNCIL (GBNRTC)
1:45 - 2:45 pm SESSION IV*+	UPDATE ON CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT (CLCPA) SCOPING PLAN Donna DeCarolus, National Fuel Gas Dennis Elsenbeck and Sean Donahue, ESQ, Phillips Lytle
2:45 - 3:30 pm BREAK	EXHIBITS & REFRESHMENT BREAK Sponsor - Alliance Technical Group 
3:30 - 4:30 pm SESSION V*	UNRAVELING COMPLEXITY THROUGH FATE AND TRANSPORT NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS IN A TIDALLY-INFLUENCED, HETEROGENOUS, MULTI-SYSTEM, DENSITY DRIVEN REGIME James Schuetz, Parsons
4:30 - 5:30 pm	SOCIAL HOUR Social Hour Sponsor: HODGSON RUSS LLP 

\* Professional Development Hours (PDHs) will be available for this presentation (5 PDHs available at Seminar)

+ CLE(s) will be available for this presentation. (2 CLEs available at Seminar)

(Cont'd on p.11)



**Seminar (Continued)****Mark Hans and Sean Donahue**

**AWMA - NFS WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR 2023 EXHIBITORS and GENERAL SPONSORS!**

**EXHIBITORS**

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(716) 655-1717 • [EDHQ@EarthDimensions.com](mailto:EDHQ@EarthDimensions.com)

The Niagara Frontier Section of the AWMA, Inc. publishes its newsletter, **THE RELEASE**, quarterly as a service to its members.

If you would like to submit an article for the next issue of **THE RELEASE**, please contact:

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All other organization related correspondence may be directed to:

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**We're on the web at:**

**AWMA-NFS**  
and also on

**facebook**

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Association

Niagara Frontier Section

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