



WSEHA NEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON STATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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Fall 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE AEC CHAIRS

It's hard to believe the 2025 AEC will be here before we know it! It is April 28-April 30 at the beautiful [Squamish Clearwater Resort](#), which is in the ancestral territory of the "People of Clear Salt Water" (Suquamish People). Inspired by this, the 2025 AEC theme is focused on partnerships. All AEC activities will be held on-site, including the Tuesday evening social.

The planning committee is in the early phases of planning, and things are moving right along. This month, we announced [the call for proposals](#), which is open through December 1. We are still looking for a few volunteers to help with the International Health, Social, Moderator, and Awards/Scholarship committees. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Megan at megan@wseha.org. Registration for the conference will be announced soon – please stay tuned! In the meantime, perhaps begin reflecting on who has inspired you by their contributions to the field and consider [nominating them](#) for one of our annual awards. Nominations are due February 28, 2025.

Nominate

Outstanding Sanitarian
Rookie of the Year
EH Professional of the Year



Volunteer

Awards & Scholarship
International Health
Moderators
Social



Present

Session Presenter
Panel Participant
Posters

APRIL 28-30
2025 AEC
SUQUAMISH RESORT

We look forward to connecting with you at this unique and exciting new location for our 71st annual education conference.

- Heather Watts & Anne Moen

REGISTRATION OPENS: ~ JAN. 1, 2025

REGISTRATION COSTS:

~\$375, MEMBER, FULL CONFERENCE

~\$425, NON-MEMBER, FULL CONFERENCE

FULL LIST OF REGISTRATION RATES WILL BE AVAILABLE NO LATER THAN JANUARY

WSEHA Mailing Address & Contact Information

PO Box 721, South Bend, WA 98586
Website: www.wseha.org
Ph: 360.875.8058, F: 360.989.3997
Executive Secretary: Megan McNelly
megan@wseha.org

WSEHA Board of Directors

President - Sammy Berg

360.867.2568
Sammy.berg@doh.wa.gov

President Elect - Jeremy Simmons

360.236.3346
Jeremy.simmons@doh.wa.gov

Immediate Past President – Susan Shelton

360.236.2650
susan.shelton@doh.wa.gov

Secretary - Jennifer Garcelon

360.417.2347
jgarcelon@co.clallam.wa.us

Treasurer - Jesse Smith

360.414.5599 x6442
smithj@co.cowlitz.wa.us

Central Regional Vice President - James Rivard

509.457.7123
jriv461@ecy.wa.gov

Eastern Regional Vice President—Vikki Barthels

509.324.1475
vbarthels@srhd.org

Northwest Regional Vice President - Ethan Schmidt

(360) 370-7521
ethans@sanjuanico.com

Olympic Regional Vice President - Heather Watts-Goodfellow

heather.watts-goodfellow@doh.wa.gov

Southwest Regional Vice President—Katie Lott

klott@tpchd.org

WSEHA Committee Chairs

Nominations and Awards Committee—Emily Hovis

ehovis@uw.edu

Publications Committee—VACANT

International Health Committee – Layken Winchester

Layken.winchester@kitsappublichealth.org

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Like [WSEHA’s Facebook page](#) ! Stay up-to-date with the goings-on in the field of Environmental Public Health.

Another way to keep up with what we’re doing is to join our mailing list. Go to wseha.org to join the mailing list or email Megan McNelly at megan@wseha.org.

Next Newsletter Deadline:

Fall 2024

The Washington State Environmental Health Association Newsletter is the official publication of WSEHA. Membership in WSEHA includes a subscription to the newsletter. Membership in WSEHA is not required for acceptance of articles in the newsletter.

Opinions expressed in articles published in the WSEHA newsletter should not be accepted necessarily as statements of policy or opinions of WSEHA.

NEHA UPDATES

NEHA CEO Dr. David Dyjack and NEHA Regional Vice President Bill Emminger spoke with members of the Alaska Environmental Health Association during their annual conference in Anchorage, on October 11, 2024. The conference covered the profound effects of climate change on health, and the roles of local governmental environmental health professionals in the broader public health discussion. Many unique capacity building presentations were provided during the two-day program including the role and management of bush meat in the health care setting, student mentorship and career development in Alaska.



From left to right: Shannon McClenahan, REHS; EHA President Alica Reitz, David Dyjack, Bill Emminger, and Jennifer Dobson, MPH, REHS, DAAS

Capture Environmental Health in Action: Submit Your Photos!

Help us tell the story of public health by sharing the moments that inspire you. Whether it's a clean-up success story, an environmental health inspection, or a behind-the-scenes shot of your team at work, we want to feature your photos at the 2025 Annual Education Conference.

****What We're Looking For:****

- 🌀 Health initiatives in action (e.g., pollution prevention activities, health fairs)
- 🌀 Environmental health efforts (e.g., inspections, clean-up projects)
- 🌀 Team collaborations and outreach moments
- 🌀 Creative visuals highlighting public health themes (air quality, water safety, etc.)

****How to Submit:****

- 🌀 Make sure the photos are high-quality and relevant to public health.
- 🌀 Email your submission to megan@wseha.org.
- 🌀 Include a brief caption explaining the photo.

****Submission Deadline:****

April 1, 2025

Show off the hard work and dedication that makes a difference in our communities. Your photo will be featured at the AEC—so grab your camera and let's spotlight public health in action!

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ready to participate in the Silent Auction and Raffle and help us beat the record for most money raised? We are too! Donate items, put together a raffle basket, or just spread the word—we'd appreciate any and all help.

Email Layken Winchester, layken.winchester@kitsappublichealth.org, or Megan McNelly, megan@wseha.org for information or to volunteer. We're looking for about 3-4 more people.

WSEHA IS TALKING

WSEHA is talking with our neighbors.

We are aware that environmental health issues, much like roaming food trucks, do not let local or state borders limit their travel. With that in mind, both Idaho and Oregon Environmental Health Associations have expressed interest in looking at how we can work together to support our collective members and share ideas and solutions to address common challenges. Collaborations have included the potential to occasionally host regional annual education conferences. There are lots of details to discuss and we will keep you informed of future developments. If you have any suggestions along these lines, or other suggestions about how we can improve our partnerships, please drop us a line at megan@wseha.org, or use the webform at: [Contact Us | wseha](#)

Before you go.....

.....have you thought about someone to nominate for the EH Professional of the Year, Rookie of the Year, or Outstanding Sanitarian?

.....have you submitted a presentation or poster proposal or emailed a potential topic to megan@wseha.org?

.....have you set a reminder to take some photos in the field to showcase the highs, lows, and laughs of environmental health?

.....will you consider volunteering on a committee? Not all committees have a large time commitment or require attendance at the AEC.