

Calendar of Events

May 21, 2026

TAC Luncheon: Hyperspectral Imaging and Machine Learning for PFAS Source Detection

South Platte Renew

2900 South Platte River Dr.

Englewood, CO 80110

12:00 PM - 01:15 PM MST

Steve Polson, 3037480931

srpolson53@gmail.com

Luncheon Description: Due to evolving regulatory requirements, wastewater utilities face increasing pressure to monitor, characterize, and reduce PFAS discharges. This challenge is compounded by the diversity of potential industrial and consumer sources, as well as the technical complexity and cost associated with PFAS sampling and analysis. To address these challenges, South Platte Renew, University of Oklahoma, and Brown and Caldwell are collaborating to advance PFAS source identification in wastewater systems. The project evaluates the use of hyperspectral sensing applied to influent streams to collect high-frequency spectral data. This data is paired with targeted laboratory analyses of PFAS for validation. Machine learning techniques are then used to develop predictive models that correlate spectral signatures with PFAS presence and, where feasible, source characteristics. The long-term objective is to establish a reference library of spectral "fingerprints" associated with specific source types or discharge profiles. Such a library could enable more efficient and cost-effective source tracking, support prioritization of high-risk dischargers and targeted sampling efforts, and enhance regulatory compliance. It also has the potential to improve decision-making within utility operations and Industrial Pretreatment Programs, with broader applicability to other complex wastewater monitoring and source identification challenges.

Presenter: Anthony Hernandez is an Engineer II at South Platte Renew with a background in chemical engineering and cross-industry experience in process systems and analytical instrumentation. Prior to joining SPR, he supported beverage quality operations for Coca-Cola and Pepsi and worked with analytical systems in energy production facilities, gaining hands-on experience across 12 states in a variety of industrial environments. At South Platte Renew, Anthony supports process engineering and applied research initiatives, including work related to emerging contaminants such as PFAS. His experience with field instrumentation, data collection, and system troubleshooting contributes to ongoing efforts to improve monitoring strategies and better understand complex wastewater characteristics.

May 29, 2026

Grand Junction Professional Water Operators Seminar
Confluence Center
2596 Dos Rios Dr
Grand Junction, CO 81501
07:45 AM - 05:00 PM MST
Ashley Firl, 970-256-4133
ashleyfi@gjcity.org
2026 Grand Junction Professional Water Operators Seminar

Hosted at the NEW Grand Junction Confluence Center!

2026 Agenda includes:

MORE presentations!
MORE networking!
Happy Hour!
TUs - Including Regulatory TUs!
US Fish & Wildlife - Threatened and Endangered Species
CIPP Lining
Capital Projects
Wastewater Gas Safety
Aquatic Nuisance Species
CDPHE Compliance Inspections

***Special offer: Annual RMWEA membership included in PWO Registration cost for all non-members! One time only for this event.*

Coffee and lunch will be provided, along with a Happy Hour!

May 29, 2026

RMSAWWA/RMWEA Annual Student Conference
University of New Mexico, Centennial Engineering Center
210 University Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM

08:00 AM - 07:00 PM MST

Andrew Kowalkowski,

AndrewKowalkowski@kennedyjenks.com

The RMSAWWA/RMWEA Annual Student Conference will be hosted at the University of New Mexico. This premier event brings together students and professionals in the Rocky Mountain region for a full day dedicated to innovation, networking and career development in the water sector.

Students are encouraged to submit an abstract and participate!

The first-place winner of the Fresh Ideas Poster will receive a paid trip to ACE26 in Washington, D.C., to compete nationally. All other poster and oral presentation winners will receive cash prize awards.

Whether you are presenting or attending, this event is a great opportunity to connect with peers and professionals and gain exposure to the latest student work in water and environmental engineering!

Date: Friday, May 29, 2026

Time: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Happy Hour: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM (Immediately following the event ?)

Location: Centennial Engineering Center, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM.

Abstract deadline: Wednesday, April 15 2026

Sponsorship Info: Become a Sponsor

RSVP/Registration: Reserve Your Spot Here

Cost: \$25 Student / \$50 All Others

Sponsor the Event:

All Sponsorships Include:

- Company name and website on the conference site.*

Bronze – \$250

- 2 Individual registrations.*

- Small logo on handout flyer.*

- UNM selects booth location.*

Silver – \$500 (Limit 12)

- 3 Individual registrations.*

- Medium logo on handout flyer.*

- Second priority booth choice.*

Gold – \$1,000 (Limit 6)

- 4 Individual registrations.*

- Large logo on handout flyer.*

- First priority booth choice.*

Platinum – \$2,000 (Limit 1)

- 6 Individual registrations.*

- Full page logo on handout flyer.*

- Top pick for booth location.*

June 8, 2026

27th Annual RMWEA Operations Challenge Golf Tournament

Todd Creek Golf Club

8455 Heritage Drive

Thornton, CO 80602

08:00 AM - 04:30 PM MST

27th Annual RMWEA Ops Challenge Presented by Garney

Sponsorship Levels

The Tournament is sold out for Golfers. Other sponsorship levels are still available.

Please reach out to Alesandra Baker, BakerAF@cdmsmith.com or (cell) 352.222.2583 to get on the wait list.

Check in Opens at 8:00 AM

Shotgun start at 9:00 AM

Banquet 2:30 - 4:30 PM

Come join us for another great golf season with one of the best tournaments of the year, the "Operations Challenge" Golf Tournament. This year marks the 27th Annual event.

The tournament will be held on Monday, June 8, 2026, at Todd Creek Golf Course located in Thornton, Colorado. This Arthur Hills designed golf course provides a truly unique experience. The majestic Rocky Mountain backdrop coupled with undulating fairways and strategic placement of bunkers will provide a true test to every level of golfer.

Proceeds from the tournament benefit the Rocky Mountain Water Environment Association (RMWEA), a non-profit organization comprised of water quality professionals throughout Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico, and the RMWEA Operations Challenge. RMWEA's goal will be to provide support to participate in the National Operations Challenge competition held during the Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Conference & Exposition (WEFTEC).

Registration will open April 6, 2026, for Friends of Operations Challenge Golf only (limit only 1 team per registration). It will open for general registration on April 13, 2026. Please check out our Golf Sponsor Levels as we have added some new and exciting sponsorship levels.

RMWEA participation at the national level would not be possible without the tremendous and continued financial support from local and regional sponsors that include treatment plant vendors, equipment manufacturers, contractors, engineering firms, and other organizations that directly or indirectly support the RMWEA. Sponsors who participate are recognized with a company logo or name displayed at the golf tournament. Additionally, recognition will be made at the awards banquet, on the RMWEA website, and at future Operations Challenge events. Sponsorship may be tax deductible. Please see attached for more tournament and sponsorship information. You can also find additional information and register online at www.rmwea.org. We typically sell out, so register early!

The challenge is on! Please join us on Monday, June 8, 2026, and help support the RMWEA Operations Challenge. If you have participated in the past, you know this is a fun atmosphere with plenty of food and prizes and a great way to network with consultants, contractors, and other organizations.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Colorado EIN Tax No. 98-18406

Federal EIN Tax No. 84-0777358

*Please reach out to Orren West with any questions
at Owest@MetroWaterRecovery.com*

June 18, 2026

Hazen's Fourth Annual Women in Water Celebration

Town Hall Collaborative

525 Santa Fe Dr.

Denver, CO 80204

04:30 PM - 06:30 PM MST

Olivia Meline, 5153369906

omeline@hazenandsawyer.com

Join Hazen and Sawyer for our fourth annual Women in Water event that will include networking, a panel discussion featuring women across the water industry, and a happy hour. Additionally, we will be packing hospitality kits for SafeHouse Denver, an organization that provides safe shelter and advocacy services for survivors of domestic violence and their children. Join us as we come together to support and uplift women in our industry and our community.

This event will take place at Town Hall Collaborative, a local, women-owned space in Denver. Please RSVP by June 11th.

Thank you to the Rocky Mountain Water Environment Association for their sponsorship.

We look forward to celebrating with you at this women-only event! Please register [here](#).

July 8, 2026

IWT/WEF I&C Aeration Workshop

Metro Water Recovery - Northern Treatment Plant (NTP) Visitor's Center

51 Baseline Road

Brighton, CO 80603

08:30 AM - 03:30 PM MST

Anna Scopp, 9132200900

ascopp@hazenandsawyer.com

RMWEA's Innovative Water Technology Committee is collaborating with WEF's local I&C team to organize a "Workshop in a Box" as part of WEF's initiative to bring national conference content to regional audiences in a more accessible format. This workshop is based on WEF's Practical Applications of Instrumentation and Controls for Aeration and Nutrient Removal and will focus on approaches to aeration control, nutrient removal, instrumentation, and process optimization. It will bring together utility staff, regional partners, and subject matter experts for a hands-on learning opportunity and regional knowledge sharing. Schedule as follows:

Intro Session: Aeration Systems & Controls Overview

8:30–9:00 AM – Coffee, Breakfast, & Welcome (breakfast free with registration)

9:00–9:05 AM – Opening Remarks

9:05–9:25 AM – High-Level Overview of Aeration Systems & Controls

9:25–9:35 AM – Break

Session 1: Instrumentation & Analyzers

9:35–9:50 AM – Maintenance

9:50–10:05 AM – Calibration

10:05–10:20 AM – Testing Applications/Trialing Instruments

10:20–10:35 AM – Extractive vs. In-Situ Analyzers

10:35–10:50 AM – Break

Session 2: Poster Sessions

10:50 AM–12:10 PM – Facilitated Poster Discussions

Lunch (lunch free with registration)

12:10–12:45 PM – Free Time / Lunch

Session 3: Controls

12:45–1:10 PM – Tuning P&ID Loops: 101

1:10–1:35 PM – Boulder's Lessons Learned on Low DO/SND Systems

1:35–1:50 PM – Break

Session 4: Operator Simulation

1:50–3:20 PM – Hands-On Interactive Operator Simulation

3:20–3:25 PM – Debrief

3:25–3:30 PM – Closing Remarks

July 9, 2026

- July 10, 2026

RMWEA Summer Planning

Vail, CO

Schedule TBD

Kacie Allard, 303-762-2600

kallard@englewoodco.gov

Summer planning is scheduled for July 9-10th in Vail, CO.

July 12, 2026
- July 16, 2026

39th Annual Leadville Water and Wastewater Operators Conference
Colorado Mountain College Leadville
Climax Building, 901 US-24 Room 219
Leadville, CO 80461

08:00 AM - 05:00 PM MST

Stephanie Segler,
SeglerSR@bv.com

A full curriculum for Water/Distribution and Wastewater/Collection Operators, as well as Collection and Distribution System Operators, is being offered at this year's conference. This conference has been designed to upgrade operational skills, obtain the required Training Units for certification renewal or obtain additional education and aid in helping those studying for certification exams. Early-bird registration for the week is \$475 by June 22nd, after June 22nd registration will be \$525 for the week.

The Water course is limited to the first 35 participants.

The Wastewater Operator, Advanced (A/B certifications) and Intermediate (C/D certifications) will be one track. limited to 35 participants.

In an effort to be more sustainable, the school will be going green with electronic materials. Binders will be offered at an additional cost of \$125 and must be requested by June 12th. After the 12th of June, no binders will be available.

The Colorado Mountain College offers dormitory-style housing and meals served cafeteria style. Single occupancy room and board for 4 nights is \$625 and is limited to a first-come, first-served basis. This will provide lodging from Sunday night through Wednesday night; it also includes meals from Monday breakfast through Thursday dinner. Check-in for the dorm rooms is handled by the college and starts Sunday after 4:00 pm until 9 pm. Registration for the dorms and meals will close June 1st. Room and board does not include registration for the school.

LODGING & MEALS –

The dorm rooms have limited furnishings. There is no TV, radio or alarm clock. There is free internet via High-Speed Wireless. The bed is a single and linens, towels, and toiletries are not provided—please bring your own. There is a common area with a TV lounge and pool table.

Cafeteria meal tickets are available for those staying off campus for \$300 for the week until June 1st.

REGISTRATION FOR THE CONFERENCE WILL BE LIMITED, so please send your application in early!

Registration confirmation will be acknowledged by e-mail.

All attendees are encouraged to Check-In for the conference at the residence hall Sunday afternoon during our "Meet & Greet" session, which will include snacks and beverages; this is an opportunity to get acquainted with your fellow operators and conference coordinators. These beverages and snacks will be provided from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm, no dinner will be served at the cafeteria on Sunday.

If student interest is shown, a "Special Math Help Session" may be held during the week; more information on this will be available during the conference.

Training Unit Certificates will be emailed through CCWP; you MUST provide a working email address and your operator ID when you register.

All 4-Day courses will provide a minimum of 3.0 TU's.

This is the largest Water & Wastewater training specifically for operators in the western Rocky Mountain region. Don't miss this opportunity to meet, interface and network with others in your industry

For further information, please contact Stephanie Segler at SeglerSR@bv.com.

July 13, 2026
- July 14, 2026

RMWEA's 2026 Rocky Mountain Rivalry

Adams County Fair Grounds

9755 Henderson Rd

Brighton, CO 80601

08:00 AM - 04:00 PM MST

Orren West, 303-286-3147

owest@metrowaterrecovery.com

Join us for wastewater's premier skills competition at RMWEA's 2026 Rocky Mountain Rivalry!

When: July 13th and 14th

Where: Adams County Fair Grounds 9755 Henderson Rd Bldg. 1, Brighton, CO 80601

Registration fee: \$100 per team

Register your team now to secure your spot!

August 30, 2026
- September 2, 2026

2026 Rocky Mountain Water Conference
Keystone Conference Center
633 Tennis Club Rd,
Dillon, CO 80435

All Day
Jeff Berlin,
JBerlin@carollo.com

The Rocky Mountain Water Conference (RMWC) is an annual joint conference of RMWEA and the Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association (RMSAWWA). The 2026 conference will be held from August 30 to September 2, 2026. More details coming soon.

Learn more about the conference [here](#).

Questions/Contact Us

Thank you for your interest and support of RMWC. Co-chairs Natalia Hoogesteijn and Jeff Berlin, along with our support firm, Kinsley Meetings, look forward to a great conference. Contact RMWC@kinsleymeetings.com with any questions.

For questions regarding the technical sessions, presentation requirements, or to make changes to an accepted abstract, please contact Joe Tamburini or Michelle Young.

October 7, 2026

31st Annual Vail PWO Seminar
The Grand View
395 S Frontage Rd W
Vail, CO 81657

08:15 AM - 04:30 PM MST
Tim Drescher, 9704713937
tdrescher@erwsd.org
More to come

October 14, 2026

Estes Park PWO Seminar
American Legion Post 119
850 N St Vrain Ave
Estes Park, CO 80517

08:15 AM - 04:30 PM MST
Sandra Mourning, 970-586-5389
sandra@utsdco.gov

Come join us in Estes Park for beautiful fall weather and the Estes Park PWO Seminar on Wednesday, October 14th.

The Estes Park PWO Seminar has been focused on providing curated and in-depth discussions of a variety of operator-centric topics. Our long format (each presentation is 1 hour in length) allows plenty of time for participants and presenters to become familiar and comfortable with the information being shared. We always strive to have sessions that you do not see often elsewhere! This year is no different and we will have a great group of talented professionals sharing their expertise with us.

October 20, 2026
- October 21, 2026

Western Colorado Water & Wastewater Conference
Grand Junction Convention Center
159 Main Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501
All Day
Western Colorado Water & Wastewater Conference

October 20-21, 2026
Grand Junction Convention Center
Grand Junction, CO

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

SPONSOR REGISTRATION

The Western Colorado Water & Wastewater Conference, co-hosted by the Rocky Mountain Section American Water Works Association and Rocky Mountain Water Environment Association, is held annually each fall in Grand Junction, Colorado. This regional event convenes professionals from across the water and wastewater industries on the Western Slope for two days of technical education, professional development, and networking.

The conference typically welcomes approximately 250 participants, including attendees, presenters, exhibitors, and sponsors. The Exhibit Hall features more than 40 companies showcasing products, equipment, and services relevant to water and wastewater professionals. The technical program spans both days and includes 35–45 sessions offering Training Units (TUs) for Colorado operators and continuing education credits for professional engineers.

IMPORTANT DATES

Exhibitor/Sponsor Registration - OPEN [2026 Exhibitor-Sponsor Packages]
Call for Abstracts CLOSED
Abstract Selections/Notifications – Approximately May 15, 2026
Attendee Registration - Mid-June [Sign Up Here for Updates]

October 29, 2026

2026 Communications Seminar
Westminster City Park Recreation Center
10455 Sheridan Blvd
Westminster, CO 80020
08:00 AM - 04:00 PM MST
Jori Nelson, (425) 245-9170
jori.nelson@hdrinc.com

Join us for this year's Communications Seminar - additional details coming soon!

November 4, 2026

2026 Englewood PWO
South Platte Renew
2900 S PLATTE RIVER DR
ENGLEWOOD, CO 80110
07:30 AM - 04:00 PM MST
Adele Rucker, 303-762-2611
arucker@englewoodco.gov
2026 Englewood PWO Seminar

PWO seminars provide training units necessary for operators to renew their professional operator licenses and are a fun way to engage with other water professionals in an educational setting.

Save the date: This year the 2026 Englewood PWO will be held on November 4, 2026 at South Platte Renew in Englewood, Colorado.