



Traverse City, MI • 2026

Agenda

Wednesday

October 28, 2026

7:30 a.m. Registration | Breakfast | Visit Exhibiting Sponsors

8:30 a.m. **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

9:00 a.m. **Keynote: Heather Buonomo, Director of Environmental Health, San Diego County**
International Ocean Sewage Crisis: Policy, Science, and Public Health Protection

9:45 a.m. **Break**

10:00 a.m. **The State of Our Beaches** – Moderated by Shannon Briggs, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)

United States, Canada, Tribes/First Nations, Europe

10:00am *Andrea Contreras Balbuena, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)*

10:15am *Gabrielle Parent-Doliner, Water Rangers, Canada*

10:30am *Margaret Watkins, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior*

10:45am *Lily Zolman, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community*

11:00am *João Brandão, CE3C, Lisbon, Portugal*

State and Local Perspectives

11:15am *Jessica Brandt, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources*

11:30am *W. David Polk, Florida Department of Health*

11:45 a.m. **Networking Lunch**



1:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions (Track 1: Hagerty Center | Track 2: Delamar)

Track 1 – Hagerty Center**Standards & MST** – Moderated by Nishita D’Souza, Michigan State University (MSU)

- 1:00pm **Next Generation of Standards for Recreational Water Testing**
Sandra Da Silva, National Institute of Standards and Technology
- 1:20pm **Using NIST Standards to Harmonize Beach Monitoring Across Michigan**
Taylor Murphy, MSU
- 1:40pm **Microbial Source Tracking for Bacterial Impairments at Public Beaches in Iowa**
Joel Stokdyk, United States Geological Survey
Jason Palmer, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- 2:00pm **HF183 Is Exclusively a Marker of Untreated Sewage Pollution – True or False?**
Aldo Lobos, University of South Florida
- 2:20pm **Linking Indicators of Fecal Contamination to Human Health Risk in Southern California Stormwater**
Joshua Steele, Southern California Coastal Water Project

Track 2 – Delamar**Coastal Resilience** – Moderated by: Erin Dreelin, MSU

- 1:00pm **Full-Frequency Wave Observations and Evaluation of Coastal Hazards in Lake Michigan**
Alexa Yeo, Colorado School of Mines
- 1:20pm **Illinois Beach State Park Shoreline Regeneration**
Jack Cox, Edgewater Resources
- 1:40pm **Delineation of Michigan's Critical Dune Areas**
Zach Chamberlin, EGLE Water Resources Division
- 2:00pm **The State of Beach Nourishment in Michigan**
Michael Morphey, Edgewater Resources, LLC
- 2:20pm **Good Things in Small Packages: Small Scale Shoreline Engineering**
Steven Howard, Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC

2:40 p.m. **Break**

3:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions (Track 1: Hagerty Center | Track 2: Delamar)

Track 1 – Hagerty Center

Health Risk – Moderated by Joan Rose, MSU

- 3:00pm **Recreational Health Risk Screening in Marina del Rey Harbor, California**
Emily Campbell and Lauren Godinez, Geosyntec Consultants
- 3:20pm **Source to Risk: Integrating MST and QMRA for Texas Gulf Coast Communities**
Anna Gitter, UTHHealth Science Center, Houston School of Public Health
- 3:40pm **Quantifying Sources of Human Fecal Contamination in a Large Urban Watershed**
John Griffith, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
- 4:00pm **Hybrid Modeling Framework for Adaptive Beach Water Quality Management**
Amandine Declerck, Rivages ProTech SUEZ
- 4:20pm **Public Awareness of Waterborne Pathogen Risk from Recreational Exposure: Insights from the Galveston BEACH Survey**
Virgie Greb, Coastal Scientist
- 4:40pm **A Microbial Sequencing Approach to Identify Contamination from Sewers in an Urban Watershed**
Joshua Steele, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project

Track 2 – Delamar

TMDLs & AOCs – Moderated by: Nicole Messacar, Indiana Department of Environmental Management

- 3:00pm **Explanation of Non-attainment, 303(d) List, TMDL Beaches, and AOC Beaches**
Kevin Goodwin, EGLE Water Resources Division
- 3:20pm **Michigan's E. coli Program: From Monitoring to TMDLs, and back again**
Molly Rippke, EGLE Water Resources Division
- 3:40pm **Wisconsin's Beach Remediation Projects**
Greg Kleinheinz, University of Wisconsin, OshKosh
- 4:00pm **MST Case Study: Madison & Dan County/City of Milwaukee, and GT Molecular**
Jennifer Lavender Braun, Public Health Madison & Dane County
- 4:20pm **Finding and Eliminating Illicit Connections to Storm Drains**
Emily Levine and Annette DeMaria, ECT
- 4:40pm **Questions and Answers**

5:00 to 6:30 p.m. **POSTER RECEPTION | Delamar**

Dinner on own

Thursday

October 29, 2026

- 8:00 a.m. Registration | Continental Breakfast | Visit Exhibiting Sponsors
- 8:30 a.m. **Day 1 Recap and Poster Winner Announcements**
- 8:45 a.m. **Data Stories and Lessons Learned** – Moderated by Shannon Briggs, EGLE
- 8:45am **Shining a Light on Water Quality Data and Beach Actions with BEACON**
Andrea Contreras Balbuena and Katie Davis, U.S. EPA
- 9:05am **Florida Healthy Beaches Program**
Dale Griffin, Florida Department of Health
- 9:25am **Is Clear Water Healthy? Lessons from 37 Years of Citizen Science Data**
Lauren Sheffer, Inland Seas Education Association
- 9:45am **Lake Michigan Beach Design and Monitoring Lessons**
Dan Veriotti, GZA Environmental
- 10:05am **Ottawa County Water Quality Monitoring Program**
Sarah Bowman, Ottawa Conservation District
- 10:25 a.m. **Break**
- 10:40 a.m. **Bactiquick Panel** – Moderated by Erin Dreelin, Michigan State University
- Overview and analysis of the first year with Bactiquick in Michigan**
Nishita D'Souza, Michigan State University
Ishi Keenum, Michigan Technological University
- **With panelists:** *Marisa Eisenberg, University of Michigan; Kelly Walsh, University of Michigan and Oakland County Health Division; Brian Scull, Grand Valley State University (GVSU) Annis Water Resources Institute; Maggie Petersen, GLEC; Jeffrey L. Ram, Wayne State University*
- 11:45 a.m. **Networking Lunch** sponsored by 

1:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions (Track 1: Hagerty Center | Track 2: Delamar)

Track 1 – Hagerty Center**Rapid Testing** – Moderated by Dale Griffin, Florida Department of Health

- 1:00pm **Test Fast, Report Faster: Speed as a Beach Public Health Tool**
Kimberly Moore, Ottawa County Department of Public Health
- 1:20pm **Gen-Spot®: a rapid molecular tool for proactive management of recreative water quality**
Audrey Commault and Agnès Petrau, Rivages Pro Tech SUEZ, Bidart, France
- 1:40pm **TLF Sensors for Real-Time Beach Notification: Multi-Site Validation Results**
Alex Johnson, Virridy
- 2:00pm **Developing a Water Intelligence Network**
Matthew Senior, Molendotech, Ltd.
- 2:20pm **Optical Brighteners: Investigating a new/old method for bacterial source tracking.**
Brian Scull, GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute

Track 2 – Delamar**Community Engagement** – Moderated by Gabrielle Parent-Doliner, Water Rangers

- 1:00pm **Monitoring to Stewardship: How local science builds community action**
Adrian Koski, City of Racine Public Health Department
- 1:20pm **Block the Flock: Reframing Natural Shorelines for Public Health and Beach Access**
Lauren Dey, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
- 1:40pm **Building a Regulatory Pathway for Community Bacteria Monitoring**
Aspen Navarro and Tiffany Willrich, Texas State University
- 2:00pm **Building Michigan's Infrastructure Workforce**
Ahmad Ramadan, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth

2:40 p.m. **Break**

3:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions (Track 1: Hagerty Center | Track 2: Delamar)

Track 1 – Hagerty Center

Sand Quality and HABs – Lauren Tehan, Minnesota Department of Health

- 3:00pm **Sand Quality on Portuguese Blue Flagged Beaches: Contamination Across Two Bathing Seasons**
João Brandão, Center for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes
- 3:20pm **Fungi and antifungals: an overlooked gap in wastewater surveillance and reuse regulation**
João Brandão, Center for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes
- 3:40pm **Rapid qPCR detection of cryptic *Ostreopsis* blooms for improved coastal risk management in European Atlantic waters.**
Audrey Commault, Rivages Pro Tech SUEZ
- 4:00pm **Harmful Algal Blooms in Michigan: Health Impacts and State Coordinated Response**
Sarah Scheitler, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- 4:20pm **By Land, Sea, and Air: Novel Routes of Microcystin Exposure at Beaches**
Garrett Moots, University of Toledo

Track 2 – Delamar

Community Engagement – Moderated by: Lucy Flores, Texas General Land Office

- 3:00pm **Meeting Coastal Communities Where They're At: Coastal Resilience Outreach and Education**
Jena Johnson, Van Buren Conservation District
- 3:20pm **Community Science-Based Beach and Dune Erosion Monitoring to Support Coastal Management in Michigan**
Ethan Theuerkauf, MSU
- 3:40pm **Developing an Education-focused Great Lakes Celebration Day to Promote Environmental Literacy**
Jill Bartolotta, Ohio Sea Grant and The Ohio State University Stone Laboratory
- 4:00pm **AI-enabled Enterococcus Predictor: The ePredictor**
Sathwika Edama, Harte Research Institute
- 4:20pm **Can Community Scientists Answer "Can I Swim Here?" Three Years of Testing Low-Cost *E. coli* Monitoring for Recreational Waters**
Gabrielle Parent-Doliner, Water Rangers

4:40 p.m. **Adjourn Day 2**

Dinner on own

Friday

October 30, 2026

- 8:00a.m. Continental Breakfast | Visit Exhibiting Sponsors
- 8:45a.m. Recap of Summit Proceedings
- 9:00a.m. **Remediation & Mitigation** – Moderated by Tami Sivy, Saginaw Valley State University
- 9:00am **Reducing Bacterial Contamination at Beaches – A Case Study in Grand Traverse Bay**
Sarah U'Ren, The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay
- 9:20am **Dredging Impacts on Recreational Water Quality: Lessons Learned**
Adrienne Masterson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Spencer Ballard, Ottawa County Department of Public Health
- 9:40am **Trash Removal Technologies Education and Research Program for the Great Lakes**
Christine Crissman, The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay
- 10:00am **Advocacy in Action: Leveraging business voices for Great Lakes protection**
Lisa Hirsch, Great Lakes Business Network
- 10:20a.m. **Break**
- 10:30a.m. **AI and Predictive Modeling** – Moderated by Dale Griffin
- 10:30am **Virtual Beach: An R-Shiny toolkit for water quality predictive modeling**
Mike Cyterski, U.S. EPA
- 10:55am **Using Machine Learning and Aerial Imagery to County Beach Users**
Emily Evenden, Industrial Economics, Inc.
- 11:20a.m. **Closing and Acknowledgements**
- 11:40a.m. **Adjourn**



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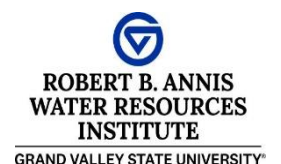
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