



Environmental Health Section Newsletter Spring 2023

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President's Message

Angela Sowers, Orange County



Spring has sprung, as we start off to a beautiful 2023! Thank you for taking your time to check out our newsletter! As I sat down to write this, I had to pause and really think about why we are so important to our communities and the public value that we bring to the table. It seems that often when I am out interacting with the public in various capacities, whether it be talking to students, operators, community partners, stakeholders, or various members of the public at large, I am often told, "Wow, I did not realize that Environmental Health did all of those things." We are often the silent partners in public health prevention and protection, that go unnoticed behind the scenes.

I mention this to bring attention to how important it is to communicate the importance of environmental health and the vast resources we provide to our communities in our efforts to protect public health and the environment. We are preventionists, therefore, it is difficult to measure outcomes with the efforts we make on every phone call, presentation, consultation, or inspection. It is important to continue to share these messages to ensure strong support of our profession from our communities, elected officials and our enduring partnerships.

This newsletter is packed with information on upcoming educational conferences and returning to in person collaboration/discussions. Take the time to look for some choices for ongoing education, building relationships and making contacts through the varying conferences offered locally here in North Carolina and throughout the nation. In supporting our future workforce, consider nominating that special someone for one of our awards offered recognition of a job well done! We want to encourage anyone to pursue further education in the field of environmental health by offering several scholarship opportunities. If you know of anyone in need of scholarship funding for undergraduate and graduate level courses, please send them the information in this newsletter.

If you have gotten this far in my message, consider becoming part of the NCPHA Environmental Health Section. Check out your local district committees listed here: Mountain, West Piedmont, North Central, Northeast, Southeast, and Eastern. Maybe think about filling a chair position to experience organization leadership and growth opportunities! We look forward to seeing you at the conference this year, September 27th-29th in Concord, North Carolina. Thank you for all you do as individuals and as part of the Environmental Health team.



Meet Your 2023 NCPHA Environmental Health Section Officers



President: Angela Sowers, Orange County

Angela graduated from Old Dominion University with a B.S. in Environmental Health 2007. She attended post graduate study in MPH/MSEH program at ODU and began her career in the Indian Health Service taking an active duty post within USPHS, Bremerton,

Washington. She went on to work in safety consulting with a contracted government facility providing industrial hygiene/work safety. Before joining Orange County, she was an Environmental Health Technical Specialist with the State of Virginia for 11 years. Concurrently she works as a program specialist in Food, Lodging and Institution and promotes public outreach for Orange County.

She has served on the EH section Committee since 2018.

Treasurer: Ashley Mize, Forsyth County



Ashley graduated From Western Carolina University with a B.S. in Environmental Health in 2016. She then graduated from Grand Canyon University with an MPA with an Emphasis in Healthcare Management in 2020. She began her

Environmental Health Specialist career at Stokes County for a little over two years, transferred to Rowan County for a year and is now working at Forsyth County. All three counties she has worked for, she worked in the Food and Lodging program. In Forsyth County her main focus is in the Food and Lodging program but is taking on more responsibilities in the Lead program as well. She is hoping to continue growing and moving up throughout the remainder of her career.



Vice President: Kathryn Hobby, Orange County

Kathryn graduated from Western Carolina University with a B.S. in Environmental Health in 2000. She worked for Wake County Environmental Services for 17 years in the Onsite Wastewater, Groundwater Protection, and Watershed Management Programs. During this time, she managed

the Recreational Water Monitoring Program and worked with the Wake County Board of Human Services to adopt new EPA standards as well as monitoring and public notification protocols.

In 2017, she transitioned to Orange County and continues her work with Onsite Wastewater and Wells.

Secretary: Amanda Nester, Onslow County

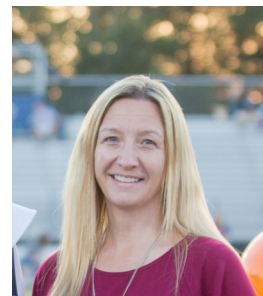


Amanda graduated from the University of North Carolina Wilmington with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Psychology in 2013. Her previous work experience include working for the Division of Marine Fisheries as a commercial fishing observer, conducting a bird and bat study at North Carolina's wind farm in Elizabeth City, Water Quality Technician for the City of Jacksonville's Stormwater Division, and Environmental Technician for Onslow County's landfill,

In 2021 she transitioned to the Onslow County Environmental Health Department where she is authorized in Food, Lodging, Institutions, Pools and Tattoos.

Past President: Tonya Zimmerman, NC DHHS

Tonya graduated from Pfeiffer University in 2000 with a B.S. in Math and Biology. Tonya worked for the Rowan County Health Department from December 2006 until March 2018. She currently works for NC DHHS Children's Environmental Health Branch as an Environmental Health Regional Specialist. She received her master's degree in Public Health with a concentration in Global Health from Liberty University in December 2017. Tonya resides in Faith, NC with her husband and children.





**NORTH CAROLINA
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION**
N. C. Public Health Association, Inc.
Affiliated with the National Environmental Health Association, Inc.

**Please Apply for the NCPHA EH Section
SCHOLARSHIPS 2023**



Dewey L. Padgett Scholarship (\$300 per year)

Applicant must be an ECU Junior or Senior student majoring in environmental health. Applicant shall have GPA of 2.5 or above, and have a financial need. If a qualified student does not apply, the scholarship may be offered to a practicing environmental health specialist (member).

Stacy Covil Scholarship (\$300 per year)

Applicant must be a WCU Junior or Senior student majoring in environmental health. Applicant shall have a GPA of 2.5 or above, and have a financial need. If a qualified student does not apply, the scholarship may be offered to a practicing environmental health specialist (member).

Environmental Health Section Scholarship Fund (\$300 per year per scholarship)

One scholarship is to be awarded to an ECU student and one to a WCU student. Application from ECU and WCU applicants are approved by the Executive Committee and shall have a GPA of 3.0 or above.

The Tim Hilton Environmental Health Specialist Scholarship (\$500 per year)

One scholarship is awarded to an Environmental Health Specialist within the geographical boundaries of the Western District NCPHA, who is a current member of NCPHA and the EH Section and whose course work is related to the professional environmental health field.

**Nominate someone now that deserves the recognition and distinguishment in the environmental health field within North Carolina. Applications to be sent to:
Angela Sowers at: asowers@orangecountync.gov**



Scholarship applications are due by June 30th, 2023



NORTH CAROLINA
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
N. C. Public Health Association, Inc.
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NCPHA Environmental Health Section Awards



Every year the EH Section sends out a request for nominations for Rookie EH Specialist of the Year, Stacy Covil EH Specialist of the year and the Bill Broadway Award. All nominees must be active members in good standing with the Environmental Health Section of NCPHA.

The nominee for the **Stacy Covil EH Specialist of the Year Award** should have demonstrated outstanding achievement in a specific health related project, program, or activity within the past two years. Priority will be given to selecting an individual who has been instrumental in providing significant local, regional, or state impact or the potential for such impact, as a result of implementing the project, program or activity.

The nominee for the **Rookie Environmental Health Specialist of the Year Award** shall have not less than one year of active service in the field of Environmental Health and not more than three years of active service as of December 31 of the year for which the award is to be given.

The Bill Broadway Award is named in honor of a founding member of the Environmental Health Section of NCPHA. He was always at the forefront of evolutionary changes in Environmental Health and helped to develop educational requirements and performance standards for the profession. Bill was a national leader in the field of environmental health. To be considered for this award, the nominee must be directly or indirectly involved with the practice of Environmental Health and contributed significantly, through superior achievements and professional excellence, to the field of environmental health.

Please nominate someone now that deserves the recognition and distinction in the environmental health field within North Carolina.

Please email nominations to

[Angela Sowers: asowers@orangecountync.gov](mailto:asowers@orangecountync.gov)

Award Nominations are due by June 30th, 2023





North Carolina Public Health Association

The NCPHA Fall Educational Conference theme this year is ***“Remodeling Public Health: Tearing Down Stigma and Building Resilience for a Healthy NC”***



Contact Us

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Graphic Designer: Zannie Gunn, TypeColorShapes.com

North Carolina Environmental Health State of Practice Committee



Training by Specialists for Specialists

<http://ncehsop.org/cms-sop/>

2023 UPDATE:

Course Title	Dates/ Times	Location	Cost
Onsite Wastewater Repair Workshop	May 10 & 11, 2023	ECU Belk's Building, 9999 Oglesby Dr, Greenville, NC 27858	\$99 Class Capacity= 40
Environmental Health Symposium & FDA Seminar	July 26-28, 2023	Crowne Plaza Resort I Resort Drive, Asheville, NC	\$150 and up. See Register Now for details.
Lead Investigation & Remediation	September 6-8, 2023	DPH Eagles Room 5505 Six Forks Road Raleigh, NC	Details TBD
NC Environmental Health Law	September 13-15, 2023	Research Triangle Park	Details TBD
Child Care Sanitation	November 15-17, 2023	East Asheville Branch Library 3 Avon Road	Details TBD

To register for a SOP sponsored course, you must complete and submit the online registration form. You can pay online with a credit, debit, or P-card; over the phone; or mail in a check/ money order to NCEHSOP, Post Office Box 489, Efland, NC 27243

CONFERENCE FOR FOOD PROTECTION

2023 Biennial Meeting Houston, Texas | April 24 - 28



The Conference for Food Protection is a non-profit organization which originated in 1971. It was created to provide a formal process whereby members of industry, regulatory, academia, consumer, and professional organizations are afforded equal input in the development and/or modification of food safety guidance. Such guidance is incorporated into food safety laws and regulations at all levels of government throughout the United States.

The Conference for Food Protection promotes food safety and consumer protection by the following:

- Identifying and addressing problems in the production, processing, packaging, distribution, sale, and service of foods;
- Focusing on and facilitating the food protection programs governing the foodservice, retail food store, and food vending segments of the food industry;
- Adopting sound, uniform procedures which will be accepted by food regulatory agencies and industry;
- Promoting mutual respect and trust by establishing a working liaison among governmental agencies, industry, academic institutions, professional associations, and consumer groups concerned with food safety;
- Promoting uniformity among States, territories, and the District of Columbia. Territories include American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, The Trust Territory, and the U.S. Virgin Islands; and
- Utilizing the following as the primary channels for dissemination of Information:
 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture/Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) in matters under its purview, such as food production, meat and poultry processing, and consumer information; and
 - The U.S. Public Health Service/Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in matters under its purview, such as food processing, and assistance to food regulatory agencies based on the model food codes and related documents.



NC STATE Soils and Onsite Wastewater Continuing Education Workshops

<https://events.reporter.ncsu.edu/wastewater-ce/>

Traditional In-Person Workshops Raleigh	Traditional In-Person Workshops Mills River	Traditional In-Person Workshops Barco, Monroe, Wilmington
Raleigh, NC Design 220: Pump System Design May 16, 2023 6 hours 9:00am-4:30pm \$200 WPCSOCC CE07140013 Install 210: Back to Basics – Dig & Learn May 18, 2023 6 hours 9:00am-4:30pm \$200 WPCSOCC CE05271503	Mills River, NC Design 220: Pump System Design August 18, 2023 6 hours 9:00am-4:30pm \$200 WPCSOCC CE07140013	Barco Course TBD Sep 12, 2023 6 hours 9:00am-4:30pm \$200 WPCSOCC XXXX Monroe Course TBD Oct 11, 2023 6 hours 9:00am-4:30pm \$200 WPCSOCC XXXX Wilmington Course TBD November 14, 2023 6 hours 9:00am-4:30pm \$200

Registration Information

3-hour and 6-hour Workshops

Workshops designed for 6 hours will not be split to accommodate only 3 hours of training. If you need only 3 hours, please register for a 3-hour workshop.

Mail to:

NC State University – Crop & Soil Science

Attn: Jamie Luther

4000 Chi Road

Raleigh, NC 27603



NEHA AEC 2023 Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition

July 31-August 3, 2023

New Orleans, Louisiana (Hilton New Orleans Riverside) and Virtually

The NEHA AEC is so much more than a conference. It is the nexus for environmental health training, education, networking, and advancement. NEHA's AEC is the most comprehensive training and education investment your organization can make to achieve immediate and long-term benefits.

- Acquire practical and real-world information and expertise from like-minded professionals that share your passion for environmental health.
- Leave trained, motivated, inspired, and empowered to further advance your organization and yourself.
- Gain the skills, knowledge, and expertise needed to help solve your organization's daily and strategic challenges and improve your bottom-line results.

Earn continuing education (CE) credit to maintain your professional credential(s).

Registration opened December 1st, 2022.

Featured Sessions:

- Keynote Address: Communities and Climate Through the Lens of Environmental Health Practice by Maureen Lichtveld, MD, MPH
- Grand Educational Session Kickoff: A Rodent Symposium: Effective Communications, Control Practices, and Utilizing Resources by Claudia Riegel, Ph.D; Imelda K. Moise, Ph.D, MPH; and Janet A. Hurley, ACE, MPA.
- Keynote Address: Leadership: Getting the Difficult Job Done by Lt. General Russel L Honore, USA with introduction by Captain Timothy Jiggins
- Grand Educational Session Kickoff: The Conundrum of Food Safety Culture: Breaking Through Barriers to Drive Improvement presented by the NEHA Business and Industry Affiliate.

<https://www.neha.org/aec-register>



National Retail Food Program Courses

There are several FREE courses offered by NEHA. Download the Registration Form for the course you would like to attend. Email the completed course registration form to: ORA-OTED-Retail@fda.hhs.gov. Find more information here: <https://www.neha.org/retail-food-courses>

Courses Delivered by NEHA

- ♦ FD204 Temporary Food Establishments
 - ♦ Participants prepare to effectively conduct an application review, menu review, and inspection of a temporary food establishment and institute corrective actions.
 - ♦ <https://www.neha.org/fd204-temp-facility-course>
- ♦ FD207 Plan Review for Food Establishments
 - ♦ The goal of this course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the plan review process for retail food establishments with an emphasis on equipment and architectural design.
 - ♦ April 17th-21st, May 1st-May 5th, or June 26th-Friday 30th.
 - ♦ <https://www.neha.org/fd207-plan-review-course>
- ♦ FD312 Special Processes at Retail
 - ♦ This course explores the specific types of food processing in retail food establishments which are required by the FDA Food Code to have a variance and mandatory HACCP plan.
 - ♦ May 15th-May 19th, June 12th-June 16th, July 10th-July 14th, or July 24th-July 28th
 - ♦ <https://www.neha.org/fd312-special-processes>

Courses Delivered by the Association of Food and Drug Officials

- ♦ FD215 Managing Retail Food Safety
 - ♦ This course is designed to allow participants an opportunity to explore the various ways that risk-based inspections can be applied in retail and food service establishments.
 - ♦ April 17th-April 21st, May 1st-May 5th, July 10th-July 14th, August 7th-August 11th
 - ♦ <https://www.neha.org/fd215-managing-retail-food-safety-course>
- ♦ FD218 Risk-Based Inspection Methods in Retail
 - ♦ This workshop builds upon concepts learned in FD215 and is designed to further enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of food safety inspection officers in conducting risk-based inspections.
 - ♦ April 17th-April 21st, May 15th-May 19th, July 24th-July 28th, August 7th-August 11th, September 11th- September 15th.
 - ♦ <https://www.neha.org/fd218-risk-based-inspection-methods>

NC Clinical Lead Training: Policies, Case Management and Other Best Practices

Monday, May 1, 2023

Time: Registration begins at 9:00 am
Program: 9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Place: Wake County Commons Building
4011 Cary Drive, Raleigh, NC

Cost: FREE (lunch available for \$15)

Audience:

Nurses, NPs, PAs, Physicians,
Phlebotomists and lab technicians,
Health Educators, EH Specialists



Register Here!

Participants must register to attend this training in person or via webcast. For more information, contact Mitiera Johnson at jmitierr@unc.edu.

Agenda

- 9:00 am Registration / Check In
- 9:30 am Opening Remarks
Neasha Graves, MPA, UNC IE
- 9:40 am Background of Lead in NC and Overview of State Programming
Ed Norman, MPH, NC DHHS
- 10:25 am Sources of Lead Exposure
Brenda Bass, REHS, NC DHHS Children's Environmental Health
- 10:55 am Health Effects and Medical Treatment of Lead Poisoning for Children and Pregnant Women
Anne Berry, MD, MPH, Duke
- 11:55 am Lunch
- 12:30 pm Lead Testing Procedures and the State Lab's Role
Kate Koehler, NC State Lab of Public Health
- 1:20 pm Clinical Case Management and the NC LEAD System
Tena Hand-Schafale and Melanie Napier, PhD, MSPH, NC DHHS
Oliver Grimsley, RN, New Hanover County Health Department
- 2:20 pm Break
- 2:35 pm Role of Environmental Health Specialist
David Brown, REHS, NC DHHS
- 3:20 pm Role of Public Health Education
Neasha Graves, MPA, UNC IE
- 4:05 pm Summary and Closing Remarks
Ed Norman, MPH, NC DHHS
- 4:15 pm Training Evaluation



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

This training is provided through a partnership of the NCDHHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, the NCDHHS Public Health Nursing Institute for Continuing Excellence, and the UNC Institute for the Environment.

Credits and Disclosures

- 6.25 NCPD contact hours and up to 6.25 Recertification Credits may be earned upon successful completion.
- For successful completion, participants must attend 100% of the educational activity and complete the online evaluation. No partial credit will be awarded.
- No relevant financial relationship exists for anyone in the position to control content for this activity.



The Public Health Nursing Institute for Continuing Excellence is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the North Carolina Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Other Conferences, Meetings, or Trainings



NC Governor's Food Safety and Defense Task Force Conference
 May 10, 2023 8:30am – 4:30pm
 NC A&T State University Agriculture Pavilion
 3020 McConnell Road Greensboro, NC 27401

**Vulnerabilities of the NC Food Supply:
 A review of recent events and industry perspectives**

**Scan the QR code to register.
 We look forward to seeing you!**



66th Annual Meeting of the Soil Science Society of NC

THE MCKIMMON CENTER
 1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh, NC 27606

MON, APR 17 2023 — TUE, APR 18 2023
 9:30 AM EDT 4:30 PM EDT

Register at <https://ssncc.ticketleap.com/66th-annual-meeting-of-the-soil->

*North Carolina
 Mosquito & Vector Control
 Association*



2023 NC Mosquito and Vector Control Association Conference November 15-17, 2023

100 Charlotte Ave., Carolina Beach, NC 28428, 910-458-2030

[Conference hotel reservation link \(for discounted rate\)](#) or call the hotel and book using group code "NCMN"

State Environmental Health Section Update by Larry Michael

As you may be aware, two bills were recently filed that impact environmental health. The following provides a brief overview of the bills:

S412—Modify Food Establishment Rules

This bill makes several changes to food establishment inspections:

- Upon request of a reinspection for the purpose of raising the letter grade, the proposal requires the regulatory authority to reinspect within five calendar days (currently, it is 15 calendar days). This proposal will result in reinspections being conducted on weekends and during holidays creating a burden for the food industry and further straining the environmental health workforce.
- The bill also states that if no violations related to priority or priority foundation items were documented on the inspection, then the letter grade shall not be lowered during the pendency of a reinspection. It is critical for public safety that violations are accurately documented and reflected in sanitation scores. The inability to accurately record violations reduces public health protection and is misleading.
- It changes the inspection frequency of Risk Category IV Establishments (highest risk) from four times per year to three times per year with an additional requirement of an educational visit (in lieu of the fourth inspection).
- It makes corresponding changes to the funding formula to allow educational visits to count towards the rate of compliance.

You may view the bills here: <https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookUp/2023/s412>
<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookUp/2023/s616>

State Environmental Health Section Update Cont. by Larry Michael

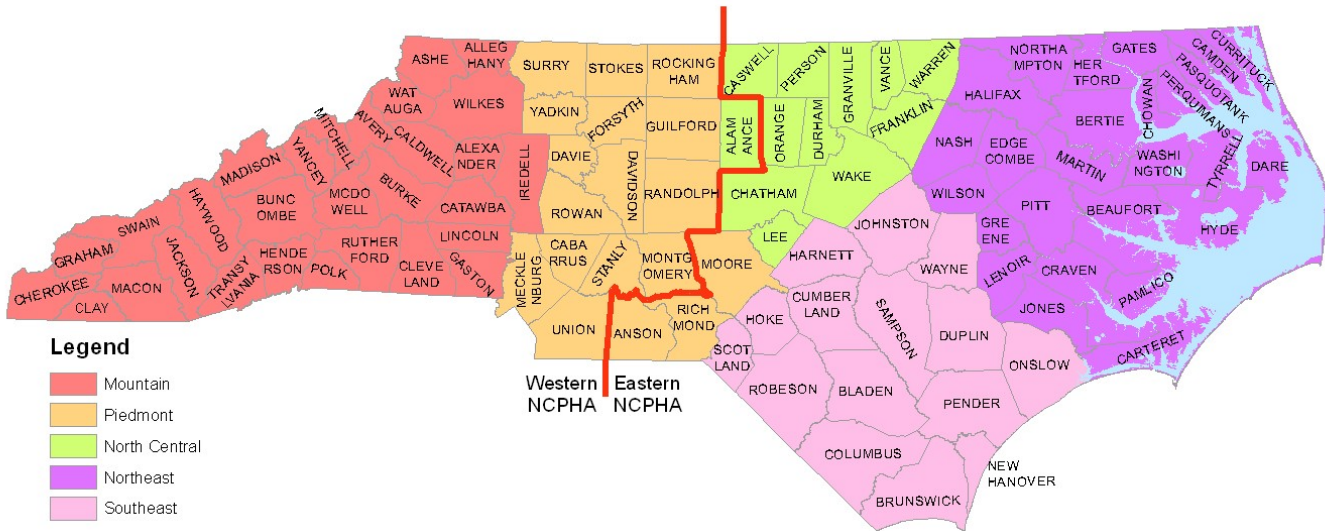
S616—Environmental Health Associates

This bill amends NCGS 90A-51 through 90A-53 and establishes a “Registered Environmental Health Associate” certification under the NC State Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialist Examiners (REHS Board) at 90-53.1 through 90-53.2.

- The bill establishes a new professional certification with reduced education and experience eligibility requirements providing that a person with an associate, bachelor’s, or postgraduate degree from a program accredited by the National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) OR with a minimum of 15 hours of physical, biological, natural, life, or health sciences AND who has completed specialized instruction and training approved by the Department (i.e., Centralized Intern Training) may qualify to carry out limited environmental health practice duties under the responsible charge of a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), including:
 - Permitting and inspections of private wells.
 - Inspections of Category I and II food establishments.
 - Inspections of lodging establishments.
 - Permitting and inspections of Type II or III wastewater systems, including system layouts and existing wastewater systems.
 - Inspections of migrant housing.
 - Inspections of schools.
 - Inspections of local confinement facilities.
- After five “continuous years” as an “Associate” they meet the education and experience eligibility requirements to be a REHS. For those that qualify, it is our interpretation that the candidate would need to apply to the REHS Board and pass the same examinations (e.g., NEHA) that a REHS must pass.
- Modifies educational requirements for REHSs (NCGS 90A-53) consistent with the language in H190 (though organized differently). Note the provision in H190 is supported by the REHS Board, NCALHD, and NCEHSA.
- Additional comments:
 - It is not clear what “working under the charge of a registered environmental health specialist” means in practice.
 - There is concern about some of the duties listed for an Associate’s scope of work (e.g., Category II food establishments) and we will continue to solicit feedback from stakeholders regarding these duties as well as other concerns related to this bill.

Please note that the Environmental Health Section will continue to actively track these bills and work with stakeholders throughout the session; however, if you have comments or questions, please contact me at larry.michael@dhhs.nc.gov or by calling 919-707-5855.

District News



If you want to update your district's news and information featured in the next issue of the NCPHA Environmental Health Section Newsletter, please contact one of the section officers!!

This can include (not limited to):

- Section Membership Updates
 - Accomplishments
- Current hot topics or court cases
- Requests for award nominations



NCPHA-ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION DISTRICT OFFICERS 2023-2024

District	President	Vice-President	Treasurer	Secretary	Past President
<u>NCPHA Env Health Section</u>	Angela Sowers Orange County HD 131 W. Margaret Lane Hillsborough, NC 27278 Office: (919) 245-2368 Cell: (919) 612-1256 asowers@orangecountync.gov	Kathryn Hobby Orange County HD 131 W Margaret Lane Hillsborough NC 27278 Office: (919) 245-2377 khobby@orangecountync.gov	Ashley Mize Forsyth County HD 799 Highland Avenue Winston-Salem, NC 27101 Office: (336) 703-3382 Cell: (336) 830-0717 mizeac@forsyth.cc	Amanda Nester Onslow County HD 234 NW Corridor Blvd Jacksonville, NC 28546 Office: (910) 989-3092 Cell: (919) 437-7363 Amanda_nester@onslowcountync.gov	Tonya Zimmerman NCDHHS 5605 Six Forks Rd. Raleigh, NC 27609 Office: (704) 793-3057 to-nya.zimmerman@dhs.nc.gov
<u>Mountain District</u>	Savannah Kent Madison County HD 493 Medical Park Dr, Marshall, NC 28753 (828) 649-9598 skent@madisoncountync.gov	Nicole Parrish Haywood County Health Dept 157 Paragon Pkwy Suite 201 Clyde, NC 28721 (828) 452-6682 nicole.parrish@haywoodcountync.gov	Casey Radford Buncombe County Health Department 30 Valley St Asheville, NC 28801 (828) 250-5016 Casey.radford@buncombecounty.nc.gov	Combined w/ Treasurer	Travis Monteith Jackson County Health Dept 538 Scotts Creek Road Suite 100 Sylva, NC 28779 (828) 587-8246 travismon-teith@jacksonnc.org
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<u>North Central District</u>	Alexandria Rimmer Alamance County Health Department 319 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd. Burlington, NC 27217 Phone: (336)570-6367 Ext. 10327 alex.rimmer@alamance-nc.com	Jordan Mazzara Durham County Department of Public Health 414 East Main Street Durham, North Carolina 27701 Office (919) 560-7800 jmazzara@dconcc.gov	Maira Beck Alamance County Health Department 319 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd. Burlington, NC 27217 Phone: (336)570-6367 Ext. 10327 maira.beck@alamance-nc.com	Combined w/ Treasurer	Brandi G. Kim Durham County Department of Public Health 414 East Main Street Durham, North Carolina 27701 Office (919) 560-7800 bgkim@dconcc.gov
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<u>Eastern District</u>	Thomas Privott Onsite Wastewater Supervisor Environmental Health Section Orange County HD 131 W Margaret Lane Hillsborough, NC 27278 (919) 245-23 tprivott@orangecountync.gov	Laura Lerch Durham County Department of Public Health Environmental Health Division 414 East Main Street Durham NC 27701 (919)560-7818 llerch@dconcc.gov	Amanda Cabiness Warren County Health Department, 544 W. Ridgeway Street, Warrenton, N.C. 27589 (252) 257-1538 x 6079 amandacabiness@Warrencountync.gov	Jennifer Edwards Wake County Environmental Services, 336 Salisbury St Raleigh, N.C. 27602 (919) 868-2570 Jennifer.edwards@wakegov.com	Victoria Hudson Environmental Health Director, Orange County HD 131 W Margaret Lane Hillsborough, NC 27278 (919) 245-2365 vhudson@orangecountync.gov

Resolutions Committee Report – April 2023

The EH Section of NCPHA would like to recognize those individuals that retired from the field of EH this past year.

Jeff French Retirement: (January 27, 2023)

Jeff French has 38 years of experience protecting public health and marine resources, while also educating the greater environmental health community about shellfish sanitation and seafood safety. Jeff was instrumental educating on Seafood Safety. His presentations were always a favorite in CIT. Please join me in wishing Jeff French the best in his retirement!

Steven Berkowitz Retirement: (February 1, 2023)

“Steven began his career in the On-site Wastewater Section of the NC Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources (DEHNR, which later became DENR, now DEQ) on October 1, 1982, as an Engineer. He was instrumental in developing the on-site wastewater rules and has been enforcing the rules since that time. Steven's time as an Engineer for the State of North Carolina has made him one of the most popular and well-known individuals in the world of on-site wastewater (not just in NC, but throughout the country and probably other parts of our planet). His intense dedication to engineering and compliance with the laws and rules has impacted countless thousands of North Carolinians through the years, and as a result, has improved public health and the environment. Steven's experience, intelligence, and the sheer magnitude of his contributions to on-site wastewater cannot possibly be understood by those outside of this profession. Unfortunately for us, Steven retired at the end of January with just over 40 years in state government! His abilities as a Professional Engineer for DHHS will greatly be missed, as will his incredible knowledge and historical perspective. Moreover, we'll miss our friend and colleague. Please join me in wishing Steven Berkowitz the best in his retirement!” -

Larry Michael


Kevin Neal Retirement: (April 1, 2023)

“Today, we celebrated the career of Kevin Neal, our Regional Soil Scientist Team Leader. Kevin has had an incredible career and leaves a lasting legacy with the countless EHSs that he has trained and influenced with his unique teaching and coaching methods. Kevin, I can't thank you enough for the integrity and professionalism that you have lived every day as an REHS and LSS and I wish you a well-deserved retirement! Kevin was also honored with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, presented by Jon Fowlkes. Please join me in wishing Kevin the very best as he retires at the end of next week!” -Larry Michael

Donna Gilbird Retirement: (May 1, 2023)

“After 25 years of dedicated service to county and state Environmental Health, Donna Gilbird will be retiring May 1, 2023. As a Regional Environmental Health Specialist for Children's Env Health, Donna has made such a tremendous impact on the lives of children throughout our state. Come and join CEH as we celebrate Donna's awesome career. Please see the attached announcement. The luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 @ 12:00 pm, 5605 Six Forks Road Cardinal Room: Building 3, 1st Floor, Raleigh, NC. For those of you that would like to attend the luncheon, please RSVP to me by April 17th. We look forward to seeing you there!” -Kimly Blount

If you know of any individuals who have retired from the field of Environmental Health this year or any individuals that have passed away, please contact Tonya Zimmerman at tonya_zimmerman@dhhs.nc.gov.



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