



2020 Annual Training Speakers

Lisa Ashenbrenner Hunt

Training Chair (WI)

Moderator

Lisa has been providing environmental regulatory assistance to the small business community since 2012 through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Small Business Environmental Assistance Program and has also recently begun managing the agency's Compliance Audit Program (Enviro-Check).

Lisa has an academic background in environmental policy as well as private sector experience in corporate environmental affairs.

Jennifer Collins

NSC Chair (IN)

Pre-Training Networking

State Networking Reception: NSC Tradition

NSC Meeting/Year in Review/Strategy Session

Closing, Evaluation, and Discussion of Where the 2021 Training May be Held

Ms. Collins is the Manager of the Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance program in the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM) Office of Program Support. She has worked with IDEM for 18 years where she served as the Pollution Prevention Branch Chief, a Section Chief in the Air Compliance Branch and as an Air Compliance Inspector. Between 2012 and 2016, she served for 4 years as the Administrator for the Bureau of Environmental Services at the Department of Code Enforcement for the City of Indianapolis as an appointee under Mayor Greg Ballard. She is currently serving as the Chair of the National Steering Committee of the National Small Business Environmental Assistance Program. She has extensive knowledge of Air Compliance and Pollution Prevention/Sustainability areas. She has a B.S in Public Affairs with a concentration in Environmental Science from Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

Denise Sirmons

U.S. EPA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Director

Welcome & Introductions

[Denise's bio is online, check here to read it.](#)

Doug Benevento
EPA Associate Deputy Administrator
Welcome Remarks

[Doug's bio is online, click here to read it.](#)

Paula Hoag
EPA's Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman
U.S. EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman Program Updates

Paula Zampieri Hoag accepted the position as EPA's Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO) in February 2020 and has worked within the ASBO program since 2008. During her tenure within EPA, Paula has dedicated her career to advocating for and assisting the small business community in regulatory and environmental compliance initiatives.

Rhonda Wright
EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
*U.S. EPA Office of Air Quality and Planning Standards Update & Learning Management System
Celebrating EPA's 50th and CAAA 507 Program 30th Year Anniversaries*

Rhonda Wright is an Environmental Protection Specialist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS), Community and Tribal Program Group. She serves as OAQPS' Small Business Liaison, as well as assist with addressing issues and concerns within environmental justice and tribal communities. Prior to that, Rhonda worked as a National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) designations rule-writer in the OAQPS Air Quality Policy Division. She led designations for Lead (Pb) and Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂), identifying areas within the country who are meeting or not meeting the NAAQS. Rhonda has a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Systems, a Master's in Public Administration, and a Doctorate in Ministry.

Adam Baumgart-Getz
EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
U.S. EPA Office of Air Quality and Planning Standards Update & Learning Management System

Adam Baumgart-Getz is the Group Leader of OAQPS's Innovative Programs & Outreach Group, where he oversees OAQPS's National Air Quality Training and Burn Wise programs. Adam has almost 25 years of experience working in environmental science and community organizing. Adam has a MS in aquatic ecology, and MPA in environmental modeling, and a PhD in natural resource social science.

Nabanita Modak
EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
U.S. EPA Office of Air Quality and Planning Standards Update & Learning Management System

Dr. Nabanita Modak Fisher joined EPA's Office of Research and Development as a post-doctoral fellow and continued her passion for research in the field of combustion engineering. In 2015, joined EPA's

Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards as a rule lead for writing regulations for the industrial sectors that use incineration technology. Since joining OAQPS, she has managed many incineration rules. She is currently leading the other solid waste incineration rule project.

Belinda Breidenbach
ID Small Business Development Center
Newcomers and Brief Overview of 507 Program
Networking Social

Belinda is the Environmental Assistance Coordinator, and the Idaho SBEAP. She has been with the Idaho SBDC since January of 2018. Her role is to assist businesses understand and comply with air regulations.

She brings her experience working for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Compliance air program in Washington D.C. She has written Clean Air Act regulations; led a team to create regulations that were straightforward and understandable; and developed compliance training.

Belinda has a B.S. in Geology from the University of Florida and a M.S. in Environmental Planning from Florida State University. She is currently working on a M.A. in Technical Communication from Boise State University.

Lee Ann Briggs
Environmental Consultant (PA)
Networking Social

Lee Ann is an Environmental Consultant with the Environmental Management Assistance Program (EMAP) at the University of Pittsburgh Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence (IEE). With over 30 years of experience, Lee Ann assists businesses with environmental and health and safety compliance, pollution prevention and sustainability opportunities for new business start-up, overall operation and/or potential expansion. In addition to her experience working as an environmental consultant for EMAP, she was previously the Manager of Environmental and Regulatory Affairs for a paint and coatings manufacturer, providing full environmental, product safety and employee safety compliance for 9 years. Prior to that she was an Environmental Scientist/Project Manager with two different Environmental/Engineering Consulting firms. Bachelor of Science in Environmental Resource Management, Pennsylvania State University. Registered Environmental Manager (REM) with the National Registry of Environmental Professionals.

Niva Kramek
Associate Chief, Existing Chemicals Branch, Office of Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention

Update on TSCA Section 6 Implementation

Niva Kramek is the Associate Chief of the Existing Chemicals Branch in the Chemical Control Division within the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Existing Chemicals Branch is responsible for carrying out risk management actions for many existing

chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); this entails extensive public outreach, support of ongoing risk evaluations, managing required consultations, identifying implementable regulatory options that address the identified unreasonable risks, and promulgating proposed and final actions. Prior to working on existing chemicals, was the special assistant for toxics and science coordination for the Assistant Administrator, and a rule writer in the Office of Pesticide Programs. She joined EPA after earning her BA and Master's Degrees in Environmental Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and currently lives in Washington, D.C.

Madeline Beal

EPA

Small Business Assistance in the COVID-19 and Virtual Age

Madeline Beal joined EPA's Office of the Administrator, Office of Public Affairs as Senior Risk Communication Advisor in November where in her role she coordinates and informs risk communication efforts across the agency. She joined EPA from the National Science Foundation where she oversaw communications for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate. There she focused on using the science of science communication to improve the reach and content of a wide variety of NSF products. In addition to her time at NSF, her federal career includes communications roles at the Health Resources and Services Administration and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and bench science roles at the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She received her Master's in Public Health from Johns Hopkins where she focused on environmental health and risk communication. She holds a BS in Biology from Tufts University.

Troy Johnson

SBEAP Coordinator (MN)

Small Business Assistance in the COVID-19 and Virtual Age

Troy Johnson is the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program Coordinator at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. His responsibilities include unit work planning, staff development, data management, and looking for ways to improve the customer experience.

Troy enjoys spending time outdoors golfing, camping, biking, and is looking forward to someday attending large concerts and sporting events again!

Tony Pendola

NCDEQ, Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (NC)

Small Business Assistance in the COVID-19 and Virtual Age

Tony Pendola is the SBO/SBEAP for NC where he serves and/or has served on the National Steering Committee and boards of the Air & Waste Management Association. He's been with the SBEAP for over 20 years and owns two small businesses. He was a part of EPA's Collision Repair Campaign.

Lloyd Kirk

OK Department of Environmental Quality

Small Business Assistance in the COVID-19 and Virtual Age

Lloyd Kirk is Director of the Office of External Affairs at the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), providing customer service to citizens and businesses. Previously, he managed the agency's Brownfields Program. During that time, he gained national attention for some cleanups in Oklahoma. Additionally, Kirk has served on various state and national committees.

Kirk earned his Bachelor's Degree from Oklahoma State University and two Master's Degrees, one from Southern Nazarene University and one from Georgetown University. He and his wife reside in Edmond. He has three children and two grandchildren.

Allison Crowther

Engineering Technician (KS)

Review of the Annual Report Data

Experienced in pollution prevention strategies, particularly with respect to food processors. Provides technical and compliance assistance to small businesses and assists with Pollution Prevention Intern Program and other compliance related projects.

Donovan Grimwood

NSC Vice Chair (TN)

NSBEAP Website Air Resources and Virtual Feedback Session

NSC Meeting/Year in Review/Strategy Session

Closing, Evaluation, and Discussion of Where the 2021 Training May be Held

Donovan Grimwood started with the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) in 1999 and has stayed with that program through about 5 different division changes. In 2014, he was named the Small Business Environmental Ombudsman, though he still mostly does technical work in the SBEAP. He is active in the National network of other state SBEAPs. Currently he is Vice Chair of the NSC, co-chair of the Technical Subcommittee, part of the Website Advisory Committee of the National SBEAP network, and representative for Region IV. Outside of the office, he is a volunteer instructor in

the sport of fencing through the Nashville Community Education program. He holds a BS in Chemistry from Tennessee Technological University.

Renee Lesjak Bashel

NSC Awards Chair (WI)

State SBEAP/SBO: State Awards Ceremony

Renee Lesjak Bashel started her career working for the State of Wisconsin nearly 30 years ago. Renee worked in the Wisconsin DNR's Air Program as an engineer in the 90's, working as a compliance inspector and a permit writer. Then from 2000-2012 Renee was with the Small Business Clean Air Assistance Program at the Department of Commerce and at WDNR. Looking for a new challenge, Renee became a Project Manager of environmental compliance services with SCS Engineers in their Upper Midwest office for a few years. But 5 years ago, Renee went back to WDNR and the newly expanded Small Business Environmental Assistance Program, to explain air, waste and water requirements to whomever needs help. Renee has Bachelor of Science degrees in Chemistry (St. Joseph's College, IN) and Chemical Engineering (UW-Madison).

Anna Marie Wood

Director, Outreach and Information Division, OAQPS, US EPA

Outreach and Information Division Small Business Program – the path forward for a sustainable future

Anna Marie Wood is the Director of the Outreach and Information Division (OID) in the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) at US EPA. OID is responsible for the development and implementation of national training programs, mission critical data information systems and public outreach and education related to the requirements of the Clean Air Act. Anna also served as the Director of the Air Quality Policy Division in OAQPS. The Division was responsible for implementation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, the Regional Haze Program and the New Source Review and Title V Operating Permit Programs under the Clean Air Act. Prior to serving in this position, Anna was a Senior Policy Analyst in the Office of Air and Radiation's Office of Policy Analysis and Review in Washington, D.C. where she focused on issues related to technology development and innovation and the Clean Air Act's permitting programs. Prior to joining EPA, Anna worked for law firms in Houston and Atlanta and also as senior counsel for an energy company in Houston. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics, with a concentration in Environmental Sciences, from the University of Virginia and also a Juris Doctorate and Masters of Law in Energy, Environment and Natural Resource Law from the University of Houston.

Robert Lischinsky

EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance/Office of Compliance/Air Branch
National Compliance Initiatives – Creating Cleaner Air for Communities

Attorney-Advisor in EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. Graduated with a BA in Government from Skidmore College, a JD from The American University Washington College of Law, and an MPA from The George Washington University. Upon graduation from law school, was in private practice with a multinational law firm based in New York City before joining EPA.