



# WSEHA Newsletter

WASHINGTON STATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

One thing that all environmental public health professionals understand is the feeling of being busy: very busy in most cases. For some, this leaves a feeling of being overwhelmed and never being able to fully catch up with the workload. For others, there is the benefit that when things seem their busiest, time really does fly by and the day is done before you know it. As is the case for most of my years in environmental public health, I am feeling a little bit of both. There is so much that I would like to accomplish during my work day, but just not enough time to get it all completed on most days.



Some of the most interesting parts of my days these last few months have been related to the planning of the Annual Educational Conference (AEC) set for May 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver, Washington. As you read through this edition of the newsletter, you will see why. Rick Porso and Kelli Cooper of the Washington State Department of Health have put together a phenomenal team of volunteers to help with everything from arranging speakers to finalizing our menus for the event. Additionally, Joe Laxson and the staff at Clark County Environmental Health have been enthusiastic partners as well. They have truly shown the hospitality of the host county and have participated a great deal in the entire planning process. There are so many more people involved with this year's AEC that deserve a great deal of gratitude, but unfortunately, I couldn't begin thank them all individually in this article. However, it is important to point out that the AEC could not happen without them. As much of our time is spoken for throughout the day, the fact that these volunteers have given so much of their time to assist the Washington State Environmental Health Association should be recognized and appreciated. As we get closer to the event, I'll be sure to show each individual how grateful we are as an association.

Hopefully, you have had a chance by now to look the information for the AEC on the website. Speaking of the website, I have to admit that I am really impressed with the entire site. Dayna has done an amazing job of getting information onto the site and (just as importantly) keeping everything up to date. Additionally, there is the ability to do so much more. A good portion of the tracking related to the AEC has been done through the website. We hope to utilize these functions to make communicating with members even better.

Finally, I'll end this with my regular request: get involved. Become a part of the Washington State Environmental Health Association. Whatever your motivation to begin with, I think you will see there is not another organization that appreciates and supports our profession as much as this association. There are several levels of time involvement and your contribution to the association and profession will be greatly appreciated.

I can't wait to see you at the 2016 Annual Education Conference in Vancouver.

~ Michael Baker

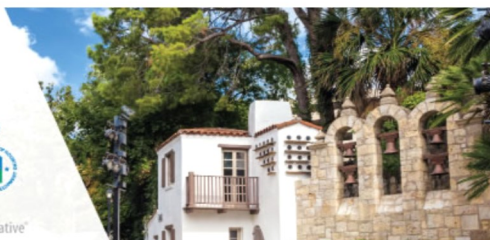
**Award  
Nominations  
due  
MARCH 25TH**  
(see page 6)

**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.

See page 7 for info

NEHA 2016 AEC  
AND  
HUD Healthy  
Homes Conference  
SAN ANTONIO, TX  
JUNE 13-16, 2016

Presented by  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative



See page 3 for the NEHA AEC

## WSEHA Office Location and Contact Information

1088 Puget Drive East Port Orchard, WA 98366  
Website: [www.wseha.org](http://www.wseha.org)  
Phone 414.688.2491, Fax 360.989.3997  
Executive Secretary:  
Dayna Katula  
[dayna@wseha.org](mailto:dayna@wseha.org)

### WSEHA Board of Directors

**President - Michael Baker**  
509.397.6280  
[MichaelB@co.whitman.wa.us](mailto:MichaelB@co.whitman.wa.us)

#### **President Elect - Vacant**

**Immediate Past President - Kay Massong**  
360.867.2571  
[kmassong@hotmail.com](mailto:kmassong@hotmail.com)

**Secretary - Ross Lytle**  
360.337.5677  
[Ross.Lytle@kitsappublichealth.org](mailto:Ross.Lytle@kitsappublichealth.org)

**Treasurer - Jesse Smith**  
360.414.5599 x6442  
[smithj@co.cowlitz.wa.us](mailto:smithj@co.cowlitz.wa.us)

**Central Regional Vice President - James Rivard**  
509.457.7123  
[jriv461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jriv461@ecy.wa.gov)

**Eastern Regional Vice President - Chris Skidmore**  
[Chris.Skidmore@co.whitman.wa.us](mailto:Chris.Skidmore@co.whitman.wa.us)

**Northwest Regional Vice President - [Interim]  
Mike Vinatieri**  
360.748.0378

**Olympic Regional Vice President - Jodie Holdcroft**  
360.337.5629  
[Jodie.Holdcroft@kitsappublichealth.org](mailto:Jodie.Holdcroft@kitsappublichealth.org)

**Southwest Regional Vice President - Jeremy Simmons**  
[Jeremy.simmons@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Jeremy.simmons@doh.wa.gov)

### WSEHA Committee Chairs

**International Health Committee - Ross Lytle**  
360.337.5677  
[Ross.Lytle@kitsappublichealth.org](mailto:Ross.Lytle@kitsappublichealth.org)

**Nominations and Awards Committee—Joe Graham**  
360.236.3305  
[Joe.Graham@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Joe.Graham@doh.wa.gov)

**Publications Committee—Megan McNelly**  
360.875.9356  
[mmcnelly@co.pacific.wa.us](mailto:mmcnelly@co.pacific.wa.us)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
NEHA AEC	3
All Things AEC	4
Awards and Nominations	6
2016 Pool Conferences	7
Amazon Smile	7

## Next Newsletter Deadline:

**June 17, 2016**

The Washington State Environmental Health Association Newsletter is the official publication of WSEHA. Membership in WSEHA includes a subscription to the newsletter. Manuscripts for publication must be type-written and submitted via e-mail to [dayna@wseha.org](mailto:dayna@wseha.org), or on a computer disk mailed to WSEHA at the address above. 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.

**Want to join WSEHA? For information and membership applications, visit:**

<http://www.wseha.org/#!membership/clulz>



[REGISTER HERE](#)

**Learn and Be Inspired!  
Expert Speakers...  
Topics You Need to Know...**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Check out some highlights for the 2016 conference which promises to be unlike any other in recent history! The conference brochure is now online.

- Expertly moderated Opening & Keynote Session on Monday, June 13 at 4 pm followed by the Exhibition Grand Opening & Party.
- A not-to-be-missed Closing Session on Thursday, June 16 at 11:30 am, *From Sandy to San Bernardino: Risk, Response, & Resiliency*. Join a nationally-recognized behavioral health expert who will moderate and explore workforce resiliency with a panel of disaster-experienced environmental health professionals. Sponsored by the NEHA Business & Industry Affiliate.
- Respected speakers on relevant, timely topics such as Zika Virus, Flint, MI Water Crisis, Climate Change, and more!
- Annual UL Event at Pearl Stables. [Tickets](#) are going quickly and will sell out!

With more than 150 educational sessions offered during the conference, additional sessions are being added to [conference session schedule](#) daily, so check back often!

### EEK Virtual Conference to Include Cutting-Edge Sessions April 13-14

[EEK: Vectors and Public Health Pests Virtual Conference](#) will bring environmental health professionals together in a unique virtual environment to exchange information and discover new solutions to issues in vectors and public health pests. Content will include a plenary session with timely updates to NEHA's recent Zika webinar and a live session on communicating health risks associated with vectors and public health pests. Registration is free and open to all interested!



---

## And All Things AEC.....

---

The Annual Educational Conference (AEC) is coming up in May, and it is WSEHA's 64<sup>th</sup> (!!!) AEC since our inception in 1945. This year, the AEC is taking place in Vancouver, WA. Vancouver is a delightful, walkable city that has all of the attributes that a visitor would want - great restaurants, interesting historical sites, family-friendly, quirky shops, a flourishing brewery and winery industry, and is pretty close to Portland. Since the AEC is occurring just before Memorial Day, we urge you to consider spending the holiday weekend in Vancouver.

The Conference's theme this year is *Environmental Public Health in an Ever-Changing World*. Although a lot of Environmental Public Health remains the same over time, there is a big chunk of it that is always evolving. We learn more from our experiences as professionals, from our colleagues that came up with creative solutions or are experts in something we aren't, from new science, or from better technology - whatever the reason, the AEC is going to cover topics to help us grow our knowledge bases.

Sessions are divvied up into four categories: One Water, Outbreaks or Emerging Issues, Traditional or Foundational Environmental Public Health, and Healthy Communities/Built Environment/Climate Change. Besides the great presentations that will fall into these tracks, we've confirmed four respected speakers that will be sure to inspire and educate. See the next page for their information.

Registration for the 64<sup>th</sup> AEC is now open! Register online [here](#), or [click here](#) to learn more about WSEHA. If you'd like to see a draft agenda, [click here](#). Please keep in mind that this agenda is a draft. We are still in the process of confirming speakers, which could lead to changes.

WSEHA would like to extend a very warm thank you to Rick Porso, Deputy Director in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at the Washington State Department of Health. Rick is this year's volunteer AEC Chair, and has been the driver to make this year's conference a huge success. He has great ideas, is very organized and communicative, and has remained calm during the whirlwind planning and coordinating processes. Thank you Rick!

### **Portland Spirit Dinner Cruise**

After a full day of learning at the AEC, it'll be nice to relax, eat good food, and check out the Portland views by going on the [Portland Spirit Dinner Cruise](#). The cruise is described as a vibrant setting enhanced by dazzling city sights and lights. An evening filled to the brim with festive cuisine that is locally-sourced and prepared fresh on board, entertainment, and live performances! Transportation arrangements have been arranged from the Hilton to the cruise and back, so you don't have to worry about anything besides having a great time!

The price per person is \$80 and includes transportation (and tip for the driver) and admission to the dinner cruise, which includes dinner and dessert but not gratuity. Because it can be confusing when work expenses (for those whose conference costs are being paid for by their employer) get mixed-up with personal expenses, we are having a separate registration for the cruise. We realize this is a little more work on your end, so we thank you for your time and patience! [Register here](#) for the Portland Spirit Dinner Cruise.

### **Sponsorship**

We understand that not all of those who would like to be vendors at the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference can attend. This year, groups can sponsor a break or the Thursday evening social event, which is slated to be a [Dinner Cruise with Portland Spirit](#). In addition, we're introducing three levels of sponsorships in order for groups to participate from afar: Gold, Silver, and Bronze. By committing at gold, silver, or bronze level sponsorship, a company can support the conference and gain a high level of recognition from the conference attendees. This can supplement a booth presence or provide a presence if you can't make it to the conference. Your company will be recognized in the conference program and during the lunch slideshows. Depending on your sponsorship level, your company will also have space in the conference goodie bag. If your group would like to become a sponsor, [click here](#) to register online. Those with questions can contact Mike Vinatieri by phone at 360-748-0378 or by email at [mvinatieri@hotmail.com](mailto:mvinatieri@hotmail.com).





## John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH

John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH, was appointed Secretary of Health by Governor Jay Inslee and joined the Department of Health in April 2013. He's an accomplished transformational leader with more than 22 years of local public health experience and focuses on whole systems approaches to improving health. Currently, John serves as an adjunct assistant professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health, Health Policy and Management. He also serves as a clinical professor at the University of Washington, School of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

## Kristie Ebi, PhD, MPH

Dr. Kristie Ebi is a Professor in the Departments of Global Health and Environmental and Occupational Health Services at the University of Washington, a Guest Professor at Umea University in Sweden, and a Consulting Professor at Stanford University and George Washington University. She conducts research on the impacts of and adaption to climate change, including on extreme events, thermal stress, foodborne safety and security, waterborne diseases, and vector-borne diseases.



## Bob Custard, REHS, CP-FS

Bob Custard, NEHA's new president, has served on the NEHA board of directors for the past 12 years. He is passionate about mentoring emerging environmental health leaders. Recently he created Environmental Health Leadership Partners, a consulting firm specializing in environmental health leadership development and management. Until last December, Bob served as an environmental health professional at the state and local levels in Virginia. For the 13 years prior to his retirement from the Virginia Department of Health, he was the Environmental Health Manager for the City of Alexandria.

## Captain Hugh Mainzer, DVM, MS

As Chief Veterinary Officer, CAPT Mainzer is responsible for providing leadership and coordination of veterinary professional affairs for the Office of the Surgeon General and the Department of Health and Human Services. He also provides guidance and advice to the Surgeon General and the Veterinary Professional Advisory Committee. CAPT Mainzer is a Supervisory Preventative Medicine Officer and Epidemiologist in the Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services at the National Center for Environmental Health, a component of the CDC. He is a strong advocate for the application of initiatives and activities designed to integrate veterinary proficiencies with the practices of all public health professionals.



---

## Environmental Health Award Nominations

---

Do you ever look at one of your co-worker and just think “man, this person is awesome. This person is so full of wisdom, so driven, and well, they just deserve an award!” Or maybe one of your colleagues did something so terribly embarrassing that you just *have* to tell everyone about it? Serendipitously, WSEHA has those awards and is looking for people to give them to. The following is a list of the awards that we give out:

The John Nordin Outstanding Sanitarian Award ♦ The Jack B. Hatlen Inspirational Award ♦ Rookie of the Year Award ♦ Environmental Health Professional of the Year award ♦ Environmental Health Story of the Year Award  
Most Humorous/Embarrassing Moment Award

Read more about each award and its criteria [here](#). If you are a WSEHA member and would like to nominate someone (please make sure that they meet the eligibility criteria), contact Joe Graham with the appropriate information for the respective award. His email address is [joe.graham@doh.wa.gov](mailto:joe.graham@doh.wa.gov) and mailing address is Department of Health/PO Box 47825/Olympia, WA 98504-7825. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Joe.

You have to get moving! ***The deadline to nominate candidates for awards is March 25th.*** It won't be extended because time is needed to select winners and purchase awards, which will be presented at the WSEHA AEC on May 26-27, 2016.

We know that nominating someone takes some effort, but you'll be happy that you were the reason why a deserving individual was recognized!

---

## WSEHA Board Elections: Coming Soon to a ballot near you

---

This year, two positions on the WSEHA Board of Directors are up for election: President-Elect and Secretary. Sometimes, it can be difficult to find those willing to be on a volunteer Board. We all have large workloads, life can easily get in the way, or maybe you've never thought of yourself as someone that could serve on a Board- whatever the reason is, WSEHA understands. We respect your time and effort, and never take for granted that our Board members are individuals that go above and beyond!

Some reasons\* why you may want to consider running for office that you hadn't thought of before: broaden your connections and build valuable networks • round out your resume • gain expertise on complex issues that are integral to business and the economy • make an impact • develop skills in the areas of teamwork, working with budgets, and strategic planning • gives you visibility

That being said, we already have one candidate for President-Elect.

**Joe Graham:** Joe Graham is Technical Lead of the Washington State Department of Health's Food Safety Program. He is a Registered Sanitarian and has a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science from Washington State University. Joe has over 20 years' experience as a public health professional at the local, state, and federal level. He has given numerous food safety presentations across the state and provides ongoing consultation, training, and technical assistance to the legislature, the media, local health agencies, state and federal regulatory agencies, consultants, researchers, and the food service industry in Washington State.

We don't yet have any candidates for the Secretary position. After serving 10 years on WSEHA's Board as Secretary, Ross Lytle (Senior Environmental Health Specialist with the Kitsap Public Health District) has decided that it is time for him to step down. Thank you Ross for all of your years of dedication and hard work!

Continued on page 7

---

## 2016 Pool Conferences

---

WSEHA teams up with the Washington State Department of Health's Water Recreation Program (WRP) each year to bring you the Pool Conferences. Paul Reeves is joined by Jun Naotsuka, the WRP's newest addition, to share their expertise in providing a safe and healthy swimming environment for the public.

Paul, Jun, and a few very qualified guest speakers will discuss topics such as swimming pool and spa chemistry, illness associated with water recreation, pool testing, spas, pool equipment operation: pumps, motors, and filters, and pool inspection and assessment. They combine a classroom learning environment with a hands-on approach in order to communicate the concepts most effectively.

So if you are a regulator or a pool operator, this is a great course for you to take, especially if you are just starting out or need a refresher. This year's set of courses will once again be held on each side of the state so that most people are accommodated- in western Washington on April 20, 2016 in Lakewood and in eastern Washington on April 26, 2016 in Kennewick. The cost of the course is \$60 if you need a copy of the Pool Operator's Manual or \$40 if you don't. Be sure to bring your pool chemistry test kits, lunch is on your own, and refreshments are provided.

To find more in-depth information about the 2016 Pool Conferences and to register (online or mail-in), be sure to check out [this webpage](#). If you have any questions related to course content, contact the great Paul Reeves himself at either 360-236-3386 or [paul.reeves@doh.wa.gov](mailto:paul.reeves@doh.wa.gov). For all other questions, contact Dayna Katula at either 414-688-2491 or [dayna@wseha.org](mailto:dayna@wseha.org). We hope to see you there!

---

## SMILE!

---

Shop much at Amazon? Heard of the Amazon Smile program?

WSEHA has signed onto the Amazon Smile program which donates .5% of purchases through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to the charity of the purchaser's choice. Amazon Smile is exactly the same as Amazon except you get to select which charity will be the recipient of the donation. There are no changes to prices or any other aspect other than the opportunity to have Amazon donate some money to your preferred charity.

While we are not recommending you shop at Amazon over any other specific retailer, we do recommend that when you shop through Amazon to use the sister site [Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) whether or not you select our organization or another deserving one to receive the donation.



The link to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) with Washington State Environmental Health Association chosen as your charity is linked below. Thank you for considering choosing our charity.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-1312779>

---

## WSEHA Board Elections

---

If you are interesting in joining our awesome team, please send Dayna Katula an email at [dayna@wseha.org](mailto:dayna@wseha.org) no later than April 19, 2016. Don't forget to include the position that you'd like to run for and a biographical paragraph to put on the ballot. To find out more about each Board position, [click here](#) (pages 32-34).

\*from [Great Nonprofits](#) and [Diversity MBA](#)