



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY: WEFTEC 2017 “Can’t Miss Events” for Monday, Oct. 2

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – WEFTEC is the best place for water professionals to learn, connect, and explore new ways to create the future of water. More than 20,000 water professionals and 1,000 water companies will attend the Water Environment Federation (WEF)’s 90th annual technical exhibition and conference at McCormick Place in Chicago, September 30-October 4. All times are in the CDT time zone.

CAN’T MISS EVENTS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 2:

AAEES/AIDIS/WEF Breakfast

7:15 am – 8:30 am | Room S103c | McCormick Place South

Join fellow researchers and scientists for this annual breakfast. **Krishna Pagilla**, PhD, PE, BCEE, University of Nevada, Reno, will discuss Recycled Water Use for Potable and Non-Potable Purposes in both Water-Rich and Water-Deficit Regions. *Ticketed event*

The Opening General Session: Investing in the Future of Water

8:30 am – 10:15 am | Room S100 | McCormick Place South*** **NEW TIME**

Featuring a new time and format that combines the Opening General Session and Great Water Cities Session into one exciting event, we’ll kick WEFTEC into high gear by celebrating 90 years of WEFTECs and highlighting the importance of mentorship with ties to workforce development, leadership and innovation. The keynote address from nationally-acclaimed STEM educator and advocate, **Fredi Lajvardi** will set up a series of informal, engaging “WEFTalks” from a diverse group of water experts including: **Tom Ferguson**, vice president of programming, Imagine H2O; **Joan Rose**, international expert in water microbiology, water quality and public health safety, Michigan State University; **Ifetayo Venner**, global leader for water supply and treatment, Arcadis; and **Carla Reid**, general manager, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. *No badge required. Note: This event will be streamed live via www.weftec.org. A recording is not available post-event.*

AEESP/WEF Scientists' Luncheon

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm | Room S103c | McCormick Place South

Celebrating leading academics and researchers, and the important role that they play in advancing the science and technology of environmental protection, this year's AEESP/WEF Scientists' Luncheon features keynote speaker **Bill Cooper**, Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Irvine. Just prior to WEFTEC, Bill completed a four-year stint at the National Science Foundation and will share insights gleaned from his fascinating career with luncheon participants. *Ticketed event*

Stormwater Congress Luncheon - Moving Beyond Stormwater: Changing Climate, Changing Minds.

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm | Room S106b | McCormick Place South

Celebrating the work of stormwater professionals, **Christine Zimmer**, P.Eng., Msc (Eng.), of Credit Valley Conservation (Mississauga, Ontario, Canada) will speak about how extreme events such as drought and intense rainfall have exposed the vulnerability of North American stormwater infrastructure and highlighted the impact on public health, agriculture, transportation, world economies, water and wastewater infrastructure, and the natural environment. Her presentation will break free from traditional comfort zones by demonstrating the need to change behaviors by going beyond codes and standards; incorporating social vulnerabilities into capital works and land acquisition priorities; and engaging nontraditional partners. *Ticketed event*

Operations Challenge

11:00 am – 4:30 pm | Booth 7007 | Hall B

Some of the most elite operators in the country go head-to-head in the first day of this fast-paced, skills-based competition for wastewater and maintenance professionals. Now celebrating its 30th event, teams compete in five timed events that test specific abilities.

Women in Water: Informing, Inspiring, Connecting

5:00 pm – 6:15 pm | Room S103c | McCormick Place South

During this reception and session, current and future female water sector leaders representing a variety of disciplines—engineering, operations, research, management, and communications—are informed and inspired by a panel of women leaders, exchanging stories about their careers, lessons learned, advice, and areas for more focus. This exciting event also includes ample time for peer-to-peer exchange of knowledge and support. The panel includes: **Cindy Wallis-Lage**, president, water business, Black & Veatch Corporation; **Halla Razak**, director of public utilities, City of San Diego; **Nancy Love**, professor, University of Michigan; and **Abigail Antolovich**, Xylem Inc. *Ticket required*

Make THE Water Quality Event, YOUR Water Quality Event

Don't miss your chance to help us create the future of water. For the latest conference information and registration details, visit www.weftec.org. For the full program and latest updates at your fingertips, download the [WEFTEC MobileApp](#).

Note to editors: [Complimentary registration](#) is available for credentialed media representatives. Badges can be obtained in Room N427d in McCormick Place beginning Sunday, October 1 at 8:30 a.m.

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About WEF

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization of 33,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world. Since 1928, WEF and its members have protected public health and the environment. As a global water sector leader, our mission is to connect water professionals; enrich the expertise of water professionals; increase the awareness of the impact and value of water; and provide a platform for water sector innovation. To learn more, visit www.wef.org.

About WEFTEC

WEFTEC 2017, the Water Environment Federation's 90th Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference, will be held September 30-October 4 at McCormick Place in Chicago. The world's largest annual water quality event provides the latest developments, technologies, and services for water preservation, restoration, and sustainability. To learn more, visit www.weftec.org.

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