



CSWEA  
**Webinar**  
Series

THURSDAY – November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

## Climate Adaptation and Resiliency in the Midwest

Please join Central States Water Environment Association Watershed and Stormwater Committee for a **Virtual Webinar** offering a discussion of climate change observations in the Midwest geography and examples of how resilient infrastructure is meeting the stormwater and watershed needs of today and planning for the future. This special presentation of this Virtual Webinar series is hosted in conjunction with the Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois committees.

### Agenda

11:55 am	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>
12:00 pm	<b>Understanding Hydroclimatic Change in Minnesota and the Upper Midwest</b>
12:30 pm	<b>Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District Watershed Collaboration for Shared Climate Resiliency</b>
1:00 pm	<b>Climate Resilience in Transportation: MnDOT's Approach</b>
1:30 pm	<b>South Central Interceptor Stabilization Project – City of Naperville, Illinois</b>
2:00 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>

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### CONTINUING EDUCATION

2 CEUs for IL, MN and WI Operators.

2.4 PDHs for all Professional Engineers

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### COST

\$20 – Members (Discount Code: CSWEA)

\$25 – Non-Members

\$5 – Students (Discount Code: Student)

\$5 – International (Discount Code: International)

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## CSWEA Webinar Series

### Presentation Topics & Speakers

#### **Understanding Hydroclimatic Change in Minnesota and the Upper Midwest**

##### **Kenneth Blumenfeld, Minnesota State Climatology Office (Department of Natural Resources)**

Dr. Kenneth (“Kenny”) Blumenfeld is a climate scientist who grew up in Minneapolis with a love for storms, blizzards, and being outside. He works for the Minnesota State Climatology Office (Department of Natural Resources), where he provides the state’s agencies, communities, and citizens with up-to-date scientific information about Minnesota’s changing and variable climate. Kenny enjoys talking to Minnesotans about their weather, and often does it long after the workday is done. This presentation breaks down the region’s changing climate to its essential points, particularly emphasizing the ongoing changes in the quantity, timing, and intensity of precipitation, and the rapid rate of winter warming. He will also discuss other important elements of our climate that are not (yet) changing and will peer into the future to see what lies ahead, according to the best available science.

#### **MMSD Watershed Collaboration for Shared Climate Resiliency - Kristin Schultheis, Milwaukee MSD**

Kristin Schultheis manages MMSD's Working Soils® and Greenseams® programs and facilitates the Milwaukee River Watershed Conservation Partnership (MRWCP) in implementing a USDA-NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program. Kristin is a Badger alum, a life-long paddler of Wisconsin’s waters, has twenty years professional experience as a soil scientist in restoration ecology, and serves on the boards of Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy and the River Alliance of Wisconsin. For twenty years, MMSD has engaged with communities throughout the Milwaukee River Basin to address future flooding risk, soil erosion, pollutant runoff, habitat degradation, and climate resilience through targeted land preservation. MMSD’s Greenseams® and Working Soils® programs make voluntary purchases and place easements on undeveloped, privately owned properties in areas expected to have major growth and in open spaces along streams, shorelines, and wetlands. Kristin will discuss the programs’ effects on our natural systems, a new urgency for resilience preparedness, and how community and peer-to-peer engagement is critical to program success.

#### **Climate Resilience in Transportation: MnDOT’s Approach**

##### **Jeffery Meek, Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Sustainability and Public Health**

Jeffrey Meek is a Sustainability Coordinator in the MnDOT Office of Sustainability and Public Health. He coordinates strategic efforts around climate resilience and adaptation, such as planning and designing today’s infrastructure for the rain events of the future decades. He developed the Climate Resilience Report for MnDOT which includes a review of related best practices and future opportunities. Jeff’s previous work includes managing the Indianapolis Office of Sustainability and serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in El Salvador, and he has an MPA and an MS in Environmental Science from Indiana University. The impacts of climate change require that MnDOT better prepare our infrastructure for increased precipitation and heat. This presentation will provide an overview of how the agency is approaching climate resilience, building on the existing [Transportation Resilience Report](#). Topics covered include ongoing efforts to assess climate vulnerability, how to measure resilience, and strategies that can be employed to increase resilience.

#### **South Central Interceptor Stabilization Project—City of Naperville, Illinois - Kelsey Gattone, Strand Associates**

Kelsey Gattone is municipal engineer at Strand Associates, Inc. specializing in stormwater management, planning, and permitting, hydraulic and hydrologic modeling, drainage studies and design, and design of green infrastructure best management practices. Kelsey graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering. She is a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) and Engineer in Training (EIT). This presentation will be about the City of Naperville’s South Central Interceptor Sewer which parallels the West Branch of the DuPage River. Frequent changes in water level have eroded the riverbank, cutting closer and closer to the adjacent interceptor, and in some locations exposing the sewer wall. Strand designed naturalized and hard-armored riverbank stabilization measures to protect the interceptor and prevent further erosion along the riverbank. Along with protecting the City’s crucial infrastructure, the project offered opportunity to enhance the upland riparian zone by clearing invasive species and restoring the landscape with native vegetation.