



THE YP CONNECTION

2ND QUARTER 2020

VOLUME 23

ACE 2020 Announcement

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A&WMA Announcements	1
Message from the Chair	2
Staying Connected	3
YP Programs	4
YPAC Officer List	5

A&WMA COVID 19 Update:

It is with deep regret that we announce that the Air & Waste Management Association's Board of Directors has decided to cancel the on-site portion of the Association's 113th Annual Conference and Exhibition (ACE) in San Francisco, CA (June 29 – July 2, 2020) in favor of a virtual conference. This very difficult decision was made after an extremely thorough and exhaustive process of reviewing every viable option. The health and safety of our conference attendees, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, vendors, and staff are of paramount importance to us. Based on the evolving COVID-19 situation within the country and around the world, as well as the number of travel and funding restrictions impacting the members of our professional community, A&WMA made the necessary decision to transition the ACE 2020 face-to-face conference to a virtual format which will kick-off on June 30, 2020.

The good news is that we have the foundation for an incredible conference. The A&WMA staff and leadership are actively working on a virtual solution to deliver conference content and networking opportunities for our attendees, while allowing for greater participation and accessibility. More details about the special virtual edition of ACE 2020 will be distributed as soon as they are available, and the registration site will be open by the beginning of May. In the meantime, please check back for regular updates and a list of answers to frequently asked questions on the [ACE 2020 page](#). Thank you for your patience as we navigate this process.



Other A&WMA Announcements

We are pleased to announce we have been able to reschedule our two spring events:

The [NSR Workshop](#), previously scheduled for March 18–19 in Atlanta, GA, has been rescheduled in the same hotel, Doubletree Hilton Atlanta Airport, for September 1–2, 2020.

The [Community Wildfire Recovery: Environmental and Public Health Perspectives Conference](#), previously scheduled for April 14–15 in Sacramento, CA has been rescheduled to August 18–19, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento, CA

Message from the Chair

One of the best things about growing up as a millennial was that we truly had the best music of any generation. For the record, I am not accepting slander on this. Genre-defining records in rock, pop, and hip hop fueled summer pool parties, awkward middle school dances, and tearful graduation goodbyes. As I sat sequestered in my home office typing this with the 90s and early 2000s Pandora station going, one song on the queue caught my attention and made me think about the new normal we've been forced to adopt...



“Dare You To Move” is an odd thing to say to people these days but many of us will admit it’s the first thing on our minds. We want to be able to move, shop, dine, and visit freely.



We want our sporting events and mall dates and Starbucks-fueled Target runs back. We want some semblance of normalcy even as every significant pillar of our lives has come to rest under one roof, literally. Some of us are on the front lines of fighting this virus. Some of us are suddenly having to balance family and work obligations at the same time. Some of us are wondering what the words “stable” and “essential” really meant before this and what new

steps to take amidst this new challenge. Uncertainty reigns between how it is and how it should be.

So, should we dare to move? I have considered this question a lot over the past month. These are uncharted waters for A&WMA and YPAC. Our reality of planning a conference in San Francisco has evolved into the challenge of preparing a virtual conference, the first ever in A&WMA history. Other programming is being moved to accommodate new schedules, new locations, and new travel restrictions. But the silver lining in the age of COVID-19 is that with every passing day I lean more and more on this Council to get things done and they deliver. Every. Single. Time. Where some teams would fall apart we have become stronger and it’s here in this time that our unofficial YPAC creed of “forever friends” has really shined. We as a Council and Association are here to continue our mission of fostering connections, providing relevant information, and lifting up the young professional no matter the situation or platform. So as we continue to practice social distancing and staying home, I do indeed dare you to move. Not physically of course (#flattenthecurve!) but creatively. YPAC will be developing new content in new ways and it is the hope of this Council that it makes these days a little bit easier, a little bit more fun, and provides you with the connections we hope to rekindle when we meet again.

- Paul Algu

Staying Connected...Apart!!

As we all know, COVID-19 has put everything on hold and while we hope this will all be over soon, there's no telling when things will get back to normal. Here's some quick ideas on how to connect with your local A&WMA network while still following CDC guidelines.

1. Virtual Happy Hours / Trivia Nights

Grab a drink at the hottest spot in town – your couch! It's easy to connect with people virtually using free apps. Maybe schedule a speaker or host a trivia night to keep people engaged. Zoom is popular right now but make sure you check with your company to see if they have any security concerns. We recommend setting up a session with a password or a "waiting room" to keep trolls out.



2. Virtual 5Ks

Encourage folks to get outside and get some exercise with a virtual 5K. Set a week or weekend and ask folks to send in their times once they finish. A picture is an added bonus! Apps like Nike Run Club and Map My Run are free to use and will track distance. Following best practices, please remind people to stay away from crowded areas like parks and to keep their distance from others.



3. Host Competitions

Lastly, set up a friendly competition and look for ways to stay engaged using items at hand. One way is an at-home scavenger hunt. Release the list and set the clock for an hour... first one to take a picture with 10 of the listed items wins! There's lots of list ideas online, pick and choose your favorites!

We'd love to hear how you are connecting with your A&WMA network - Send us your pictures and stay safe!

If you have questions or comments on the *YP Connection*, or would like to submit articles, please send an email with *YP Connection* in the subject line to pwright@trcsolutions.com

[Call for Mentors and Mentees](#)

Are you looking for the next great opportunity to be more involved with A&WMA to connect with others in your similar profession? Look no further, as that opportunity is right here with A&WMA! We have a new mentoring program within the organization that will increase your connectivity with other members, awareness of the educational opportunities, and ultimately advance your value for your corporation.

For mentors, this program is a great way to – (1) Support students and YPs within the organization. (2) Connect with “up and coming” leaders of the organization. (3) Influence the future direction of the organization. (4) Pass along your lessons learned to the future leaders of the organization.

For mentees, this program is a great way to – (1) Network with others within the organization. (2) Meet people geographically spread throughout the US. (3) Learn more about leadership needs and opportunities within the organization. (4) Learn more about how you can shape/influence the future direction and prosperity of A&WMA at a local, State, and National level. The mentoring questionnaire is now live! Take the survey [here](#).

YPAC Introduces a “Dear YP Style” Advice Column

Do you have questions you want answered by your A&WMA colleagues? Have you recently started a new job, or got promoted and don't know how to handle the stress of new responsibilities? Ask another YP! The YPAC is launching an Advice Column, where Young Professional A&WMA members can anonymously ask a question they want answered by members of the YPAC. Questions and answers will be posted on our LinkedIn page, so be sure to follow us on social media! Post your question [here](#). We can't wait to answer your question!

[Call for Publications](#)

All young professionals are invited to submit their unique perspectives and insights for publication in the *EM* Magazine. Articles published under the YP Perspective column can be technical, introspective, or professional development-related and can be on any topic of interest to you and your YP peers.

Please contact Kerry Weichsel at kweichsel@cecinc.com for more information or if you have an article you would like to share.

[Stay in Touch With Us](#)

You don't have to feel alone during social distancing. YPAC's social media platforms are great community outlets to share how you're coping up with the New Normal.

Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#). DM your ideas and we will feature the best ones on our page.

YPAC Officers LIST

YPAC Officer	Position	Chapter	Section
Paul Algu	YPAC Chair	N.A.	Louisiana Section
Vacant Until 2022	Past Chair		
Lindsay Salvador	Vice-Chair	Alabama Chapter	N.A.
Laura Cremer	ACE Liasion (2020)		Golden West Section
	ACE Liasion (2021)		
Kaitlyn Tingum	Local Support Committee	NE Florida Chapter	Florida Section
Stephanie Friel	Local Support Committee Vice Chair	Delaware Valley Chapter	Mid-Atlantic States Section.
Kristen Fritchmen	Technical Committee		Allegheny Mountain Section
Vacant	Technical Committee Vice Chair		
Lizzie Rubenstein	Vitality Committee		Allegheny Mountain Section
Charley Wehbe	Vitality Committee Vice Chair		
Vacant	Vitality Committee Member		
Patrick Wright	Communications Committee	Connecticut Chapter	New England Section
Vacant	Communications Committee Vice-Chair	N.A.	Golden West Section
Kerry Weischel	Publications Committee		Allegheny Mountain Section
	YPAC Volunteer Coordinator		
Ryan Christman	Professional Development Committee	Baltimore-Washington Chapter	South Atlantic States Section
Ross Lowe Beardsley	Professional Development Committee Vice-Chair	N.A.	Golden West Section