

A&WMA Sections & Chapters Council

Winter 2026 Virtual Meeting Agenda

Friday, February 18, 2026 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm CT

Attendees: See meeting agenda

Meeting called to order at 1:00 PM ET.

Overall Meeting Summary

The Sections and Chapters Council meeting focused on reviewing the association's financial performance, membership trends, and upcoming initiatives. Harry Klodowski, the 2026 president, presented a detailed overview of the association's budget, highlighting the success of specialty conferences and webinars in driving revenue. Travis Tokarek, the membership committee chair, reported on membership trends, noting an increase in student membership but a decline in organizational membership. The council discussed plans for the Leadership Academy, with Tracy highlighting changes to the format and encouraging participation. Stephanie Phillips provided an update on the Conduit newsletter, which serves as a communication tool for sections and chapters. The conversation ended with a discussion on potential mergers of Tennessee chapters and the need for proper documentation and approval processes.

Action items

- Richard Wales
 - Send revised bylaws for new Tennessee Chapter to members for review and vote, and send newsletter to members about the chapter merger.
- Mike Hult
 - Work with Richard Wales to compile documentation for Tennessee chapter merger and present to AWMA board for approval.
 - Consider holding a monthly virtual meeting ("coffee hour") between now and ACE.
- Travis Tokarek
 - Dig through January report to determine which universities AWMA has student chapter affiliations with and report figures at next meeting.
 - Contact Kumar Ganesan at Montana Tech regarding information on active student chapters. Also check in with Ryan Drover from YPAC.
- Tracy Fedkoe
 - Add Jyoti and John to the annual report distribution list and provide Jyoti with access to the reports portal. (done)
 - Update the annual report SurveyMonkey form with recent changes/combining of questions and send out survey (done)
 - Update instructions and keep the annual report spreadsheet on the website as a checklist, but not allow upload to shared drive due to financial info concerns. (done)

- Send email announcement when the annual report submittal process is finalized and open. (done)
- Change instructions on the annual report page and review with Jennifer for any language tweaks. (done)
- Update the annual report survey with the changes Jennifer made to the questions. (done)

Motions

1. Mike made a motion to combine the three Tennessee chapters (Eastern Tennessee, Middle Tennessee and Western Tennessee) into 1 chapter called the Tennessee chapter.
Richard seconded the motion.
All approved with added caveat that Richard send revised bylaws to members for approval.

2. Stephanie Taylor made a motion that the Greater St. Louis section merge with the Midwest section.
After discussion, it was discovered that currently there are no members in the Greater St. Louis section, and that the motion be restated to dissolve the section instead of merging with the Midwest section.
Mike seconded the motion.
All approved.

Summary

Chapter Leadership Transition Meeting

Harry Klodowski was introduced as the 2026 president, and the agenda was reviewed and approved, with Richard Wales raising a topic about merging Tennessee chapters which was to be discussed in the Vitality section of the agenda. The October 2025 draft minutes were also approved.

Association Financial and Strategic Planning

Harry provided an overview of the association's financial status and future plans. He highlighted that 2025 was the best year financially since COVID, with revenue coming from specialty conferences, ACE, membership, publications, and webinars. Harry emphasized the importance of increasing attendance at conferences and webinars, as well as growing membership. He also discussed plans for a website refresh, changes to the annual conference to reduce costs (e.g., venue change to hotels instead of conference centers), and the development of a new sponsorship program. Mike inquired about the potential use of virtual technologies for certain conference tracks, which Harry acknowledged as a consideration for future planning.

AWMA Webinar and Membership Strategies

Harry discussed plans for AWMA webinars, including potential format changes and exploring new content delivery methods beyond traditional webinars. He highlighted the success of past webinars and suggested creating shorter, single-speaker programs, as well as developing training sessions and introductory-level content. Harry also mentioned the need to market webinar recordings more effectively and to consider posting them on platforms like YouTube after a certain period. The

membership committee, led by Travis, presented trends in membership, noting a significant increase in student members and a decline in organizational membership. Travis suggested exploring hybrid or virtual options for specialty conferences to support organizational memberships and highlighted the success of some sections and chapters in improving their membership numbers.

Membership Retention and Engagement Strategies

Tracy emphasized the importance of reaching out to members, particularly new and lapsed members, to maintain engagement and retention. Harry mentioned that the board will review the dues structure and membership benefits, as it has been ten years since the last increase. Chi emphasized the importance of the mentoring program for students and young professionals to help retain them in the association. Travis and Tracy discussed the challenges of retaining student memberships and the potential for new student chapters. The Leadership Academy (LA) program was introduced, with changes to the format to accommodate volunteers' schedules and include more interactive sessions. Tracy outlined the agenda and encouraged local units to send representatives to the event.

Leadership Training Academy Delegate Update

The meeting discussed the upcoming LA event, with Chris Kitchen confirming that PNWIS and Puget Sound chapters will send delegates, along with potential attendees from Oregon, Alaska, and the Midwest Section. Tracy highlighted positive feedback from last year's LA and noted that many delegates have gone on to become board members or technical council members. Stephanie Phillips, the Communications Chair, provided an update on the Conduit newsletter, which reaches approximately 800-900 recipients and includes articles from various sections and chapters.

Finance Governance Committee Restructuring Updates

The meeting discussed the Finance Governance Vitality Committee's role in forming new sections and chapters, as well as revitalizing existing ones. Mike mentioned a proposal for restructuring Tennessee chapters and highlighted challenges faced by the Southwest section, which Terry Casey is addressing. The group is supporting the Southwest section by helping reassemble its acting board and facilitating an election.

Tennessee Chapter Consolidation Plan

The council discussed consolidating three Tennessee chapters into a single Tennessee chapter, with Richard presenting a plan to rename and merge them. The council approved the motion to recommend consolidation, with Richard agreeing to send revised bylaws to members for approval. The group also addressed concerns about quorum requirements for voting, clarifying that any section or chapter member could vote, not just officers. 10 Sections or Chapters must be present to vote to meet quorum.

AWMA Section Merger Discussion

The meeting focused on the potential merger of the Greater St. Louis section with the Midwest section of AWMA. Stephanie Taylor moved to merge the sections, noting there were currently no active members in the St. Louis section. The group discussed the current status of St. Louis members, with Sara confirming there were about 7-8 members in the St. Louis area using the portal, though Travis clarified these members were actually in the Midwest section. After deliberation, the council voted to dissolve the Greater St. Louis section

S&CC Goals

Mike presented goals for the year, including improving the usability of the annual report, enhancing leadership development and succession planning, increasing international activities, and leveraging virtual tools for meetings and events. The council also reviewed upcoming events, including the LA in April and the modified schedule for the ACE conference starting on Monday, August 21st.

Hybrid Webinar and Membership Updates

Harish shared insights from a survey indicating strong interest in hybrid webinar approaches, with 80% of respondents favoring this option, and plans were discussed to implement hybrid meetings with minimal price differences between in-person and virtual attendance. Jyoti, co-chair of the Northern and Central New Jersey chapter, expressed appreciation for available resources and highlighted challenges in accessing membership data, while also discussing efforts to increase membership and organize sustainability-focused conferences. Jennifer and Tracy provided updates on the annual report submission process, emphasizing the importance of the data collected and addressing limitations with SurveyMonkey, with a new Excel-based worksheet introduced to assist with submissions. Chih highlighted the success of abstract submissions for the annual conference.

Technical Councils Membership Retention Strategies

The meeting discussed the challenges and opportunities within the Technical Councils, including the need to fill vacancies and the importance of engaging members through conferences and workshops. Travis inquired about the impact of specialty conferences on membership growth, which led to a discussion about the high turnover rate of new members and the potential of offering multi-year memberships to improve retention. Tracy confirmed that while some members take advantage of discounted membership rates during conference registrations, the numbers are lower than expected, and the association faces challenges in retaining first-year members who are not engaged beyond attending conferences. Harry suggested considering multi-year memberships and a possible dues increase to address financial and engagement issues, while emphasizing the need to maintain the value of membership benefits.

Membership Engagement and Retention Strategies

The meeting focused on discussing membership engagement strategies, with Roya suggesting a two-year membership offer for conference attendees to increase retention. Mike and Richard Wales explored the idea of extending memberships to the end of the next calendar year, while considering the value and financial implications. The group also discussed implementing monthly virtual coffee hours for mentoring and engagement, with Harry and others supporting the initiative. Additionally, the team addressed challenges with the annual report submission process, deciding to maintain

SurveyMonkey for data collection due to security concerns with shared spreadsheets containing financial information.

Save the Dates:

17-19 April 2026 – Leadership Training Academy (Pittsburgh, PA)

21-24 June 2026 – Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE) (Austin, TX)

A&WMA Sections and Chapters Council (S&CC) Meeting

Winter Virtual Meeting Attendance, Friday, February 13, 2026

Name	Section/Chapter	Email
Jyoti Agarwal	Mid Atlantic States Section, Central Northern New Jersey Chapter	jagarwal@reworldwaste.com
Stephanie Taylor	Midwest Section	STaylor@scsengineers.com
Stephanie Phillips	South Atlantic States Section, Research Triangle Park Chapter	sphillip@itape.com
Gina McGee	East Central Section, East Michigan Chapter	gina@recyclemax.com
Alex Eisen-Cuadra	New England Section	alex@achieveenvironmental.com
John Kinsman	South Atlantic States Section, Chesapeake Chapter	jkinsman5@outlook.com
Travis Tokarek	Canadian Prairie and Northern Section	twtokarek@gmail.com
Nancy Liang	Pacific Northwest International Section (PNWIS), Puget Sound Chapter	nliang@trinityconsultants.com
Christopher Kitchen	Pacific Northwest International Section (PNWIS), Puget Sound Chapter	Christopher.J.Kitchen@gmail.com
Jennifer Tullier	Loiusiana Section	jtullier@spiritenv.com
Kathleen Moguel	Niagara Frontier Section	kmoguel@rouxinc.com
Chih C. Chao	Ontario Section	meister.chao@gmail.com
Harry Klodowski	Allegheny Mountain Section	harry@fyi.net
Mark Milner	Pacific Northwest International Section (PNWIS), Vancouver Island Chapter	mcmilneris@gmail.com
Richard Wales	Southern Section, Eastern Tennessee Chapter	rtwales2014@gmail.com
Terry Casey	Southwest Section, Alamo Chapter	tpcasey52@gmail.com
Jacob Rattay	Allegheny Mountain Section	jrattay@cecinc.com
Andrew Nelson	Southern Section, Georgia Chapter	anelson@winter-environmental.com
Pleasant McNeel	Rocky Mountain States Section, Great Basin Chapter	pleasant.mcneel@usda.gov
Roya Mortazavi	Mid Atlantic States Section	romort2004@yahoo.com
Bhaskar Chandan	West Coast Section	bchandan@aqmd.gov
Odette Alsen	West Coast Section	odealsen@gmail.com
Sara Head	West Coast Section, Channel Islands Chapter	SHead@YorkeEngr.com
Jason Mkrtshjan	Lake Michigan States Section	jmkrtshjan@cleanair.com
Suzanne Bonola	Lake Michigan States Section	sbonola@wcgrp.com
Harish Rao	Lake Michigan States Section	harishgrao@gmail.com
Michael Kleinman	West Coast Section, Orange County Chapter	mtkleinm@hs.uci.edu

A&WMA Sections & Chapters Council

Winter 2026 Meeting Agenda

Friday, February 13, 2026 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. EASTERN TIME

Virtual Meeting Login Info: To be provided upon meeting registration and accessible the day of the meeting
Agenda - All times are U.S. Eastern Time

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1:00-1:15 | Welcome and Introduction (Mike Hult) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda • June and October 2025 Meeting Minutes |
| 1:15-1:45 | A&WMA Association Updates/ President's Message (Harry Klodowski) |
| 1:45-2:10 | Membership Committee (Travis Tokarek) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary 2025 Membership Performance Results |
| 2:10-2:30 | Leadership Academy (LA)/POSS Committee (Michele Karnes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2026 LA April 17-18, Promote it to your local section and chapter |
| 2:30-2:45 | Communications Committee (Stephanie Phillips) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduit Update |
| 2:45-3:00 | Break |
| 3:00-3:15 | Finance/Governance/Vitality Committees (Mike Hult/Greg Johnson) |
| 3:15-3:45 | Goals for S&CC 2026 (Mike Hult) |
| 3:45-4:00 | 2025 Annual Reports Completion (Jennifer Tullier) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports Open in Feb and are due Mar 31 |
| 4:00-4:30 | General Discussion, Final Questions or Comments (All) |
| 4:30 | Adjourn S&CC Meeting |

Save the Dates:

April 17-18, 2026 – Leadership Academy (Pittsburgh, PA)

June 21-24, 2026 – Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE) (Austin, TX), S&CC Meeting on June 21st?

Committee Chairs

Awards Committee (**Mohan Balagopalan**)

Communications Committee (**Stephanie Phillips**)

Finance/Governance Committee (**Bill Palermo**)

Leadership Academy (LA), Periodic Online Sharing Sessions (POSS), & Training (**Tony van der Vooren**)

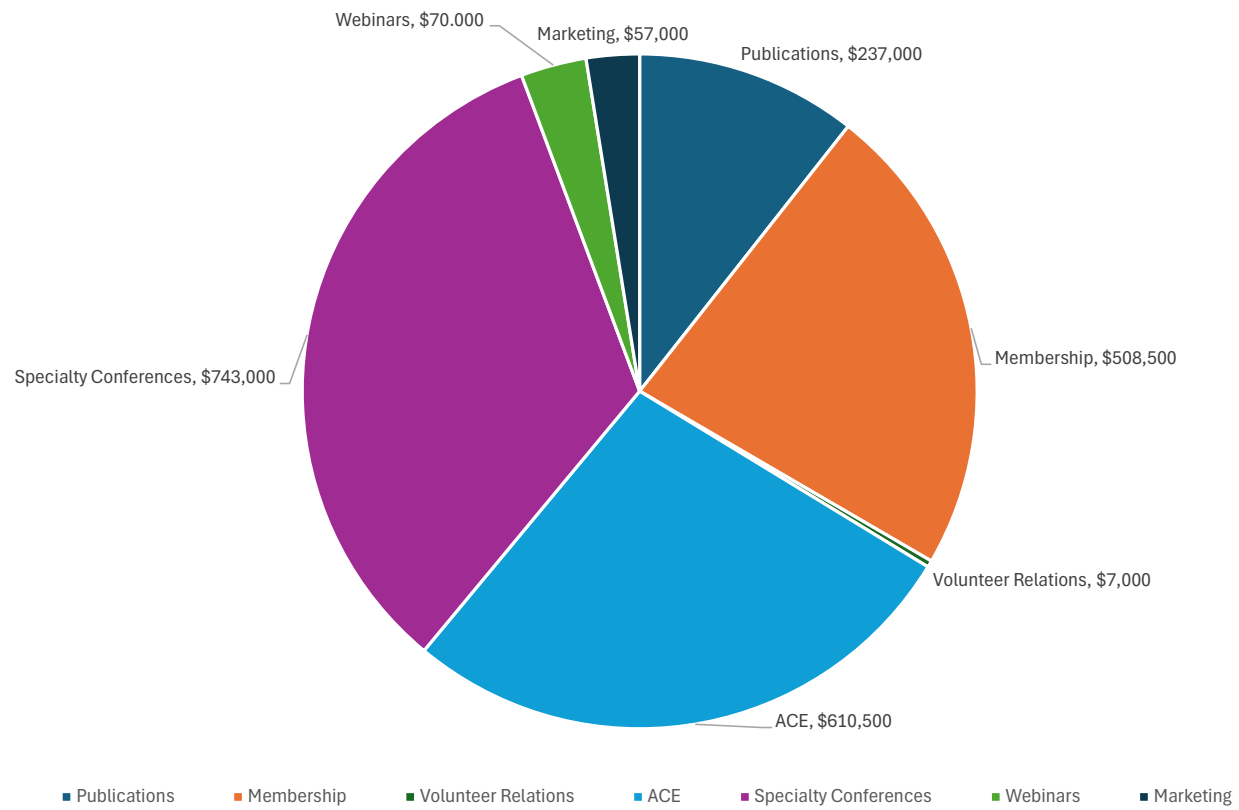
Membership Committee (**Travis Tokarek**)

Vitality & Legal Committee (**Greg Johnson**)

Association Update

Harry Klodowski

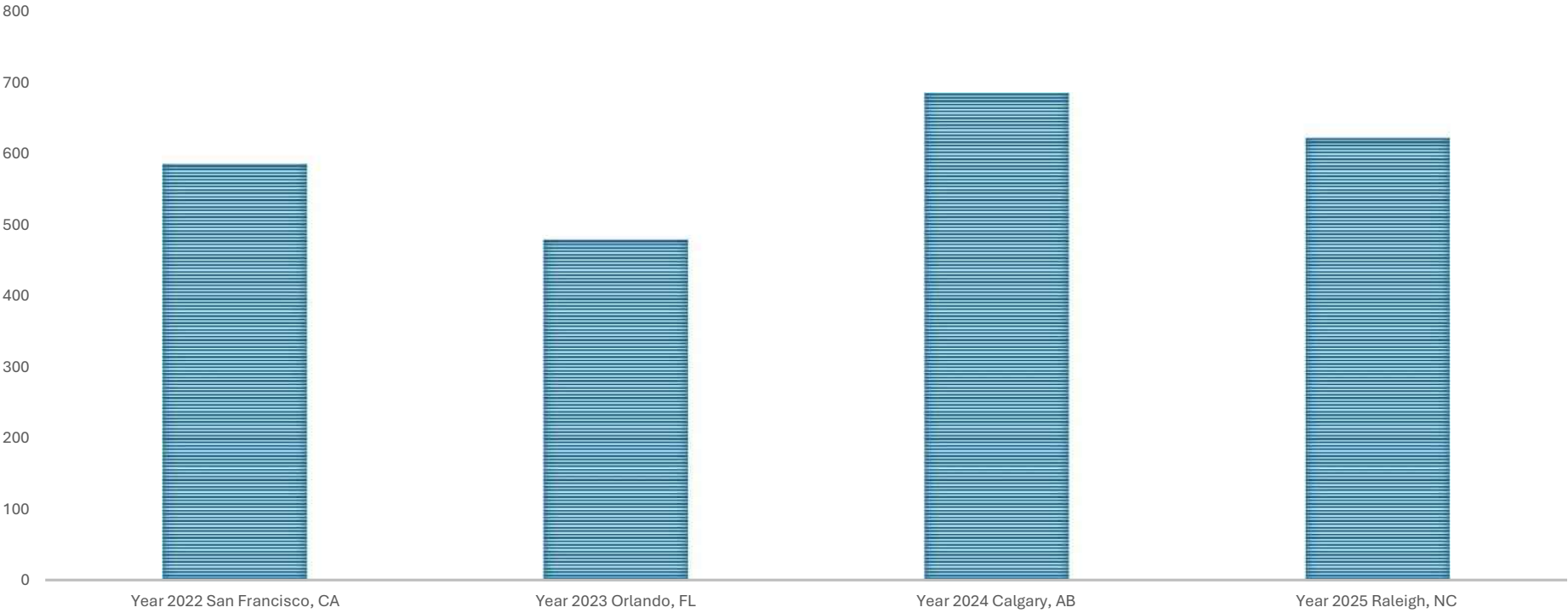
Major Revenue Streams -- 2026



Programs

- ACE
- Specialty Conferences
- Workshops and Training
- Webinars

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION ATTENDANCE BY YEAR



New! Sponsorship Benefit Packages

A&WMA's **NEW!** Annual Mission Partner

Annual Mission Partnership offers a customizable package designed to maximize visibility and influence. Showcase your leadership in sustainability, innovation, and environmental stewardship while contributing to technical programming, driving science-based solutions, and gaining *premier* exposure across multiple A&WMA conferences!

Core Benefits for all sponsorship packages include:

- Pre- and post- conference registration list
- Recognition at Opening Session
- Company description, logo, and website on conference web pages
- On-site signage where applicable
- Company logo, profile and website in Final Program
- Logo in pre-conference communications

Strategic Sponsor \$14,500	Impact Sponsor \$9,500	Advocate Sponsor \$4,500
Core Benefits	Core Benefits	Core Benefits
Six (6) full conference registrations	Four (4) full conference registrations	Two (2) full conference registrations
Full-page color ad in <i>EM</i> Digital Magazine issue of choice	Half-page color ad in <i>EM</i> Digital Magazine issue of choice	Square rotating subpage ad on A&WMA website for 30 days
Exclusive LinkedIn Spotlight	Exclusive LinkedIn Spotlight	
20% discount on exhibit booth	10% discount on exhibit booth	
Logo in post-conference proceedings		

Plus, Select 6 Sponsor Options	Plus, Select 4 Sponsor Options	Plus, Select 2 Sponsor Options
Square rotating subpage ad on A&WMA website for 30 days	Square rotating subpage ad on A&WMA website for 30 days	Half-page color ad in <i>EM</i> Digital Magazine
ACE conference website or app ad	ACE conference website or app ad	Exhibit Hall Break
Exclusive Technical Program Session (choice of one)	Exclusive Technical Program Session (choice of one)	Exclusive Technical Program Session (choice of one)
YP/Student Networking Reception	YP/Student Networking Reception	YP/Student Networking Reception
Young Professional Mentor Breakfast	Young Professional Mentor Breakfast	Young Professional Mentor Breakfast
Technical and Student Poster Session	Technical and Student Poster Session	Technical and Student Poster Session
Student Awards Ceremony	Student Awards Ceremony	Student Awards Ceremony
Branded promotional giveaway provided by sponsor	Branded promotional giveaway provided by sponsor	Branded promotional giveaway provided by sponsor
Exhibit Hall Grand Opening	Exhibit Hall Grand Opening	
Exhibit Hall Lunch	Exhibit Hall Lunch	
Student Welcome Reception	Student Welcome Reception	
Honors and Awards Ceremony	Women's Professional Development Workshop and Luncheon	
Opening Reception		
Critical Review		
Full-page color ad in Final Program		
Exclusive Keynote (if no Mission Partner)		
		* All Prices in US

* All Prices in US

Past 2025 (Raleigh) Sponsors :

Total: With AWMA Sec/Chapters = \$102,600

Total: Without AWMA Sec/Chapters = \$88,100

Civil & Environmental Consultants	Gold	\$ 10,000.00
EPA/OAQPS	Gold	\$ 10,000.00
NC DEQ	Gold	\$ 10,000.00
Focus Environmental	Supporting	\$ 2,000.00
NC Electric Cooperative	Bronze	\$ 4,500.00
Lakes Environmental Software	Silver	\$ 5,000.00
Nucor	Supporting	\$ 2,500.00
POWER Engineers	Silver	\$ 5,000.00
Parsons	Supporting	\$ 2,500.00
Duke Energy	Bronze	\$ 4,500.00
A&WMA West Coast Section	Supporting	\$ 2,500.00
SCS Engineers	Bronze	\$ 4,500.00
A&WMA Booth RTP/SASS	Bronze	\$ 4,500.00
TRC Companies	Supporting	\$ 2,500.00
Intertape Polymer Group (IPG)	Bronze	\$ 4,500.00
A&WMA Lousiana Section	Bronze	\$ 4,500.00
Thermo Fisher Scientific	Supporting	\$ 2,500.00
Bay Area Air District	Gold	\$ 10,000.00
The Allegheny Mountain Section	Supporting	\$ 2,500.00
A&WMA Upper Midwest Section	Supporting	\$ 500.00
AECOM	Bronze	\$ 3,600.00
Consumers Energy	Bronze	\$ 4,500.00

WHAT CAN WE DO MORE OF?

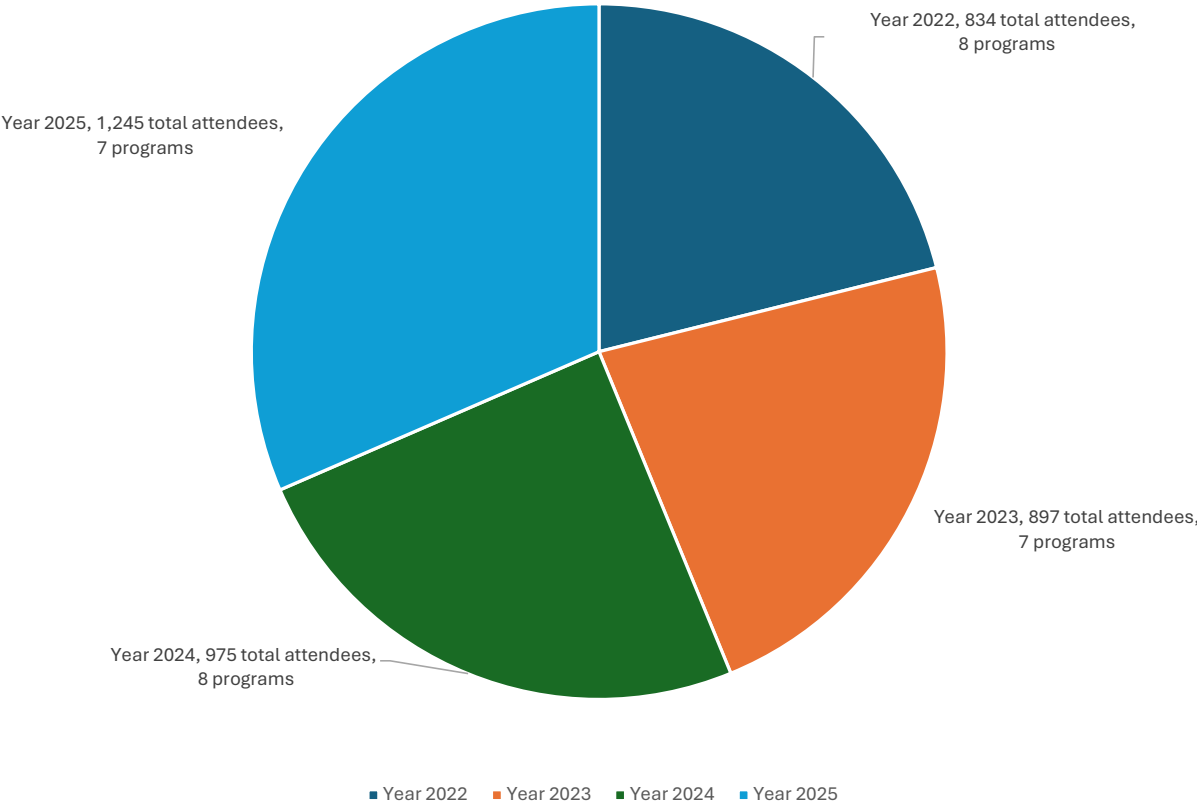
1. Partner with more Organizations to help promote ACE.
2. Include ACE promo slide at the end of all Webinars, Workshops, Specialty Conferences, etc.
3. A&WMA Chapters/Sections engagement
4. ACE Chair – Article for EM Plus
5. LHC – Tap into own companies, networks, and ask for support.
6. Social Media Awareness
7. Warm introductions to Jessika
8. Technical Council Committee – Outreach to A&WMA Sections & Chapters for ACE supporting sponsorships.

Highlight Values & Visibility Sponsors Will Gain:

- Build Brand Awareness
- Networking Opportunities
- Exhibit/Highlight Your Poster or Research
- Demonstrate Your Instrument or Technology
- Support Students/Young Professionals
- Talent Pool Building
- Social Media Exposure

Build Relationships with quarterly check-ins. Use some time at A&WMA conferences to catch up with your valued clients and mission partners. Invite your clients and partners to register for the conference(s).

Specialty Conferences -- Total Attendance by Year



LIST OF CURRENT PROGRAMS:

Conferences

Data Centers (March 24-25; The Westin Washington Dulles Airport, Dulles VA)

Odors (May 12-14; Radisson Blue, Mall of America, Minneapolis, MN)

Science of PFAS (September 22-24; The Sheraton Imperial Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at RTP, Durham, NC)

Models (October TBD; Raleigh, NC)

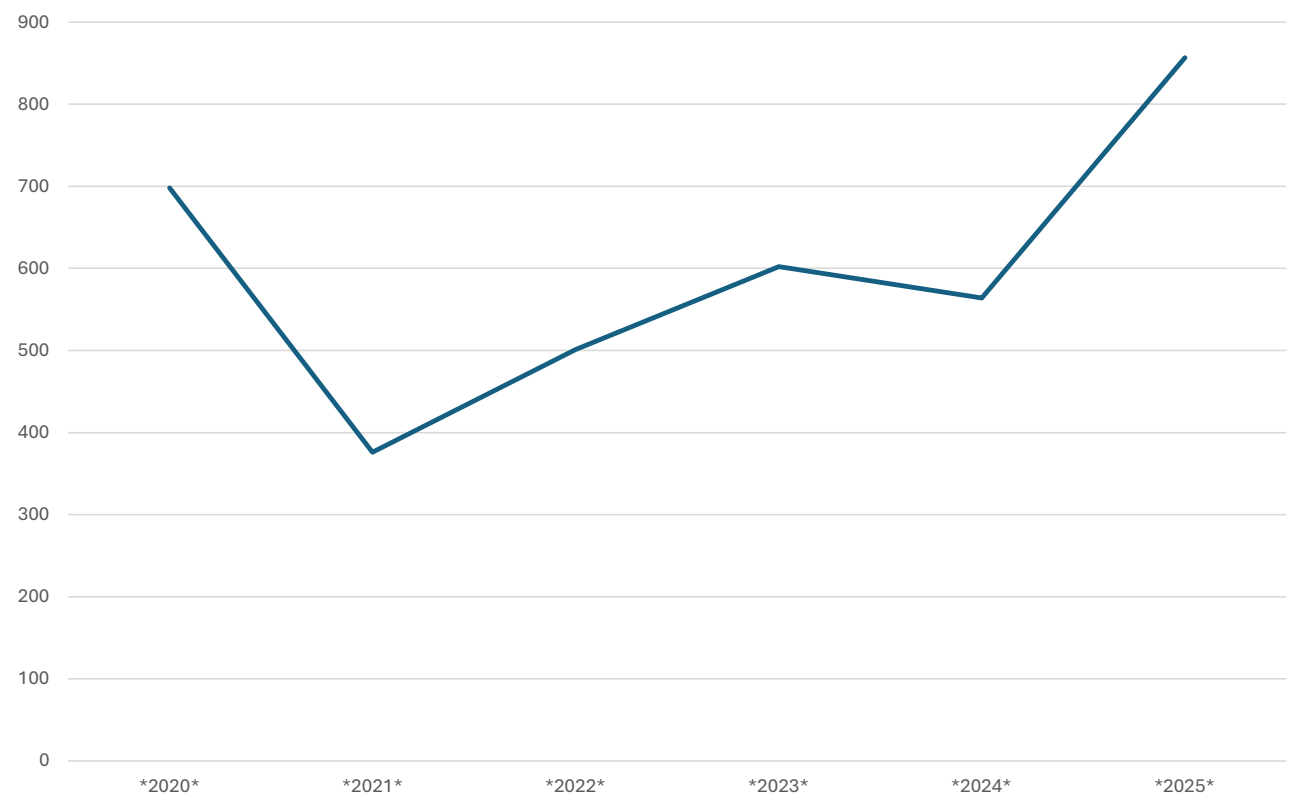
IT3 (October TBD; Salt Lake City, UT)

NSR Workshop (Q4, date and location TBD)

Visibility (November 9-13; Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center, Lake Junaluska, NC)

Air Information Exchange (December TBD; RTP, NC)

Webinar Attendance



New! A&WMA Webinar Sponsorship Opportunity

Your Brand. Center Stage. Webinar sponsorship offers valuable opportunities to build brand awareness and image, connect with industry experts, and be recognized as a field leader. Sponsors gain visibility on the A&WMA Webinars website and platform, reaching numerous potential buyers. Elevate your participation. Expand your reach.

\$800 Webinar Sponsor

- Verbal recognition during the live webinar
- Company logo in opening and closing webinar slides
- TWO webinar registrations
- Logo in pre-webinar promotional communications
- Recording access to your webinar registrants for future marketing or team training
- Company logo, profile, and website on A&WMA webinar webpage
- Recognition in post-webinar email to webinar attendees
- Logo on webinar LinkedIn promotions

About A&WMA Webinars

Audience: Environmental professionals, regulators, consultants, industry experts, researchers, and decision makers

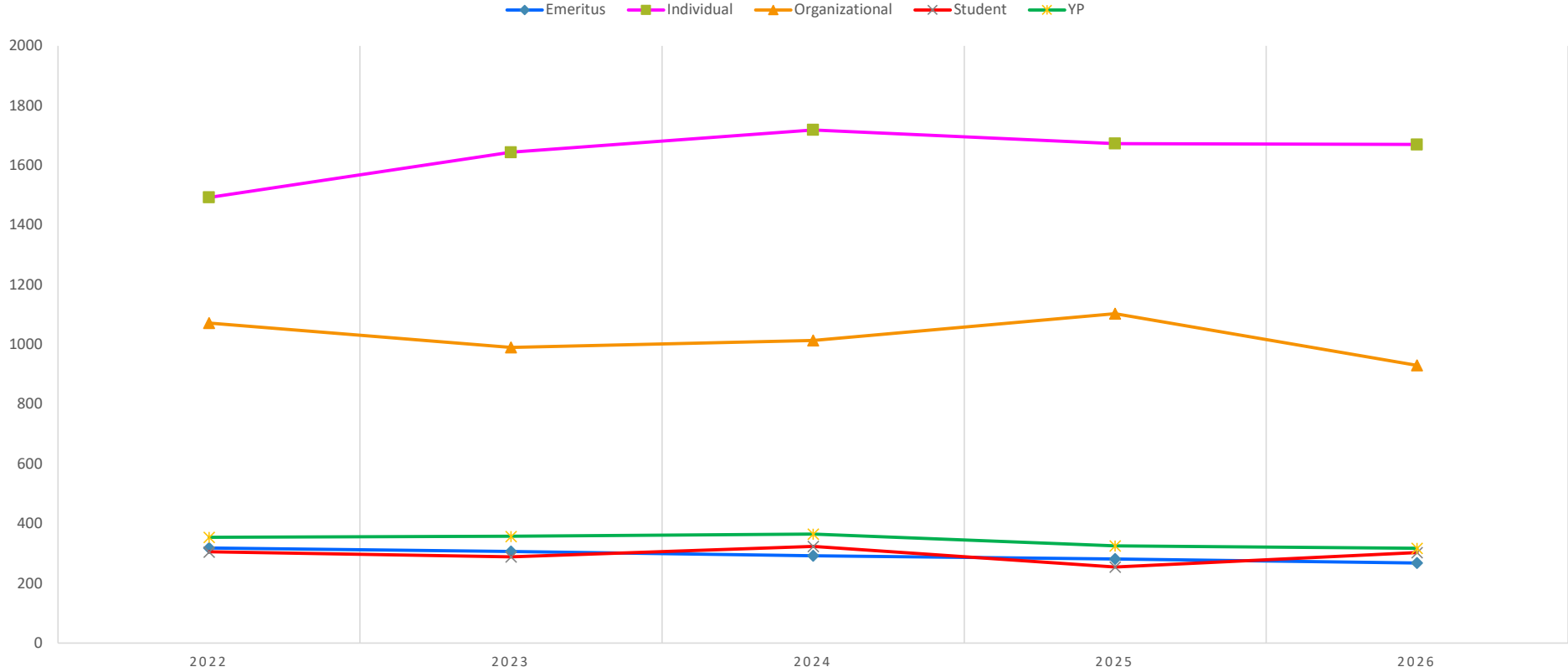
Expected Reach: Exposure to thousands of environmental contacts in our pre-webinar promotional communications

Hosted by: Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) — A trusted authority for over 100 years in environmental education

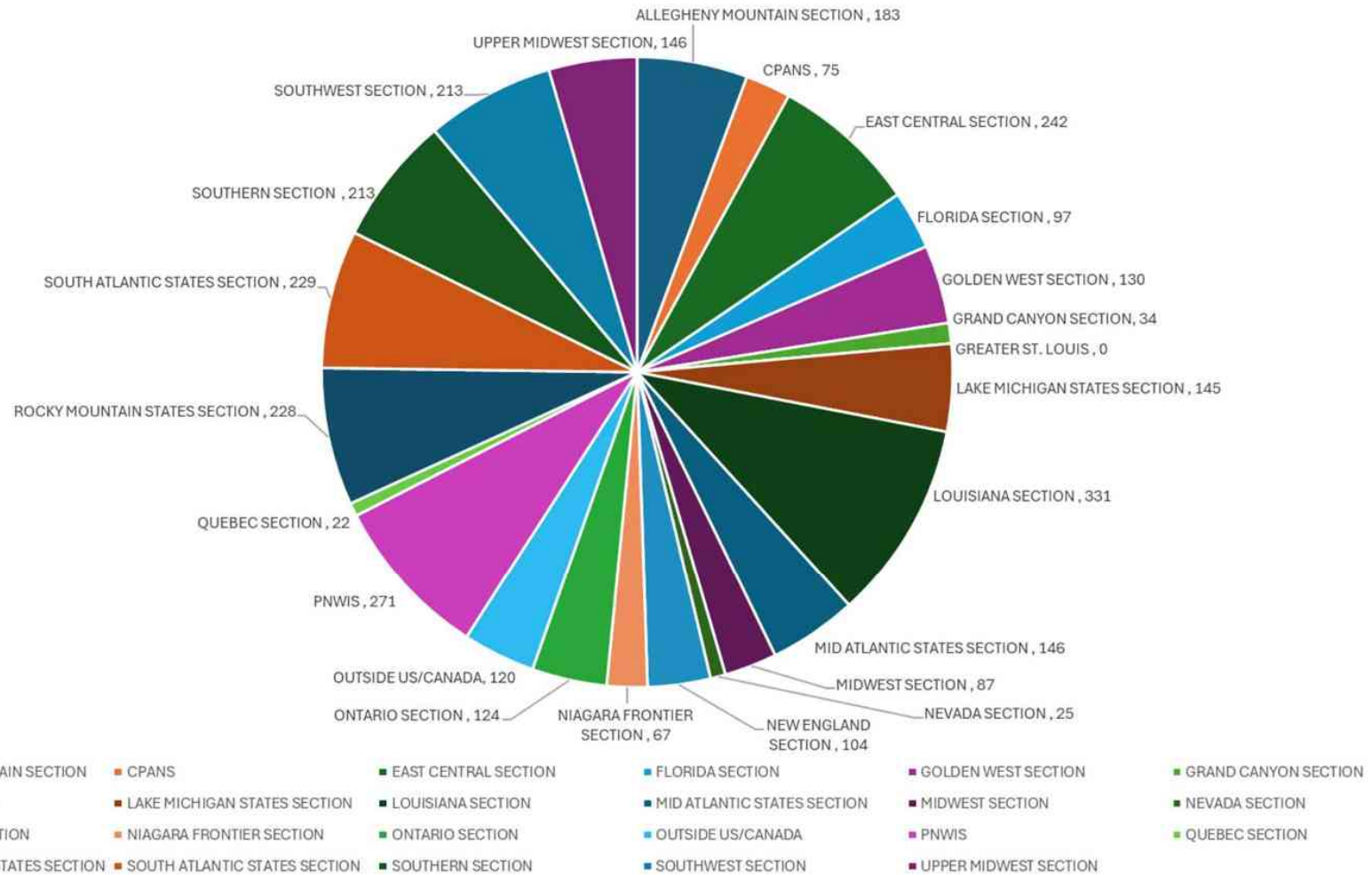
**Sponsor participation is contingent upon webinar committee approval*

Find additional webinar details online at www.awma.org/webinars.

MEMBERSHIP TRACKING BY TYPE -- 2022 - 2026



Membership Totals by Section -- 2026



Communication

- Publications and their Committees
- Website
- Social Media
- Online Bookstore
 - Treatises
 - Conference Proceedings
 - Webinar Recording Archive
 - Logo Merchandise (on another system)

Our 2026 Path Forward

- The current landscape for professional associations is thriving/upward trajectory – there is very positive trend for strong financials, increased membership, and renewed focus on opportunities for member engagement through activities like in person meetings
- Keys to the path forward, exceeding budget expectations:
 - Be prepared to adapt to changing market trends, member needs, emerging technologies/embrace innovation
 - Stay informed about emerging trends and their impact on the Association
 - Continuing to recover/rebuild annual conference revenue (lost due to the pandemic), and continuing to engage the audience (presenters, exhibitors, sponsors)
 - Strategies for increased membership development efforts on recruiting and retention; actively addressing evolving member needs while continuing to foster a strong community feel
 - Continuing to improve and manage products and services in response to customer needs; focus on relevant content and delivery
 - Prioritize clear, relevant, and timely communication/content/information, utilizing multiple platforms to reach members
 - Creating a path toward growth and enhanced revenue generation from non-dues sources
 - Looking ahead to 2027 for conference program setting and review of all revenue streams

New/Ongoing for Rollout – **(December 2025, 2026)**

- Estate/Legacy Planning – finalize details, brand the program, roll out to the marketplace
- Mission Partner – continue rollout and secure organizational partners to meet/exceed 2026 budget expectations
- Website refresh, homepage redesign – improvement communication, highlights for the benefits programs
- ACE 2026 – finalize details for schedule improvements and efficiencies, event review, all focused on improving overall conference while reducing costs/expenses
- ACE 2027 – site sourcing in progress



Travis Tokarek, Membership Committee Chair

February 13, 2026

A&WMA Sections & Chapters Council meeting

A&WMA Membership Committee Report

Membership Committee

Officers/Members
of Committee:

Travis Tokarek – Sections &
Chapters Council Vice-Chair

Mike Hult – Sections & Chapters
Council Chair

Amro El Badawy – Cal Poly State
University

Harish Rao – Membership
committee Past-chair

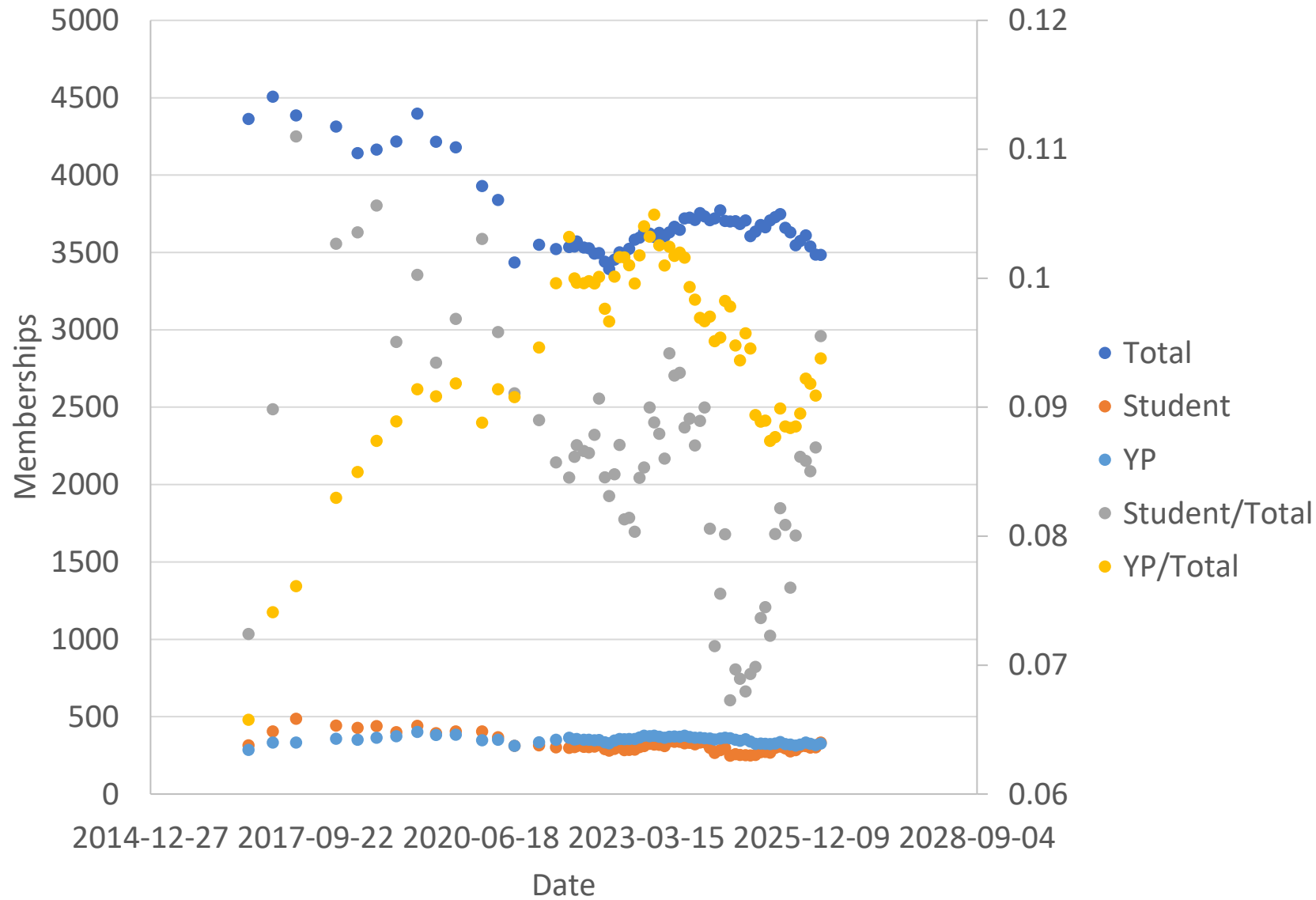
Vacant

Membership trends

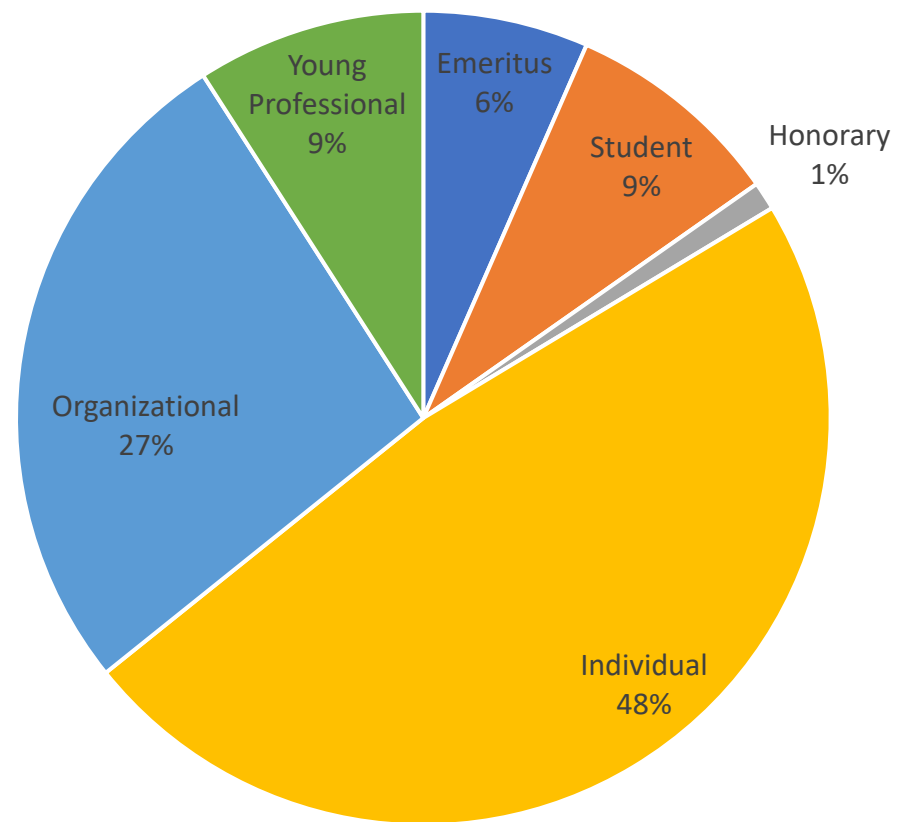
Category	Jan-25	Jun-25	Oct-25	Jan-26	1-yr-Change (%)
Emeritus	244	236	236	229	-6.1%
Honorary	37	39	39	39	5.4%
Individual	1672	1778	1749	1669	-0.2%
Organizational	1103	1050	1016	930	-15%
Student	254	308	296	303	19.3%
YP	325	337	324	317	-2.5%
Total	3635	3748	3660	3487	-4.1%

Membership Data

Membership Over the last 10 years



Total Membership by Type
January 2, 2026



Membership Performance Recognition Program

2025 Preliminary Membership Performance Award Winners

*Pending submission of their annual report

Top Performing Sections	Top Performing Chapters
China Section	Channel Islands Chapter (West Coast Section)
Southern Section	Montana Chapter (Pacific NW Int'l Section)
Niagara Frontier Section	Gulf Coast Chapter (Southwest Section)
Southwest Section	Mississippi Chapter (Southern Section)
	Genesee Finger Lakes Chapter (Niagara Frontier Section)

Conduit Articles

- Used responses from past Membership Performance Award Survey's and annual reports to write 4 articles in The CONDUIT.
 - March 2025: "Top 10 Strategies for Growing and Retaining Membership in Your Section or Chapter"
 - May 2025: "Top 9 Ways Sections and Chapters Promote Membership"
 - September 2025: "Harnessing the Power of Social Media Engagement Across A&WMA"
 - January 2026: "Membership Drives: Turning Engagement into Growth"

Contacts

Questions, comments, suggestions, ideas or interested in joining the Membership Committee, contact the Membership Committee members or S&C Council:

- Harish Rao, harishgrao@gmail.com
- Amro El Badawy, aelbadaw@calpoly.edu
- Travis Tokarek, S&C Council Vice Chair, travis.Tokarek@gov.ab.ca
- Mike Hult, S&C Council Chair, mwhult2@mmm.com

Communications Update

February 2026

Sections and Chapters Council Meeting

your challenges, our solutions.

www.itape.com

in X f YouTube Instagram



Conduit

- **Quarterly Sections and Chapters Newsletter**
- **Always includes Chair's Message, information on upcoming A&WMA events, and articles written by the Sections and Chapters Council Committee chairs and members**
 - "Membership Drives: Turning Engagement into Growth"
 - "Join the K12 Education Committee for our next project!"


AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Sections & Chapters Council

The Informational Newsletter of the A&WMA
Sections & Chapters Council

Visit the Sections & Chapters Council web page to find the
latest information: www.awma.org/scccouncil

Click on the cover to read the full issue.
Share this resource with other officers and members!



The CONDUIT

January 2026

**Attend Leadership Academy,
April 17-18 in Pittsburgh**

[View the agenda](#) and make your plans to attend now!

Inside this Issue

- Leadership Academy
- Council Meeting
- YP Webinar
- Membership Drives
- K 12 Education Committee
- SASS YP Opportunity
- East Michigan Chapter
- East Central Section

If you would like to submit an article or a success story, contact the Conduit Editor, Stephanie Phillips, at sphillip@itape.com.

Remember to check your membership report every month to welcome new members and connect with lapsed members to bring them back!



2026 Conduit Focus

- **We want to highlight your chapter or section!**
- **Member Highlight Section**
 - Is there a member in your section or chapter that has gone above and beyond? Do they help organize local events? Celebrate them and their achievements!
- **Bring attention to your section or chapter events**
 - Advertise future events
 - Celebrate event successes
- **Open to other ideas to make the Conduit work for you**

East Michigan Chapter... (continued from page 6)

This behind-the-scenes look at one of North America's most significant infrastructure projects will include a guided walk across the bridge, insights from the Bridging North America project team, and a networking social at Detroit's Mutiny Bar. Spots are limited, and [registration](#) closes October 6, so don't miss this chance to be part of history in the making.

Then, on **November 12, 2025**, we'll host our **Annual Joint Environmental Conference** in Lansing, MI — co-organized with the West Michigan Chapter and the State Bar of Michigan's Environmental Law Section. This flagship event will bring together environmental professionals, regulators, attorneys, and industry leaders to tackle the most pressing issues facing our region. The program will feature sessions on PFAS, PM2.5 regulatory updates, EV/battery safety, and an energy plenary with MISO, MPSC, and other regional experts.

We are also proud to spotlight our **Chapter Chair, Lillian Woolley**, whose leadership and commitment have been instrumental in making these events possible. From securing sponsors to shaping content and guiding logistics, Lillian's impact has been felt across every facet of our programming. Her dedication is a prime example of the value our members bring to advancing A&WMA's mission in Michigan. East Michigan A&WMA is thriving, and we welcome all members, YPs, and students to get involved — whether by attending our programs, volunteering on committees, or sharing ideas for the future.



Q3 2025 Conduit

Air & Waste Management Association East Michigan Chapter

Q1 East Michigan Chapter Update

The East Michigan Chapter wrapped up 2025 on a high note with the Annual Joint Environmental Conference, held on November 12 in Lansing, Michigan. Co-hosted by the East and West Michigan Chapters of the Air & Waste Management Association and the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, the event brought together professionals from industry, consulting, law, and government for a full day of technical sessions and networking.



The conference's success was the result of strong collaboration among members of the joint planning committee, which included representatives from all three groups. The team worked closely to shape the agenda, coordinate logistics, and engage sponsors and speakers—showcasing how much can be accomplished when our organizations combine efforts and expertise.



The program featured timely sessions on PFAS management and policy, PM2.5 regulatory updates, EV and battery safety, and an energy plenary with insights from Midcontinent Independent Service Operator (MISO), Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC), and regional utilities. The event was well received by attendees and sponsors alike, serving as a reminder of the value of cross-chapter collaboration in advancing environmental knowledge and professional connection.

The East Michigan Chapter looks forward to continuing this momentum in 2026 with new programming, outreach, and opportunities for members to connect across Michigan's environmental community.

Q1 2026 Conduit

Conduit Article Request

- **Article request email sent by Stephanie Phillips (Communications Chair) during the second month of every quarter.**
- **Currently being emailed to attendees of the September 26, 2024 Sections and Chapters Council Meeting.**
- **If you are not currently receiving the article request and would like to be on the email list, please email me at**

sphillip@itape.com

Hello!

My name is Stephanie Phillips and I am the Communications Chair for the A&WMA Sections and Chapters Council. Every quarter I help pull together the Sections and Chapter Conduit publication, which provides valuable information to Sections and Chapters about the happenings within A&WMA. This year we really want to highlight some of the events that you are organizing, members that are making an impact within your section/chapter, or provide a blurb about your section/chapter in general to bring awareness and improve membership.

With that being said, I am requesting articles for this quarter's Conduit. If you have an article you would like included, please have it to me by **January 21**. If you're interested in viewing past Conduits, you can follow this link: [A&WMA SCC](#)

Please feel free to forward this email to anyone else at your chapter or section that may be interested in providing an article.

Thank you and let me know if you have any questions.

You are receiving this email because of your participation in recent A&WMA Sections & Chapters Council (S&CC) Meetings and/or A&WMA Leadership Training Academies (LTA).

Stephanie Phillips
Corporate Environmental Compliance Manager
Intertape Polymer Group
cell 864.501.8966



Thanks.

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in X f y i





Sections & Chapters Council Winter 2026 Virtual Meeting

AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (A&WMA) WINTER 2026 VIRTUAL
MEETING 2-13-26

MIKE HULT
CHAIR, SECTIONS & CHAPTERS COUNCIL

Meeting Agenda

1:00-1:15	Welcome and Introduction (Mike Hult) • Agenda • June and October 2025 Meeting Minutes	4:00-4:30	General Discussion, Final Questions or Comments (All)
		4:30	Adjourn S&CC Meeting
1:15-1:45	A&WMA Association Updates/ President's Message (Harry Klodowski)		
1:45-2:10	Membership Committee (Travis Tokarek) • Preliminary 2025 Membership Performance Results		
2:10-2:30	Leadership Academy (LA)/POSS Committee (Michele Karnes) • 2026 LA April 17-18, Promote it to your local section and chapter		
2:30-2:45	Communications Committee (Stephanie Phillips) • <u>Conduit</u> Update		
2:45-3:00	Break		
3:00-3:15	Finance/Governance/Vitality Committees (Mike Hult/Greg Johnson)		
3:15-3:45	Goals for S&CC 2026 (Mike Hult)		
3:45-4:00	2025 Annual Reports Completion (Jennifer Tullier) • Reports Open in Feb and are due Mar 31		

June and October Meeting Minutes

A&WMA Sections and Chapters Council

- October 2025 Draft Minutes
- June 2025 Minutes

Introduction



The Sections and Chapters Council is comprised of a Chair, Vice Chair, Council Standing Committee Chairs, and one representative of each Section and Chapter of the Association.

The standing committees of the Council are: Membership; Communications; Annual Reports and Awards; Legal, Finance, and Governance; Leadership Development; and Vitality.

The Sections and Chapters Council guides and supports the work of the Sections and Chapters in the development of events, activities, and other opportunities for members to meet and interact with other members in the same geographic location.

Sections & Chapters Council 2026

Mike Hult – Chair

Travis Tokarek – Vice Chair & Membership
Committee Chair

Jennifer Tullier – Vice Chair

Tony van der Vooren – Leadership Academy
& Training Committee Chair

Stephanie Phillips – Communications Chair

Bill Palermo – Finance/Governance
Committee Chair

Mohan Balagopalan – Awards Committee
Chair

Greg Johnson – Vitality Committee Chair

Past Chair

Jennifer Tullier
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Louisiana Section

Membership Committee Chair

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Canadian Prairie and Northern Section

Finance/Governance Committee Chair

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Louisiana Section

Chair

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Upper Midwest Section

Leadership Academy & Training Committee Chair

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Awards Committee Chair

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Vice Chair

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Canadian Prairie and Northern Section

Communications Committee Chair

Stephanie Phillips
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South Atlantic States Section

Vitality Committee Chair

Greg Johnson
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Phone: 504-556-4115
GLJohnson@Liskow.com
Louisiana Section

Recent Membership Totals

Category	Jan-25	Jun-25	Oct-25	Jan-26	1-Yr-Change (%)
Emeritus	244	236	236	229	-6.1%
Honorary	37	39	39	39	5.4%
Individual	1672	1778	1749	1670	-0.1%
Organizational	1103	1050	1016	930	-15.7%
Student	254	308	296	302	18.9%
YP	325	337	324	317	-2.5%
Total	3,635	3,748	3,660	3,487	-4.1%

Goals for S&CC 2026

1. Useability and Use of Annual Report
 - A. Useability in Survey Monkey (print ability, address same device restriction if possible)
 - B. Use and learn from the collected information (Jennifer Tullier analysis, membership performance award)
2. Leadership Development and Succession Planning
 - A. Succession Planning for Sections & Chapters and International
 - B. Development of New Sections & Chapters
3. International Membership Development
 - A. Acknowledge and learn from successful Sections (West Coast Section)
 - B. Use of Virtual Tools
4. Use of Virtual Tools – Hybrid Approaches that Work
 - A. General and International Membership Development
 - B. S&CC and Other International Meetings

India Chapter World Wetlands Day

Organized by the West Coast Section's India Chapter which included a presentation by A&WMA's Dr. Ram Ramanan at an Engineering/ Environmental institution near Mumbai (Bombay). 220 students and 15 faculty members attended this event



B. K. Birla College, Kalyan

Department of Environmental Sciences in association with
Air and Waste Management Association,
USA (India Chapter)

celebrates

World Wetlands Day



3rd February 2026



Seminar Hall, IT building



10:00 am onwards

Join the Meeting

https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_MQOxOTk0MGFtQDlZi00ZTRhLWJlNmMMDVYmMDI3YmkyYWMz%5d0tr_eart_v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22d1893c19-0c5f-4de2-86d5-fbe6134958a8%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22bd3b2819-ade2-41ff-b014-236b48d17020%22%7d



Dr. Ram Ramanan

Cofounder & CSO, ImpactEdge,
Fulbright Leadership Fellow,
Board Member, Global Chapters Convener
& Chair Sustainability Council Wheels
Global Foundation Board Member, & Chair
Education Council A&WMA

**Topic: Sustainability as
Opportunities for Young
Generation**



Dr. Rakesh Kumar

President, Society of Indoor Environment
(SIE)
Chairman, India Chapter, Air and Waste
Management Association, USA
Former Mission Director, CSIR
Headquarters

**Topic: Integration of Blue
Green Infrastructure for Better
Environment Performance**



Upcoming Dates

- April 17-18, 2026, A&WMA Leadership Academy (Pittsburgh, PA)
- June 21-24, 2026, 119th Annual Conference & Exhibition (Austin, TX)

Thank you!