



ATMOSPHERIC OPTICS:

Aerosols, VISIBILITY, and the Radiative Balance

November 10-13, 2026 • Lake Junaluska, NC

www.awma.org/visibility

Call for Abstracts

This international conference will provide a technical forum on advances in the scientific understanding of the effects of aerosols on urban, regional, continental, and global-scale haze and the radiation balance. Scientific submissions related to measurements and modeling as well as regulatory and policy issues are encouraged. A list of topics is provided below, and other related topics are welcome. The conference will include planned sessions on biomass burning and the effects of wildfire on air quality and increasing concerns of the effects of atmospheric nitrogen and carbonaceous material on haze, climate change, and nitrogen deposition on ecosystems. In addition, panel sessions related to current hot topics will be developed closer to the conference date.

Abstract Submittal

The areas of interest for the conference are listed below. Abstracts of up to 400 words must be submitted by **May 10** via the online form at the link below. If submitting more than one abstract, please indicate which one is your highest preference for platform presentation, as the anticipated number of submissions will limit the total number of platform presentations.

[Submit your abstract now!](#)

Presentations are invited on atmospheric optical properties, visibility, radiative forcing, aerosols, and climate and the related air pollutants. Topics of particular interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

Observational Studies

- Field Studies and Monitoring Networks, Including Wildfire Events
- Low-Cost Microsensors and Exposure Assessment and Management
- Aerosol, Optical, and Radiometric Monitoring Methods

- New Instruments and Techniques, Including Measurement of Carbonaceous and Secondary Aerosols and Aerosol pH
- Satellite and other Remote Sensing Applications to Haze/Aerosol Monitoring
- Relating Ground-Based and Satellite Measurements

- **Characterizing Visual Air Quality**
 - Aerosol – Optical Relationships
 - Human Perception of Visibility
 - Trends in Visual Air Quality, Aerosols, and Aerosol Precursors
 - Assessment of Aerosols and Haze from Natural and Anthropogenic Sources
 - Modeling Aerosols and Visibility at Global, Regional, and Local Scales
 - Modeling Secondary Aerosol Formation

- **Global Aerosol Radiative and Visibility Effects**
 - Effects of Aerosols on the Radiative Balance
 - Sources of Light-Absorbing Particles
 - The Effects of Atmospheric Processes on Light-Absorbing Particles
 - Modeling of Global Radiative Effects
 - Contribution of Biomass Burning, Including Wildfires, and Effects of Clouds
 - Visibility Issues in Developing Countries

- **Particle and Precursor Emissions and Effects**
 - Aerosols and Reactive Nitrogen: Bridging Visibility, Ecological, and Agricultural Issues
 - Dust Aerosol Events
 - Emerging contaminants; PFAS; Microplastics
 - Trends in Emissions of Aerosols and Precursors
 - Winter Ozone and Particle Production in Western Oil and Gas Fields
 - Visibility as an Indicator of Human Health Effects
 - Regional Aerosols, Including Wildfires and Health
 - Atmospheric Deposition and Ecological Effects

- **Policy, Regulatory, and Economic Issues**
 - Trends and Effects of the Regional Haze Rule
 - Progress on Regional Haze and the New Regional Haze Metrics
 - Future Projections of Visibility and Aerosol Radiative Effects
 - International Regulations and Haze Transport
 - Implementation of the U.S. EPA SO₂/NO_x Secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standard(s), Critical Loads, and Atmospheric Deposition
 - Effects of Changes in Energy Supply Sources on Visibility and Aerosol Climate Forcing

Authors will be notified of abstract acceptance and presentation platform or poster by **the end of May**. Abstracts will be made available online before the conference. Presentations or posters presented at the conference will be included in the online conference proceedings to be made available to all participants approximately a month after the conference.

Submit your research for the *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association*

It is anticipated that selected peer-reviewed full manuscripts will be published in a future issue of the *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association*. Journal submissions require that the work described has not already been published (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture, review, or thesis); that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere; and that its publication has been approved by all coauthors and the responsible authorities at the institute where the work was conducted. Submission also implies that the authors have already obtained all necessary permissions for the inclusion of copyrighted materials, such as figures and tables from other publications. See the publication policy at www.awma.org/journalsubmission. If you are interested in having your paper included in the *Journal*, please check the box in the abstract survey.

About the Venue

The conference will be held at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center (lakejunaluska.com) in western North Carolina, about 30 minutes from Asheville. The retreat center hosts a historic inn, walking trails, gardens, and panoramic views. The area has spectacular scenery and is immediately adjacent to the Class I, visibility-protected area of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. There is a mid-conference field trip to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and a night sky program to gaze at the stars.

Exhibit and Sponsorship Opportunities

In addition to sponsorship, tabletop exhibits will be available in the main conference room for companies to display their products and services and offer demonstrations of small equipment. Interested parties should contact Jessika Keefer, A&WMA Business Development Manager, 412-904-6003, jkeefe@awma.org

Bookmark www.awma.org/visibility for more conference details, including the mid-conference field trip.