

National Water Research Institute

February 18, 2009 E-Newsletter

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Preliminary Program Available for First International Conference on Microbial Transport and Survival in Porous Media

The Canadian Water Network, Brace Centre for Water Resources Management, and National Water Research Institute (U.S.) will hold the "First International Conference on Microbial Transport and Survival in Porous Media" to advance our understanding of the transport and survival of microorganisms and, particularly, pathogens in subsurface environments and the associated risk of pathogen contamination in groundwater.

The Conference will be held on May 10-13, 2009, at Niagara-on-the-Lake in Ontario, Canada. A preliminary program for the conference is now available at www.regonline.com/microbialtransport.

Plenary Speakers include:

- Dr. Charles O'Melia, Johns Hopkins University, *Particle and Pathogen Passage through Porous Media*
- Dr. Menachem Elimelech, Yale University, *Deposition of Motile/Non-Motile Bacteria onto Conditioning Films*
- Dr. Ronald Harvey, U.S. Geological Survey, *Bacterial Chemotaxis Relative to Advective Subsurface Transport and Dispersion in Bioremediation*
- Dr. Charles Gerba, University of Arizona, *Molecular Mechanisms Involved in the Survival and Transport of Viruses through the Subsurface*
- Dr. Joan Rose, Michigan State University, *Water Quality and Health in the Rural Environment*

Sessions include presentations on: the transport of colloids and microorganisms in granular, unsaturated, and fractured media; groundwater under the direct influence; microscale investigations of colloid and microbe transport; and a regulatory roundtable discussion, among others.

Early registration ends April 3, 2009. For more information about the conference or to register, please visit www.regonline.com/microbialtransport.

Presentations from January 2009 Utility Branding Network Workshop Now Online

Presentations from the Utility Branding Network's "Branding Workshop for Orange County and Inland Empire" are now available online at www.utilitybranding.net/events2.php.

The January 2009 workshop was designed for water and wastewater utility managers in the Orange County and Inland Empire regions of Southern California. Available presentations include:

- **The Power of Branding**
 - Why Branding for Water and Wastewater Utilities?
 - Review of Key Branding Principles and Practices
 - Branding the Utility
 - Utility Product Branding
 - Branding of Water Conservation
 - Regional Communications and Branding
- **Case Study:** Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority's SoilPro Compost Brand
- **Case Study:** West Basin Designer Recycled Water

The Utility Branding Network for water and wastewater agencies is committed to helping utilities better understand branding principles and to help them build a strong brand with their communities. A strong brand increases trust, support, and investment. If you are not yet a member of the Network, or just want more information, please contact John Ruetten at john@utilitybranding.net or Jeff Mosher at jeff@utilitybranding.net. The Network is administered by NWRI.

Presentations from February 2009 Advanced Asset Management Workshop Available Online

Presentations from a "hands-on" asset management assessment workshop for water and wastewater utilities are available online at www.epa.gov/OWM/assetmanage/assets_training.htm.

Held February 10-11, 2009, the workshop was based on a program developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It was sponsored by the EPA, NWRI, and City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater District.

Presentations include:

- Developing an asset registry.
- Assessing conditions and failure modes.
- Determining residual life.
- Determining life cycle and replacement costs.
- Setting target levels of service.
- And more.

The purpose of the workshop was to demonstrate how advanced asset management techniques can be effectively transferred to water or wastewater utilities.

Support the NWRI Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship Endowment Fund

NWRI has launched a campaign to raise an endowment for the Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship for Outstanding Water Research, which supports graduate students who share Ron Linsky's vision of innovative, multi-disciplinary research within the water sciences.

NWRI established this fellowship to honor Ron's long-time service as Executive Director of NWRI and his many contributions to the water community. Under Ron's 15 years of leadership, NWRI grew from an idea among local Southern California utilities supporting and promoting water research to become a nationally recognized water research organization.

In tribute to Ron, the 2-year, \$20,000-a-year Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship is awarded to an outstanding master's or doctoral graduate student at a U.S. university whose innovative research will advance the state-of-the-art in water science, engineering, or policy, as well as portray the vision that exemplified Ron's distinguished career.

Please consider contributing to the Endowment Fund of the Ronald B. Linsky Fellowship for Outstanding Water Research. Your 100-percent tax deductible donation will be specifically dedicated to the endowment to support graduate students investigating and developing the innovative procedures, technologies, and policies crucial to ensuring the safety and reliability of our nation's water supplies.

Donate now at www.nwri-usa.org/LinskyFellowship.htm. For questions about the endowment, please contact Jeff Mosher at (714) 378-3278 or jmosher@nwri-usa.org.

Deadline for NWRI Clarke Prize Nominations Is March 1, 2009

The deadline for nominations for the 2009 Athalie Richardson Irvine Clarke Prize is March 1, 2009.

NWRI established the Clarke Prize in 1993 to award outstanding individuals who are significantly contributing toward any of the following areas: the discovery, development, improvement, and/or understanding of the issues associated with water quality, quantity, technology, or public policy.

Additional information about the Clarke Prize, including nomination procedures, may be found at www.nwri-usa.org/nominations.htm.

Upcoming Events

Groundwater Salinity: A Groundwater Dilemma (March 24-25, 2009, in Sacramento, CA)

The University of California Center for Water Resources and Groundwater Resources Association of California are holding the joint conference on "Groundwater Salinity: A Groundwater Dilemma" to discuss issues related to groundwater salinity with shareholders and others. The focus will be on shared interests in 1) assessing the scope of the problem and finding solutions and 2) current practices for regulating and managing groundwater salinity.

Topics will include:

- Impacts.
- Characterization and fate and transport.
- Regulatory management strategies.
- Technical management strategies.

The conference will be held March 24-25, 2009, at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, CA. For more information, please visit www.grac.org/salinity.asp.

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National Water Research Institute
18700 Ward Street
P.O. Box 8096
Fountain Valley, CA 92728 -8096
714-378-3278
Fax 714-378-3375
www.nwri-usa.org