

AUGUST 2025
3RD QUARTER



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charlene DeSha

Charlene@tnstormwater.org
865-386-6917

WEBSITE

www.tnstormwater.org

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Sumner County

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East

Josh Clemens

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Don Green

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TNSA Times

Tennessee Stormwater Association
Quarterly Newsletter

A Message From the TNSA President

PAGE I

Dear TNSA Members,

As summer winds down and we prepare for the transition into fall, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued dedication to advancing sustainable stormwater management practices across Tennessee.

Quarterly regional meetings will begin next week. These gatherings provide a valuable opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, share project successes, and discuss the unique stormwater challenges and solutions

specific to each region. I encourage all members, both new and old, to attend your local meeting and actively participate. Your voice helps shape the direction of our work and the priorities we take forward.



Looking ahead to the 2025 TNSA Annual Conference scheduled for October 21-23 in Chattanooga, this year's theme, "Protect Today, Prepare Tomorrow" reflects both the urgency and the opportunity before us. Our speakers and participants will come from across Tennessee with a focus on MS4 Permit Compliance and MS4 Programs. The conference organizers encourage a professional atmosphere and anticipate a range of participating entities such as local and state government stormwater managers, environmental, engineering and legal consulting firms, research organizations, and watershed groups. I hope to see many of you there.

As always, thank you for your engagement and support. TNSA thrives because of the passion and professionalism you bring to stormwater management every day. Let's continue to learn from one another, lead with purpose, and stay connected as we move forward.

Warm regards,
TNSA President
Joe Phillips
Sumner County



The Tennessee Stormwater Association is Tennessee's premier membership organization for stormwater professionals. TNSA's mission is to assist members with their local efforts to comply with State and Federal clean water laws; including stormwater regulations through EPA and TDEC (Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation). TNSA's goal is to protect and improve the quality of the waters of Tennessee through the exchange of information and knowledge regarding design, construction, maintenance, administration and operation of stormwater facilities.

Upcoming Regional Meetings

Regional meetings are held each quarter. You do not have to be a TNSA member to attend a meeting. Region meetings are a great way to keep updated within your area and the state. Meet like-minded professionals, network, learn about statewide events and new ideas within the stormwater community. Region chairs are always looking speakers at the meetings. If you are interested in speaking please contact the region chairs. The chairs arrange the meetings and set the agendas.

Meeting Dates/Locations are subject to change. Email the region chair if you would like to be added to a specific region email list. If agendas were provided before the meeting they will be uploaded to the Club Express document library under Region Meetings.

West Region Chair: Chris Masin, Chris.Masin@shelbycountyttn.gov

Sept 2: City of Lakeland 10001 US Hwy 70 Lakeland, TN 38002 Conf. Room A

Time: 1pm-3pm

Future Dates: Dec. 2

North West Region Chair: Tom Lawrence, tomlawrence@bellsouth.net

Sept 3: Obion County Public Library 1221 E Reelfoot Ave, Union City, TN 38261

Time: 11am

Future Dates: Dec. 3 (Jackson City Hall)

Middle Region Chair: Don Green, biogreen1@comcast.net

Sept 4: Williamson County Administrative Complex 1320 W Main St Franklin, TN 37064

Time: 10am-12pm

Speaker: Mario Forgione, Williamson County

Title: Stormwater Stewardship: Protecting Water, Wildlife, and Communities

Description: In this presentation, I'll provide a brief overview of my role in stormwater management for Williamson County and how it contributes to healthier ecosystems and communities. You'll get a glimpse into what a typical day on the job looks like, along with insights into the importance of managing stormwater runoff, preserving riparian habitats, and the broader environmental and public health benefits of this work. I'll also highlight practical ways the public can get involved in protecting water quality and supporting our natural resources.

Future Dates: Dec. 4

East Region Chair: Josh Clemens, joshua.clemens@adspipe.com

Sept 5: Morristown Public Works 4360 Durham Landing Morristown 37813

Time: 8:30am Networking, 9:00am-11:30am Meeting Time

Future Dates: Dec. 5

South East Region Chair: Erik Hancock, ehancock@chattanooga.gov

Sept 9: Greenway Farm Conference Center 4960 Gann Store Road, Hixson TN 37343

Time: 11am-12:30pm

Future Dates: Dec. 9

North East Region Chair: Amanda McMullen, AmandaMcMullen@KingsportTN.gov

Sept 11: Kingsport Water Services Center 1113 Konnarock Rd Kingsport 37664

Time: 1pm

Future Dates: Dec. 11

**Meeting
dates/locations
are subject to
change**

TNSA BROCHURES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE & DELIVERED AT REGION MEETINGS

Small orders need to be submitted at least 1 week before delivery

Large orders need to be submitted 1 month before delivery

HOA Brochure - \$10.00 per 50 Homeowners Guide - \$15.00 per 100 EPA After the Storm - \$18.00 per 100

TENSI Activity Booklets and Stickers Booklets \$30, Stickers \$5

Order Link: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/ed>

CITY OF LAKELAND

STORMWATER

LACE UP FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL

WEST TN TRAIL RUN

SATURDAY

9.20.25

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER MANAGERIAL PARK
(4523 CANADA ROAD, LAKELAND, TN 38002)

7AM - 10AM



WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Trail Run
- T-Shirt
- Medals
- Swag Bag
- Kids Activities



Scan to Register

or visit

www.tnstormwater.org/westtrailrun

- Fun Run
- Bounce House
- Food Truck
- Music
- Booths \$50



Hosted by The City of Lakeland | Benefitting The TN Stormwater Association

SPONSORSHIP AND WATER QUALITY

BOOTH SPOTS

DEADLINE FOR LOGO ON PRINT

MEDIA, AUGUST 30!

BOOTHSPOTS: \$50

SPONSORSHIPS

Splash

\$500

Green

\$1000

Performance

\$1500

Presenting

\$2500

2026 EROSION CONTROL EVENT DATE ANNOUNCEMENT!

NEW EVENT!! Middle Region Event to be held in
Springfield

April 15, 2026

Thank you to Kenny Morris for working diligently on this and making it happen!

Mid-South Clean Water Day

Memphis, TN

Shelby Park Farms

May 13, 2026

Thank you to Chris Masin and Tom Lawrence for all of your hard work to make this happen for the 4th year!

Interested in holding an event in your region?
Contact Charlene DeSha to ask about how to start the planning process.

SOCIAL MEDIA PARTICIPANT UPDATE

MS4s participating in the program have concerns about TDEC counting the program as only one line item for education outreach in your annual report. We have discussed this with TDEC and are waiting on a reply as to how to remedy this.

One thought is to make sure and record each post as one entity within your education documents. We are working hard to cover public, professional and business (hot spots) topics each month in order to help with your requirements. All files, topics and videos are available within the document library of Club Express for those participating in the program.

Please contact Charlene DeSha with any questions.



CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS 2025

*Tennessee Stormwater Association
Annual Conference on Oct. 21-23, 2025
The Chattanooga Hotel
1201 Broad Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402*



SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS:

- Free Registration ✓
- Paired Mentorship ✓
- Networking Opportunities ✓
- Career Inspiration ✓
- Connect with Professionals ✓

ELIGIBILITY:

- Currently Enrolled Student ✓
- Full-Time Student ✓
- GPA of 3.0 or Higher ✓
- Letter of Recommendation ✓
- Submit Application by 8/31/2025 ✓



APPLY NOW!

865-386-6917

✉ charlene@tnstormwater.org

🌐 www.tnstormwater.org

TNSA Committee Updates

Conference: Coordinates the Annual Conference

Chair: Amy Hathaway, Ardurra

Join Us for This Year's Conference: "Prepare Today, Protect Tomorrow"

Registration is now open for both the main event and our two pre-conference activities. Early bird prices end Sept 30.

Workshop: Introduction to Stormwater Treatment Assessment Resource (STAR): What Should STAR Do for You?

Designed for stormwater designers and practitioners, this session introduces the updated STAR tool and how to apply it effectively in your projects.

Field Tour: Rethinking Runoff: A Chattanooga Stormwater Expedition

Explore a range of stormwater control measures (SCMs) during this engaging tour through Chattanooga's innovative stormwater sites—now in our exciting new conference location!

Be sure to reserve your hotel room and register to secure your spot for the conference and pre-conference activities. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please contact Amy at ahathaway@wkdickson.com if you have questions.

Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities are open.

Visit our website for more updated information: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/tnsa-conference>

2025 TNSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Prepare Today, Protect Tomorrow

October 21-23, 2025

<https://www.tnstormwater.org/tnsa-conference>

The Chattanooga Hotel

1201 Broad St, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Pre-Conference Workshop and Tour: Monday, October 20

Room Reservations are Open to Book

Registration Open

Early Bird Prices End September 30, 2025

TNSA Membership Early Bird: \$325 without Social/\$350 with Social

Non-TNSA Member Early Bird: \$375 without Social/\$400 with Social

TNSA Committee Updates (Continued)

INTERESTED IN BEING MORE INVOLVED? CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN A COMMITTEE. POLICY, CONFERENCE, EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION, SCM AND PUBLIC OUTREACH CONTACT CHARLENE FOR MORE INFORMATION

SCM: Standardizes Device Evaluation and Develops SCM Toolkit.

Co-Chairs: Dana Stayer, StormTrap & Jacob Dorman, Contech

1. The University of Tennessee Stormwater team is working on an update of the Stormwater Treatment Assessment Resource (STAR) tool and the TN Permanent Stormwater Management Design Guidance Manual. A Science and Engineering Review Committee (SERC) has been formed to advise UT during this anticipated 9-month initiative. Jacob Dorman, Chair, and Dana Stayer, Co-Chair, will represent the TNSA SCM Committee on the SERC alongside other stormwater professionals from the public and private sectors.
2. Work continues towards the production of a guidance document intended to support proper calculation of the required Water Quality Treatment Volume (WQTV). This guide is expected to be available later in 2025.
3. The TNSA SCM Committee is seeking additional participants to assist with the development of SCM-focused guidance and tools to be made available for TNSA membership. Since 2020, the SCM Committee has produced several technical guides focused on proprietary treatment solutions, SCM maintenance, and proper SCM sizing. We would like to do more and need your help to do so! Please consider participating. Reach out to the SCM Committee Chair, Jacob Dorman (jacob.dorman@conteches.com), or Co-Chair, Dana Stayer (dstayer@stormtrap.com) for more information or to express your interest in joining.

Policy: Works with TDEC to share and update members on state and EPA regulations and policies.

Chair: David Mason, CDM Smith

TDEC's new Multi-Sector Stormwater Permit (TMSP) was issued on July 1, 2025. This will prompt updates to SWPPPs.

Public Outreach: Working to create education resources for MS4's and TNSA members

Chair: Tom Lawrence, Thomas Lawrence, PLLC

You can purchase pre-printed brochures here: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/ed>

We currently have 3 brochures, a children's activity booklet and stickers. For additional brochures please visit the Club Express document library.

Communication: Goal is to work on communication within and outside of the organization

Chair: Aaron Rogge, CDM Smith

The Communications Committee is up and running for 2025. The focus this year will be supporting TNSA talks and Conference Committees by capturing popular topics and guiding speakers to produce lasting content for TNSA. The committee is also re-searching social media posting strategies to disseminate to MS4s so that we can all boost engagement while satisfying our MCMs. If you're interested in helping out, contact Aaron Rogge for more details.

Education: Manages and Creates Educational Training and Resources

Chair: Tim Gangaware, UT Water Resources Research Center

TNSA Talk is scheduled for November 20, 3pm eastern time

Speaker: Catherine Price with The Cumberland River Compact

More information to come!!

TNSA Talks are held on Zoom, one hour in length and include PDH's.

Contact Tim or Charlene if you are interested in speaking at a TNSA Talk.

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!

**TNSA MEMBERSHIPS & SOCIAL MEDIA SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE!
MEMBERSHIPS SHOULD BE RENEWED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 15 IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE
MEMBERSHIP PRICE FOR CONFERENCE AND OTHER EVENTS.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF TNSA!

TDEC UPDATES

Industrial Stormwater

Tennessee Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities (TMSP)

The new TMSP was issued on June 30, 2025, and became effective on July 1, 2025, and is posted on the Division of Water Resources' permit DataViewer at [TNR050000](#).

To submit a **Notice of Intent (NOI)** requesting coverage under the new TMSP go to [MyTDEC Forms](#).

- Operators of an **existing permitted facility** must submit a NOI no later than September 30, 2025.
- Operators of a qualifying **new facility** without TMSP coverage should submit a NOI at least 30 calendar days prior to commencing discharge.
- **New operators** should submit a NOI at least five days prior to the operator change.

You can find updates about the new TMSP on TDEC's website at [Industrial Stormwater General Permit](#).

Construction Stormwater

Tennessee Erosion Prevention & Sediment Control (EPSC) Handbook

The purpose of the handbook is to provide technical assistance in the design of stormwater best management practices for construction sites. TDEC is working with the University of Tennessee's Water Research Center and a volunteer working group of several technical experts to assist and provide input in the handbook revisions.

The draft of [Appendix D - Seed Mix Examples](#) is now available for public review and comment: [EPSC Handbook](#) or [Draft Guidance Documents](#). To comment on the draft, please email dwr.engineering@tn.gov with the subject line "Comments on the EPSC Handbook". All comments from the public should be sent in by **September 30, 2025**.

Survey: Improving EPSC Together: Share Your Experience

TDEC Division of Water Resources is seeking feedback from designers, inspectors, and field staff to better understand which best management practices (BMPs) are most commonly used and how well they perform across different project types and regions. The [survey](#) is quick and will help guide future updates and improvements. Please feel free to share the link to the survey with others in your network who may have relevant experience.

Tennessee Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control (TNEPSC) Training Program for Construction Sites

[TNEPSC Website](#)

[Level 1 - 2025 Training Class Schedule \(In Person\)](#)

[Level 1 Recertification - 2025 Training Class Schedule \(In Person\)](#)

[Level 1 Recertification - 2025 Training Class Schedule \(Online Sessions\)](#)

[Level 2 - 2025 Training Class Schedule \(In Person\)](#)

[Level 2 Recertification - 2025 Training Class Schedule \(In Person\)](#)

Municipal Stormwater

Small MS4 Annual Reports - Due September 30, 2025

The Small MS4 Annual Reports will be received and processed electronically through the [MyTDEC Forms portal](#)

- Electronic Data Deliverable Forms
 - **(Reminder)** Where available the Electronic Data Deliverable or EDDs forms developed by the Division shall be used and submitted when monitoring for the reporting year has been performed.
- EDD spreadsheets and instructions may be located online at: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/water-quality/water-quality-reports---publications.html>
- Stormwater Management Program Evaluation

(Reminder) The permittees are required to conduct an annual evaluation of the Stormwater Management Program to evaluate compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit, including the effectiveness of the best management practices (BMPS), components, or controls of its stormwater management program, and the status of achieving the measurable requirements in the permit. A summary of their evaluation is required to be submitted with each annual report.

TN Stormwater Management Training Schedule Spring 2025

TNEPSC Level I

October 1, 2025- Memphis - Holiday Inn Suites-Wolfchase Galleria, 2751 New Brunswick Road, 38133

October 14, 2025 - Nashville - Southern Company, 2451 Atrium Way, Nashville, TN

December 2, 2025 - Nashville- Southwestern Travel, 2451 Atrium Way, Nashville, TN

TNEPSC Level I Recertification

October 2, 2025- Memphis - Holiday Inn Suites-Wolfchase Galleria, 2751 New Brunswick Road, 38133

October 29, 2025 - Nashville- Southwestern Travel, 2451 Atrium Way, Nashville, TN

November 12, 2025 - Knoxville - Rothchilds Catering Center, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN

Level 2 Design

December 9 & 10, 2025 - Franklin -Drury Hotel, 1874 West McEwen Drive Franklin, TN 37067

Level 2 Recertification

October 15, 2025 - Nashville - Southern Company, 2451 Atrium Way, Nashville, TN

TN Hydrologic Determination Course

November 17-20, 2025 Jackson – West TN REC - CLOSED

TN-HDT Refresher Course

Sept 16, 2025 Oak Ridge – Doubletree Hotel

Sept 23, 2025 Dickson – The Station

Nov. 21, 2025 Jackson - West TN REC

Registration Link:

<https://tnepsc.org/index.asp?vp=1>

Contact: Tim Gangaware
Tennessee Water Resources Research Center
gangwrrc@utk.edu



2025 STORMWATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCES

TN Engineers Conference September Sept 14-16 Franklin

Keep Tennessee Beautiful Conference Sept 16-17, Mufreesboro

TCAPWA/SWANA Annual Conference Sept 22-24 Memphis

SESWA October 1-3 Hilton Head, SC

TNSA Annual Conference October 21-23 Chattanooga

Any other conferences or symposiums?

Notify Charlene to be added to the list.

Urban Runoff 5K was a HUGE Success!!!

We are very excited to announce we had a record number of runners this year, 394! Congratulations to GMC for winning the Team Spirit Award for the second year in a row.

They were dressed to the nines and looked fantastic!

In order to promote the implementation of local watershed quality stewardship projects, a portion of the proceeds generated from the Urban Runoff 5K were awarded back to the community through one watershed quality award of \$1000.00. Local Non-Governmental Organizations had the opportunity to submit specific stewardship proposals that were judged by the UR5K Planning Committee. The committee is always seeking projects focused on Pollutant Runoff Reduction Implementation. Contest entries include any proposed project that involves the implementation/installation Best Management Practices that will improve runoff within a specific watershed. Examples BMPs could include, but not be limited to, rain gardens or other bio-retention basins, tree plantings, downspout disconnection, rain barrels, etc.

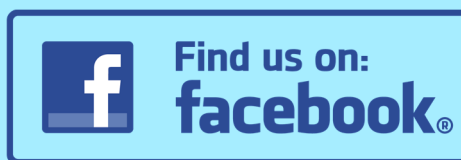
This year's grant was sponsored by the City of Lebanon.

The winner this year is the Friends of Mill Ridge Park. The project is the Catch and Clean Rain Garden at Mill Ridge Park. The rain garden will function as a demonstration garden for park visitors. It will serve as a living classroom where community members can learn about stormwater management, native plants, and sustainable landscaping practices. A BIG thank you to all of our sponsors this year including, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division for providing the trees which were given as prizes. As well as TDEC Division of Solid Waste, City of Lebanon, GMC, Gresham Smith, Barge Civil Associates, City of Mount Juliet, KCI Technologies, Stantec, Hazen & Sawyer, Brown and Caldwell, City of Portland, Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc., Spectrum Environmental Inc., Walker Building Group, Metro Nashville, Athena Engineering Environmental, Evergreen Infrastructure, Fleet Feet, the City of Gallatin, Selvidge

Injury Law and Tom Palko for the beautiful birdhouses! This event would not be possible without your help. A HUGE shout out to all of our committee members and professional partners! Aaron Rogge with CDM Smith, Gretchen Judkins with Metro Nashville, Michael Hunt with Metro Nashville, Joe Phillips with Sumner County, Kourtney Hopkins with the City of Gallatin, Kristin Hebebrand with Brown and Caldwell, Lauren Barber with GMC, Abigail Rosendale with the City of White House, Jonathan Stem with Rutherford County, Shannon Emrich with Barge Civil Associates and Trey Vincent with Strand Associates. It takes a lot of volunteers and committee members to help run this event and we could

not have done it without them!

Follow us on Facebook to see the photos and information about next years' event.





Working together to improve water quality

The Watershed Game (WSG) is an interactive tool that helps individuals understand the connection between land use and water quality. Participants learn how a variety of land uses impact water and natural resources, increase their knowledge of best management practices (BMPs), and learn how their choices can prevent adverse impacts.

Participants apply plans, practices, and policies that help them achieve a water quality goal for a stream, lake, or river.

The Game is designed for use with groups of up to 25 players comprised of elected and appointed officials, members of watershed organizations, association members, and other community leaders and group members. Participants in the WSG learn about practices, plans, and policies that improve and protect the quality of rivers and lakes while making management choices about land use in a fun, and low-stress environment.

The object of this team-building simulation is for each participant or team to use limited financial resources to reduce excess nonpoint source pollution (e.g., excess sediment, nitrogen and/or phosphorus) to levels that meet a clean water goal. Working in teams, participants apply tools (practices, plans, and policies) to decrease water pollution and increase flood resilience while balancing financial resources. The goal of the activity is to meet a clean water goal without going broke. The WSG illustrates that cooperation is an essential part of managing water and land use to achieve clean water objectives.



Contact:

Walter Battle, Western TN Area Specialist
731-635-9551 (office) – 731-780-0573 (cell)
wbattle1@utk.edu

The Watershed Game Program was developed by Minnesota Sea Grant and University of Minnesota Extension, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Alabama Water Institute, and the University of Minnesota Water Resources Center. (2020). Design and Illustration by Wendy Strombeck, Ph.D. Design. Copyright Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved.

INTERESTED IN THE TSNA BOARD?

Nominations and Voting for the MS4 spots will take place at the September Region Meetings
Associate and Private Nominations and Voting will take place online, keep an eye out for an email.

Board Members Rolling off

East: Garrett Ferry with UT Knoxville

West: Paul Posey with Lakeland (replaced Ethan Skaggs in 2025)

South East: Josh Rogers with the City of Chattanooga

North West: Tim Ware with the City of Dyersburg

Middle: Joe Phillips with Sumner County

Private: Tom Lawrence with TLE Engineering (Tom is currently the TNSA Treasurer)

Aaron Rogge with CDM Smith

Board commitment: 4 meetings per year. February meeting in person.

Zoom meetings in May, August and December.

NOMINATE TNSA EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY AWARDS!

It's that time of the year again, to nominate for the TNSA Exceptional Quality Awards!

Time to recognize folks for their hard work and dedication to TNSA, stormwater and Tennessee throughout the year.

All nominations must include a reason for the nomination. Nominees will be voted on by the TNSA membership, except for the Lifetime Achievement award, which will be voted on by the TNSA Board.

DEADLINE TO NOMINATE SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

Click here for online nomination form: <https://www.tnstormwater.org/award-nomination-form>

1. "Person of Year" – An individual who displays Exceptional dedication and commitment to TNSA. Examples of dedication and commitment are defined as providing training opportunities, serving on the TNSA board and/or committees, providing support to other member organizations, etc.
2. "Organization of the Year" – An MS4 or other Organization that displays Exceptional stewardship of Water Quality and/or the implementation of green infrastructure projects in Tennessee. Types of stewardship include leadership and innovation in providing public education and outreach, public involvement/participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff control, post construction runoff control and pollution prevention/good housekeeping. Individuals are not eligible for this award; only the member organization is eligible.
3. "Dr. Bruce Tschantz Lifetime Achievement Award" – TNSA's highest honor for outstanding, longtime stormwater professionals with a minimum of 20 years of service. These individuals' long-term contributions have made a noticeable impact on stormwater management efforts in the State of Tennessee.

NOTES:

At the Board meeting, we renamed the lifetime award to include honoring Dr. Bruce Tschantz. The Board will review nominations and make selection of recipient. This lifetime achievement award will not be voted on by the TNSA membership. The executive committee will review all nominations to ensure that they meet the minimum criteria for each award. All qualified nominations will be provided to be voted on by the TNSA membership with the exclusion of the "Dr. Bruce Tschantz Lifetime Achievement Award".

TNSA TN AFPM CONFLUENCE: A Stormwater and Floodplain Summit

February 18, 2026 9am-5pm

Williamson County Expo Center
4215 Long Lane Franklin, TN 37064

Registration Opens November 1, 2025

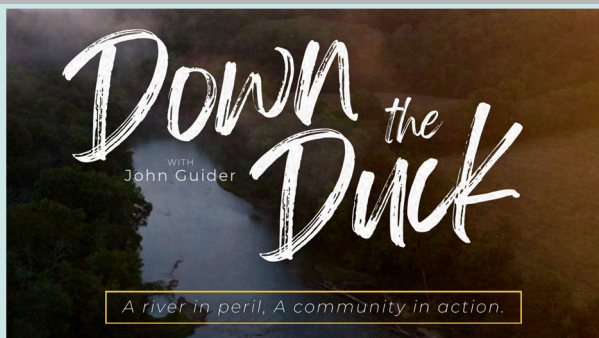
You are invited to attend the 3rd Annual 2026 Confluence: Stormwater & Floodplain Summit.

The Summit is a new one-day partnership event presented by the Tennessee Association of Floodplain Management and the Tennessee Stormwater Association. Our goal is to bring together floodplain and stormwater professionals in order to create a better understanding of the permit responsibilities and how they can work together in the future.

CEU and PDH's and lunch provided.

www.tnstormwater.org/confluencesummit





A Nashville PBS production in partnership with Archaea Productions

In partnership with Archaea Productions, Nashville PBS is pleased to present the documentary Down the Duck with John Guider: A River in Peril—A Community in Action. John paddles us along all 269 miles of the Duck River on a camping and canoe expedition, where he discovers history, community, and a river in peril in Tennessee.

Storied photographer, boatsman, and septuagenarian John Guider embarks on a month-long adventure canoeing down all 269 miles of Middle Tennessee's Duck River. Initially, it was simply a photography project to raise awareness about the Duck's threatened and impaired water levels. Along the way, John discovers its beauty, ecological diversity, history, and the engaged communities rallying to save it.

The Duck River is one of the most ecologically diverse rivers on the planet, and its waters have supported human civilization for over 18,000 Years. John's journey will be the thread weaving through diverse voices, bringing context and gravity to the Duck River's importance. We'll hear from history and ecology experts and learn from Indigenous voices and community members about what makes the Duck special.

John also encounters numerous obstacles and dangers along the way. He must portage multiple dams, find safe campsites before nightfall, and confront his limits on the water. The dangers of lower water levels and a changing river led to lost cameras, a capsized and lost canoe, and a wild invasive species nearly ending his efforts.

WHY THIS DOCUMENTARY?

In 2024, American Rivers added the Duck River to its list of America's Most Endangered Rivers®. Nashville and Middle Tennessee have experienced explosive growth and development in recent years. This has imperiled the Duck as water extraction reaches unsustainable levels. The Duck is at a critical juncture with additional utilities planned and more extraction on the horizon. John's journey will focus attention on the value and importance of the river while also raising awareness about the threat. The overarching themes of community, conservation, and history that we explore are reinforced by the fact that while the Duck is special, it is not unique. There are numerous threatened waterways all over the country that are of critical importance to the communities that treasure them and depend on them. Now more than ever, there is a need for positive stories like this one that bring people to-gether around the potentially divisive topics of conservation versus land and water use and the balance we must all strike. As cli-mate change and increased development put even more pressure on water needs, it will take a strong coalition of all stakeholders to find an equitable path forward.

JOHN GUIDER – Riverman. John Guider is a nationally recognized, award-winning photographer and author from Nashville, TN.

His largest project, *The River Inside*, is the subject of a book by the same name and a popular traveling museum exhibition.

With a passion for conservation, he aims to raise awareness about the Duck River as it faces a critical drought.

Additional voices and collaborators for the Down the Duck documentary project include Grace Stranch, Esq. CEO, Harpeth Conservancy, with expertise in waterway ecology; David Fox, friend and equipment support coordinator; Albert Bender, chair of

The Indigenous Peoples Coalition historical knowledge of the Native American Indian along the waterway; Jess Martin, Communications, Harpeth Conservancy, tech/ tracking support; Ryan Jackwood, Ph.D., Lipscomb University, specializes in watershed restora-tion, biogeochemical processes at the land-water interface and contaminant transport; and Kristin Irwin

Womble, TN Tech University expertise in freshwater mollusks with a focus on bivalve.

The production cost for the documentary, which tells the unique story of the Duck River, is \$175,000. In it, John Guider discovers history, community, and a river in peril in Tennessee. Nashville PBS is in the initial fundraising stages for this new production, and we appreciate your consideration in sponsoring it. A list of sponsorship benefits and levels is attached.

In addition to the documentary, Nashville PBS will create a special online presence for Down the Duck with John Guider as part of our dedication to supporting important environmental causes while working with educational and environmental partners to expand the scope of its sustainability impact. The website will be available as an educational tool for the school systems, especially the seven counties through which the Duck River flows, and other educational institutions locally and nationally. The production cost also includes virtual and in-person community engagement screenings and discussions.

Contact: Robinson Regen robinsonregen@gmail.com 615-604-5655