



DEP 2024 HAB LAKE MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE WORKSHOP SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES





Jason Earl Adolf, Endowed Professor of Marine Science, Monmouth University. BS, Roger Williams University; MS, University of Hawaii Manoa; PhD, University of Maryland College Park. Dr. Adolf's research interests include phytoplankton ecology and physiology, Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), real-time continuous water quality monitoring, and eDNA approaches to aquatic community analyses. Dr. Adolf's research uses combined field and laboratory approaches to address the impacts of environmental variability, including climate change, on ecosystems. He currently teaches within the Monmouth University B.S. program in Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy and highly values the inclusion of undergraduate students in his research.

Jason Adolf, Ph.D.
Endowed Associate Professor of Biology
Marine Science
Monmouth University



Michael J. Danko, Assistant Director of Extension and Marine Recreation Agent for Fisheries and Boating. Mr. Danko began his career in marine biology serving as a USCG licensed captain aboard research vessels owned and operated by the New Jersey Sea Consortium. He has led numerous water quality, sediment and fisheries related projects in the coastal zone for both research and outreach purposes. He has extensive experience working with stakeholders to reach consensus on important coastal issues and interpreting scientific results to help coastal businesses implement measures to reduce their impact to the environment. In addition, he supports early student research at the high school level and current serves on the executive committee of the New Jersey Southern Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

Mike Danko
Assistant Director of Extension
Marine Recreation Agent:
Fisheries and Boating
New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium



Jennifer Graham, Ph.D, U.S. Geological Survey, over 20 years of experience in the study of cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins in waterbodies throughout the United States. The overarching theme of her research is the spatiotemporal distribution of cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins with respect to changing physical, chemical, and biological conditions in both lentic and lotic ecosystems.

Throughout the course of Dr. Graham's career, she has applied her expertise on harmful algal blooms to a diverse range of leadership and advisory positions, including other States. Dr. Graham represents the U.S. Geological Survey on the Interagency Working Group on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia.

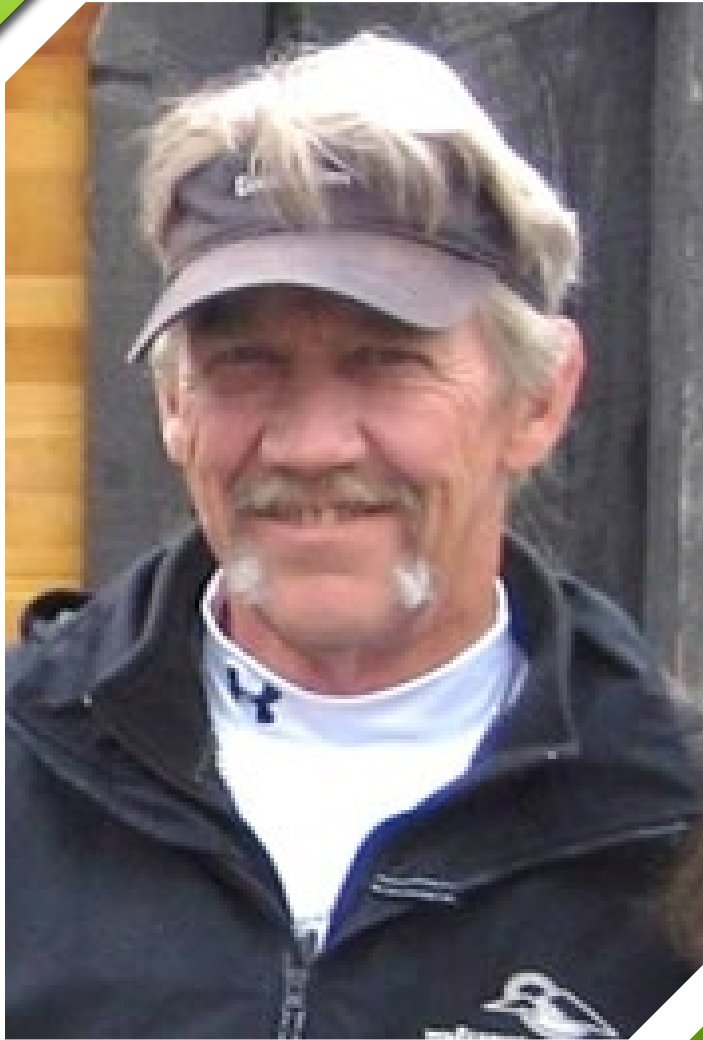
JENNIFER GRAHAM, PH.D.
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Dr. Stephen J. Souza is the Owner of Clean Waters Consulting, LLC. He is also the Founding Partner of Princeton Hydro, LLC, serving as the President of the company from its inception in 1998 until his retirement in 2019. Over the past 35 years he has dedicated his career to the management and restoration of aquatic ecosystems, in particular lakes and reservoirs, as well as the design and application of green infrastructure stormwater management practices. Dr. Souza is a Past-President of the North American Lake Management Society and the Pennsylvania Lake Management Society. He is actively involved in American Water Resources Association and American Water Works Association.

Dr. Souza received his B.S. from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, his M.S. from Rutgers University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut. He is an Adjunct Professor at Temple University and an instructor and course coordinator for the Rutgers NJAES Office of Continuing Professional Education.

STEPHEN J. SOUZA, PH.D.
OWNER OF CLEAN WATERS CONSULTING,
LLC.



Dr. Kortmann is an applied limnology specialist with over 40 years of experience for restoration and management of lakes and water supply systems. Dr. Kortmann has conducted cooperative research projects with Environmental Engineering Companies, Water Utility Companies, University of Connecticut, Kent State University, Canada Ministry for the Environment, and Regulatory Agencies.

Dr. Kortmann is a life member of AWWA and has received several research publication awards including two Dexter Brackett Awards, Quarternary Transatlantic Award (England), and three Past President's Awards. Dr. Kortmann has conducted water supply resource research and consulting nation-wide and as far away as Sao Paulo, Brazil. He founded Ecosystem Consulting Service in 1980, now a Division of GZA. Under the direction of Dr. Kortmann, the research performed by ECS, Inc. has led to the development of new diagnostic techniques and innovative lake-reservoir restoration methods including four US patents. He received the Lake Restoration Project Award for innovative restoration techniques employed at Lake Waramaug, CT; and the Environmental Technology Innovation Award for the development of Layer Aeration from the EPA New England.

Bob Kortmann, Ph.D.
Senior Consultant – Applied Limnologist,
GZA Geoenvironmental, INC



Chris Kunz is the harmful algal bloom response coordinator and Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Freshwater and Biological Monitoring within NJDEP's Division of Water Monitoring, Standards and Pesticide Control. As Bureau Chief, Chris oversees all chemical and biological monitoring activities. Chris graduated from Richard Stockton College in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. He is a 2020 fellow of the New Jersey Conservation Leadership Program and in 2023, became a Certified Public Manager through Rutgers University. Chris was co-lead for the sampling and analysis subgroup for the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) team for microplastics. He is currently a member of the Monitoring Advisory and Coordination Committee (MACC) for the Delaware River Basin Commission and frequent presenter and steering committee member for the New Jersey Water Monitoring Council. Chris also participates in several internal workgroups involving mercury, 1,4-dioxane, PFAS and other contaminants of emerging concern.

Chris Kunz
Bureau Chief of Freshwater &
Biological Monitoring
NJDEP



Dr. Fred S. Lubnow is the Senior Technical Director of Ecological Services at Princeton Hydro, and the office manager of the Exton, Pennsylvania office. Dr. Lubnow received his Bachelor of Science in Biology from Susquehanna University (1988), his Master's degree in Environmental Sciences (1992) and his Ph.D. in Limnology (1994), both from the University of California Davis. Dr. Lubnow has been an environmental consultant for 30 years. His areas of expertise include the management of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and their associated cyanotoxins, in-lake management strategies and the development of watershed-based management plans. Dr. Lubnow is an adjunct professor at Delaware Valley University, Doylestown, PA where he has been teaching a course and laboratory on Watershed Management since 2016. He is also an adjunct professor at Villanova University, PA where he teaches a graduate course on Freshwater Ecology.

In addition, Dr. Lubnow developed a professionally-credited course for PA DEP on the Management and Monitoring of HABs and Cyanotoxins in Raw Water Supplies. Dr. Lubnow is also one of the members of New Jersey's HAB Expert Team who are conducting data and literature reviews on HABs in order to develop strategies on how to holistically address such conditions in freshwater systems in New Jersey.

Fred Lubnow, Ph.D.
Senior Technical Director
Ecological Services
Princeton Hydro



Emily Mayer serves as a Research Scientist 3 at NJDEP, where she is responsible for the identification and enumeration of phytoplankton samples, algal toxin analysis and comprehensive data management. With over a decade of experience within the lake management sector, Emily specializes in lake macrophyte mapping, water quality analysis, and project management. Emily earned her B.S. degree in Biology from Centenary University. She continued her studies at University of Florida while working and earned her M.S. in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences in May of 2020. She serves on the board of directors as Editor for NEAPMS (Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society), is an aquatic technical advisor for the NJISST (NJ Invasive Species Strike Team) and is an active member of other related lake management societies and NJDEP workgroups.

Emily Mayer
Research Scientist 3
Bureau of Freshwater & Biological Monitoring
NJDEP



Rob Newby, Ph.D. is a Research Microbiologist with the NJDEP's Division of Science and Research. Rob joined NJDEP in 2017 and has worked on several critical environmental microbiology projects for the State. Rob's primary research focus at NJDEP has been on characterizing and analyzing the dynamics and driving factors of freshwater cyanobacterial harmful algal blooms. Rob has served on many NJDEP led HAB expert panels, served as co-chair of the Management Practices section on the ITRC Harmful Cyanobacteria Bloom document, and serves as one of the state representatives to EPA Consortium for HABs. Rob maintains an active research interest in a number of areas related to environmental microbiology outside of HABs; including *Legionella*, the use of eDNA for invasive species detection and characterization; and other novel technologies and techniques for rapid detection.

Rob Newby, Ph.D.
Research Microbiologist
Division of Science and Research
NJDEP



Vic Poretti is the Director of the Division of Water Monitoring, Standards, and Pesticide Control. The Division regulates pesticides and assesses New Jersey's waters to protect and manage public drinking water supplies, recreational uses, shellfish harvesting, and the health of aquatic organisms. To accomplish its mission of protecting public and ecological health, the Division collects and analyzes water quality data, coordinates the development of water quality standards and the restoration of impaired waters, ensures compliance with pesticide regulations, and provides public education and outreach.

Vic started his DEP career over 30 years ago in the Bureau of Freshwater and Biological Monitoring, advancing to Bureau Chief. As Bureau Chief he ensured the Bureau sampled and analyzed freshwater monitoring throughout the State to serve as a sound scientific foundation for water resource management and to meet federal Clean Water Act requirements. Vic was also instrumental in the creation and implementation of NJ's Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Freshwater Response including strategy development, sampling and analysis, and communicating data and alerts to the public. As Division Director, Vic continues to serve on the Department's Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Task Force.

Vic Poretti
Director of Water Monitoring, Standards and
Pesticide Control
NJDEP



Robert Schuster, Watershed Coordinator, Office of the Assistant Commissioner Watershed and Land Management, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Bob Schuster is the Watershed Coordinator at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) Office of Assistant Commissioner, Watershed and Land Management. He has over 30 years in sample collection; and chemical, biological, and microbial analysis, as well as data assessment of all State waters. This includes data from ambient and routine monitoring networks, real-time continuous monitoring, beach testing, and NJDEP special projects (storm water monitoring and microbial source tracking) and the EPA National Aquatic Resource surveys, with a focus on utilizing data for remediation actions and management policy decisions.

Bob Schuster
Watershed Coordinator
Watershed and Land Management
NJDEP



Dr. Meiyin Wu, Director of New Jersey Center for Water Science and Technology and Professor of Biology at Montclair State University, is an aquatic ecosystem ecologist whose research focuses on water quality, aquatic ecology, harmful algal blooms, pollution transport and control, microbial source tracking, and ecosystem restoration. In addition to teaching and conducting research, Dr. Wu directs a water analysis laboratory (NJDEP Laboratory Certification # 07105), organizes a citizen science program for HAB monitoring, and coordinates an environmental education and outreach program. The author of more than 50 articles, books and educational DVDs, she also holds three U.S. patents on innovative technologies for water treatment.

MEIYIN WU, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR OF NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR
WATER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY AT
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY