

IN THIS ISSUE

SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP

Highlights, events, & 2024-2025 office installation

1

PROJECTS OF THE YEAR & INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Group & individual awards recognized at the Spring Conference Awards Banquet

4

14TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING & PADDLING EVENT

July 30 in Wrightstown at Royal St. Patrick's Golf Course & the Fox Riverfront

8

UPCOMING PUBLIC WORKS CLASSES

Offered by UW-Madison's Transportation Information Center

8

SALT WISE: SMART SALTING CLASSES

Monthly webinars live streamed on Wednesday afternoons

9

SIDNEY CLEENSTREET

Jim Blazek shares his latest sketch, "The Watchers"

10

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Nominations are open for Executive Committee seats

11

EMERGING LEADERS

Join the Transportation, Right-of-Way, & Utilities Committee

11

8 PROFESSIONALS COMPLETE THE APWA PWMI

Public Works Management Institute certificate program

12

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship opportunities for the 2024-2025 fiscal year

12

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

This year's theme: Advancing Quality of Life for All

13

SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP

May 1-3, 2024

OVERALL HIGHLIGHTS

This year's spring conference was a success! Hosted at the Monona Terrace in Madison, attendees were welcomed to the city by Deputy Mayor Katie Crawley and Michael Mucha, Executive Director of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District.



Left to right: Michael Mucha, Katie Crawley.

The conference saw over 400 attendees, 120 of the attendance being frontline workers, and 70 vendors.

Some of the weekend's highlights included a city bike tour, a bags tournament, and the awards banquet. Attendees were able to have fun while networking and learning more about innovations in the public works field.

Thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to attend and participate in the events!



One of Friday morning's education sessions.

TOURING MADISON BY BIKE

The very first event of this year's spring conference was a bike tour hosted by the City of Madison. Cyclists enjoyed beautiful weather in the bustling city as they learned about green infrastructure and other public works projects focused on pedestrian and bike transportation.



Participants biked through the city early on Wednesday morning.

SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP, CONT.

Cyclists visited over 20 facilities across Madison, including bridges, rain gardens, and green roofs while learning about some of the key components that went into their design, challenges that were encountered during construction, and public input plans.

Attendees learned how to evaluate different types of pedestrian and bicycle facilities apply stormwater quality management techniques to urban settings, and discuss pedestrian and bicyclist solutions related to roadway crossings

Thanks to all who participated and helped kick off the conference at a bright and early 9 a.m. ride!



BAGS TOURNAMENT

Conference attendees trickled in as the Get Acquainted Party started on Wednesday evening. Participants were able to socialize and tour the equipment show exhibits while partaking in food, drinks, and a bags tournament!

Competition was heated across the exhibit floor as players competed for 1st place bragging rights. Our winners received the Championship Cone Award.



This year's bags tournament winners.

Congratulations to our winners, and thanks to all our competitors for participating!

THURSDAY'S EVENTS

Following a delicious breakfast, APWA members were welcomed to the city and conference events by Katie Crawley, City of Madison Deputy Mayor, and Michael Mucha, Executive Director of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District.

After the remarks, attendees walked the exhibit floor and participated in miscellaneous vendor education sessions.

SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP, CONT.



Some of the topics the sessions covered included the Madison Bus Rapid Transit System, drone usage in public works, and electric vehicle implementation in Milwaukee. Numerous courses on a variety of topics were offered, and attendees experienced a diverse range of topics to learn about for their continuing education credits.

Thank you to all of our speakers for lecturing!

AWARDS BANQUET

Several individuals and groups were recognized at this year's awards ceremony. Continue reading about the awards and winners in the next section, [Project of the Year & Individual Awards](#).

GATHERING AT GREAT DANE

After a long day of learning, networking, and celebrating public works professionals in Wisconsin, conference attendees gathered at Great Dane Brewing. It was an amazing turnout! Although hosted by the Young Professionals Committee, people of all ages showed up to the event.

An unofficial pool tournament quickly ensued as attendees vied for the top spot at the table. It proved to be a great night filled with lively conversation, craft beer, and fun, light-hearted competition.



Continuing education sessions in progress.



Thursday evening's pool tournament in progress.

SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP, CONT.

PODCAST SESSION & THE FUTURE OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

On day two, a podcast session was hosted with Shelly Billingsley in the “hot seat.” The podcast discussed infrastructure in public works projects.



Billingsley in the “hot seat.”

Friday morning also consisted of several informative and engaging continuing education sessions, including a riveting discussion on the future of civil infrastructure, tips and tricks to secure federal grants, and a forum on contracting ethics.

Thanks to our speakers who provided exciting topics of learning for our attendees!

2024-25 OFFICER INSTALLATION

On the last and final day of the conference, events were concluded by the installation of our chapter’s new leaders for the upcoming year. New contact information can be found at the conclusion of this issue.



PROJECTS OF THE YEAR & INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Several individuals were recognized for their achievements in the APWA Wisconsin Chapter at the awards banquet this past May. The Awards Committee also celebrated outstanding public works projects and the teams that participated in the design, construction, and management of those completed projects.

Thank you to the members of our Awards Committee for helping with and reviewing the submittals that were received this year.

As a reminder, nominations are able to be made by anyone in the Chapter! Visit the [website](#) for more information. Award nominations are due annually by January 31.

PROJECTS OF THE YEAR

Working from the projects that were nominated for this award, a panel judged the submittals and selected 5 projects that were deemed worthy of receiving an award.

PROJECTS OF THE YEAR, CONT.

Projects were judged based on a variety of factors, including engineering complexity and accomplishments, exceptional efforts, sustainability, environmental protection, challenges faced and overcome, and the overall value the project provided to the community.

The awards were divided into categories and price points, listed below the project title.

CITY OF MADISON: W WILSON ST & S BROOM ST RECONSTRUCTION

Transportation, less than \$5 million

This reconstruction project is a great example of long-term thinking. Coordinating with both private utilities and the railroad system, the project envisioned improvements to regional transportation and considered stormwater resiliency. Aging water and sewer mains were replaced as a result of this project.

KENOSHA COUNTY: COUNTY EM HIGHWAY RESURFACING

Transportation, over \$5 million

The County EM project widened the paved shoulder along Lake Shore Drive to provide a buffer between pedestrians and vehicles. Due to the nature of the project, the design incorporated underground storm sewer and stormwater management improvements. The completed project consisted of approximately 1 mile of storm sewer and 7 underground concrete structures located throughout for stormwater quality control.

CITY OF GREENFIELD: HONEY CREEK STREAM RESTORATION

Environment, over \$5 million

This project aimed to improve urban biodiversity in the Honey Creek stream and riparian habitat, and also to increase the community's enjoyment of the City's most visited park. The project implemented natural channel design principles which allowed the team to surpass their original goals. The restoration has allowed the creek headwaters to hold an addition 1.3 million gallons of storm water, and the City has seen a decrease in flooding during rain events. The project spanned over 6 acres of restored floodplain, with 1.3 miles of the stream bank now stabilized.

KENOSHA COUNTY: COUNTY S EXPANSION

Transportation, \$25-\$75 million

This was the largest road improvement project in Kenosha County's history and improved important needs for safety, capacity, drainage, and pedestrian/bicycle accommodations. The highway was expanded from a 2 to 4-lane divided highway with a shared-use path, new traffic signals, railroad crossing, and a bridge over the railroad.

This 4-mile, \$28 million roadway reconstruction and expansion project involved extensive collaboration with several local and federal agencies, including the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, WisDOT Bureau of Aeronautics, and the Department of Natural Resources.

CITY OF HUDSON: WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REHAB

Transportation, small cities/rural communities

This project consisted of the renovation of the City's wastewater treatment plant to extend its life and meet the operational deficiencies that were identified. The renovation saved the City significant costs (compared to a rebuild) and exceeded the treatment requirements, all while keeping the plant running efficiently through 2040.

VILLAGE OF LANNON: WATER SYSTEM EXPANSION

Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair, small cities/rural communities

This project's work began when Lannon Elementary School's private water supply repeatedly tested positive for E. coli contamination and, as a result, reached out to the Village for assistance. The Village passed an emergency resolution to extend the water main to the school for safe drinking water, and the extension project was designed and bid on within just 3 weeks.

This project included approximately 3 miles of new water main, rehabilitation to the Village's current municipal well facility, the addition of a second well facility, and a private plumbing conversion and well abandonment program.

This project has also been selected for a **National Project of the Year Award** and will be recognized **September 9 at the National APWA PWX Conference in Atlanta!**

CITY OF SHAWANO: DOWNTOWN PLAZA "THE NABERHOOD"

Transportation, small cities/rural communities

Since 2017, the City of Shawano had been wanting to redevelop Franklin Park into an event space with a band shell, water feature, decorative lighting, pedestrian pathways, and enhanced landscaping to provide a commercial district and provide a programmable space by Main Street that could be a community destination in the heart of downtown.

The City was able to secure approximately \$1.6 in CDBG-PF and CDBG-Close funds that provided the majority of the funding needed for this project. This was a major achievement for the City in their efforts to bring more vibrancy and activity to their downtown area.

This project has also been selected for a **National Project of the Year Award** and will be recognized **September 9 at the National APWA PWX Conference in Atlanta!**

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

OUTSTANDING NEW MEMBER IMPACT AWARD

Jason Atchison, Baxter & Woodman

Recognized for his involvement with the Young Professionals Committee and the APWA National Emerging Leaders Academy, Jason has played a pivotal role as Communications Committee Chair in updating and maintaining the Chapter website.

SAMUEL A GREELEY LOCAL SERVICE AWARD

This award formally recognizes those who have continuously served a local public or private agency long-term (at least 30 years), and who have been APWA members for at least 15 years. This year, we recognize:

Mary Dziejwiontkoski, *City of Milwaukee*

Began career in 1990 & APWA member since 2006

Randy Kerkman, *Village of Bristol*

Began career in 1987 & APWA member since 1994

Kevin Breit, *City of Mosinee*

Began career in 1991 & APWA member since 1995

Randy Herwig, *City of Lodi*

36 years of service & APWA member since 2003

Frank Miller, *City of Cudahy*

Began career in 1990 & APWA member since 1996

Jim Griesbach, *Marathon County*

Began career in 1990 & APWA member since 2006

Jeffrey Hazekamp, *Angus Young Architects*

Began career in 1987 & APWA member since 2006

Jon Wallenkamp, *Kueny Architects*

Began career in 1991 & APWA member since 2005

Mark Frye, *City of Oconomowoc*

Began career in 1991 & APWA member since 2007

Patrick Skalecki, *GRAEF*

Began career in 1993 & APWA member since 2003

Ryan Sazama, *City of Sheboygan*

31 years of service & APWA member since 2003

JOHN W. CURTIS CHAPTER SERVICE AWARD

Eric Dundee, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District

This award recognizes outstanding individual achievement through Chapter activity and service while supporting APWA's strategic plan, goals, and objectives.

Eric has served on and chaired multiple APWA Chapter and National committees, including leadership and management, membership, communications, young professionals, conference planning, and executive committees. He was also the Chapter's very first recipient of the Outstanding New Member Impact Award in 2014.

WILLIAM J. RHEINFRANK PUBLIC WORKS IMPACT AWARD

Dave Solberg, City of Eau Claire

This award recognizes a person who has provided a positive, wide-reaching impact on public works programs, services, or policies through distinguished public service and commitment to their community and the State of Wisconsin.

Since beginning his role at Eau Claire in 2013, Dave has been a part of major public works projects that have been recognized on a national level, such as the City's historic city hall renovation and the High Bridge rehabilitation.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
OF OUR 2024 AWARD
WINNERS!**

GOLF OUTING, PADDLING EVENT, & SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

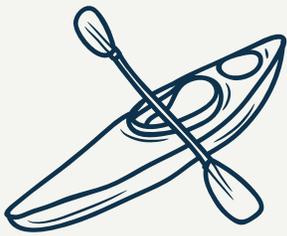
Aaron Jahncke

The Chapter's 14th Annual Summer Golf Outing and Scholarship Fundraiser is all set for **Tuesday, July 30!** This year's event includes two options for a day of summer fun.

The standard event is, of course, golfing, which will be held at Royal St. Patrick's Golf Course in Wrightstown.



Golf registration is \$100 and includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, giveaways, and prize drawings.



The alternate event is paddling on the Fox River (exact itinerary TBD). Participants are encouraged to bring their own boats and gear.

The \$25 paddling registration fee goes towards the fundraiser and boat lock fee.

Register for your preferred event to secure your spot.

Additionally, an educational session on the Fox River Navigation System Authority's (FRNSA's) Locks is in the works, and CEUs may be available to participants. If you plan to attend, contact Rick Eilertson at rick.eilertson@aecom.com.



Royal St. Patrick's Golf Course

If you can't attend this year's summer outing, you can still donate to the scholarship fund using the "Donation" option on the [registration page](#).

To donate:

- Click "Register Now" at the top of the screen.
- Login or create an account.
- Select "Myself."
- Select "Scholarship Donation."

All of the money raised through this fundraiser event, including registration fees, sponsorships, and donations go directly to the Wisconsin Chapter Scholarship Fund.

Shotgun start at 9 am. See you there!

UPCOMING PUBLIC WORKS CLASSES

Andi Bill

These public works supervision and management classes will provide you and your organization an opportunity to build a more effective management team, enhance supervision skills and management practices, and prepare staff to grow in their career and take on new responsibilities.

Classes are part of two public works certificates offered in cooperation with APWA Wisconsin. The Public Works Supervisory Academy (PWSA) Certificate consists of nine 1-day classes for a total of 54 class hours. The Public Works Management Institute (PWMI) Certificate consists of 90 class hours (including PWSA hours) with a requirement of 36 additional class hours focused on more advanced management courses.

The PWMI certificate is recognized by APWA National to meet the requirements for Leadership Excellence in Public Works.

Classes can be taken individually without enrolling in Academy or Institute. Classes can be taken in any order; however, the PWMI certificate requires a Capstone course that must be the last course taken in the series. No previous academic experience is required to participate in these certificate programs.

Classes are beginning as early as this September, so be sure to check out our website for more information on registration and class locations and dates.

UPCOMING CLASSES

Management Assessment for Personal Planning and Development

When: September 19-20

Where: Online

Local Government Fundamentals

When: October 10

Where: In person in Fond du Lac

Human Resources (HR) Basics for Non-HR Professionals

When: October 29

Where: Online & in person in Madison

Fundamentals of Public Works Operations

When: October 30 - November 7

Where: Online

Leadership Skills for Supervisors

When: November 5-12

Where: Online

Fearless Performance Management

When: December 3

Where: Online & in person in Madison

For more information about PWSA and PWMI or to register for classes, visit our [website](#).

SALT WISE: SMART SALTING CLASSES

Allison Madison

Wisconsin Salt Wise is hosting several upcoming classes and events about smart salting. These workshops focus on how using the right amount of salt can save time, increase profits, and protect our waters.

Class offerings are designed to discuss smart salting for either roads or parking lots and sidewalks. Upcoming classes for each category include the following (* denotes a hybrid event with both a class and an open house):

ROADS

September 19 in Bristol

October 17 in Elkhorn

October 23 in Fitchburg

November 6 in Fox Valley

PARKING LOTS & SIDEWALKS

September 12 in Rhinelander

September 26 in Madison

October 16 in Elkhorn

November 7 in Oshkosh

November 12 in Madison

For more information or to sign up for classes, visit the [Wisconsin Salt Wise website](#).

SIDNEY CLEENSTREET

Jim Blazek

SIDNEY CLEENSTREET as . . .



THE WATCHERS

08/24

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

The APWA Wisconsin Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for candidates for the Executive Committee. Candidate nominations may be self-nominated or submitted by any Chapter member.

Nominees must be APWA members in good standing with all dues and membership fees paid.

Nominees will be considered based on their public works knowledge, activity within the Chapter, professional character, commitment to APWA, and their willingness to devote the necessary time to the fulfillment of their duties.

If you would like to complete a nomination, please contact Scott Brandmeier at sbrandmeier@villageoffoxpoint.com.

EMERGING LEADERS

Leadership and Management Committee

The Leadership and Management Committee is pleased to announce both **Heidi Jeninga** and **Christian Moring** were selected for the Wisconsin Chapter Emerging Public Works Leaders Program.

Heidi is a Civil Engineer in the Madison office of Ruekert-Mielke where she provides grant services for municipal clients, designs plans and prepares budgets for municipal road construction projects and aids in engineering services during construction.

Heidi received her Bachelor's degree in Engineering, with a concentration in Civil / Environmental Engineering, from Calvin University. Heidi has a strong dedication to our profession with a flexible, independent, and versatile set of skills, allowing her to be successful in serving her clients.

Christian Moring is an Associate and Project manager for Stantec based out of their Cottage Grove Office. Christian received his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Iowa.

Like most entry level Engineers, Christian began his career performing construction observation, inspection, and management services. He then began developing design skills in grading, utility design, stormwater modeling, and pavement design and maintenance.

Through client and contractor coordination, he was promoted to a project manager role and now currently serves as the Village Engineer for Johnson Creek and Newburg. Christian now serves as a supervisor in a quickly growing team, which brings on additional responsibilities and embracing a sense of uncomfortableness.

Both Heidi and Christian will be attending PWX in Atlanta, Georgia where they will learn more about the Public Works field and have the opportunity to join the APWA National Emerging Leader's Academy.

Congratulations Heidi and Christian!

8 PROFESSIONALS COMPLETE THE APWA PWMI

Benjamin Jordan

Eight public works professionals completed the Wisconsin Public Works Management Institute certificate program.

December:

Maggie Darr, Operations Director at City of Janesville

David Howe, Director of Public Works at Village of Poplar Grove

Jason Jourdan, Foreman at Village of West Milwaukee

Tim Rasmussen, Street Superintendent at City of Marshfield

June:

Ben Cole, Superintendent of Streets, Parks and Cemetery at City of Barron

Mike Nemitz, Highway Maintenance Supervisor at Winnebago County

Kean Paltz, Laborer at Dane County Highway

Greg Potts, Town of Ledgeview.

These eight new graduates join the other 94 leaders who completed the Wisconsin Institute certificate since it was created 15 years ago.

The Wisconsin Public Works Management Institute is an APWA approved Public Works Institute, requiring successful completion of 90 hours (15 classroom days) of supervisory and management training.

The topics covered are essential for the success of public works supervisors and managers. Topics include understanding local government structures, processes and the respective roles of elected leaders and staff; application of ethics and standards; effective approaches to organizing and staffing, budgeting, planning, and managing public works functions; effective leadership and delegation; personal communication skills; and high-quality customer service.

Participants benefit from the knowledge of instructors with real-world management experience in public works, gain a better understanding of their individual leadership and management styles, and take away useful problem solving approaches that can be implemented in their work.

For more information on the certificate program, call TIC toll free at (800) 442-4615 or visit our [website](#). If you have additional questions contact Program Director Benjamin Jordan, at (608) 265-4478 or Theresa Rodger, Program Support at (608) 262-6361.

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

Eric Dundee

The chapter's new fiscal year starts July 1st and with the new year comes a new annual chapter sponsorship term. These sponsorships are vital to the chapter's business and provide opportunities for Wisconsin public works professionals to continue to lead APWA and public works initiatives within the state.

To support the chapter and be a 2024-2025 sponsor, please go to the chapter [website](#). You can also contact Lee Igl, chapter Treasurer at lee.igl@mcfarland.wi.us or Shelly Billingsley, chapter President, at shelly.billingsley@kenoshacountywi.gov.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK:
ADVANCING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL**
May 19-25, 2024

APWA is proud to announce “Advancing Quality of Life for All” as the theme for the 2024 National Public Works Week (NPWW) poster. This year’s poster illustrates how public works professionals contribute to and enhance the quality of life in all the communities they proudly serve.

Every year, NPWW gets bigger and better. The number of participating municipalities continues to grow, which means that the number of citizens who are exposed to the value of public works grows.

APWA encourages public works agencies and professionals to take NPWW Week as an opportunity to tell their stories within their communities. Reference our [How-To Guide](#) to assist in the development and implementation of celebrations.

BY THE WAY, START PLANNING AHEAD FOR THE FALL CONFERENCE!

When: October 30 - November 1, 2024
Where: Blue Harbor Resort, Sheboygan

**APWA WISCONSIN CHAPTER
OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**
JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

President	Shelly Billingsley (262) 653-4050 shelly.billingsley@kenoshacountywi.org
President Elect	Rick Eilertson (608) 402-5862 rick.eilertson@aecom.com
Vice President	Kamron Nash (262) 567-2757 pwdirectors@summitvillage.org
Secretary	Genevieve Stollenwerk (414) 768-8053 gstollenwerk@smwi.org
Treasurer	Lee Igl (608) 838-2387 lee.igl@mcfarland.wi.us
Director	Aaron Jahncke (608) 849-6469 ajahncke@waunakee.com
Director	Caroline Burger (608) 266-4913 cburger@carollo.com
Past President	Nathan Wachtendonk (920) 680-6164 nathanwa@greenbaywi.gov
House of Delegates Primary Delegate	Jim Hessling (608) 515-3734 djhessling@gmail.com
House of Delegates Alternate	Bob Givens (920) 830-6171 bob.givense@westwoodps.com

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES CHAIRS

Emergency Management	Chris Barnes (608) 807-4471 cbarnes@town.verona.wi.us
Engineering & Technology	Glen Morrow (414) 425-7510 gmorrow@franklinwi.gov
Facilities & Grounds	Peter Nilles (414) 278-4953 peter.nilles@milwaukeecountywi.gov
Fleet Services	Tom Zembruski (262) 896-8000 tzembruski@waukeshacounty.gov
Leadership & Management	Joseph Komorowski (414) 266-9247 joseph.komorowski@graef-usa.com
Transportation, Utilities, & Right-of-Way	Pat Hawley (262) 317-3204 pat.hawley@rasmith.com
Water Resources	Kristi Treichel ktreichel@klengineering.com

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRS

Communications	Jason Atchison (414) 257-3150 jatchison@baxterwoodman.com
Young Professional Chapter Liaison	Ela Lodzinski (815) 444-4473 elodzinski@baxterwoodman.com
Sustainability	Nadia Vogt (262) 643-9000 nadia.vogt@stantec.com
Vendor	Andrew Lang (920) 788-2699 alange@utilityssi.com

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRS, CONT.

Awards	Jennifer Barlas jbarlas@baxterwoodman.com
Conference Program	Rick Eilertson (608) 402-5862 rick.eilertson@aecom.com
Diversity	Heidi Jeninga (608) 504-2407 hjeninga@ruekert-mielke.com
Education & Scholarship	Cory Horton (608) 421-5310 cory.horton@rasmith.com
Membership Services	Abby Hanson (262) 953-3005 ahanson@ruekert-mielke.com
Newsletter	Lauren Brandmeier (414) 208-8231 lauren@lobrandconsulting.com
Past Presidents	John Edlebeck (715) 496-3080 jedlebeck@thesigmagroup.com
Public Relations	Joe Terry (715) 751-3239 joe.terry@aecom.com