

## New Years' Confluence of Colorado Environmental Organizations

Calling all professionals, retirees, and students to network with:

[CEMS](#) | [SWEP](#) | [CGWA](#) | [RMAEP](#)

The evening will include:

- Introductions
- Overviews and a 2025 look-ahead from our four participating environmental organizations.
- Speaker [Steve Brauner](#) from Environmental Works, Inc. on The Quest for Joy, Authenticity, and Work-Life Balance: One Environmental Professional's Journey
- 2 complimentary drink tickets
- Appetizers will be provided, food available for purchase

[Individual registration and Sponsorships here](#)

### Date & Time

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### Location

[Colorado Tap House](#) – 14982 West 69th Avenue, Arvada, CO, 80007

**Cost** - *Proceeds will go towards the organizations' scholarship funds.*

\$20 for Members (CEMS, SWEP, CGWA, or RMAEP members)

\$30 for Non-Members

\$100 Sponsorship – Is your company interested in sponsoring this event? Sponsorship includes your company logo being displayed throughout the event.

### Schedule

5:30 Doors Open

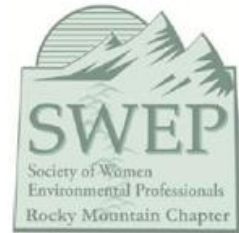
6:15 Announcements

6:30 Speaker

7:15 Mixer

For full topic information follow this [link](#)

[Individual registration and Sponsorships here](#)



## *From the Board... A New Chapter for CEMS: Building on Our Past, Embracing the Future by Glen Vallance, CGRS, Inc.*

As I step into the role of CEMS President, I'm filled with a sense of excitement and responsibility. CEMS has been an integral part of my professional journey since 2017, and I've witnessed firsthand the organization's growth and impact on the environmental community. The dedication and passion of our members have always inspired me.

I've had the privilege of working with many fine professionals by supporting various CEMS committees and participating as a board member. These experiences have helped me refine valuable skills such as collaboration, communication, and critical thinking.

Volunteering should be a rewarding experience that seamlessly integrates into our lives. It should empower us to demonstrate reliability, trust our colleagues, and delegate effectively. Personally, volunteering with CEMS has enriched my professional and personal life, providing opportunities to grow and connect with like-minded individuals. By fostering these qualities, we contribute to the sustainability of organizations like CEMS.

Looking ahead, I envision a future for CEMS that is vibrant, inclusive, and impactful. We will continue to deliver high-quality programs, foster meaningful connections, and advocate for environmental stewardship. Here are some of my goals for the coming year:

- **Strengthening Our Community:** We will focus on enhancing our membership experience by organizing engaging events, both in-person and virtual. We will also explore innovative ways to connect members across diverse backgrounds and expertise.
- **Promoting Professional Development:** CEMS will continue to offer a wide range of educational opportunities, from monthly programs to networking events. We will also work to engage with mentorship programs to support the next generation of environmental professionals.

*(Continued on page 4)*

### **2024 CEMS OFFICERS:**

**President:** Suzanne Gabriele, Geosyntec Consultants, (303)790-1340, [SGabriele@Geosyntec.com](mailto:SGabriele@Geosyntec.com)

**Vice President:** Glen Vallance, CGRS, Inc., (970)-493-7780, [glen@cgrs.com](mailto:glen@cgrs.com)

**Secretary:** Karen Trantow Lim, CDH Consulting, LLC, (303)501-3415, [ktrantowlim@cdhconsult.com](mailto:ktrantowlim@cdhconsult.com)

**Treasurer:** John Fontana, Vista GeoScience, (303)277-1694, [jfontana@vistageoscience.com](mailto:jfontana@vistageoscience.com)

**Past President:** Maggie Mandell, PE, Environmental Works, Inc., (301)943-2830, [mmandell@environmentalworks.com](mailto:mmandell@environmentalworks.com)

**CDPHE Liaison:** Mark Collar, P.G., CDPHE, (303)692-3379, [mark.collar@state.co.us](mailto:mark.collar@state.co.us)

**OPS Liaison:** Tom Fox, CDLE; Division of Oil and Public Safety, (720)346-1885, [tom.fox@state.co.us](mailto:tom.fox@state.co.us)

**US EPA Liaison:** Jeffrey Fitzgibbons, US EPA Region 8, (303)312-6633, [Fitzgibbons.Jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:Fitzgibbons.Jeffrey@epa.gov)

### **Board Members:**

Melissa Armstrong, Integral Consulting, Inc., (303)596-8093, [marmstrong@integral-corp.com](mailto:marmstrong@integral-corp.com)

Rachel Blomberg, PE, United States Army Corps of Engineers, (720)418-9317, [rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil](mailto:rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil)

Tom Fox, CDLE; Division of Oil and Public Safety, (720)346-1885, [tom.fox@state.co.us](mailto:tom.fox@state.co.us)

Peter Jaacks, Burns Figa & Will, P.C., (303)796-2626, [pjaacks@bflaw.com](mailto:pjaacks@bflaw.com)

Evan Singleton, Spencer Fane LLP, (720)760-2211, [esingleton29@gmail.com](mailto:esingleton29@gmail.com)

Michael Whelan, PE, Anchor QEA, LLC, (303)952-4850, [mwhelan@anchorqea.com](mailto:mwhelan@anchorqea.com)

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON(S):**

#### **Monthly Programs:**

Michael Whelan, PE, Anchor QEA, LLC, (303)952-4850, [mwhelan@anchorqea.com](mailto:mwhelan@anchorqea.com)

Janet Castle, Eagle Synergistic Optimizing Technologies, LLC, (720)475-0022, [jcastle@eaglesynergistic.com](mailto:jcastle@eaglesynergistic.com)

#### **Spring Movie Event:**

Jessica Francis, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services, (312)478-8972, [jfrancis@langan.com](mailto:jfrancis@langan.com)

Monica Genadio, Kleinfelder, Inc., (720)936-1694, [mgenadio@gmail.com](mailto:mgenadio@gmail.com)

#### **Fall Conference:**

Melissa Armstrong, Integral Consulting, Inc., (303)596-8093, [marmstrong@integral-corp.com](mailto:marmstrong@integral-corp.com)

#### **Golf:**

Kevin Wolfe, Stantec Consulting Services, (607)339-7380, [kevin.wolfe@stantec.com](mailto:kevin.wolfe@stantec.com)

#### **Scholarship:**

Rachel Blomberg, PE, United States Army Corps of Engineers, (720)418-9317, [rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil](mailto:rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil)

Kevin Wolfe, Stantec Consulting Services, (607)339-7380, [kevin.wolfe@stantec.com](mailto:kevin.wolfe@stantec.com)

#### **Nominations/Bylaw:**

Maggie Mandell, PE, Environmental Works, Inc., (301)943-2830, [mmandell@environmentalworks.com](mailto:mmandell@environmentalworks.com)

Glen Vallance, CGRS, Inc., (970)-493-7780, [glen@cgrs.com](mailto:glen@cgrs.com)

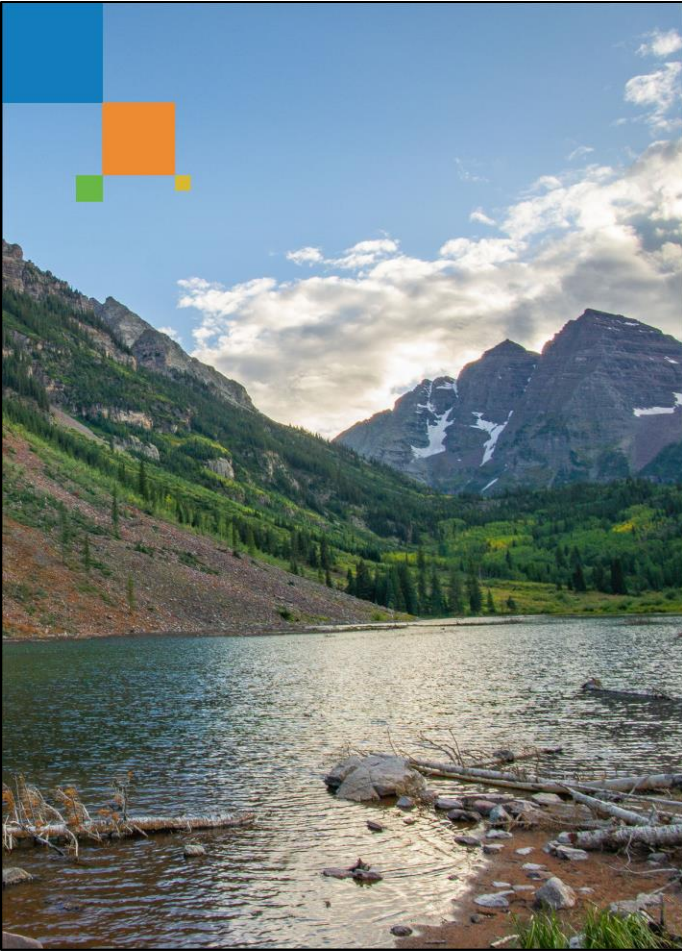
#### **Membership:**

Paul Gruca, Weaver Consultants Group, (312)478-8972, [pgruca@wcgrp.com](mailto:pgruca@wcgrp.com)

Glen Vallance, CGRS, Inc., (970)-493-7780, [glen@cgrs.com](mailto:glen@cgrs.com)

**Administrative Assistant:** Juliana Reid, [admin@coems.org](mailto:admin@coems.org)

**CEMS Lunch & Webinar Meeting/Newsletter Sponsors**



**Spencer Fane is proud to support the Colorado Environmental Management Society.**

Businesses face considerable uncertainty in navigating environmental matters amid profound changes in environmental laws and regulations. The Spencer Fane Environmental team understands these challenges and has deep experience developing practical solutions to even the most complex environmental problems.



**Evan Singleton**  
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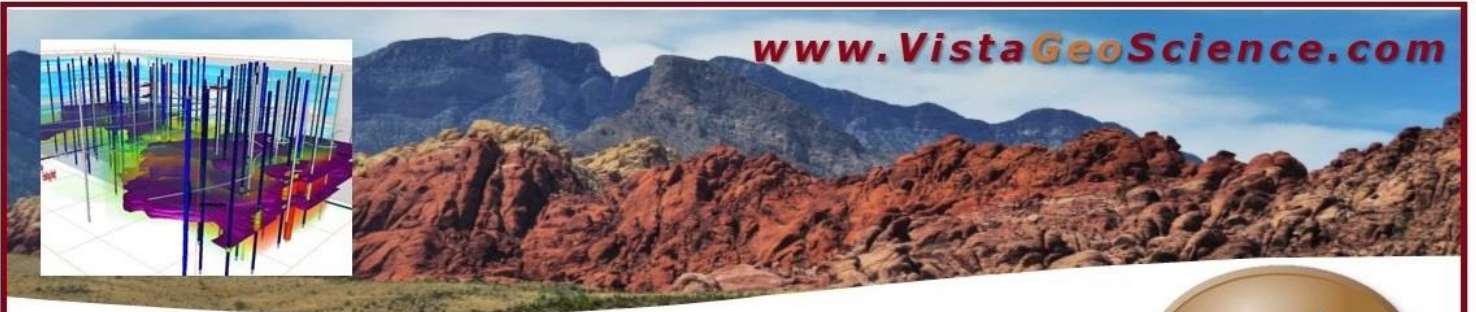


**John Watson**  
Of Counsel | 303.592.8339  
jwatson@spencerfane.com



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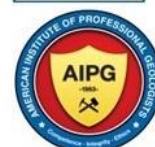
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**John Fontana, CPG, CWD**  
JFontana@VistaGeoScience.com

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## CEMS Lunch & Webinar Meeting/Newsletter Sponsors (continued)



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Or email [admin@coems.org](mailto:admin@coems.org)

### From the Board (Continued from Page 2)

I encourage all members to get involved and contribute to the success of CEMS. Whether it's joining a committee, volunteering for an event, or simply sharing your expertise, your participation is invaluable. Right now, we have opportunities for you to join the Membership or Monthly Programs Committee, help organize our upcoming annual conference, or simply mentor a new member. By getting involved, you'll not only help CEMS thrive but also expand your professional network, develop new skills, and make lasting connections.

As we embark on this new year, let us work together to build a stronger, more sustainable future for our organization and our community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Glen Vallance

*Glen Vallance is a Principal and Environmental Services Manager at CGRS's corporate headquarters in Fort Collins, Colorado. A Certified Safety Manager (CSM) and Recognized Environmental Professional (REP), Glen brings over 20 years of expertise in environmental consulting. His current focus is on site assessment and remediation, but his experience is diverse, encompassing surface water quality studies, petroleum storage tank consulting, Phase I and II ESAs, soil, soil gas and groundwater assessment, aquifer characterization, and regulatory compliance. Glen is a graduate of Colorado State University's Natural Resources Department with a bachelor's degree in Watershed Science.*

**CEMS REGULATORY UPDATE  
FEDERAL AND STATE ACTIONS IMPACTING COLORADO**

**By Peter D. Jaacks  
Burns, Figa & Will, P.C.  
December 2024**

In November 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [issued](#) its third annual report advertising the progress made under the PFAS Strategic Roadmap. In the report, EPA notes the major legal, technical, and policy developments it has enacted since the PFAS Strategic Roadmap was adopted in 2021, including designation of PFOA and PFOS as CERCLA Hazardous Substances, creation of drinking water standards for Certain PFAS, a number of regulations under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to eliminate and reduce PFAS in commerce, and issuance of the PFAS Enforcement Discretion and Settlement Policy under CERCLA, detailing its priorities and plans when it comes to PFAS enforcement.

On November 25, 2024 the EPA received a [petition](#) signed by numerous consumer advocacy groups requesting that the EPA develop a monitoring program for microplastics in drinking water. Under the Administrative Procedure Act, “interested persons” have the right to petition an agency for a rulemaking. If successful, this petition could be the start of official regulation of microplastics and further reinforce the EPA’s plans to address the plastic pollution crisis under the newly released “National Strategy to Prevent Plastic Pollution.” The petition claims that the volume of microplastics in the environment and the threats that this broad class of substances pose to human health justify the monitoring of microplastics under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) and warrant future regulation. New UCMRs, which are required every five years under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), outline monitoring programs for up to 30 unregulated substances and are intended to inform decision-making about substances that should be regulated under the SDWA. The next UCMR proposal is due in 2025.

On December 6, 2024, the EPA issued the pre-publication notices for final rule regarding a ban on [Trichloroethylene \(TCE\)](#) and [Perchloroethylene \(PCE\)](#), two solvents widely used in various products but linked to cancer and other severe health risks. Under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The EPA must assess the conditions of use for chemicals and propose risk management measures based on scientific evaluations. For TCE and PCE, the EPA’s risk determinations in 2020 and 2022 determined that the chemicals posed significant risks under almost all conditions of use. EPA’s final rule prohibits nearly all uses of TCE and consumer uses of PCE, while establishing compliance pathways for specific industrial applications. For TCE, the prohibition on most uses is effective within one year of the rule, with limited extensions for critical uses such as cleaning aircraft components and medical devices. For the PCE phaseout, consumer applications and many commercial uses of PCE are banned and there is a ten-year phaseout applicable to PCE in dry cleaning, with new machines prohibited after six months. EPA will release further compliance guidance for dry cleaning and electrical cleaning compliance in the next few months.

**Are you a lawyer, looking for CLEs?  
CEMS offers a very inexpensive way to earn those needed CLEs.  
Just RSVP on the luncheon meeting link and attend.**



## CU Denver – Hydrologic, Environmental, and Sustainability Engineering Registration

### **CVEN-5335 Vadose Zone Hydrology** ([informational flyer](#))

Instructor: David Mays, P.E., Ph.D.

Monday/Wednesday 5:00-6:15 pm starting Wednesday 1/22<sup>nd</sup>

<http://engineering.ucdenver.edu/dmays/5335>

### **CVEN-5426 Pipe Network and Sewer Design** ([informational flyer](#))

Instructor: Matthew Hayes, P.E.

Monday/Wednesday 3:30-4:45 pm starting Wednesday 1/22<sup>nd</sup>

*Registration websites:*

**Enrolled student at CU Denver? Register through UCDAccess**

<https://portal.prod.cu.edu/UCDAccessFedAuthLogin.html>

**Not (yet) enrolled? Register through non-degree admissions**

<https://ucdenver.edu/graduate-programs/non-degree-application-for-cu-denver>

Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask –

David C. Mays, P.E., Ph.D.

Professor of Civil Engineering

College of Engineering, Design and Computing

University of Colorado Denver

303-315-7570

[david.mays@ucdenver.edu](mailto:david.mays@ucdenver.edu)

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/dmays>

## Presentation Opportunities for Upcoming CEMS Meetings

The CEMS Program Committee is currently searching for "interesting, topical and informative" presentations for our meetings in 2025. This is a great opportunity to network with your peers, share information and technology, and become more involved with the environmental community. CEMS is interested in a variety of topics relevant to environmental and natural resources professionals. Each monthly presentation is roughly 50 minutes, followed by a question-and-answer period.

If you or someone you know is interested in presenting at our monthly meetings, or our annual conference, please feel free to contact our Programs Committee: Chairperson Michael Whelan at [mwhelan@anchorqea.com](mailto:mwhelan@anchorqea.com), or Janet Castle at [jcastle@eaglesynergistic.com](mailto:jcastle@eaglesynergistic.com).

## MEMBERSHIP – RENEWALS & NEW MEMBERS

### Renewal Individual

Jacob (Jake) Levin, Polsinelli  
 Tim Mower, Tetra Tech EM, Inc.  
 Richard Townsend, Envirocon

### Renewal Corporate

#### **Clean Harbors Environmental Services**

Justin Anderson	Michael Bannister	Wesley Hill	Brian Kindsvatter	Jimmy Marti
Justin Watson				

#### **CDM Smith Inc.**

Mark Allen	Paul Anderson	Jeff Bamer	Brian Bennett	Joe Borgerding
Todd R. Bragdon	Todd E. Burgesser	Dave Chamberlin	Maria Day	Rebecca Dunavant
Erin Formanek	Steve Fundingsland	Jessica Gilliam	Nick Gonda	Elias Gruber
Hans Johannes	Mike Lamar	Heather Lanza	Alex Lee	Lydia Lytle
Mark McCluskey	Catherine McIntosh	Brian McKee	Stephanie Mericka	Joseph Miller
Tyler D. Miller	Melissa Mitton	Dan Molnar	Jeff Montera	Susan Morea
Dani Motaei	Isaac Nance	Nathan Norris	Brian O'Connor	Roger Olsen
Carlos Ortiz	Robbie Parsons	Eleanore Pitney	Henry Poburka	Robert Rau
Alesandra F. Reed	Gabriella Rincon	Keegan Roberts	Claudia Rohr	Tim Rynders
Shilpa Shivakumar	Nathan T. Smith	Neil Smith	Garrett Sprouse	Ravi Subramanian
Jillian Vandegrift	Jordan Williams	Derek N. Wintle	John Wondolleck	Lynn Woodbury
Ryan A. Wymore	Cherie A. Zakowski			

#### **EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC**

Jayne Aaron	Sarah Babcock	Nicole Brooks	Jeremy Caird	Luke Flores
Dorthea Hoyt	Nate Jones	Mike Kelley	Pamela Moss	Noah Robinson
Faran Vahedin	Blake Warner	Camille Warren		

# COLORADO ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

## 2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Colorado Environmental Management Society (CEMS) is a non-profit organization created in 1985 to provide a forum for the exchange of information concerning technologies, laws and regulations, and other current environmental and health and safety (EHS) issues. CEMS membership consists of technical and legal professionals from EHS organizations, government agencies, academia, industry and the private sector.

### Mission Statement

*To provide a mechanism for professional enhancement of its members with respect to environmental and health and safety (EHS) management. In addition, CEMS seeks to serve government, industry, environmental organizations and individuals in the development and use of prudent EHS management practices in the State of Colorado. It is the intent of the Society to be the premier non-profit professional EHS management organization in Colorado.*

[www.coems.org](http://www.coems.org)

### A. Eligibility

- Students must be currently enrolled in and attending an undergraduate or graduate program at a Colorado university or college.
- Applicants cannot graduate before the end of the 2025 Fall semester.
- Students must be studying engineering, geology, environmental sciences, law, or another field in which EHS issues are addressed.
- Students must intend to work in the fields listed above.
- Students must complete and return the application as noted below.
- CEMS Officers, CEMS Board of Directors, the CEMS Scholarship Selection Committee, and family members of these individuals are not eligible to receive these scholarships.

### B. General Information

#### General Information

- CEMS plans to award up to three scholarships: One for an undergraduate, one for a graduate (Master's or Doctoral) student, and one for a law student. The amount to be awarded in 2025 is up to \$3,000 per scholarship. Awardees will be notified on or before March 31, 2025 and will be announced on our website after all awardees have been notified.
- In addition to monetary compensation, awardees selected to receive this scholarship:
  - Will have their essays and biographies published in the CEMS monthly newsletter.
  - Will receive one-year free membership to CEMS. Awardees and a colleague may attend each monthly meeting at no charge.
  - Awardees must attend one monthly CEMS meeting in the spring/summer of 2025 to be recognized and honored by our membership. Meetings occur from 11:30-1:00 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month via a GotoMeeting Virtual call or at a location tbd.
  - Awardees are invited to participate in a poster session at the CEMS Fall Conference in fall.

[CEMS Scholarship Application 2025 \(.docx\)](#)

[CEMS Scholarship Application 2025 \(.pdf\)](#)

**Return completed application via email to: [scholarships@coems.org](mailto:scholarships@coems.org)**

**Applications must be received by midnight Mountain Standard Time on Saturday, March 1, 2025**