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MIDWEST ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT **2023**

Event Venue:

Jefferson Street Inn Wausau, Wisconsin

Event Date:

Saturday, June 3 9:00am (CST)



MORNING SESSION: FEATURED SPEAKERS

Complimentary coffee, breakfast pastries, and cookies will be provided at the event. Up to 15 minutes of Q&A from the audience is built into each speaker's segment.

8:30am: Doors open to the public

9:00am: Getting seated and acquainted. Complimentary coffee and baked goods.

9:10am: Opening Comments, Tom Kilian, Citizens for a Clean Wausau

9:15am: Stephen Lester, CHEJ Science Director, "Truth and Consequences"

Addressing the importance and role of scientific information in community organizing and covering issues such as having a plan for how best to use scientific information, the importance of knowing what scientific information can and cannot tell you and what we know about how mixtures of toxic chemicals affect the human body.

10:00am: Olga Bautista, Executive Director, Southeast Environmental Task Force (SETF), "The Story of General Iron: Fighting for Environmental and Racial Justice"

10:45am: Dr. Beth Neary, Co-President, Wisconsin Environmental Health Network (WEHN), "PFAS and Your Health"

Lecture will address sources of PFAS, health implications, the unique vulnerability of children, ways that you can reduce your exposure, and the importance of legislation.

11:30am: Tony Wilkin Gibart, Executive Director, Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA), "The Health of Our Bodies and the Health of Our Democracy"

Wisconsin has become a testing ground for rollbacks that pose a threat to democratic institutions and bedrock environmental laws. This talk aims to explore the connection between the quality of democratic accountability in environmental decision-making and the health of the environment. Additionally, it will highlight the positive role played by grassroots advocates in Wisconsin.

12:15pm to 1:15pm: Lunch Break. Food available for order at The CHAR Grillhouse in the Jefferson Street Inn or at nearby restaurants in downtown Wausau.



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AFTERNOON SESSION: GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Complimentary coffee, pastries, and cookies will be provided at the event.

An opportunity for interactive Q&A from the audience will exist after each group presentation. Out-of-state groups will be presenting remotely by video on two large screens at the venue.

1:15pm: WISCONSIN - Citizens for a Clean Wausau,

"People Versus Power: Regular Citizens Addressing Industrial Contamination on Wausau's Southwest Side"

The presentation will discuss revelations about air, soil, and groundwater pollution in Wausau's Thomas Street neighborhood, the importance of community-based research, and the pressing need for a government approach that addresses cumulative impacts.

2:00pm: ILLINOIS - Southeast Environmental Task Force,

"How Our Movement Has Changed the Political and the Physical Landscape on the Southeast Side of Chicago"

2:45pm: INDIANA – Just Transition NWI, "Organizing for a Strong Federal Coal Ash Rule"

This presentation and discussion will shed light on the new proposed EPA federal coal ash rule (the Coal Combustion Residuals Rule), the frontline organizing and legacy advocacy that led to it, and how communities can take action to save our water and fight for environmental justice in this historic draft law.

3:30pm: OHIO - Buckeye Environmental Network

"Ohio the Heart of It All"

A presentation on pollution, corrupted politicians, and Environmental Injustice.

4:15pm: Event Conclusion

AGENDA

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