

# CORRIDORS

## NEWSLETTER

### Ohio Chapter of American Public Works Association

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## Greetings from OAPWA President Fred Stovall



This year, two public works agencies received the APWA 2017 Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Awards. Established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works snow and ice operations, the APWA Snow and Ice Control Award also promotes the best practices in snow and ice removal, while minimizing environmental impacts.

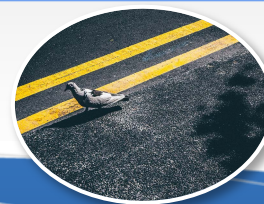
The recipients selected for the 2017 APWA Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Awards are: City of Columbia, Missouri, Public Works Department and **City of Montgomery, Ohio, Public Works Department**. The City of Montgomery noted their involvement with the Public Works Officials of Southwest Ohio (PWOSO) and ODOT as sources of techniques and information. They have also attended snow and ice conferences presented by the South Ohio branch.

We are proud to have an Ohio organization win this prestigious and highly competitive award. We know that Ohio's public works community strives to be leaders in the profession. We extend our congratulations to **City of Montgomery Public Works Department** for this achievement. It is well deserved.

You can read the more in the [press release](#) or in the APWA Reporter April 2017 issue.

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**2017 Northeast Ohio Public Works Expo**  
May 24, 2017  
Summit County Fairgrounds

**OHIO PUBLIC WORKS EXPO**  
September 20, 2017  
Columbus, OH

## Welcome New Members

The following people have recently become new members of APWA.

Mrs. Meg Adams, Toledo Edison  
 Mr. Andrew Andruzis, City of Worthington  
 Mr. John A. Braithwaite, City of Dublin  
 Mr. Glen Burton, City of Worthington  
 Mr. Mike Carrol, City of Hilliard  
 Ms. Tina L. Chaney, Union Township  
 Mr. Dave Denney, City of Hilliard  
 Mr. Mark Frankenfield, Unique Paving Materials Corporation  
 Mr. Eric Hutchinson, City of Hudson  
 Mr. James R. Jeffers, Village of Evendale  
 Mr. Sean Lavey, Lancaster Dept. of Transportation  
 Mr. Joshua William Lockhart, Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.  
 Mr. John Mills, City of Dayton  
 Mr. Robert Mongold, City of Dayton  
 Mr. John T. Moorehead, City of Powell  
 Mr. Anthony J. Pirc, Pirc Co Landscaping & Snowplowing LLC  
 Mr. Terry Roeder, City of Miamisburg  
 Mr. Scott S. Schardine, Cleves  
 Mr. Ben Trick, City of Miamisburg  
 Mr. Trent Wash, City of Hudson  
 Mr. Anthony L. Zumbo, City of Cuyahoga Falls

## APWA reaches record number of members

Membership in APWA has reached an all-time high. The official membership report for March – finalized on April 10 – showed **29,807** members. The previous record was 29,670, set in October of 2008.

“APWA is excited to see the trend in membership gains,” said APWA Director of Chapter Relations Brian Van Norman. “This demonstrates the value of our branches and chapters. APWA chapters and branches offer local education and networking experiences, attracting new members and furthering member engagement. These local connections along with the value added through APWA resources are key for membership recruitment and retention.”

Remember, Ohio won the membership award for its size chapter in 2016 for the largest percentage net increase. Encourage your colleagues to consider APWA membership. The benefits are endless.

## Now Open: 2017 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards



The wait is over! The application period for the **2017 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards** is now open. The awards highlight innovative local practices and achievements by individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions toward strengthening their community to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate a disaster. To be considered for this year's awards, all **applications** must be sent to [fema-icp-awards@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-icp-awards@fema.dhs.gov) by **May 30, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. EDT** and feature program activities occurring between January 1, 2016 and May 30, 2017. For more information on how to apply, visit: <http://www.ready.gov/preparedness-awards>.

## Diversity in the Workplace

### Part 1 of 3

By Sonja Simpson, Deputy Director, ODOT District 5

Diversity has become one of the many buzz words in business and public administration. People talk a lot about diversity, but few really know what it is or why it is important. To many, diversity in the workplace equates to affirmative action or hiring quotas. Some people think it is the need to hire certain ethnicities or women in order to meet a goal for their organization. Others are not sure what diversity really is. In this three-part series, I will examine what diversity is, why it is important to the workplace, and what we can do to achieve it.

First, we must understand the definition of diversity. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition is: “the condition of having or being composed of differing elements.” So, you may think by using that basic definition that your workplace is diverse, right? Sure; you have all types of different elements – your organization is made up of different types of workers: accounting people, hydraulic engineers, street maintenance workers, etc., but does that count as diversity?

The second part of the Webster definition of diversity is “the inclusion of different types of people (as people of different races or cultures) in a group or organization.” I would add that gender is an important part of the discussion as well. Now, you think that your organization is diverse because you have that one guy from that far away country on your team, or that lady with the unfamiliar religion who you see in the breakroom. However, the existence of one or two or even five people doesn’t necessarily make your workplace diverse. Optimally, the workplace should be a reflection of the community in which it serves or the workforce from which it draws. Depending on the area of the country, the demographics of cultures and races of people are different. The cross-section of the



Sonja Simpson, Deputy Director  
ODOT District 5

employees should give an indication of the greater population. However, often this is not the case. Additionally, many workforces don’t even demonstrate the appropriate representation of women, even though in most locales women are close to 50% of the population.

With all that said, the key word here is inclusion. Diversity in the workplace is more than just racial or gender classifications. Diversity is more than just hiring minorities. Diversity is the inclusion of persons in the workforce who are a part of the greater human experience.

And it isn’t enough to say that you have a certain percentage of those you would categorize as diverse in your organization. Ask yourself the next question: are these persons included within the organization, and then represented at every level? Or, are certain groups only hired in to certain positions, fields, or programs? Are those who you consider to be representative of your organization’s diversity also members of management or in supervisory capacities in addition to laborer or line staff levels? Think about your own organization and its diversity – how do you think it fares? In the next newsletter, Part Two will delve into the importance of diversity in workplace.

## Local Partnership Works to Improve Watershed Health

*Reprinted from EPA's Science Matters newsletter from EPA's Office of Research and Development – April 11, 2017*

The East Fork of the Little Miami River Watershed in Ohio, like many watersheds throughout the country, has challenging water quality issues. One of these challenges is the toxin-producing algae in the Lake Harsha reservoir, which includes a diverse group of cyanobacteria that can harm public health.

Lake Harsha is a vital source of drinking water for over 200,000 residents of Clermont County, Ohio. The Lake hosts a number of events and is a common place of recreation for residents. According to John McManus, Administrator of the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District, “There are two beaches, we have hosted two open water swim meets, and rowing regattas that bring tourism and have positive impacts on our local economy.”

Over the last decade, there’s been a noticeable increase in cyanobacteria in Lake Harsha. During the 2015 monitoring season, Lake Harsha posed the highest risk to public health in terms of cyanobacteria cell densities among twenty reservoirs monitored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the surrounding region. Research has shown that the reservoirs with the highest risk are also the ones with the least amount of forest in their watershed, which historically has been replaced by agricultural areas. This suggests a relationship between the extent of agriculture and the increasing cyanobacteria. But agriculture has been a part of these watersheds for a very long time, so why wasn’t this increase noticeable until recently?

That’s what EPA researchers and partners are currently trying to figure out. EPA established the East Fork Watershed Cooperative—a group of scientists, engineers, economists, and water resource professionals from a variety of organizations—to find the best ways to improve water quality in the watershed. So far, they have found that the surface water temperatures in April and May have increased nearly 5 degrees Celsius since the late 1980s.

They also noticed that total phosphorus is five times higher than it had been. Researchers used the [Soil and Water Assessment Tool \(SWAT\)](#) and found that the majority of excess nutrients were coming from crop agriculture. These findings help determine what may be contributing to Lake Harsha’s increase in cyanobacteria.

Understanding the watershed from a systems perspective is an important next step. Each partner in the watershed plays a role in improving water quality. Farmers in the region are beginning to reduce soil erosion and sediment runoff and are adding organic matter to the soil—this will help reduce excess nutrients in the watershed. Researchers are continuing to explore the feasibility of water quality trading, a market-based approach to help meet water quality goals at a lower cost. They are exploring a market that includes more non-traditional trading partners such as the drinking water utility, septic-system owners, stormwater reduction programs, and lake recreational users.

According to EPA researcher Christopher Nietch, “We would not be able to model and monitor at the level of accuracy that we do without help at the local level. We have gained invaluable insight about farming practices and stormwater management realities in local urban areas from this practical experience.”

McManus adds, “This partnership has made a huge difference in what we’ve been able to do at the local level. The research and expertise involved in the Cooperative has made things possible that we would never have been able to do on our own.”

For more information about the East Fork Watershed Cooperative, please visit: <http://www.oeq.net/eflwr.aspx> and <http://www.oeq.net/EWQC.aspx>

## Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures

The Federal Highway Administration is promoting [automated traffic signal performance measures](#) (ATSPMs) through Every Day Counts (EDC) as a way to improve on traditional signal retiming processes by providing continuous performance monitoring capability.

The technology is cost effective, as ATSPMs can be applied to a wide range of signalized intersections and use existing infrastructure. ATSPMs can support the validation of other operational strategies and technologies, such as [adaptive signal control](#) and connected vehicle applications.



ATSPMs offer several benefits:

- A shift to proactive operations and maintenance practices can improve safety by reducing the traffic congestion that results from poor and outdated signal timing.
- ATSPMs provide the information needed to deliver high-quality service to customers, with significant cost savings for agencies.
- Active monitoring of signalized intersection performance helps agencies address problems before they become complaints.

See presentations from a [Traffic Signal Performance Measures workshop](#) at Purdue University for background and technical information on ATSPMs. Mark your calendar to participate in a monthly webinar series on ATSPMs hosted by the [National Operations Center of Excellence](#), beginning June 1 with "Are Your Traffic Signals Ready for ATSPMs?"

## Winners of 2016 Campus RainWorks Challenge

EPA announced the winners of the fifth annual Campus RainWorks Challenge, the only national college competition to engage the next generation to design solutions for stormwater pollution using green infrastructure.

EPA invited student teams to compete in two design categories — the Master Plan category, which examines how green infrastructure can be integrated into a broad area of a school's campus, and the Demonstration Project category, which focuses on how green infrastructure can be integrated into a particular site on the team's campus. Teams of undergraduate and graduate students, working with a faculty advisor, developed innovative green infrastructure designs in one of the categories, showing how managing stormwater at its source can benefit the campus community and the environment.

The 2016 challenge winners are:

- [1st - Kansas State Univ. - Demonstration Project](#)
- [1st - City of College of New York - Master Plan](#)
- [2nd - Univ. of Maryland - Demonstration Project](#)
- [2nd - Univ. of Cincinnati - Master Plan](#)

UC's project, titled ReMEDiation, envisions installation of green infrastructure best management practices that mitigate stormwater runoff on campus and reduce flooding and combined sewer overflows into the Ohio River. The team estimates that enhanced green spaces can reduce stormwater runoff by 25 percent and increase community benefits of urban gardens and nature trails.

[Project Narrative](#) | [Design Board 1](#) | [Design Board 2](#)

**Student Team:** Zoe Kusnier (Horticulture); Binita Mahato (Urban & Regional Futures); Karyn Loughrin, Samantha McLean, Alyssa Wissel McClearnon (Community Planning).

**Advisors:** Leah Hollstein, PhD (School of Planning).

The student team was awarded \$1,000 to be split evenly among the members. The faculty advisors received \$2,000 for their institution.

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 5-9	23rd International Trails Symposium, Dayton <a href="http://americantrails.org/ee/index.php/symposium/2017">http://americantrails.org/ee/index.php/symposium/2017</a>
May 9	NAFA Tri-State Chapter Meeting , Louisville KY <a href="http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11909">http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11909</a>
May 10-12	Ohio Stormwater Conference, Sandusky <a href="http://www.ohstormwaterconference.com/">http://www.ohstormwaterconference.com/</a>
May 11	Overhead Electric Safety and Downed Power Lines, Hamilton <a href="http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11699">http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11699</a>
May 15-19	National Infrastructure Week <a href="http://infrastructureweek.org/">http://infrastructureweek.org/</a>
May 17	Nutrient Trading- SW Ohio, Hamilton <a href="http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/10920">http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/10920</a>
May 17-18	Ohio Public Fleet Summit, Dublin <a href="http://www.publicfleetsummits.com/Public-Agency-Registration.asp">http://www.publicfleetsummits.com/Public-Agency-Registration.asp</a>
May 18	NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC WORKS EXPO, Summit County <a href="http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11087">http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11087</a>
May 21-27	National Public Works Week <a href="http://www.apwa.net/MYAPWA/Events/National_Public_Works_Week/">http://www.apwa.net/MYAPWA/Events/National_Public_Works_Week/</a>
June 7	Traffic Engineering Workshop, Fairfield <a href="http://www.shaengg.com/tew_cincinnati.htm">www.shaengg.com/tew_cincinnati.htm</a>
June 13	2017 Land Records Modernization Conference, Columbus <a href="http://www.ceao.org/">http://www.ceao.org/</a>
June 14-15	Certified Stormwater Inspector – Municipal, Cincinnati <a href="http://www.NPDES.com">www.NPDES.com</a>
June 15	Post-Construction Stormwater BMP Selection & Design for Public Transportation Projects, Cincinnati <a href="http://SaveLocalWaters.org/BMP">http://SaveLocalWaters.org/BMP</a>
June 14	ODOT and ACEC Ohio Planning Conference, Columbus <a href="#">Click Here</a>
June 14-18	ASHE National Conference, New York City <a href="http://www.ashe.pro/conference.html">http://www.ashe.pro/conference.html</a>
June 21	Making Urban Trees Count – SW Ohio, Hamilton <a href="http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/10921">http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/10921</a>
June 26-29	OWEA Technical Conference & Expo, Cincinnati <a href="http://www.ohiowea.org/">http://www.ohiowea.org/</a>
August 23-24	Ohio Bridge Conference, Columbus <a href="http://www.ceao.org/">http://www.ceao.org/</a>
August 27-30	PWX Orlando, FL <a href="http://www.apwa.net/events/">http://www.apwa.net/events/</a>
August 29	Chapter Dinner, Orlando, FL <a href="http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11797">http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11797</a>
September 20	2017 OHIO PUBLIC WORKS EXPO, Columbus <a href="http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11891">http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/11891</a>

## Get Real-Time Emergency Alerts on Your Mobile Device



Do you know when a tornado is coming? Did you know it is possible to get real-time alerts and warnings ahead of time?

According to the [2015 Federal Emergency Management Agency National Household Survey](#), three out of four people know how to get real-time alerts and warnings ahead of a storm. Make sure you are one of them.

Stay safe against severe weather with real-time emergency alerts on your cellular phone and computer. Keep yourself prepared for the unexpected by receiving information about emergencies in your area.

Review the [Know Your Alerts and Warnings](#) fact sheet from [Prepareathon](#) to receive alerts as soon as possible.