



# 2023 Plant Operations Conference

*Presented by the VA AWWA Plant Operations Committee*

**May 3-5, 2023**

**Virginia Beach, VA**

Registration: <https://vaawwa.org/events/2023-plantops-conference/>

**VA AWWA is proud to present the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Plant Operators Conference.**

This conference is dedicated to promoting education and training, increasing performance and fostering communication among water works operators, maintenance and management personnel. Attendance is recommended for waterworks operators of both small and large groundwater and surface water systems. Come match wits against fellow operators in the Top Ops Competition or cheer for your favorites. For more information, contact:

**Michele Maclauchlan, Plant Operations Chair**  
*MaclauchlanM@chesterfield.gov*

**Hotel Information**

*Holiday Inn & Suites North Beach  
3900 Atlantic Avenue Virginia Beach, VA 23451*

Attendees are responsible for their own lodging arrangements. Please register by April 9, 2023 to take advantage of our special group rate of \$117. Reserve your room by calling the hotel directly at 1-757-428-1711 and use code AWW to receive the group rate or use this link to make reservations online: [American Water Works Association - 2023 Booking Link](#). State and local taxes apply.

# 2023 Plant Operations Conference

May 3-5, 2023 Virginia Beach, VA

10 Water  
Operator CPE's  
Expected

## Program Schedule (subject to change)

### Wednesday, May 3, 2023

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 6:30 pm       | <b>Conference Check In Opens</b>   |
| 7:00- 9:00 pm | <b>Roundtable Discussions</b><br><i>Snacks, Cash Bar and Door Prizes</i><br><i>Moderators and Topic, TBA</i> |

### Thursday, May 4, 2023

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 7:30- 8:00 am   | <b>Seminar Check In &amp; Light Breakfast</b>  |
| 8:00- 8:15 am   | <b>Opening Remarks</b>   |
| 8:15- 9:15 am   | <b>Regulatory Update</b><br><i>Dan Horne, VDH</i>  |
| 9:15- 9:30 am   | <b>Networking Break</b>  |
| 9:30- 10:30 am  | <b>Practical Considerations of Applying UV Technology for Drinking Water Disinfection</b><br><i>John Faber, Trojan Technologies</i>                                  |
| 10:30- 11:30 am | <b>PFAS</b><br><i>Roger Arnold, Hazen and Sawyer</i>   |
| 11:30- 1:00 pm  | <b>Lunch/Top Ops Competition</b><br><i>Preliminary Competition Round</i>   |
| 1:00- 2:00 pm   | <b>Improving the Sedimentation Process Using Plate Settlers- Operational Considerations and One WTP's Story</b><br><i>Brad Weiss, Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc.</i> |

### Friday, May 5, 2023

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 7:30- 8:00 am   | <b>Seminar Check In &amp; Light Breakfast</b>  |
| 8:00- 8:15 am   | <b>Opening Remarks</b>   |
| 8:15- 9:15 am   | <b>Exploring the Ecology Behind Phytoplankton Toxins: Production, Occurrence, and Prediction of Toxins in Drinking Water Reservoirs</b><br><i>Mary Lofton and Dexter Howard, Virginia Tech</i> |
| 9:15- 9:30 am   | <b>Networking Break</b>  |
| 9:30- 10:30 am  | <b>On-Site Hypo Generation</b><br><i>Clearwater/Microchlor</i>   |
| 10:30- 11:30 am | <b>Water Treatment Plant Lime Slurry Conversion and Troubleshooting</b><br><i>Konrad Zeller, Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority</i>   |
| 11:30- 1:00 pm  | <b>Lunch and Top Ops Competition</b>   |
| 1:00- 2:00 pm   | <b>Safety for Supervisors</b><br><i>David Burpeau</i>  |

## Top Ops Competition

Get your team together and match wits with your fellow operators!

During the Plant Operations Conference, a competition is conducted to find the Top Operators in Virginia to represent the Virginia Section at the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition (ACE). This competition consists of questions related to water treatment and aligns with the National AWWA Top Ops Competition.

Teams consist of 1 -3 licensed operators. Solo entries are welcome, or we can help you form a Team.

- Each team will use a small ring-in bell with a button on top to signal they have completed an answer.
- Each team will be equipped with a small dry erase board and markers to submit all answers.
- A calculator will be provided to assist with math questions similar to those on the operator's exam.
- \$1000/team member is offered by VA AWWA for the team to compete at ACE the following year.

Please direct questions and comments to Billy Fentress at [wrfentress@cityofchesapeake.net](mailto:wrfentress@cityofchesapeake.net)