



ECOS

2020 ECOS Spring Meeting Draft Agenda *2020 Vision for the Environment*

March 30 - April 1
Asheville, NC | Omni Grove Park Inn

Items Shaded in Green are Closed Sessions.
#ECOSSpring20

Sunday, March 29 (Optional Pre-Meeting Activity)		
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Optional Offsite Tour of New Belgium Brewing, A Sustainable Enterprise Built on a Brownfield Site</p> <p><i>Please email Paulina Lopez-Santos of ECOS at plopezsantos@ecos.org to RSVP to attend at no cost on a first come, first served basis. Participants will travel on their own to New Belgium Brewing and should arrive by 2:45. Just prior to the tour, New Belgium will host an Earth month kickoff party with several local environmental nonprofit organizations that ECOS registrants are also welcome to attend at no cost.</i></p>	21 Craven Street Asheville, NC 28806
Monday, March 30 (Air, Water, Funding, PFAS, & Resolutions)		
7:30 a.m.	<p>Registration Desk Open</p> <p><i>Check in at the registration desk and ask for help installing your meeting app.</i></p>	Sammons Wing Registration
7:30 – 9:15 a.m.	<p>Continental Breakfast</p>	Skyline/Mountain View Terrace
7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	<p>Closed Session: Environmental Research Institute of the States, led by ERIS President David Paylor, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p><i>Open to ERIS Board members and ERIS staff. Participants may take breakfast into the meeting.</i></p>	Skyline Green

8:00 – 9:10 a.m.	<p>Side Session Option 1: Environmental Research Institute of the States on State-U.S. EPA Office of Research & Development Coordination, led by ERIS President David Paylor, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p><i>Open to all attendees. Participants may take breakfast into the meeting.</i></p>	Skyline Green
8:00 – 9:10 a.m.	<p>Side Session Option 2: ECOS Oil & Gas Caucus (OGC) (formerly Shale Gas Caucus) on Carbon Neutrality</p> <p><i>Open to all attendees. Participants may take breakfast into the meeting. Teeing up the March 31 discussions of a clean energy transition, this session will feature a dialogue among a cross-section of stakeholders on their visions of a carbon-neutral future for oil and natural gas. In addition, the U.S. Department of Energy will discuss its marginal well emissions study and broader methane mitigation and quantification R&D program.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS OGC Co-Chair Jim Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department (moderator) ❖ Scott Anderson, Senior Policy Director, U.S. Climate & Energy Program, Environmental Defense Fund ❖ Al Collins, Vice President, Policy & Engagement, Oxy Low Carbon Ventures ❖ Matthias Sayer, Vice President, Legal – Regulatory Compliance, Policy, & Environment, NGL Energy Partners ❖ Tim Reinhardt, Director of Supply & Delivery, Office of Oil & Natural Gas, U.S. Department of Energy 	Laurel FGJH
8:00 – 9:10 a.m.	<p>Side Session Option 3: ECOS Partnership & Performance (P&P) Workgroup Training on Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs) 101</p> <p><i>Open to all attendees. Participants may take breakfast into the meeting. In this introduction to an innovative and indispensable grant program, ECOS members will train other state leaders on how to capture the efficiencies offered by PPGs. Discussion will touch on how to smoothly manage the grants, both internally and with your EPA Region.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS P&P Workgroup Chair Elaine Boyd, Senior Advisor, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation (moderator) ❖ Valerie Thomson, Director of Administration, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality ❖ ECOS State Grants Subgroup Co-Chair Wendy Waskin, Environmental Program Specialist, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services 	Dogwood DE

9:20 – 9:45 a.m.	<p>Plenary Session: Welcome & Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Call to Order, ECOS President Jim Macy, Director, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy ❖ Self-Introduction of ECOS Members & Staff ❖ Host State Welcome, Michael Regan, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality ❖ Agenda Preview, Jim Macy 	Heritage Ballroom AB
9:45 – 10:35 a.m.	<p>Open Discussion, Trivia Contest, & Polling: Earth Day's 50th Anniversary – Looking Back & Ahead, led by Bruno Pigott, Commissioner, Indiana Department of Environmental Management</p> <p><i>The year 1970 marked the first Earth Day and the birth of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Over the past 50 years, we have achieved tremendous progress in cleaning up our air, water, and land, yet there is still work to be done. Please join us as we reflect on our major successes and ponder the challenges that lie ahead.</i></p>	Heritage Ballroom AB
10:35 – 11:25 a.m.	<p>Roundtable: Toward Stormwater Solutions – Smart Ponds & Strategic Partnerships</p> <p><i>This roundtable will center on an innovative public-private partnership that is using smart ponds to manage stormwater, ultimately benefiting the Chesapeake Bay. Participants will address how the program can be replicated to address the challenges of nonpoint source runoff, and will explore the potential for similar partnerships between other states and their respective transportation agencies.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Secretary-Treasurer Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment (moderator) ❖ ECOS Oversight Workgroup Chair Catherine McCabe, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ❖ Mark Bryer, Director, Chesapeake Bay Program, The Nature Conservancy ❖ Toni McCrory, Director, Environmental, Safety, & Health Compliance, Walmart ❖ Matt Rea, Strategic Partnership Manager, Opti 	Heritage Ballroom AB
11:25 – 11:55 a.m.	<p>Break with Refreshments & Virtual Reality Demos</p> <p><i>Check out various '2020 Visions for the Environment' through your own pair of virtual reality goggles! The Environmental Defense Fund will help you experience the wonders of the monarch butterfly migration, and Microsoft will simulate an environmental activity. Demos will be offered on Monday and Tuesday.</i></p>	Sammons Wing Registration

11:55 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Presentation: It Isn't Just Flint: Fixing Drinking Water Everywhere, New York Times bestselling author Seth M. Siegel, author of <i>Troubled Water: What's Wrong with What We Drink</i>, introduced by ECOS Air Committee Chair Sheila Holman, Assistant Secretary for Environment, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, followed by book signing until 12:45 p.m.	Heritage Ballroom AB
12:45 – 1:45 p.m.	Lunch with Keynote Presentation on North Carolina's 2020 Vision for the Environment, Michael Regan, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, introduced by ECOS Air Committee Chair Sheila Holman, Assistant Secretary for the Environment, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality	Skyline/Mountain View Terrace
1:50 – 2:35 p.m.	Roundtable: Toward Funding Solutions on Water Quality, Land Preservation, & Staffing – A Virginia Model for Cooperative Advocacy <i>Fifteen years ago, Virginia trailed all other states in spending on the environment. This situation inspired corporations and environmental groups to come together to form a pioneering nonprofit to advocate for increased environmental authorizations in the Virginia General Assembly. VIRGINIAforever employs a results-driven approach that could serve as a model for your state.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ECOS Alumni Association Co-Founder Dennis Treacy, Senior Counsel, ReedSmith (moderator) ❖ Nikki Rovner, Associate State Director, The Nature Conservancy ❖ Matt Wells, Senior Regional Manager, State Government Relations, WestRock ❖ Ginny Boland, Administrative Director, VIRGINIAforever, and Vice President of Advocacy, McGuireWoods Consulting 	Heritage Ballroom AB
2:35 – 3:05 p.m.	Presentation: Partnering with FEMA on Resilience & Water Quality Mitigation, Kristin Fontenot, Director, Office of Environmental Planning & Historic Preservation, Federal Emergency Management Agency, introduced by Scott Baird, Director, Utah Department of Environmental Quality	Heritage Ballroom AB
3:05 – 3:15 p.m.	Presentation: Preview of the ECOS Summertime STEP Meeting on PFAS, led by ECOS Vice President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Heritage Ballroom AB
3:15 – 3:45 p.m.	Break with Refreshments	Sammons Wing Registration
3:30 – 5:15 p.m.	Closed Session: Resolutions Discussion & Voting, followed by Selection of 2022 Spring Meeting Host State, led by ECOS President Jim Macy, Director, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy <i>Open to states.</i>	Heritage Ballroom AB
<i>Evening open for networking and individually arranged dinners.</i>		

Tuesday, March 31 (Waste & Disaster Response, E-Enterprise, Energy, & Agency Management)		
7:30 a.m.	Registration Desk Open <i>Check in at the registration desk and ask for help installing your meeting app.</i>	Sammons Wing Registration
7:30 – 8:55 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Skyline/Mountain View Terrace
7:30 – 8:50 a.m.	Closed Side Session: ECOS Digital Business Workgroup (DBWG), led by DBWG Chair Bob Zimmerman, Chief Operating Officer, Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, and DBWG Vice Chair Neil Chakrabarty, Chief Technology Officer, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection <i>Open to states and invited guests. Participants may take breakfast into the meeting.</i>	Laurel FGJH
9:00 – 9:05 a.m.	Announcements, ECOS President Jim Macy, Director, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy	Heritage Ballroom AB
9:05 – 9:50 a.m.	Roundtable: Toward Plastics Reduction, Recycling, & Reuse <i>The management of plastic waste presents many challenges to stewards of the environment, particularly in the realms of recycling, landfill diversion, and pollution of waterways and oceans. This roundtable will highlight several successful strategies employed by state and territorial environmental agencies and other stakeholders.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ASTSWMO President Conchita Taitano, Air & Land Programs Division Administrator, Guam Environmental Protection Agency (moderator) ❖ Wendy Worley, Recycling & Materials Management Section Chief, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality ❖ Shawna Bergman, Associate Division Director, Resource Conservation & Sustainability Division, U.S. EPA Office of Land & Emergency Management ❖ Maranda Demuth, Strategic Initiatives Manager, Circular Economy, Eastman 	Heritage Ballroom AB

9:50 – 10:15 a.m.	<p>Featured Interview: Reflections on Beach Plastics Cleanup in a Remote Corner of the Pacific</p> <p><i>In a setting more reminiscent of late-night television than an environmental presentation, two national experts will chat about how trash migrates all across the world via our river highway system and into our oceans. Howell led the summer 2019 beach cleanup team at Henderson Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site in the South Pacific considered the world’s most plastic-polluted beach. In addition to the Henderson Island story, ECOS members will be able to discuss opportunities for reducing the flow of aquatic trash within and across state boundaries.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Adam Saslow, Senior Facilitator, Kearns & West (moderator) ❖ Brett Howell, Founder & Executive Director, Howell Conservation Fund 	Heritage Ballroom AB
10:15 – 10:45 a.m.	Break with Refreshments	Sammons Wing Registration
10:45 – 11:45 a.m.	<p>Open Discussion & Polling: Best Practices in Disaster Preparation & Recovery, led by Janet Coit, Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management</p> <p><i>As state commissioners, we learn more each day about the health and environmental impacts of natural disasters on our communities, as well as the opportunities for our agencies to support and improve upon disaster response efforts. This session will focus on sharing best practices and will include live polling to inform the discussion.</i></p>	Heritage Ballroom AB
11:45 – 12:10 p.m.	<p>Presentation & Polling: E-Enterprise Crowdsourcing & Community Science, ECOS Vice President Patrick McDonnell, Co-Chair, E-Enterprise for the Environment Leadership Council, and Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Jay Benforado, Chief Innovation Officer, U.S. EPA Office of Research & Development</p>	Heritage Ballroom AB
12:15 – 1:25 p.m.	<p>Lunch with Presentation of ECOS Special Recognition Award, ECOS Planning Committee Chair Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control, introduced by ECOS President Jim Macy, Director, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy, followed by Keynote Presentation: Clean Energy Transition – The Value of 'Spreading Our Chips,' Dr. Karl Hausker, Senior Fellow, World Resources Institute, introduced by Dr. Chuck Carr Brown, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality</p>	Skyline/Mountain View Terrace

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	<p>Roundtable: Toward a Clean Energy Future – An All of the Above Approach</p> <p><i>As the U.S. population and economy expand, players in the energy market are finding creative ways to meet energy demand while addressing pollution concerns. Join this conversation on strategies for securing a clean, efficient, and equitable energy future.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dr. Chuck Carr Brown, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (moderator) ❖ Bob Perciasepe, President, Center for Climate & Energy Solutions ❖ Pamela Lacey, Chief Regulatory Counsel, American Gas Association ❖ Venu Ghanta, Vice President, Federal Regulatory Affairs & Environmental Policy, Duke Energy ❖ Conrad Schneider, Advocacy Director, Clean Air Task Force (invited) 	Heritage Ballroom AB
2:30 – 3:00 p.m.	<p>Open Discussion & Polling: Strategies for Successful Succession Planning, led by ECOS Waste Committee Chair Darsi Foss, Environmental Management Division Administrator, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources</p> <p><i>Many state government agencies are experiencing high rates of staff turnover. But with smart human resource practices, agencies can not only keep talented team members — they can go on building institutional knowledge. This open discussion will explore strategies to recruit and retain employees, attract staff with new, in-demand skills, and promote knowledge transfer.</i></p>	Heritage Ballroom AB
3:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Break with Refreshments	Sammons Wing Registration
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Breakout Option 1: Screening of Award-Winning Documentary <i>Microplastic Madness</i>, followed by Q&A</p> <p><i>Come screen this lively documentary on microplastics in waterways that your agency, company, or organization might use to enhance your educational outreach. The film follows the students of PS15 in Red Hook, Brooklyn, as they learn about and advocate for a plastic-free future. Afterwards, participants will have a chance to engage in Q&A with documentary Co-Director & Producer Debby Lee Cohen, Executive Director and Founder of Cafeteria Culture.</i></p>	Heritage Ballroom AB

3:30 – 4:45 p.m.	<p>Breakout Option 2: Carbon Capture Utilization & Storage – How Your State Can Benefit</p> <p><i>Join former U.S. EPA Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe, President of the Center for Climate & Energy Solutions, for a look at promoting carbon capture utilization and storage. State mobilization of the technology holds promise for ensuring climate resilience, energy security, and predictability that can drive long-term investment and economic competitiveness. ECOS Vice President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (invited), and Todd Parfitt, Director, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (invited), will help lead the conversation.</i></p>	Laurel FGJH
3:30 – 4:45 p.m.	<p>Breakout Option 3: Elevating the Customer Experience – Considering Users' Perspectives to Improve Environmental Outcomes</p> <p><i>Everyone wants to be heard. This hands-on workshop, led by Michael Keyack, Deputy Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, will focus on how and when state environmental agencies can consider user experiences in day-to-day environmental business transactions. Creating positive experiences during historically negative interactions like an inspection can help strengthen the bond between regulated entities and regulators. Come brainstorm how your agency might improve customer experiences around environmental protection.</i></p>	Skyline/Mountain View Terrace
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.	<p>Earth Day 50th Anniversary Reception, Barbecue, & Bluegrass, with Musical Entertainment by Asheville's own Saylor Brothers Trio</p>	Pavilion
<p>Wednesday, April 1 (State & U.S. EPA Business)</p> <p><i>Wear Casual Attire & State Agency Shirts</i></p>		
7:45 – 8:30 a.m.	<p>Morning Stretch, led by certified yoga instructor and ECOS Oil & Gas Caucus Co-Chair Jim Kenney, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department</p> <p><i>Open to all attendees.</i></p>	Laurel FGJH
7:15 – 8:30 a.m.	<p>Closed Session: Buffet Breakfast</p> <p><i>Open to states and U.S. EPA.</i></p>	Skyline/Mountain View Terrace
7:30 – 8:30 a.m.	<p>Closed Session: ECOS & U.S. EPA Cooperative Federalism Oversight Workgroups, led by ECOS Oversight Workgroup Chair Catherine McCabe, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; ECOS Oversight Workgroup Vice Chair and ERIS President David Paylor, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; and Robin Richardson, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Relations</p> <p><i>Open to states, U.S. EPA, and state media associations. Participants may take breakfast into the session.</i></p>	Dogwood DE

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.	<p>Closed Session: State-U.S. EPA Dialogue, led by ECOS President Jim Macy, Director, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy, including Discussion of Strategies for Promoting Sustainable State Funding, led by ECOS Planning Committee Chair Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control</p> <p><i>Open to states and U.S. EPA.</i></p>	Heritage Ballroom AB
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	<p>Break with Refreshments</p> <p><i>Open to states.</i></p>	Sammons Wing Registration
10:45 – 11:45 a.m.	<p>Closed Session: ECOS Executive Committee, led by ECOS President Jim Macy, Director, Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy</p> <p><i>Open to states.</i></p>	Heritage Ballroom AB