



2021 ECOS Virtual Spring Meeting Agenda
Navigating Change
March 16 at 12:00-5:30 p.m. Eastern
March 17 at 12:00-5:30 p.m. Eastern
#ECOSSpring21

In a time of mounting environmental and budgetary challenges and transition to a new federal Administration, the ECOS platform for partnership and innovation is more critical than ever.

ECOS member agencies are successfully navigating change through strategic alliances; creative use of technology; and the sharing of policies and best practices in air, water, land, compliance, PFAS and other emerging contaminants, pandemic adaptation, environmental equity, and more.

The 2021 ECOS Spring Meeting will showcase many of these initiatives while marking the start of cooperative work with new U.S. EPA and congressional leaders.

Notes:

- 1) To promote full audience participation during work hours in all U.S. time zones, ECOS will conduct separate webinars on other days for states-only business.*
- 2) Except where otherwise indicated, all sessions are open to all registrants.*
- 3) Dress is business casual. Wear green on March 17 in honor of St. Patrick's Day – and the environment.*

Tuesday, March 16 ECOS Workgroups, U.S. EPA Partnership, Emerging Contaminants, Compliance, & Natural Resources	
12:00 – 1:15 p.m. Eastern	Breakout Option #1: ECOS Oil & Gas Caucus, led by ECOS OGC Co-Chair David Glatt, Director, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality
12:00 – 1:15 p.m. Eastern	Breakout Option #2: ECOS Digital Business Workgroup, led by ECOS DBWG Chair Victoria Phillips, Director, Enterprise Information Office, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality, and ECOS DBWG Vice Chair Neil Chakrabarty, Chief Information Officer, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (open to states and U.S. EPA)
12:00 – 1:15 p.m. Eastern	Breakout Option #3: ECOS-U.S. EPA Partnership & Performance Workgroup, led by ECOS State P&P Workgroup Co-Chair Elaine Boyd, Senior Advisor, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation, and ECOS State P&P Workgroup Co-Chair Lloyd Kirk, Director, Office of External Affairs, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (open to states and U.S. EPA)
1:15 – 1:30 p.m. Eastern	Break
1:30 – 1:55 p.m. Eastern	Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Welcome, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ❖ Roll Call & Self-Introductions, ECOS Deputy Director Carolyn Hanson & ECOS members ❖ Update on ECOS Activities with the New Administration and Congress, ECOS Executive Director Don Welsh ❖ Agenda Preview, Patrick McDonnell
1:55 – 2:40 p.m. Eastern	Keynote Presentation followed by Q&A: U.S. EPA Administrator Michael Regan (nomination and invitation pending) on Federal Priorities & Partnering with ECOS, moderated by ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
2:40 – 3:25 p.m. Eastern	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Emerging Challenges – Tackling PFAS, Harmful Algal Blooms, 1,4-Dioxane, & Ethylene Oxide, moderated by ECOS Cross-Media Committee Chair Richard Whitman, Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
3:25 – 3:40 p.m. Eastern	Break
3:40 – 4:20 p.m. Eastern	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Advances in Air Sensing & Water Monitoring – Augmenting Data while Conserving Resources, moderated by Bradley Crowell, Director, Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

4:20 – 4:45 p.m. Eastern	Keynote Presentation followed by Q&A: ECOS Missouri Alum Sara Parker Pauley (confirmed), Director, Missouri Department of Conservation, and President, American Fish & Wildlife Agencies, on Partnering with Your State Natural Resources or Conservation Agency, moderated by Carol Comer, Director, Missouri Department of Natural Resources
4:45 – 5:25 p.m. Eastern	Roundtable & Open Discussion: New Directions for Inspections – Prioritizing Inspections via Predictive Analytics & Leveraging Remote Inspections to Assess Compliance, moderated by ECOS Vice President Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment, and State Co-Chair, E-Enterprise for the Environment Leadership Council
5:25 – 5:30 p.m. Eastern	Announcements & Wrap-up, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Wednesday, March 17 Outreach, Agency Management, Congressional Partnership, GHG Reduction, & Environmental Equity	
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Eastern	Workshop Option #1: Podcasting to Promote Environmental Awareness, led by Jared Blumenfeld, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Eastern	Workshop Option #2: Thriving in the Virtual Workplace, led by Laura Watson, Director, Washington State Department of Ecology
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Eastern	Workshop Option #3: Moving Ahead on ECOS Results, led by ECOS Secretary-Treasurer & Planning Committee Chair Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control
1:00 – 1:15 p.m. Eastern	Break
1:15 – 1:20 p.m. Eastern	Call to Order & Announcements, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
1:20 – 2:00 p.m. Eastern	Keynote Presentations followed by Q&A: New Chair and Minority Leader of the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee (elections and invitations pending) on Environmental Priorities for the 117th Congress, introduced by ECOS Vice President Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment

2:00 – 2:40 p.m. Eastern	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Innovative Policy Approaches to Greenhouse Gas Reduction, moderated by ECOS Air Committee Chair Sheila Holman, Assistant Secretary for the Environment, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
2:40 – 3:20 p.m. Eastern	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Groundbreaking Partnerships for Greenhouse Gas Reduction, moderated by ECOS Air Committee Vice Chair Jon Niermann, Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
3:20 – 3:35 p.m. Eastern	Break
3:35 – 3:55 p.m. Eastern	Keynote Presentation followed by Q&A: Former South Carolina Rep. Harold Mitchell, Jr. (invited), Founder, ReGenesis Project of Spartanburg, SC, on Community Revitalization & Collaborative Problem-Solving, introduced by ECOS Secretary-Treasurer & Planning Committee Chair Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control
3:55 – 4:35 p.m. Eastern	Roundtable & Open Discussion: Environmental Equity – Getting to Know Our Communities & Recognize Disparities, moderated by ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
4:35 – 5:20 p.m. Eastern	Open Discussion: Best Practice Sharing – Boosting Agency Productivity to Get the Job Done, ECOS Waste Committee Chair Darsi Foss, Environmental Management Division Administrator, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
5:20 – 5:30 p.m. Eastern	Final Reflections, Announcements, & Wrap-up, ECOS President Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection