



**CEMS June Luncheon – At Geotech Field Days**

**Don't Dispose It! Beneficially Reuse It – Making the Most of Unwanted Sediments,  
Biosolids, and other Waste Materials**

Michael Whelan, PE, Principal Engineer, Anchor QEA, Inc.

Friday, June 20, 2025, 12:00pm – 1:00pm (please note the special date and time)

In Person Location: Geotech Environmental Equipment

2650 East 40th Avenue, Denver, CO 80205

Register directly with [Geotech Environmental Equipment](#)

Lunch will be provided free of charge by Geotech Environmental Equipment starting at 11:30am and during the presentation. Parking is free.

Information and schedules can be found [here](#).

*CEMS has received one (1) general CLE for this presentation.*

Environmental restoration and remediation projects often result in the generation of “waste” materials, taking the form of sediments, solids, sludge, and other remnant materials. Example projects that result in generation of wastes include land excavation or dredging from land sites, brownfields, lakes, reservoirs, rivers, and industrial processing facilities and lagoons. Similar wastes are generated by industrial and infrastructure processes.

Final transport and disposal of these generated wastes can be one of the largest cost drivers for their projects. Beneficial use is a strategy for making something more productive out of the wastes, which can be favorable not only from a project cost standpoint but also can aid in achieving regulatory approval and public acceptance.

This talk will review strategies for planning, investigating, designing, and executing successful beneficial reuse projects, for such environmental waste streams as described above. Areas of beneficial use for such materials can include habitat creation, agricultural improvements, and construction fill. In each case, as this talk will cover, specific regulatory requirements will apply. Technical realities further influence the selection of material processing and treatment methods, and therefore the overall cost impacts and technical feasibility of beneficial use.

**[REGISTER TO ATTEND FREE TO GEOTECH FIELD DAYS](#)**

**Notice:** CEMS would like to thank Geotech Environmental Equipment for the use of meeting space and would like to emphasize that the use of Geotech Environmental Equipment space does not constitute endorsement of CEMS, sponsors of CEMS functions, or the content of CEMS workshops or meetings.

# CEMS Summertime Tour and Campout Weekend

Friday July 25 – Sunday July 27  
Big B's Delicious Orchards, Hotchkiss, CO

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Saturday 7/26: Coal Mining Tour

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Campsite features public farm and orchards, restrooms, and live music!  
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Save the Date  
Thursday, August 28, 2025 – Arvada, CO



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Tournament

8am Shotgun Start

Proceeds to fund academic scholarships

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  - Lunch Provided
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- For more information, please contact Kevin Wolfe or Mike Jahn  
[kevin.wolfe@stantec.com](mailto:kevin.wolfe@stantec.com); [mjahn@tasman-geo.com](mailto:mjahn@tasman-geo.com)  
Or visit our website at <https://cems.org/golf/>



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Sponsorship Information to follow!



**SAVE THE DATE**  
*for the*  
**2025 CEMS FALL CONFERENCE**

Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>  
Theme: Colorado's Innovative Environmental Leadership in the Face of Federal Regulatory Changes

Location: CSU Spur  
4777 National Western Drive, Denver, CO 80216

Additional information at [www.COEMS.org](http://www.COEMS.org),  
or contact Melissa Armstrong at [marmstrong@integral-corp.com](mailto:marmstrong@integral-corp.com) or  
Drezden Kinnaird at [dkinnaird@cgrs.com](mailto:dkinnaird@cgrs.com)



### **Presentation Opportunities for Upcoming CEMS Meetings**

The CEMS Program Committee is currently searching for "interesting, topical and informative" presentations for our meetings in 2025. This is a great opportunity to network with your peers, share information and technology, and become more involved with the environmental community. CEMS is interested in a variety of topics relevant to environmental and natural resources professionals. Each monthly presentation is roughly 50 minutes, followed by a question-and-answer period.

If you or someone you know is interested in presenting at our monthly meetings, or our annual conference, please feel free to contact our Programs Committee: Chairperson Michael Whelan at [mwhelan@anchorqea.com](mailto:mwhelan@anchorqea.com).

**Are you a lawyer, looking for CLEs?  
CEMS offers a very inexpensive way to earn those needed CLEs.  
Just RSVP on the luncheon meeting link and attend.**

***From the Board... Greetings CEMS member and non-member June 2025 Newsletter readers! by Kevin Wolfe, Stantec Consulting Services***

I'm new to the CEMS Board in 2025, so a quick introduction feels appropriate:

After receiving a job offer from an environmental consulting firm with an office in Golden, I moved to Colorado with my wife Liana in 2006. We had a well-defined, three-year plan to go camping, drink beer, and listen to live music, before returning back to the Northeast to raise a family. As I sit at my desk now typing this letter, during my 19<sup>th</sup> year in Colorado, you can insert any adage about best laid plans... With a degree in Biological and Environmental Engineering, my background primarily resides in the site investigation and remediation arena, and I currently spend 40-50 hours a week serving as Stantec's National Account Manager for 7-Eleven. With respect to CEMS, I have been organizing the annual fundraising golf tournament for the last three years, and two years ago I started supporting Rachel Blomberg with the CEMS Scholarship Committee as well. Returning to my comment about raising a family in the Northeast, my wife and I are now raising two daughters, who are 12 and 8, and as any parents (who likely feel rushed even taking the time to read this newsletter) can attest, LIFE IS BUSY. I offer that mix of personal and professional information in attempt to convey that despite what I consider to be a very busy "life calendar", I considered it worthwhile and meaningful to step into the CEMS Board position this year and do what I can to additionally contribute to this wonderful organization.

This long in to my Colorado residency it is quite the mental rollercoaster to think about the professional relationships that have developed over that time. It's hard to believe that many of the people that I met early on at networking events – whose names I kicked myself for not remembering at the next event – have evolved into more meaningful relationships. It's both interesting to consider, and very likely *way less uncommon* than one would think, that after such a long time of periodic and casual interactions, I now serve on the CEMS Board alongside that same John Fontana fella who introduced himself with a squinty-eyed grin and some Vista Geosciences swag at various events over the years. Similarly with Tom Fox, a fellow Board Member, whom many years ago I would anxiously prepare to call to seek approval for an outline of a work plan to perform pilot-testing of some type. Partly through this organization, and the various opportunities it provides, those relationships have matured, and I now look forward to working with them

*(Continued on page 6)*

**2025 CEMS OFFICERS:**

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**Vice President:** Evan Singleton, Spencer Fane LLP, (720)760-2211, [esingleton@spencerfane.com](mailto:esingleton@spencerfane.com)

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**OPS Liaison:** Tom Fox, CDLE; Division of Oil and Public Safety, (720)346-1885, [tom.fox@state.co.us](mailto:tom.fox@state.co.us)

**US EPA Liaison:** Jeffrey Fitzgibbons, US EPA Region 8, (303)312-6633, [Fitzgibbons.Jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:Fitzgibbons.Jeffrey@epa.gov)

**Board Members:**

Melissa Armstrong, Integral Consulting, Inc., (303)596-8093, [marmstrong@integral-corp.com](mailto:marmstrong@integral-corp.com)

Rachel Blomberg, PE, United States Army Corps of Engineers, (720)418-9317,

[rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil](mailto:rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil)

Tom Fox, CDLE; Division of Oil and Public Safety, (720)346-1885, [tom.fox@state.co.us](mailto:tom.fox@state.co.us)

Peter Jaacks, Burns Figa & Will, P.C., (303)796-2626, [pjaacks@bfglaw.com](mailto:pjaacks@bfglaw.com)

Michael Whelan, PE, Anchor QEA, LLC, (303)952-4850, [mwhelan@anchorqea.com](mailto:mwhelan@anchorqea.com)

Kevin Wolfe, Stantec Consulting Services, (607)339-7380, [kevin.wolfe@stantec.com](mailto:kevin.wolfe@stantec.com)

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON(S):**

**Monthly Programs:**

Michael Whelan, PE, Anchor QEA, LLC, (303)952-4850, [mwhelan@anchorqea.com](mailto:mwhelan@anchorqea.com)

**Spring Movie Event:**

Monica Genadio, Kleinfelder, Inc., (720)936-1694, [mgenadio@gmail.com](mailto:mgenadio@gmail.com)

**Fall Conference:**

Melissa Armstrong, Integral Consulting, Inc., (303)596-8093, [marmstrong@integral-corp.com](mailto:marmstrong@integral-corp.com)

Drezden Kinnaird, CGRS, Inc., (970)-493-7780, [dkinnaird@cgrs.com](mailto:dkinnaird@cgrs.com)

**Golf:**

Kevin Wolfe, Stantec Consulting Services, (607)339-7380, [kevin.wolfe@stantec.com](mailto:kevin.wolfe@stantec.com)

**Scholarship:**

Rachel Blomberg, PE, United States Army Corps of Engineers, (720)418-9317,

[rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil](mailto:rachel.e.blomberg@usace.army.mil)

Kevin Wolfe, Stantec Consulting Services, (607)339-7380, [kevin.wolfe@stantec.com](mailto:kevin.wolfe@stantec.com)

**Nominations/Bylaw:**

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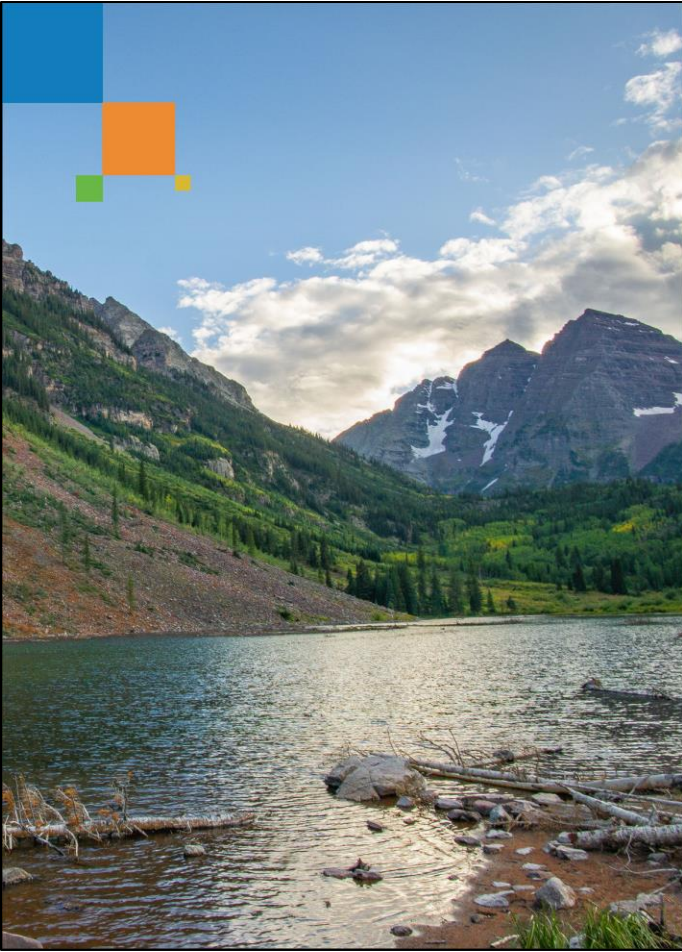
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**Membership:**

Paul Gruca, Weaver Consultants Group, (312)478-8972, [pgruca@wcgrp.com](mailto:pgruca@wcgrp.com)

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**CEMS Lunch & Webinar Meeting/Newsletter Sponsors**



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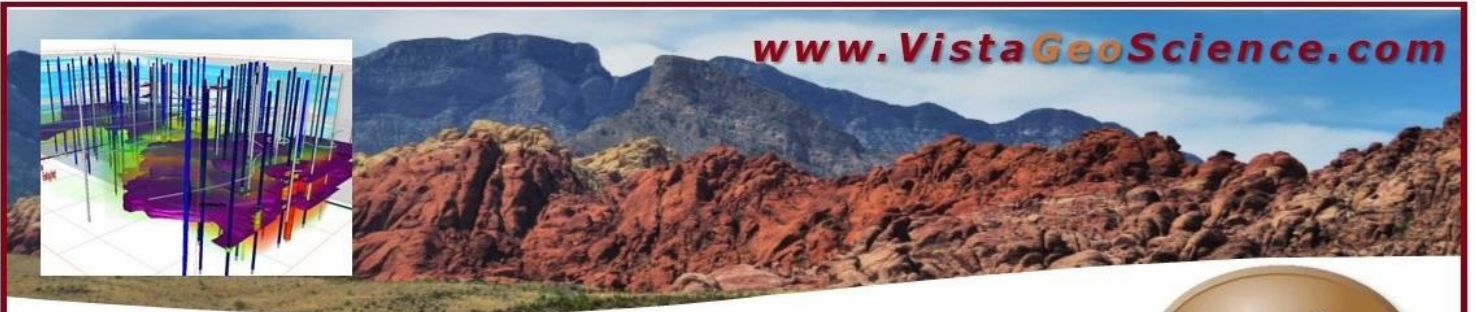


**John Watson**  
Of Counsel | 303.592.8339  
jwatson@spencerfane.com



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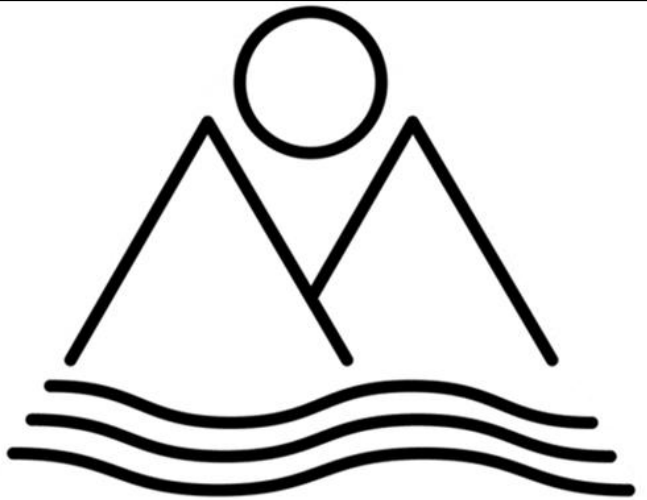
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**John Fontana, CPG, CWD**  
JFontana@VistaGeoScience.com

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**From the Board** *(Continued from Page 4)*

and other members of the Board to advance this organization and ensure that it can continue to provide those opportunities moving forward.

I say all of this to reinforce the value that CEMS provides in what might otherwise not be initially perceived as valuable opportunities. I've joked that our industry can be somewhat incestuous at times, but as others have attested, we are our own community in a sense, and I view CEMS as an integral part of that community. With respect to our community, I would be remiss if I didn't mention my relationship with Jassen Savoie. Early last month I attended the funeral service for Jassen, who contributed significantly to this organization and this community. Jassen and I were not especially close from a personal standpoint, however, I was lucky enough to get to know him well through our shared involvement in the environmental industry and our participation in CEMS, particularly at the annual golf tournament. I feel grateful to CEMS for nurturing that relationship, and his passing caused me to reflect on the many other relationships, both similar and different from the one I had with Jassen, that CEMS has instigated and enabled.

I encourage anyone reading this to say yes, to step out of your comfort zone, and attend an event, because you never know what relationship may form down the road as a result.

*Kevin earned a BS in Biological and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York in 2004. He and his wife moved to Colorado in 2006 from the Hudson Valley of New York, and they are raising two daughters in the foothills of Golden. In the free time that a parent with two primary school-aged children might have to pursue their own interests, Kevin is always trying to find live music to attend. Otherwise, Kevin will be camping in the summer, finding a hut trip to take in the winter, and hunting in the fall.*

**CEMS REGULATORY UPDATE**  
**FEDERAL AND STATE ACTIONS IMPACTING COLORADO**

**By Peter D. Jaacks**  
**Burns, Figa & Will, P.C.**  
**May 2025**

On May 12, 2025, in a 5-2 [decision](#), the Colorado Supreme Court held that the tort claims brought by local governments in Colorado against major fossil fuel companies concerning damages stemming from climate change could proceed. Boulder sued in 2018, alleging the companies violated various state laws and created a public and private nuisance by misleading the public about the role their fossil fuel products played in exacerbating climate change. Specifically, the Colorado Supreme Court held that “Boulder's claims are not preempted by federal law and, therefore, the district court did not err in declining to dismiss those claims,” although the Court specifically noted that it “express[ed] no opinion on the ultimate viability of the merits of Boulder's claims.” This decision is largely similar to the decision by the Hawaii Supreme Court to allow parallel claims by local governments in Hawaii to proceed, and the Colorado Supreme Court expressly acknowledged that “the Hawai'i Supreme Court's decision . . . is substantially on point” and that the Court found it “persuasive.” Yet this decision, which focuses on the legal doctrine of preemption--is contradicted by a ruling by the Second Circuit in a parallel legal action (and that Second Circuit decision is the core precedent relied upon by the dissent). This deepening divide over the scope of preemption may encourage the intervention of the U.S. Supreme Court into this issue, impacting the dozens of climate change tort litigation cases currently pending throughout the United States.

On May 13, 2025, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [published](#) an interim final rule which extends the submission deadlines for the PFAS Reporting Rule. Under section 8(a)(7) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), EPA finalized a rule in October 2023 requiring anyone who has manufactured (including imported) a PFAS in any year from 2011 through 2022 to submit information to EPA regarding manufacturing, use, disposal, byproducts, worker exposures, and environmental and health effects of those PFAS. The interim final rule also includes an advisory statement that EPA is separately considering reopening certain aspects of the original rule to public comment in the future. The revised deadlines to submit required PFAS reporting information will now start on April 13, 2026, and end on Oct. 13, 2026. The previous submission deadline was to start on July 11, 2025. Public comments on the reporting extension are due June 12.

April 2025 was a turbulent month for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) circulated a draft template to federal agencies on April 8 to assist them in updating their procedures for implementing NEPA, which was followed by the repeal of CEQ's own NEPA implementing regulations on April 11. On April 22, CEQ confirmed that federal agencies may retain their regulations for NEPA procedures while they work to individually revise or establish those procedures by the February 19, 2026, deadline, which was in contrast to a directive that CEQ had issued several weeks before ordering agencies to rescind their NEPA regulations and replace them with nonbinding guidance. The month culminated on April 30, with CEQ [issuing](#) a memorandum to the heads of federal departments and agencies establishing a “Permitting Innovation Center” to “design and test prototype tools that could be implemented pursuant to the Permitting Technology Action Plan for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews and other environmental permits and authorization.”

# CEMS would like to thank the following Movie Night Sponsors

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*In addition, many thanks to Vista GeoScience for printing our name tags  
and Weaver Consultants Group for printing our drink tickets!*

## *Movie Sponsors*



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## CU Denver – Hydrologic, Environmental, and Sustainability Engineering Registration

Fall 2025 graduate course registration is now underway in [Hydrologic, Environmental, and Sustainability Engineering \(HESE\)](#) at CU Denver. Registration for Fall 2025 starts April 1, 2025. Please register by August 15 to ensure enrollment.

### **CVEN-5334 Groundwater Hydrology**

Instructor: David Mays, P.E., Ph.D.

Monday/Wednesday 5:00-6:15 pm starting Monday 8/18<sup>th</sup>

<http://engineering.ucdenver.edu/dmays/5334>

[Brochure](#)

### **CVEN-5401 Introduction to Environmental Engineering**

Instructor: Arun Karunanithi, Ph.D.

Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-4:45 pm starting Tuesday 8/19<sup>th</sup>

### **CVEN-5427 Storm Water System Design**

Instructor: Gerald Blackler, P.E., Ph.D.

Monday/Wednesday 11:00-12:15 pm starting Monday 8/18<sup>th</sup>

### **CVEN-5434 Biological Treatment Processes**

Instructor: Ram Ramaswami, P.E., Ph.D.

Thursdays 5:00-7:30 pm starting Thursday 8/21<sup>st</sup>

[Brochure](#)

If anyone needs more information, please contact David directly—he would be delighted to help you, or your colleagues, to create a customized plan for advanced study in engineering.

**David C. Mays, P.E., Ph.D.**

**Associate Professor**

**Department of Civil Engineering**

**University of Colorado Denver**

**303-315-7570**

[david.mays@ucdenver.edu](mailto:david.mays@ucdenver.edu)

<https://engineering.ucdenver.edu/dmays>

[Instagram](#) [LinkedIn](#)