



WATER EDUCATOR
NETWORK



Water Festival Coordinators 2019 Annual Gathering

March 4, 2019

**MSU Denver Student Success Building Room 400
890 Auraria Parkway, Denver, CO 80204**

WEco's Annual Gathering of Water Festival Coordinators seeks to empower and educate water festival coordinators by providing an opportunity to discover new tools, share lessons learned and collaborate with one another.

Agenda

8:30 Doors Open – Continental Breakfast

9:00 Welcome and Introductions

*Scott Williamson, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Water Education Colorado
Rob Buirgy, SWEAP Coordinator, Water Education Colorado*

9:15 Workshop: Emergency Preparedness

This year's workshop will focus on preparing for the "let's hope that never happens" scenarios that might occur during the day of your festival. Whether you are potentially dealing with extreme weather events, misplaced children, or even a threat directly to your event or the surrounding community, there are common elements in planning and preparation that every festival coordinator can address.

10:30 Break

11:00 Follow-up Session: Evaluating Your Water Festival

Follow-up to 2018 session by the OMNI Institute on strategies for creating an evaluation structure to measure success of the event as well as long-term outcomes of water festivals.

11:45 Follow-up Session: Water Festival Planning Tools

Follow-up to 2018 demonstration of Aurora Water's water festival planning tool, with updates from participants on their current tools and opportunities for developing a shared 'toolbox'.

12:30 Lunch and Networking

1:30 Concurrent Sessions – Part One

Discussion 1A: Large Group Assemblies

Participants will explore topics, presenters and management strategies for large group sessions, with an eye toward developing a shared resource.

Discussion 1B: Highlight Reel

Participants will share their "top 5" ideas, practices and strategies for successful events. These will be organized and provided to participants following the gathering.

2:30 Concurrent Sessions – Part Two

Discussion 2A: Inclusivity

A guided discussion exploring participants' experiences with including students who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized. We will explore some of the challenges that participants have experienced in this area and specific ideas to improve inclusion in the festival setting.

Discussion 2B: Call to Action

The water education community has a long-standing discussion around the idea of take-away lessons and the potential for students to commit to action following a lesson or event such as our water festivals. This discussion will explore what is possible &/or desirable with regards to water festivals, and frame some actions for future discussions.

3:30 Wrap Up and Evaluation (Adjourn by 4:00)