

## 2025 Great Plains Water Conference Draft Agenda

Sessions marked with \* have been approved for Nebraska water well standards CEUs

### Wednesday, September 17, 2025

2:00 – 2:30 pm Check in for pre-conference Know Your Well workshop

2:30 – 4:30 pm Know Your Well workshop\* (Chancellor's room)

Speakers: Sara Brock-Contreras, Dan Snow, Rachael Herpel,  
Lee Ann Stover

### Thursday, September 18, 2025

7:30 – 8:30 am Registration and continental breakfast (Nebraska Room)

8:30 – 10:00 am Welcome and Morning Keynote 1 (ballroom)

*Intro to Great Plains water institutes and a brief presentation from each state*

Speakers: Chittaranjan Ray, Susan Metzger, Kevin Wagner,  
Laura Frescoln, Ryan Lefers, Baolin Deng, Patrick Market,  
Karina Schoengold

10:00 – 10:30 am Morning break, student poster competition (Nebraska Room)

10:30 am to 12 pm Breakout session 1

*Watersmart Communities\* (ballroom)*

Speakers: Judith Joyce, Rachel Olm, Sara Mechtenberg, Taro Mieno, Robin Rotman

*Lessons from the Bazile Groundwater Management Area\* (Dodge A)*

Speakers: Amy Timmerman, Connie McCarthy, Joslynn VanDerslice, Connor Baldwin

12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch (Nebraska Room)

12:00 – 1:00 pm Working lunch for water institute staff (Chancellor's room)

1:00 – 2:00 pm Main session 1 (ballroom)

*Peer Power on Tap: How Testing Ag Performance Solutions redefines agricultural innovation through stakeholder collaboration by the Kansas Water Institute\**

Speakers: Roric Paulman, Chris Proctor, Daran Rudnick, Josefina Lacasa, Susan Metzger

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Breakout session 2

*Water Quality 1: Nitrogen\* (Ballroom)*

Speakers: Bridger Corkill, Mikaela Cherry, Krista Brown

*Water Management\* (Dodge A)*

Speakers: Paul Woodward, Katherine Nelson, Brian Bruckner, Junke Guo

3:30 – 4:00 pm

Afternoon break, student poster competition (Nebraska Room)

4:00 – 5:00 pm

Main session 2 (ballroom)

*Adapting Ag Water and Nutrient Management to Weather Extremes in the Great Plains hosted by South Dakota Water Resources Institute*

Speakers: Vaishali Sharda, Matthew Helmers, Gurbir Singh, Sushant Mehan

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Reception and student poster competition awards (Nebraska Room)

### **Friday, September 19, 2025**

7:30 – 8:30 am

Registration and continental breakfast (Nebraska Room)

8:00 – 8:30 am

Check in for side workshop

8:30 am to 12 pm

Side workshop (Chancellor's room)

*Advanced Data Analytics for Water Resources Management using R\**

Speakers: Sushant Mehan

8:30 – 10:00 am

Morning Keynote 2 (ballroom)

*Case Studies in Regional Basin Management\**

Speakers: Susan Metzger, Kevin Wagner, Gaurav Jha, Andra McCowen

10:00 – 10:30 am Morning break (Nebraska Room)

10:30 am to 12 pm Breakout session 3

*Education and Outreach (Dodge A)*

Speakers: Heather Akin, Karisma Yumnam, Troy Gilmore, Drew Kessler, Sara Mechtenberg

*Water Quality 2: Wellhead protection and other contaminants\* (ballroom)*

Speakers: Amie Norton, Sean Kruse, Harshanee Jayasekera, Tandra Biswas

12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch (Nebraska Room)

1:00 – 3:00 pm Breakout session 4

*PFAS\* (ballroom)*

Speakers: Jiefei Cao, Jiamin Mai, Gia Zhang, Robert Nairn, Kristina Kintziger, Gema Diaz Bukvic, Pan Ni

*Surface Water (Dodge A)*

Speakers: David Manning, Zhenghong Tang, Steven Shultz, Jitae Do, Smriti Chaulagain

3:00 – 4:00 pm Closing Session (Ballroom)

*Student-led panel*

Speakers: Julia Ramsay, Grace Roth, Kayode Adebayo, Manoj Lamichhane, Olivia Bongiovi, Rachael Herpel

4:00 pm Adjourn