U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY
---------- *INTRODUCTORY COURSE*----------

Introductory Course Information
June 17-21, 2019

To be held at the
Joe Serna Jr. CalEPA
Headquarters Building
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Course Description

The Water Quality Standards Academy is an introductory course designed for those with limited experience with Water Quality Standards (six months to one year). Those with more experience may benefit from the course as a refresher. This is a comprehensive and highly structured course that introduces participants to all aspects of the Water Quality Standards program, including the interpretation and application of the Clean Water Act's Water Quality Standards requirements and the Water Quality Standards regulation.

The course is conducted over a five-day period. This session will be held at the Holiday Inn Sacramento Arena located in 300 J Street, Sacramento. The session will begin on Monday, June 17, 2019, *promptly at* 8:30 a.m. and will end at *approximately* 12:00 p.m., Thursday, June 21, 2019.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: If you need special accommodations at this Academy (including wheelchair access or audio assistance), you should contact Christine Rico at *(916) 341-5512 or Cristine.Rico@waterboards.ca.gov,* at least five business days before the Academy so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

HOTEL INFORMATION AND COURSE LOCATION: You are responsible for making your own travel and hotel arrangements.

There are many ways to arrive at the Joe Serna Jr. CalEPA Headquarters Building. Use the information below, or also check other options at Sacramento Regional Transit's transportation links page.

Visitors Check-in
The California Environmental Protection Agency Building is a secure building. Visitors must check-in at the guard station as they enter the building. They must sign in and receive a temporary badge and must sign out as they leave the building. The guard will contact the CalEPA staff for the visitor, so they can escort the visitor through the building.

By Air
Sacramento County Airport System is a 20 minute drive from downtown Sacramento. There are several transportation options from the airport to the CalEPA Building.

YoloBus has a bus route leaving the airport every hour from Terminal A and Terminal B at approximately 10 minutes after the hour from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. You stand at the Public Transportation Bus Stop. The route takes approximately 18 minutes to get from the airport to 9th and K Street. This is 2 blocks from the CalEPA building. The return trip from 9th and K Street runs approximately 5 minutes after the hour and takes approximately 20 minutes to arrive at the airport. (800) 371-2877.

SuperShuttle Sacramento is another transportation option to and or from the Sacramento Airport. Please provide them with a 24-hour notice to arrange for pick-up service from the CalEPA building. (800) 258-3826 or (800) BLUEVAN

By Train
The Sacramento Amtrak train station is at 401 I Street, six blocks from the CalEPA Headquarters building. Amtrak's Capitol Corridor trains operate between the Bay Area and Sacramento with many trains daily. Amtrak California's San Joaquin trains and motor coaches connect the Central Valley from as far south as Bakersfield (and further with their motor coach system) to Sacramento. Other Amtrak trains serving Sacramento include the Coast Starlight and the California Zephyr.

Regional Transit's light rail serves the train station every 15 minutes seven days a week. RT bus routes also link the Station to downtown government offices and the rest of Sacramento County.

By Car

"Get Directions (Google maps)"

Parking

Metered Parking (1, 2, and 10-hour meters) available near the CalEPA building. Meter parking uses quarters (some meters may use special "debit cards"). Parking lots are also available in several nearby locations. The closest lot is across from the building on 10th & I Street.

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DESCRIPTION OF MODULES TYPICALLY PRESENTED

Introductions and Participant Expectations
Introduces the course, instructors, and participants. Addresses participant expectations.

Overview of EPA, the Clean Water Act, and the Water Quality Standards Program
Presents an overview of the course, the roles of EPA, States and Tribes in the development of Water Quality Standards, a discussion of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and an overview of Water Quality Standards and their implementation.

Waters of the U.S.
Provides an overview of what is a "water of the U.S." and what waters may not be covered under the Clean Water Act.

Water Quality Standards on Tribal Lands
Provides information on the requirements for Tribes to administer the Water Quality Standards program.

Designated Uses
Covers State and Tribal designated use classifications, what designated uses are required, when and how designated uses can be revised, and the distinction between designated and existing uses.

Use Attainability Analyses
Provides a basic understanding of the role of Use Attainability Analyses in revising designated uses, explains when a Use Attainability Analysis is required, and discusses some examples.

Human Health Criteria
Discusses the components of and calculation of EPA's criteria recommendations to protect human health for both carcinogens and non-carcinogens. Introduces fish tissue criteria and fish consumption advisories.

Aquatic Life Criteria
Discusses how EPA develops criteria recommendations for the protection of aquatic life and summarizes site-specific modification procedures.

Biological Criteria
Provides an overview of the biocriteria program, including the development of biocriteria and the use of biological information in water quality programs.

Nutrient Criteria
Provides an overview of the development of EPA's numeric nutrient criteria, other defensible ways of developing criteria, and the application of State/Tribal nutrient criteria in Water Quality Standards.

Recreational Water Quality Criteria
Provides an understanding of EPA's current water quality criteria for bacteria and information on the relationship between the water quality criteria and the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000.

Antidegradation Requirements
Provides an understanding of how State/Tribal antidegradation programs help protect and maintain water quality.

Tools for Achieving Standards
Provides a summary of the various Water Quality Standards (and other) tools that States and Tribes can use (e.g., variances, site-specific criteria, mixing zones, permit compliance schedules) when standards cannot be attained immediately.

Economic Considerations
Provides a basic understanding of when and how it is appropriate to consider economic factors within the Water Quality Standards process and how to evaluate decisions based on a finding of substantial and widespread economic and social impacts.

Water Quality Standard Variances
Defines and outlines the requirements for Water Quality Standard Variances. Describes the purpose of a variance, how to adopt and submit a variance to EPA and how variances relate to other Clean Water Act programs.

Water Quality Standards Submittal and Review Process
Describes the administrative process by which EPA reviews State and Tribal adopted and submitted Water Quality Standards. Discusses EPA's potential actions on submitted standards, as well as Federal Water Quality Standards promulgation procedures.

NPDES Permits (Clean Water Act Section 402)
Overview of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program.

401 Certification
Provides an overview of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, and how States and Tribes can use it in reviewing federal permits/licenses that authorize a discharge to waters of the U.S.

Building Resilient Water Quality Standards
Provides an overview of how to consider building water quality resilience through water quality standards implementation and water monitoring strategies.

Wetland Water Quality Standards and Dredge and Fill Permits
Provides an overview of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, as well as an overview of wetland water quality standards.

Planning and Implementation of Water Quality Standards
Presents the processes by which adopted Water Quality Standards are implemented in two modules: monitoring and assessment, and Total Maximum Daily Loads and Impaired Waters Listing.