



ASDSO Northeast Regional Conference Agenda

May 18-20, 2026

Buffalo, NY

**All times listed are Eastern Time.*

**Times Subject to Change*

Monday, May 18, 2026

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Exhibitor Move-In

2:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Registration Open

2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Speaker Preview Room Open

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Northeast Regional Caucus Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Speaker Preview Room Open

7:00 am – 5:30 pm

Registration Open

7:00 am – 8:30 am

Breakfast with the Exhibitors

8:30 am – 10:00 am

General Session & Welcome

Navigating the Shift to a Dam Safety Culture at the NYS Canal System

Thomas McDonald, PE, New York Power Authority

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Break in the Exhibit Hall

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Session 1: Rehab

TBA

Reeling in the Leaks: Adaptive Engineering Solutions for a Historic Dam Rehabilitation

Marc Chmura, P.E., and Gillian Williams, P.E., GEI Consultants, Inc; Richard Parker, Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Seepage Solutions: Engineering Excellence on the Erie Canal

Wesley Hollenbach, P.E., AECOM; and Joseph Dodd, New York Power Authority

Session 2: Spillways

Linking Foundation Conditions to Operational Risk: A Case Study on Youghiogheny Dam Spillway

Cheyne Aiken, R.G., and Nicole Brennan, P.G., GEI Consultants, Inc; Justin Pearce, CEG, Sharon Schulz, P.E., and Carolyn Wehner, US Army Corps of Engineers

Piano Key Weir Considerations in Northern Climates

Kevin Ruswick, P.E., CFM, and Jack Gergel, P.E., Schnabel Engineering; William Simcoe, P.E., City of Albany Department of Water & Water Supply

The Fall Protection Cable that Changed a Dam: How a Simple Safety Upgrade Sparked Major Improvements

Jeff Wackowski, P.E., LaBella Associates; Todd Mueller, P.E., Colliers Engineering & Design

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch on own

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Session 3: Rehab Case Studies

Design and Construction for the Loughberry Lake Dam Rehabilitation

Zachary King, P.E., Schnabel Engineering; James Salaway, P.E., City of Saratoga Springs - DPW

Risk-Driven Decisions for Cost-Effective Dam Rehabilitation in New Jersey

Kyle Taylor, P.E., French and Parrello Associates

Multi-Regulatory Agency Involvement To Remove Amboy Dam

Brandon George, EIT, Claire Brady, P.E., and Kenneth Avery, P.E., CFM, D.WRE, Colliers Engineering & Design

Session 4: Canals

Enhancing Waterway Management and Decision-Making through System-Wide Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling of the Erie Canal

Allan Estivalet, P.E., CFM, Schnabel Engineering; Barry Anctil, P.E., MBA, New York Power Authority

Finding 'New' Dams on the Erie Canal

Kevin O'Malley, P.E., New York Power Authority

Rehab of a 1830s Canal Dam

Joseph Troxell, Michael Baker International, Inc.

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Break in the Exhibit Hall

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Session 5: Armoring

Armoring Spillways and Embankments with Articulating Concrete Blocks

Paul Schweiger, P.E., CFM, GFT

Fission Chips and Train Trips: Adventures in Dam Safety

James R Guistina, P.E., Colliers Engineering and Design

One Dam, Two Spillways: Comparative Armoring Approaches at Crosley Lake Dam

Randy Thompson, P.E., WatershedGeo

Session 6: Risk

A State Regulator's Perspective: Chasing the RIDM Principle

Andrea Henry, P.E., VA Department of Conservation and Recreation

Dam that CIP: Considerations for dam safety risk in capital planning

Rachel Barrows and Rachael Bisnett, Stantec

Visualizing Risk Pathways: Event Tree Analysis for Dam and Levee Safety

Daniel A. Vellone, M.S., P.G., CPG, US Army Corps of Engineers

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

7:00 am – 3:30 pm

Speaker Preview Room Open

7:30 am – 3:30 pm

Registration Open

7:30 am – 8:30 am

Breakfast with the Exhibitors

8:30 am – 10:00 am

General Session

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Abandoned Dams Program Update
Jennifer Doyle-Breen, PWS, and Doug Gove, Jr. , P.E., AECOM; William Salomaa, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Break in the Exhibit Hall

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Session 7: Removal

TNC Free Rivers Accelerator and Massachusetts Acceleration Programs with Case Study
Marea Gabriel, The Nature Conservancy

Non-ecological Co-Benefits of Dam Removal

Christiana Pollack, CERP, GISP, CFM, Princeton Hydro, LLC; Beth Styler Barry, The Nature Conservancy

Using Prioritization Tools in Dam Removal Decision Making

Charles DeCurtis, Ph.D., The Nature Conservancy; Shawna Fix, Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership

Session 8: LLO

Cuba Lake Dam Low Level Outlet Replacement

N. Johan Anestad, P.E., and Hannah R. Williams, EI, Ramboll

Gate House Repairs Under Pressure (Literally)

Gregory Johnson, P.E., PMP, and Rex Powell, P.E., Colliers Engineering & Design

Inspection of underground intake conduits at Niagara power Project: Operational insights and future monitoring strategies

Ketan Ragalwar, P.E., Ph.D., New York Power Authority

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch with the Exhibitors

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Session 9: Best of the Rest

Back in my day...How historical data can help your project of today

Nathan Clymer, P.E., Hazen and Sawyer

Rebuilding a Waterfall

Joseph Troxell, Michael Baker International, Inc.

No Way In, No Way Out: The Realities of Small-Reservoir Dredging

James R Guistina, P.E., CED, Colliers Engineering & Design

Session 10: Seismic

Seismic Results of Comprehensive Risk Assessments: What Are We Doing Here?

Jake Dafni, Ph.D., P.E., Matt Farren, and Heidi Pence, P.E., GEI Consultants, Inc.

Stability Analysis of an Historic Dry Stack Masonry Dam in New Hampshire

Mark DiLullo, P.E., AECOM

The Engineering Geologist's Critical Role in FERC Part 12D Comprehensive Assessments: Lessons Learned from Diverse Physiographic Provinces

Todd G. Bown, P.G., GZA GeoEnvironmental

1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Exhibitor Move-Out

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Break

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Session 11: Inundation Mapping

Is it worthwhile to update old inundation maps with new modeling software?

Christine Suhonen P.E., GZA GeoEnvironmental

Screening-level breach analyses and hazard classification at large portfolio scales

Jonathan Quebbeman, Ph.D., P.E., P.H., Hazen and Sawyer

A River Process and Risk Based Framework for Sediment Management at Dam Removal Projects in New York State

Foster Valle and Tim Koch, NY State Department of Environmental Conservation

Session 12: Anchoring

Indian Lake Dam Rehabilitation - Strengthening Aged Concrete and Stone Masonry for Post-Tension Anchoring

Todd Mueller, P.E., and Greg Johnson, P.E., PMP, Colliers Engineering & Design

Losing Your Grip? Liftoff Testing of 41-year-old Post-tensioned Rock Anchors

Nathaniel W. Martin, P.E., AECOM; Frank Schumaci, P.E., NY State Canal Corporation

New Heights and Unknown Depths: Anchoring a 150-year-old Wall for Modern Floods

Jeff Wackowski, P.E., LaBella Associates; Todd Mueller, P.E., Colliers Engineering and Design