

Consultants' Day 4/29/2025		Presenter Bios		
Time	Presentation	Presenter	Bio (Speaker 1)	Bio (Speaker 2)
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Overall Guidance Update project	Brigitte Hay	Brigitte Hay is a Project Manager with over six years' experience in MPCA's Superfund section with areas of focus in DNAPL at MERLA and CERCLA sites. Brigitte has been on the Remediation Division Guidance Steering Team since 2022 and has helped execute and oversee guidance improvement efforts over that time. Previous to joining MPCA, Brigitte was an environmental engineering consultant for Brownfields and Superfund sites in Minnesota and Washington. She is a licensed geologist and engineer, has a MS and BS from UW-Madison, and enjoys reading.	
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	EDS Online Service Update & Edge Update	David Moore	David is a Project Manager in the Remediation Division's Data Support Unit. He assists division staff with data needs and facilitates technical solutions. He also works with consultants and labs to implement the MPCA's electronic data submittal requirements.	
10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Section Updates and Introduction of New Staff –	Samantha Adams	Samantha is the manager of the Superfund Remedial Section. She has been with the MPCA for the last 19 years and has worked in a variety of programs; Feedlots, Hazardous Waste, Solid Waste, Industrial Stormwater, Hazardous Waste Permitting, and Major Aboveground Storage Tanks. Her specific area of expertise has been compliance and enforcement at the agency. She has an educational background in animal science and ecology. She has also worked for the Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, and private industry. She is pleased to present at the Consultant's Day Event and to meet you.	
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Vapor Intrusion Guidance: Updates and Next Steps –	Chris Goscinak	Chris Goscinak is currently a Supervisor in the Superfund Site Assessment Section. In this role, he supervises our lookback project charged with better understanding and mitigating potential vapor intrusion and drinking water risks associated with previously closed release sites. Chris also supports Site Assessment's work responding to PFAS occurrences in public water supply systems throughout Minnesota. He holds a Master's of Science from the University of Minnesota Duluth, a Bachelor of Science from Northland College, and is a Professional Geologist with the State of Minnesota. When not geeking out on PFAS and VI, Chris enjoys staying active via cycling, cross country skiing, curling, and indoor climbing.	
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	PFAS guidance: Overview and Implementation –	Michael Ginsbach	Michael Ginsbach is a hydrogeologist in the Superfund Remedial section of the MPCA where he oversees investigations and cleanups of sites in the Superfund and RCRA Remediation programs. He also works on a number of guidance and data projects and serves as a technical resource for the Agency's compliance and enforcement programs. He has a BS in geology and a BS in earth science education from North Dakota State University and an MS in geology from Idaho State University.	

<b>1:00 PM – 1:20 PM</b>	Brownfield Program Application Process Updates –	David Knight	David Knight has been a Project Manager in the Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Program since 2008. Prior to coming on with the MPCA, he worked for 15 years in consulting at the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant and on several remote islands in the Pacific Ocean, cleaning up after the Navy. He has an Environmental/Geological Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota and also a post-baccalaureate degree from the U of MN for an initial licensure to teach 5-12th graders Earth/Space science. He returned from the Pacific atolls to enjoy Minnesota’s seasons and is bummed with the mild winters of late.	
<b>1:20 PM – 1:40 PM</b>	Environmental Covenant Process Updates –	Shanna Schmitt and Alana Crawford	<p>Shanna is a hydrogeologist, licensed Professional Geologist in Minnesota, and Certified Professional Geologist with the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG). Shanna earned a Bachelor of Science in Geology from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in 2003.</p> <p>Shanna has over 20 years of experience in both the private and public sectors, and currently works as a hydrogeologist/project manager in the Remediation Division at the MN Pollution Control Agency. Shanna works on a variety of brownfield, Superfund, and grant funded sites. Shanna was awarded the Galey Public Service Award by AIPG in 2022 and served as President of AIPG in 2024. She is passionate about geoscience outreach, whether speaking about volcanoes with school children or discussing geoscience careers with college students.</p>	Alana Crawford is the Brownfields Application Coordinator and IC Coordinator for the Remediation division. Alana works in the Brownfields section, and assists Remediation sections with application review and the Institutional Control process. They attended Hamline University for their B.A., and began working at the agency after graduation.
<b>1:40 PM – 2:30 PM</b>	Tips for submitting high quality reports Brownfields:	Rebecca Ryser	Rebecca graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire in 2013 with a B.S. in Hydrogeology. Rebecca worked in the environmental consulting industry in Idaho and Arizona for five years on various types of projects including Superfund sites, high profile brownfield sites, and mining sites. In 2019, she completed a one-year Master of Advanced Study in Geographic Information Systems at Arizona State University. Since graduation, Rebecca has been working for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as a Hydrogeologist and Project Manager for a variety of Brownfield sites in the Voluntary Investigation Cleanup Program, and is a Professional Geologist licensed in the state of Minnesota.	

<b>2:45 PM – 3:00 PM</b>	Field Audit changes –	Sara Nelson and Stephen Frye	Sara is the current supervisor for the Petroleum Remediation Program (PRP). She was previously a hydrologist in the program. She has a B.S. in Geology from the University of St. Thomas	<p>Stephen is a project manager with MPCA’s Petroleum Remediation Program, having served in that role since 2009. His area of expertise for the program includes leak site project management, guidance document and field audit teams, and has extensive experience with MPCA’s data management system, Tempo. From 2013 through 2016, he served on the team that moved the Remediation Division from MPCA’s previous legacy database into Tempo, and continues to mentor staff on using the database.</p> <p>Stephen hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science, with minors in Hydrogeology, Conservation, and Computer Science from the University of Wisconsin – River Falls.</p>
<b>3:00 PM – 3:15 PM</b>	Tips for preventing cross contamination for Vapor Sampling –	Rose Tusa	Rose is a hydrologist with the Petroleum Remediation Program at the MN Pollution Control Agency. She has been with the MPCA since 2012, reviewing leak sites and assisting in program guidance development. Since 2016, she has been the vapor lead for PRP. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in geology, with a minor in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.	
<b>3:15 PM – 3:45 PM G</b>	General Guidance/Forms Updates –	Stephen Frye and Wesley Knox	<p>Stephen is a project manager with MPCA’s Petroleum Remediation Program, having served in that role since 2009. His area of expertise for the program includes leak site project management, guidance document and field audit teams, and has extensive experience with MPCA’s data management system, Tempo. From 2013 through 2016, he served on the team that moved the Remediation Division from MPCA’s previous legacy database into Tempo, and continues to mentor staff on using the database.</p> <p>Stephen hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science, with minors in Hydrogeology, Conservation, and Computer Science from the University of Wisconsin – River Falls.</p>	<p>Wesley is a project manager for responsible party-led leak sites, and also coordinate guidance document updates, facilitates the Public Works Program for projects where contamination is found during public utility work. He assists colleagues with research for responsible party determinations, and manages fund-financed projects for petroleum contamination that’s referred to from other MPCA programs and/or where more information is needed before assigning/associating it with a new tank release. He has been with the Petroleum Remediation Program for nearly 5 years. Prior to that, he was a student worker on the Minnesota Groundwater Contamination Atlas, an online webtool to visualize and learn about contamination across the state.</p> <p>He graduated from Metropolitan State University in 2020 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Environmental Science, with minors in Biology and Chemistry.</p>
<b>3:45 PM – 4:00 PM</b>	Petrofund	Scott Hawks	Scott Hawks has served as the Director of the Petrofund for the past year with the Department of Commerce. He recently retired from the Army after 32 years, where he worked in the field of Hazardous Materials/WMD response and mitigation for 15 years, as well as serving as the state Public Affairs officer for the MN National Guard for 6 years during civil unrest, COVID19, and other disasters. He coaches Track and Field for his local Middle School and has been a Firefighter with Excelsior Fire District for the past 13 years.	
<b>4:00 PM – 4:15 PM</b>	Q&A & Wrap-up			