

Administrative Office:

P.O. Box 3367
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Phone: 717-642-9500
Fax: 717-303-5219
Email: pwea@pwea.org
www.pwea.org



Member Association of the
Water Environment Federation

Technical Publication:
Keystone Water Quality Manager

Dear Fellow PWEA Member,

My name is Kara Humes, and I am privileged to serve as the Conference Committee Chair for PennTec 2022. Next year's annual conference will be held June 5-8, 2022 at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA.

Many PWEA members have asked why we choose the location for PennTec that we do. ***Why can't it be closer to us in the western part of Pennsylvania, or the eastern part of Pennsylvania?*** I fully understand the desire to have a location that is convenient to all of our members. Unfortunately, that is impossible as Pennsylvania is a large state and our members are located throughout. The next question is why we always use the same few venues over and over. The short answer is that we need a facility that has sufficient capacity without high cost and venues that meet both criteria are limited. We need the room for attendees, multiple classroom, and an exhibit hall while being reasonably priced so that our employers will let us attend.

Many of us attend PennTec for educational credits (CEU or PDH) so we need a conference center that can offer at least 5 or 6 classrooms large enough for up to 70 students. Our vendors are an important part of the conference and account for over 50% of the funding for PennTec, so we need space for up to 130 exhibit booths. We also need accommodations for our networking functions. Finally, we need a place that offers sufficient hotel rooms for us, preferably adjacent to our classes and exhibits to encourage networking. We need all of that, plus good food, offered for a reasonable cost.

PWEA, with the help of our Executive Director and Conference Manager, has researched facilities all over our state. Philadelphia and Pittsburgh would be nice, but they are expensive. Hotels and meals are higher in cost. The conference centers would not allow our vendors to set-up their exhibits without paying for help. We work hard to keep conference prices reasonable for both vendors and attendees.

PennTec is and has always been the cornerstone of the educational, informational and networking opportunities offered by PWEA. Please know that we value your input, suggestions and help. We are continuing to evaluate new and renovated conference venues, and as with everything we do at PWEA, our focus is our members! Please consider getting involved on one of our committees. They serve as forums to share your work experiences and gain valuable knowledge from your industry peers. There are many opportunities for you and we welcome your participation.

I look forward to seeing you at PennTec 2022.

Kara Humes

PWEA First Vice President and Conference Committee Chair