

Nationally Renowned Speakers

Dr. Peggy Minnis is a professor of chemistry at Pace University, where she teaches a variety of chemistry and environmental courses. Water and wastewater chemistry are among her special areas of interest. Peggy co-authored the textbook entitled, “Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems” and speaks frequently around the country on septic systems and wastewater chemistry. Peggy also serves as the Assistant Director of the Graduate Program in Environmental Science (GPES). In this role, she directs the thesis projects for all GPES graduate students. Peggy has organized the annual education program for the National Onsite Water Recycling Association (NOWRA) and the NOWRA course called, “Onsite A-Z” for the past nine years.

Dr. David Radcliffe is a professor at the University of Georgia, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, where he teaches courses in soil physics and soil site assessment. David’s primary interest is in using models to better understand how contaminants and nutrients move through the environment. He and his students have targeted their current research on phosphorus and bacteria loading to streams from agricultural sources. His most recent work involves watershed-scale models coupled with Geographic Information Systems technology. In studying septic systems, David is using a two-dimensional numerical model (HYDRUS2d) that simulates leaching of bacteria, nitrogen, and phosphorus in soil.

Dr. Jerry Tyler is a professor at the University of Wisconsin in the Department of Agronomy, and we welcome his return as a guest speaker at the conference. Jerry’s current research is focused on soil classification, morphology, and genesis, with major emphasis on soil interpretations for land use purposes. Much of his work is concerned with relating soil morphological characteristics and soil physical properties to the design of on-site wastewater systems for optimal effectiveness. Jerry will share with us his latest findings on soil treatment of wastewater, revisit the pioneering studies on mounds and at-grade systems, and discuss how soil data will be used in the model national code.