



WWM International

The Resource Recovery People
A 501 (C) (3) Organization
www.wwminternational.org

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE RECOVERY
CONFERENCE & EXPO ON

WATER, WASTE MANAGEMENT ONE HEALTH & ENERGY



MAY 18 - 19, 2026
2142 Shealy Dr, Gainesville, FL 32608

CONFERENCE PROGRAM & AGENDA

Monday, May 18, 2026

08:00 - 09:00 AM

Registration, Networking Breakfast

09:00 - 09:05 AM

Welcome Remarks by Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Gopal Kakani Professor University of Florida

09:05 - 09:15 AM

WWM International President Welcome Address

Sam Pappu P.E, President WWM International

09:15 - 09:30 AM

Conference Welcome Address

Dr. Sharon Waller, Commissioner, MWRDGC

09:30 - 09:40 AM

Conference Inaugural Address

Dr. J. Scott Angle

Senior Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources

09:40 - 09:50 AM

Distinguished Opening Talk

Dr. Robert Gilbert

Dean for Research and Executive Director of Academic Affairs

University of Florida

09:50 - 10:05 AM

Conference Featured Speaker

Ramesh Babu Lakshmanan

Consul Gen of India - Atlanta

10:05 - 10:15 AM

Conference Keynote Address

Cliff Haefke, Director ERC, UIC

10:15 - 10:25 AM

Conference Business Presenter-1

Bryan Johnson P.E

President, Energy Tech Innovations, Wisconsin

10:25 - 10:35 AM

Conference Business Presenter-2

Tharun Kumar

Founder & CEO, ECOSTP Technologies, India

10:35 - 10:55 AM

WWM International -- Rural Development Alliance

Inauguration of the program

10:55 - 11:50 AM

Presentation by MWRDGC Team

Dr. Sharon Waller, Pinakin Desai, Dr. Prakasam Tata, Khaja Moinuddin

11:50 - 12:00 PM

Vote of Thanks: Chetan Kale, Secretary WWM International



May 18, 2026

Track – 1 Water/Wastewater	Track-2 One Health	Track-3 Energy Resources
<p>Track Coordinator: Dr. Ananda S Bhattacharjee / Chetan Kale</p>	<p>Track Coordinator: Dr. Benjamin Anderson</p>	<p>Track Coordinator: Cliff Haefke</p>
1:30 pm to 3:00 pm		
<p>A New Integrated Approach for Beneficial Uses of Biogas-CO2 in Wastewater Treatment</p> <p>Bryan Johnson President, ETI</p> <p>Enhancing Resiliency and Sustainability Through Aquifer Recharge with Reclaimed Water in Hillsborough County, FL</p> <p>Dr Emma Lopez-Ponnada Process Control Engineer, Hillsborough County, Florida</p> <p>Biochar-based Filtration Column to Mitigate Antimicrobial Resistance in Irrigated Agriculture</p> <p>Dr. Ananda S Bhattacharjee Asst Professor, USF</p>	<p>From Molecule to Meal: Designing Health through Purdue Food Science</p> <p>Dr. Senay Simsek Head & Professor Food Science, Asst Dean of One Health, Purdue University</p> <p>Overview of global Clostridium difficile infections and the One Health angle to their epidemiology.</p> <p>Dr. Ravi Durvasula, M.D Chair, Division of Infectious Diseases, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville</p> <p>Colloidal Activated Carbon-Enabled in situ Remediation Technologies of PFAS-Impacted Water</p> <p>Dr. Dengjun Wang Asst Professor UF</p>	<p>Optimizing Energy Use in Wastewater Treatment Plants: A Path to Net-Zero</p> <p>Dr. Cristian Cardenas-Lailhacar Assistant Director Industrial Training & Assessment Center Assistant Director Mobile Energy Laboratory University of Florida</p> <p>Direct water use for data center in North Dakota</p> <p>Dr. Xinhua Jia Professor of Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering North Dakota State University</p> <p>Unlocking Biogas CHP potential in Wastewater Treatment Plants</p> <p>Cliff Haefke Director, Energy Resources Center, UIC</p>
3:00 PM TO 3:30 PM COFFEE BREAK		
3:30 PM TO 5:00 PM		
<p>The impact and kinetics of pre-fermented versus direct injection of glycerol on effluent nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in a 3 stage and 5 stage Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) Systems</p> <p>Andrew A Randall, PhD, PE Professor Civil, Environmental, and Construction Engineering Department UCF</p> <p>Designing Sewage Treatment Like a Cow's Stomach: The ECOSTP Biomimicry Approach</p> <p>Tharun Kumar CEO ECOSTP - India</p> <p>Computational Modelling of PFAS Capture from Semiconductor Waste Streams: Optimizing GAC Adsorption for Wastewater Treatment</p> <p>Hubert Treve Ph.D Student UF</p> <p>Spatial, social, and political dynamics underlying unequal access to drinking water in the Republic of Benin</p> <p>Alain Elegbe Texas State University</p>	<p>Using One Health to Address Wicked Problems</p> <p>Benjamin Anderson, MPH, PhD, CPH Assistant Professor, One Health, University of Florida</p> <p>Environmental Health Research using a One Health Framework</p> <p>Dr. Joseph H Bisesi Associate Director and Associate Professor, University of Florida</p>	<p>Hydrogen Energy in a Sustainable Economy: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>Dr. SA Sherif Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Director Industrial Training and Assessment Center University of Florida</p> <p>Role of Biogas in a Circular Economy</p> <p>Dr. Pratap Pullammanappallil University of Florida</p>

May 19, 2026

Track – 1 Water/Wastewater

Track Coordinator:
Dr. Ananda S Bhattacharjee / Chetan Kale

9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM

Restoring Urban Rivers and Lakes through Environmental Justice:
A Policy Framework for Sustainable and Inclusive Outcomes

Dr. Prakasam Tata
Executive Director, CTWT

Using Machine Learning and Hyperspectral Imaging to Improve Process Control for Anaerobic Digestion of Food Waste

Dr. Ana Martin-Ryals
Assistant Professor UF

Track-2 Solid Waste

Track Coordinator:
Ruth Abbe / Dr. Pratap C. Pullammanappallil

Creating Zero Waste Systems in Gainesville, FL

Amanda Waddle
Director
Zero Waste Gainesville

The City of Berkeley's Zero Waste Future: Strategic Planning for Waste Reduction through a Community-Driven Process

Christienne de Tournay Birkhahn
Zero Waste Consultant & Educator
Berkeley, CA

10:00 AM TO 10:30 AM COFFEE BREAK

10:30 AM TO 12:15 PM

Bioremediation of agro-industrial wastewater using algal-bacterial consortia: Treatment performance and microbial diversity assessment

Dr. Halis Simsek
Asst Professor
Purdue University

AI in Water Industry

Chetan Kale
WWMI

Biosolids as a nutrient source to improve pasture productivity & minimize nutrient losses in subtropical pasture systems

Nikhita R Kovvuri
United of Florida

Assessing Sediment-Bound Phosphorus Mobility with Different Fractions and Internal Loading Potential in Overlying Water Column.

IFFAT TASNIM
Grad Asst - UF

Zero Waste and Tourism - Lessons Learned from Costa Rica, Nepal, and USA

Ruth Abbe
President, Zero Waste USA

Thermo-mechanical treatment of nonrecyclable municipal solid waste to enhance organics recovery

Dr Luca Zullo
CTO, BurCell Technologies, Kennesaw, GA

Plastic-Free Biomass Processing: A Selective Approach for Organics Isolation and Lignin Quantification

Leonardo Crelier
University of Florida

RESOURCE RECOVERY CONFERENCE MAY 19TH 2026 | VALEDICTORY PROGRAM

1:30 – 1:35 PM

Welcome Remarks by Master of Ceremonies

Sam Pappu P.E, President WWM International

1:35 – 1:50 PM

Valedictory Keynote Speaker

Dr. Senay Simsek, Head & Professor Food Science,
Asst Dean of One Health, Purdue University



1:50 – 2:50 PM

Track Leaders Presentation

1. Water / Wastewater
2. Energy
3. One Health
4. Solid Waste

2:50 – 3:30 PM

Concluding Remarks

Dr. Sharon Waller- Chairperson WWMI
Sam Pappu -- President WWMI

3:30 - 3:40 PM

Vote of Thanks: Chetan Kale, Secretary WWMI

CONFERENCE PARTNERS



ONE HEALTH CENTER
OF EXCELLENCE
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

