

NEHA NEWS

NEHA 2025 General Election Results

Elections are a critical part of the democratic process and are one way in which members have a voice in the running of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). Our members have an opportunity to vote for candidates of contested board and regional vice-president positions, as well as cast votes regarding proposed Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws changes. National officers of the NEHA Board of Directors serve a 1-year term in each officer position (second vice-president, first vice-president, president-elect, president, and immediate past-president) for a total of 5 years. Regional vice-presidents (RVPs) serve 3-year terms.

Eligible voters were encouraged to vote in March and the deadline to vote was March 31, 2025. The following are results from the 2025 general election.

**Second Vice-President**

There was one qualified candidate for the second vice-president position: Niki Lemin, MS, REHS, MEP. She will assume the second vice-president position at the close of the NEHA 2025 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition. As a national officer, Lemin will serve a 5-year term that progresses through the national officer positions and will serve as NEHA president in 2028–2029.

Regional Vice-Presidents

Our membership is broken down into nine regions that represent U.S. geographic areas, as well as members in the U.S. uniformed services and abroad. The terms of three RVP positions expire in 2025—Region 4, Region 6, and Region 9.

There were two candidates each for Region 4 and Region 6, and our voting members within those regions were provided an election ballot to select a candidate. Region 9 had one eligible candidate and did not appear on the election ballot. The winners of the Region 4 and Region 6 elections and the unopposed candidate in Region 9 will assume their RVP roles at the close of the 2025 AEC. Their terms will expire in 2028:

- Region 4: Eric Bradley, MPH, REHS, CP-FS, DLAAS (represents Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin)
- Region 6: Justin Dwyer, MPH, LEHP, REHS/RS (represents Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio)
- Region 9: Bob Uhrig, REHS (represents Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont)

A listing of current NEHA national officers and RVPs, along with state breakdowns for each region, can be found on page 48. More information about our governance—including our Articles of

Incorporation and Bylaws, the election processes, and associated deadlines—is available at www.neha.org/election-process.

Thank you to the candidates and members who participated in the 2025 election!

Updates Coming Soon to Our CP-FS Credential Exam

Our Certified Professional–Food Safety (CP-FS) credential exam is being updated to align with the National Curriculum Standards from the Food and Drug Administration. The new exam will be available beginning in June 2025, and the corresponding updated study materials are now available.

What do you need to know if you are currently working toward this credential?:

- Stick with your current plan. There is no need to start over with new materials as the resources you are using now are still valid.
- Consider scheduling your exam soon. Completing the exam before the updates ensures alignment with the materials you have already prepared with, helping you stay on track to earn your credential.

If you are considering the credential, there is no better time to get started! Earning the CP-FS is more than just taking an exam—it is a commitment to your professional growth and to the communities you serve. Learn more at <https://www.neha.org/cpfs-credential>.

Part 2 of Our Webinar Series on Empowering Women Leaders

The second part of our transformative 3-part journey—designed to equip women with the tools, skills, and confidence to excel in leadership roles within the environmental health sector—will take place on May 20. While this series is designed for women, it is open to all individuals interested in enhancing their leadership capabilities in environmental health.

- **Part 2—You've Got This: Harnessing Confidence and Leadership Possibilities in Environmental Health (May 20, 1 p.m. ET)** Stepping into leadership comes with challenges. This webinar will explore leadership myths that hold women leaders back. Whether a seasoned leader or just starting out, this webinar will provide insights and tools to own your leadership and amplify your voice in the field.

- **Part 3—Celebrating Success: Building Confidence in Sharing Achievements (date and time TBA)**

The final part of this series emphasizes the importance of confidently highlighting your professional accomplishments. This webinar will help you overcome the challenges of self-promotion, empowering you to confidently showcase your successes as an environmental health professional.

Learn more and register at www.neha.org/Empowering-Women-Leaders-in-Environmental-HealthWebinar-Series.



Educational Highlights at Our 2025 AEC

Our 2025 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition—taking place on July 14–17 in Phoenix, Arizona, and virtually—offers an oasis in the desert! In a time when challenges in the field of environmental health continue to evolve, resilience is more important than ever. The 2025 AEC is your opportunity to recharge,

reflect, and gain the knowledge needed to adapt to the ever-changing landscape. With sessions designed to equip you with tools and insights to strengthen your professional foundation, you will leave empowered to face future hurdles with confidence. Step into the oasis—where resilience meets renewal.

We plan to offer >230 in-person educational sessions at the 2025 AEC. You can immerse yourself in these educational sessions that will cover a broad spectrum of topics from air quality to vector control and everything in between. Stay at the forefront of environmental health advancements and gain insights that will shape your professional journey.

Learn more about the 2025 AEC and all the sessions we have planned at www.neha.org/aec. You can also explore some of our featured speakers at www.neha.org/aec-speakers.

Student Poster Session

Students are encouraged to present their research as a poster at the 2025 AEC in person or virtually. We are seeking posters in the following topic areas:

- Climate and health
- Data and technology
- Emergency readiness, recovery, and resilience
- Focused populations
- Food safety
- General environmental health
- Healthy communities
- Infectious and vectorborne diseases
- Water quality
- Workforce and leadership

Posters presented in person will be displayed in the Poster Hall, located within the Exhibit Hall, on July 14 and 15. Student poster presenters are encouraged to be present in the Poster Hall on the evening of July 14 so they can network with attendees during the Exhibition Grand Opening Reception. The deadline to submit a poster is May 30. Learn more at www.neha.org/aec-students.

Participate in Our 3rd Annual Environmental Health Photography Contest

We are hosting our 3rd annual Environmental Health Photography Exhibition at the 2025 AEC. This year's theme is: Framing Environmental Public Health Challenges. You can submit your best photos in any of the following environmental public health categories:



- Climate health
- Food safety
- General environmental health
- Water safety

Please note that you are limited to submitting one photo per category and no more than three total photos. Submitters must have an active NEHA membership to participate. The deadline to submit is May 9. Submit now at www.surveymonkey.com/r/DMSHCYL.

Our Participation at CFP



The Conference for Food Protection (CFP), held on March 24–28, 2025, in Denver, Colorado, brought together experts from various sectors to discuss and debate crucial issues related to retail food safety. This biennial event plays a pivotal role in shaping food safety guidance that can be incorporated into laws and regulations nationwide. Our staff were actively involved in the conference, with Joetta DeFrancesco sitting on Council II, which focuses on issues about education, training, and the Retail Program Standards, and Melissa Vaccaro contributing to Council III, which addresses food science and technology. Their participation underscores our commitment to advancing food safety standards and practices.

In addition to council representation, staff volunteers, including Christl Tate, Evan Suttell, Nicole Kinash, and Sadie Shervheim, dedicated countless hours to ensure the conference's success. Their efforts highlight the collaborative spirit and dedication within our organization. Further, Doug Farquhar, director of our Government Affairs, presented on the *Food Code* Adoption Toolkit, and Rance Baker, director of our Entrepreneurial Zone, addressed a pressing issue on regulatory sustainability protocols for the Retail Program Standards. Our strong presence at the conference demonstrates our ongoing leadership and influence in the field of food safety. 🌸