

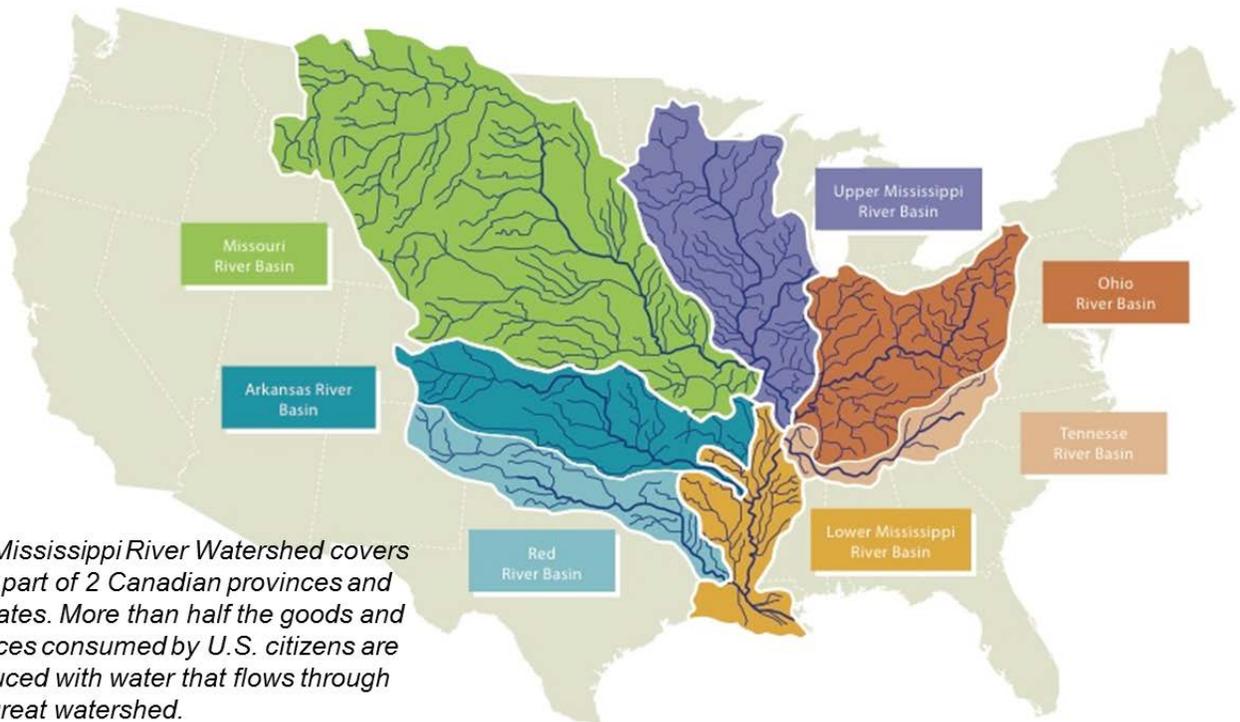
Uniting people, land and water across 31 states

America's WATERSHED Initiative

Louisville, KY | September 30-October 2, 2014

www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/awi

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The Mississippi River Watershed covers all or part of 2 Canadian provinces and 31 states. More than half the goods and services consumed by U.S. citizens are produced with water that flows through this great watershed.



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Welcome To America's Watershed Initiative Summit

Welcome to the 2014 America's Watershed Initiative Summit on the shores of the Ohio River! Since we gathered under the Arch in St. Louis in 2012, we have grown and we've made great strides on our shared goals across the Mississippi River watershed.

While much of our work to-date has been around defining these commitments and developing strategies for measuring progress, this summit marks a turning point for us all as we move from insight to action.

We know that to solve the challenges before us, we must continue to look for new ways to work across the entire watershed, across interests, and toward solutions that none of us can imagine alone. This event and the conversations we will have here have been designed to build a different level of dialogue. We want to provoke our shared thinking beyond individual interests or basins, explore watershed-scale solutions, and generate a pathway the kinds of changes needed to ensure a thriving tomorrow.

To do this, we invite you to bring a different kind of listening than you might bring to a traditional conference. We want to spend less time evaluating and critiquing one another's positions, and more time inquiring and learning from one another's experiences. We hope you will bring a spirit of curiosity and a commitment to seeking shared solutions to what we believe will be a rich and engaging program:

- On Wednesday morning, we will build a bridge from the 2012 summit to today by outlining the key challenges we face and introducing the America's Watershed Initiative report card for the Mississippi River watershed developed to help track progress and target solutions.
- Over lunch, we'll be challenged as we confront what our tomorrow will look like if we stay the course, and fail to act.
- In the afternoon, we'll use a dynamic, engaging form of presentation to dive deep and take a nuanced look at how issues of water quantity and water quality affect all of our interests across the basin.
- In the evening, we'll host a "watershed solutions" dialogue to face key challenges and explore opportunities associated with each of our goals.
- On Thursday, we'll work to tie those conversations together to determine what action it's time for now - by basin, and together.

Throughout it all, we will create opportunities for all of us to interact across basins and interest areas, to form partnerships and collaborations, and to build the kind of network and initiative to help support and sustain our efforts in the work ahead.

Working at a system-scale is hard work. We need each other. It takes big-picture thinking and openness to a broad range of ideas and perspectives. Our work going forward may begin here, but the real impact will come from the conversations we start and commitments we generate when we return home. Our time at this summit is about clarifying our shared purpose and preparing, together, for the future we create going forward.

To make all of this happen, we must first extend our utmost appreciation to our supporting organizations, members of the America's Watershed Initiative steering committee, key speakers, including Brigadier General "Duke" DeLuca, Secretary Ray LaHood, Major General John Peabody, Rainy Shorey, Steve Stockton, and the other fantastic presenters, The Nature Conservancy's North American Freshwater Program, and the University of Florida IFAS Office of Conferences and Institutes, for their efforts to make this Summit a success.

We would like to specifically thank all of our sponsors - AECOM, AEP River Operations, Ecology and Environment, Inc., Hanson Professional Services, Ingram Barge Company, Iowa Soybean Association, Kentucky Division of Water, Marshall University College of Science, National Corn Growers Association, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ohio River Basin Alliance, Stantec Consulting Services, The Nature Conservancy, United States Environmental Protection Agency, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, Water Institute of the Gulf, and Waterways Council, Inc. - for their support and participation. We hope you will take time to visit each sponsor display table to collaborate and learn more about these companies and organizations.

Without all three parts – this support, their participation and your engagement, there would be no Summit.

Thank you for being with us on this journey.

Sincerely,

America's Watershed Initiative





America's Watershed Initiative Overview

About America's Watershed Initiative

America's Watershed Initiative (AWI) is a collection of businesses, communities, universities, non-governmental organizations, government agencies, and other associations. The fundamental purpose is to bring a collaborative, basin-wide perspective to the Mississippi River watershed's greatest management challenges while also supporting the many initiatives and work at current scales.

America's Watershed Initiative steering committee seeks to build and implement a vision across 31-state watershed and the key sub-basins: the Upper Mississippi, Ohio and Tennessee, Missouri, Lower Mississippi, Arkansas and Red Rivers based on collaboration and mutually beneficial outcomes in contrast to single-purpose advocacy. We want to help find solutions to issues that span multiple regions—issues such as energy, transportation, water quality and more comprehensive flood control and management—while respecting vital work at the current scales.

The Initiative is motivated by a mutual recognition that the health of U.S. citizens and economy is directly tied to management of the Mississippi River and its major tributaries. More than half the goods and services consumed by the citizens of the U.S. are produced with water that flows through the Mississippi River and its major tributaries.

- Agricultural products from the Mississippi River basin are worth \$54 billion annually and represent 92 percent of the nation's farm exports.
- The Mighty Mississippi serves as a vital conduit for goods, is home to the largest port in the U.S., and gives life to the Gulf of Mexico's vibrant seafood industry.
- Our rivers make possible commercial fishing and outdoor recreation that generate billions of dollars each year.

Despite this, the watershed lacks the collaborative, integrated management approach necessary to secure its future vitality.

Leaders from throughout the watershed and beyond recognize that geographic, institutional and issue-based silos have become barriers to achieving the economic, social and ecological potential of this vital watershed. Global opportunities will pass us by and costs will increase if we let state borders –or smaller boundaries – divide up this interconnected river system. And we'll fail if we address issues independently—if, for instance, we address water quality separately from water quantity, or land management separately from water management.

AWI Background

The group formed following the America's Inner Coast Summit in 2010, where in unprecedented fashion, over 100 leaders representing business and commerce, local communities, state and federal government, academia and civil society came together to discuss their shared interests depending on a healthy, productive and sustainable Mississippi River watershed. At its conclusion, these leaders asked The Nature Conservancy and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to convene a representative steering committee to spearhead a new, collaborative effort that would unite diverse stakeholders behind a long-term vision for this basin – America's Watershed – and build local, state, regional and national support for its implementation. This was the start of the steering committee.

In September 2012, approximately 175 leaders from across the basin returned for a second AWI Summit in St. Louis and discussed a working vision for America's Watershed. Key outcomes from the Summit included the participants' support for America's Watershed Initiative and the steering committee's continued efforts to:

1. Unite the diverse stakeholders, sectors and basin geographies behind a shared vision for AWI that builds local, national and global recognition. The shared vision sees a watershed that can:
 - Support local, state and national economies;
 - Supply abundant, clean water to our farms and communities;
 - Nurture healthy, productive ecosystems;
 - Serve as the nation's most valuable river transportation corridor;
 - Provide reliable flood control and risk reduction; and
 - Create world-class recreational opportunities.
2. Advance a sustainable management approach within the Mississippi River watershed through improved decision making, policy and practice.
3. Use sound science and best practices to inform policy alternatives and measure progress toward a healthier Mississippi River Watershed that is economically, socially, and ecologically sustainable.

America's Watershed Report Card for the Mississippi River basin

Since 2012, AWI has moved forward working with key experts and partners in each basin to gather information for a report card to provide community and policy leaders, media and the public with a complete picture of the status of the six goals for the entire Mississippi River and its tributaries. To this point, AWI has contacted close to 1,000 experts for this project. More than 250 experts and stakeholders and dozens of partners have participated in workshops, meetings and webinars in each of the six major sub-basins to gather information about goals, key indicators and data availability. The DRAFT report card will be shared at the 2014 Summit, where we will seek feedback and suggestions from participants and others. The final America's Watershed report card will be released in Spring 2015 in cooperation with partners and collaborators at events throughout the watershed.

Decades of history have shaped this great river system, its economy and its culture. Now is our time! We welcome you to join us in this critically important endeavor.

For more information, visit www.Americaswatershed.org

Detailed Program Agenda

[Click here to view Speaker Presentations](#)

Tuesday, September 30

Tuesday, September 30	
	Ohio River Basin Alliance Meeting & Working Groups
1:00-5:00pm	1:00-1:15pm ORBA Opening Session Dr. Charles “Chuck” Somerville, Chair, ORBA
	1:15-3:15pm Working Group Meetings - Water Availability & Management - Sustainable Growth & Competitiveness (Climate Change Group) - Restoration & Protection - Enterprise & Infrastructure
	3:15-3:30pm Break
	3:30pm Reconvene for Working Group Brief Outs
	3:30-3:45pm Restoration & Protection Brief Out Facilitators: Suzanne Hoehne & April Vance
	3:45-4:00pm Water Availability & Management Brief Out Facilitators: Erich Emery & Ted Lozier
	4:00-4:15pm Enterprise & Infrastructure Brief Out Facilitator: Kari Mackenbach
	4:15-4:45pm Sustainable Growth & Competitiveness Brief Out (Climate Change Study Results) Facilitators: Dr. Harry Stone & Richard “Gus” Drum
	4:45-5:00pm What’s Next? Dr. Charles “Chuck” Somerville, Chair, ORBA
	5:00-7:00pm
5:00-7:00pm	Informal Dialogue & Networking Opportunity -- Cochran Ballroom (Refreshments Provided)
5:00-7:00pm	Sponsor Display Set Up -- Cochran Ballroom
6:00-7:00pm	Speaker & Presenter Meeting -- Archibald Ballroom

Wednesday, October 1

7:00-8:30am	Registration Open & Morning Refreshments -- 3rd Floor Foyer & Cochran Ballroom
8:30-10:00am	<p>Welcome and America's Watershed Initiative Introduction -- Archibald Ballroom</p> <p>While much of our work to-date has been around defining these commitments and devising strategies for measuring progress against them effectively, this summit marks a turning point for us all as we move from insight to action.</p> <p>Featuring: America's Watershed Initiative Steering Committee</p> <p>Maria Koetter on behalf of Mayor Greg Fischer, Louisville, KY</p> <p>Major General John W. Peabody, P.E., USACE, Washington, D.C.</p> <p>Harald "Jordy" Jordahl, Director, America's Watershed Initiative</p>
10:00-10:30am	AM Refreshment Break -- Cochran Ballroom
10:30am-Noon	<p>America's Watershed Initiative Report Card -- Archibald Ballroom</p> <p>Building a bridge from the 2012 summit to today by outlining the key challenges we face and introducing the report card we've developed to help us track progress and target solutions</p> <p>Featuring: America's Watershed Initiative Report Card Workgroup</p> <p>Dr. Charles Somerville, Dean, Marshall University College of Science & Member, AWI Steering Committee</p> <p>Professor Bill Dennison and Dr. Heath Kelsey University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Integration and Application Network</p>
Noon-1:00pm	<p>Fast-Forward 50... America's Watershed Report Card in 2064 -- Cochran Ballroom (Lunch Provided)</p> <p>Featuring: Brigadier General Duke Deluca (Ret.), Former Commander, Mississippi Valley Division, USACE Past President, Mississippi River Commission No action alternative...how wise is that...considering the 4 revolutions</p>

Wednesday, October 1 Continued

1:00-4:00pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Deep Dive: Getting to the Heart of the Matter -- Archibald Ballroom</p> <p>A dynamic, engaging form of short presentation followed by group dialogue to dive deep and explore how issues of water quantity and quality affect <i>all</i> of our interests across the basin.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Featuring:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ben Grumbles, President, U.S. Water Alliance</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Greg Heitzman, Executive Director, Metropolitan Sewer District</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nancy Delong, Director Sustainable Agriculture Systems Policy and Outreach, Pioneer DuPont</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Denise Reed, Chief Scientist, Water Institute of the Gulf</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brigadier General John McMahon (Ret.), CH2M HILL, Former Commander, Missouri River Basin, Northwestern Division, USACE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tom Hanafan, Former Mayor, Council Bluffs, IA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michael Toohey, President and Chief Executive Officer, Waterways Council Inc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sue Lowry, Wyoming State Engineer's Office on behalf of Terry Fleck, Chairman Friends of Lake Sakakawea, Bismarck, ND</p>
2:30-2:45pm	PM Refreshment Break -- Cochran Ballroom
4:00-4:30pm	Riverfront Break - participants encouraged to continue conversation outside on the Archibald Ballroom Riverfront Balcony
4:45-7:00pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Watershed Solutions Dialogue -- Waterford Room 25th Floor (Dinner Provided)</p> <p>In the evening we will host a powerful “watershed solutions” dialogue designed to engage participants in energizing and meaningful conversations around the challenges and opportunities for action associated with each of our goals.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Facilitated by: Jennifer Simpson, Anne Murray Allen, Conversant*</p> <p><small>*Conversant is a firm helping clients discover shared purpose across organizational and geographic boundaries. Finding alignment on shared purpose and outcomes allows teams to get into coordinated action to create results. Conversant's simple, proven framework helps leaders and teams move from individual to collective impact.</small></p>
7:00-8:00pm	Welcome Reception -- Waterford Room 25th Floor (Refreshments Provided)
7:00-9:00pm	Impromptu Meeting Space Available

Thursday, October 2

7:00-8:30am	Registration Open & Morning Refreshments -- 3rd Floor Foyer & Cochran Ballroom			
8:30-9:15am	<p>Where to From Here? -- Archibald Ballroom</p> <p>Tying the previous evening's conversations together to determine what action it's time for now – a look by both by sub-basin view and across the whole river system.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Featuring: America's Watershed Initiative Steering Committee Jennifer Simpson, Anne Murray Allen, Conversant</p>			
9:30-10:30am	Watershed Solutions Breakouts			
	Theme	Resilient Strategy and Action Planning	Communication, Engagement & Coalition Building	Collaborative Leadership & Governance
	Location	Willow	Holly	Dogwood
10:30-11:00am	AM Refreshment Break -- Cochran Ballroom			
11:00am-Noon	Basin Breakouts			
	Basin	Arkansas River, Red River, and Missouri River Basins	Upper & Lower Mississippi River Basins	Ohio River Basin
	Location	Willow	Holly	Dogwood
Noon-1:00pm	<p>Public – Private Sector Partnerships and Our Future in the Mississippi River Watershed -- Cochran Ballroom (Lunch Provided)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Special Recognition of Supporters and Sponsors</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Featuring: Rainy Shorey, Ph.D., Project Manager, Euro Fabrications Division, Caterpillar Inc. Steve Stockton, Director of Civil Works, USACE</p>			
1:00-2:30pm	<p>America's Watershed, What's Next? -- Archibald Ballroom</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What action will <i>you</i> take?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Featuring: America's Watershed Initiative Steering Committee Ray LaHood, Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Former U.S. Congressman via Skype</p>			
2:30pm	Summit Concludes			

Program Agenda-at-a-Glance

Tuesday, September 30

1:00-5:00pm	Ohio River Basin Alliance Meeting & Working Groups
5:00-7:00pm	AWI Registration Open -- 3rd Floor Foyer
5:00-7:00pm	Informal Dialogue & Networking Opportunity -- Cochran Ballroom Refreshments Provided
5:00-7:00pm	Sponsor Display Set Up -- Cochran Ballroom
6:00-7:00pm	Speaker & Presenter Meeting -- Archibald Ballroom

Wednesday, October 1

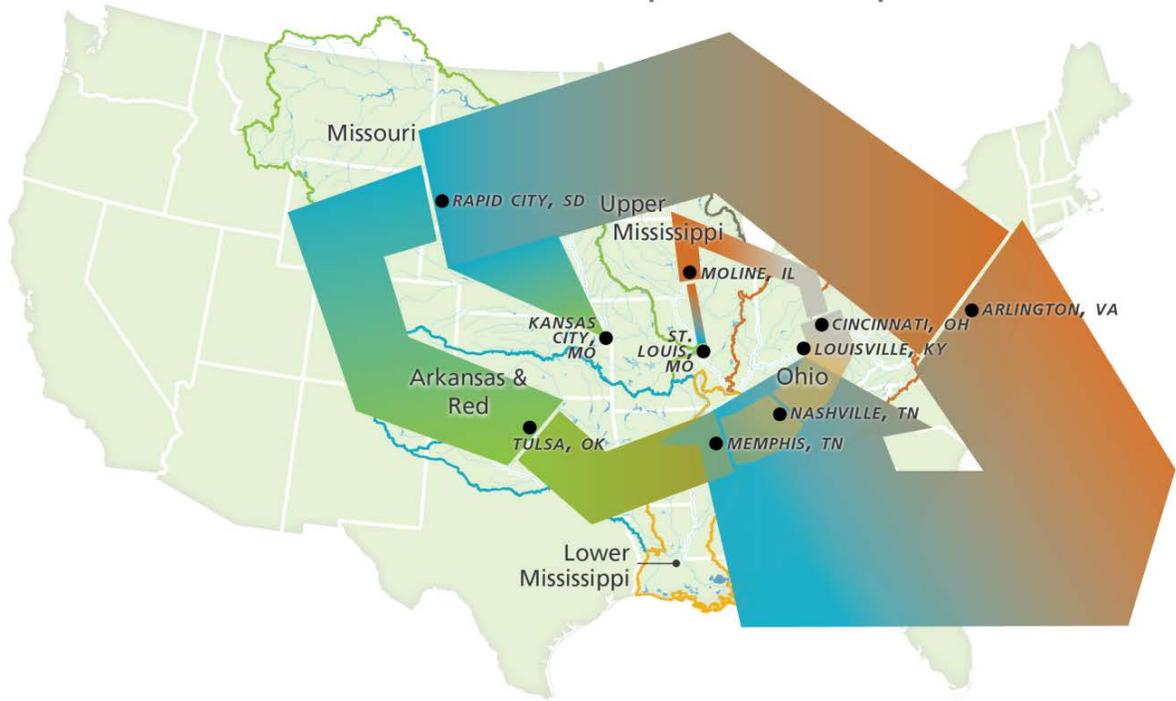
7:00-8:30am	Registration Open & Morning Refreshments -- 3rd Floor Foyer & Cochran Ballroom
8:30-10:00am	Opening General Session -- Archibald Ballroom
10:00-10:30am	AM Refreshment Break -- Cochran Ballroom
10:30am-Noon	General Session -- Archibald Ballroom
Noon-1:00pm	Plated Lunch -- Cochran Ballroom
1:00-4:00pm	General Session -- Archibald Ballroom
2:30-2:45pm	PM Refreshment Break -- Cochran Ballroom
4:00-4:30pm	Riverfront Break -- Archibald Ballroom Balcony
4:45-7:00pm	Watershed Solutions Dialogue -- Waterford Room 25th Floor Dinner Provided
7:00-8:00pm	Welcome Reception -- Waterford Room 25th Floor Refreshments Provided
7:00-9:00pm	Ad-Hoc Meeting Space Available

Thursday, October 2

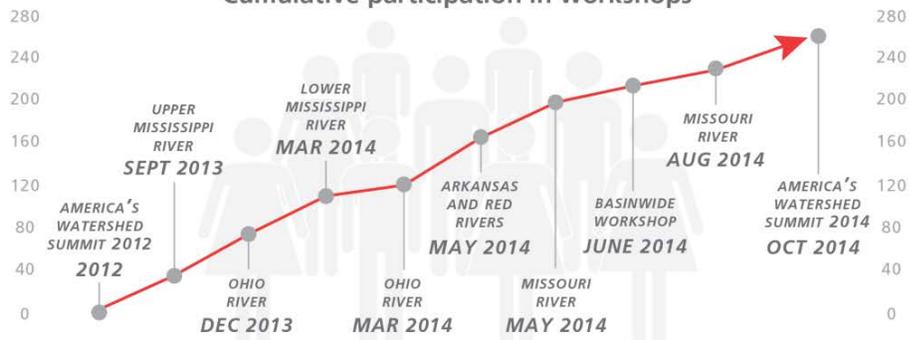
7:00-8:30am	Registration Open & Morning Refreshments -- 3rd Floor Foyer & Cochran Ballroom
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10:30-11:00am	AM Refreshment Break -- Cochran Ballroom
11:00am-Noon	Basin Breakouts
Noon-1:00pm	Plated Lunch -- Cochran Ballroom
1:00-2:30pm	Closing General Session -- Archibald Ballroom
2:30pm	Summit Concludes

AWI Report Card - Growing Participation Throughout the Watershed

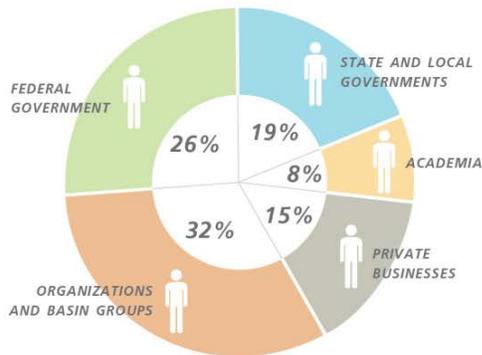
America's Watershed Initiative Report Card Participation



Cumulative participation in workshops



Workshop participation by affiliation



About Our Host Organizations - The Nature Conservancy



Our Mission & How We Work

Founded in 1951 and at work in all 50 states and 35 countries, the mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. Thanks to the support of more than 1 million members, the Conservancy has protected over 119 million acres of land and thousands of miles of rivers worldwide. The Conservancy's North America Freshwater Program draws on the experience of more than 300 dedicated freshwater staff in the U.S. The program's goal is to keep

natural systems healthy to ensure our waters remain clean, abundant and managed in ways that meet the needs of people and nature. Learn more at nature.org/H2O.

For many years, the Nature Conservancy has worked to develop effective partnerships with communities, landowners and agencies to advance our mission. We believe that meaningful projects at large scales are dependent on successful collaboration and partnerships that include diverse stakeholders including landowners, organizations, agencies, business and academia to name a few. America's Watershed Initiative is an example of such a collaboration, with an active collaboration between diverse partners – many of whom serve on the AWI steering committee.

Every project listed below involves critical partnerships with local, state and federal government governments and agencies, a wide range of business industries and associations, academia, other non-profit organizations and/or individual landowners. These projects represent a sampling of many additional projects designed to showcase the multiple benefits that can be achieved by incorporating natural solutions into the design and management of our water resources and infrastructure.

Modernizing Infrastructure Operations

Sustainable Rivers Project (SRP)—The operating plans for most of the nation's public large dams have not been updated since their construction decades ago. Today, engineers better understand that operating dams as part of a whole-river system and managing dams in coordination with downstream flood-prone lands enables dam managers to more efficiently meet diverse social needs. The advantages of modernizing dam operations have been demonstrated through more than a decade of national collaboration between the U.S. Army Corps, The Nature Conservancy, and other partners at eight SRP demonstration sites, three of which are located within the Mississippi River basin. Efforts are underway to expand the SRP including a system-wide effort in the Ohio Basin.

Pool-level Drawdowns—Aquatic plants help reduce nutrients and capture sediment, provide food and habitat for fish and wildlife, and stabilize stream and river banks. At Pool 3 on the Upper Mississippi River near Red Wing, MN, the Conservancy is working with the U.S. Army Corps to demonstrate these benefits. Our collaborative efforts are also focused on the rewriting of a water control manual which will guide implementation of more flexible operations for locks and dams and provide for ecological needs alongside navigation, water supply and recreation. The revised water control manual could serve as a template for more flexible operation at other locks and dams in the Mississippi River system, ultimately providing favorable conditions to implement drawdowns system wide on a more routine basis.

Restoration Projects

Mollicy Farms at the Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana—At 25 square miles, the "Mollicy Farms Unit" is the largest floodplain restoration site in the Mississippi River basin. The project involved constructing strategically placed "notches" in a levee that was built over 30 years ago to protect marginal cropland from regular flooding and drainage problems. The reconnection of the river to its floodplain through the notched levee, along with associated reforestation and other restoration efforts, helps alleviate downstream flooding, improves water quality and provides valuable fish and wildlife habitat.

Emiquon Preserve, Illinois—Emiquon is a 6,600-acre model for floodplain restoration and management along the Illinois River. Restoration of this former drainage and levee district began in 2007 and responses to date have been impressive with over 260 bird species documented including 90% of Illinois' wetland-associated threatened and

endangered species and peak one-day waterfowl populations approaching 200,000. This year, construction of an innovative managed connection with the river will provide water control capabilities needed to sustain this rich wetland complex long term as well as controlled access for aquatic organisms to move between the floodplain and river. Designed with research in mind, this project offers tremendous opportunities to evaluate the many benefits functional floodplains provide (e.g., improved water quality; more natural hydrology with reduced flood damages; and opportunities for education, recreation and compatible economic development) and to inform river restoration and management across the U.S. and around the world.

Fish Passage & Side Channel Restoration throughout Lower Mississippi River—The reopening of side channels and reestablishing of flows into backwater habitat has been underway for six years. Oftentimes, this involves the “notching” of wing dikes. To date, these projects have provided valuable habitat for endangered species in the lower river, including the interior least tern and pallid sturgeon, without posing problems for navigation maintenance. The Conservancy is working to create the right mechanisms to reconnection more than 300 miles of side channels throughout the lower Mississippi River.

Cache River, Arkansas—In the 1970s, a group of Arkansans banded together and stopped a 232-mile channelization plan for the Cache River in the heart of the Delta’s Big Woods. But seven miles of the lower Cache were ditched before the project was halted. The restoration project involved removing earthen plugs between the historic meandering channel and the straight ditch and constructing rock weirs to direct water back into the historic channel. The Conservancy and its partners completed the first phase of the project in July 2014.

Working with Agriculture/Nutrient Reduction

Wetland Creation at Bloomington, Illinois—Through USDA Farm Bill programs, the project here provides cost share and incentive payments to farmers to install constructed wetlands specifically designed to temporarily intercept and retain tile drainage waters before entering streams. The wetlands have shown to reduce nitrogen (19-47%) and phosphorus (49-58%). The Conservancy is involved with outreach, wetland monitoring and payment of additional cost share to landowners.

Mapping Multiple Benefits in the Iowa-Cedar River Basin, Iowa – In partnership with the USACE, the IA DNR and an array of other local, state and federal partners the Nature Conservancy is using innovative ecosystem services science to inform and catalyze integrated watershed management. This analysis of sound agricultural practices and targeted restoration will highlight how nature can be a critical tool for improving water quality and reducing flood risk to farms and communities.

REACH, Research and Education to Advance Conservation and Habitat, is a monitoring based program that quantifies the many benefits of conservation practice implementation in the Mississippi Delta. Integrating research and education, REACH helps provide scientific defensible data that ultimately demonstrates the environmental, economic and agronomic benefits of farmer's voluntary conservation efforts. Not only does this support the highly successful conservation delivery efforts of key partners, Delta F.A.R.M and NRCS, it provides sound scientific justification for future federal investments in agricultural conservation practices and programs.

Many more agriculture projects are featured at nature.org/agri, which includes several short videos.

About our Host Organizations - University of Florida/IFAS



The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, or UF/IFAS, is proud to co-host the 2014 America's Watershed Initiative Summit. The Mission of UF/IFAS is to develop knowledge in agricultural, human and natural resources and to make that knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of human life.

While extending into every community of the state, UF/IFAS has developed an international reputation for its accomplishments in teaching, research and Extension. The UF/IFAS Office of Conferences and Institutes, or OCI, is also proud to partner with The Nature Conservancy to coordinate the 2014 Summit logistics. OCI is a full-service conference planning agency created to support the UF/IFAS mission by disseminating its wealth of knowledge through workshops, conferences and symposia.

Historically, Florida has enjoyed abundant freshwater, provided mainly by two sources – rainfall averaging 50 to 70 inches per year, and the Floridan aquifer, one of the world's largest subterranean water reserves. Recent droughts and continued withdrawals from the aquifer have heightened concerns that Florida's water resources must be protected. Consequently, UF/IFAS personnel are involved in numerous efforts aimed at improving the knowledge and sustainable use of Florida's water resources. Although Florida lies outside the boundaries of the Mississippi River Watershed, UF/IFAS has a wide breadth and depth of applicable water-related achievements and initiatives. Some of them include:

Springs Protection Initiative – Florida is home to more than 700 springs. When the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) launched a science-based initiative in 2012 to better protect these natural wonders, the agency reached out to the UF Water Institute, a campus-wide initiative that addresses water issues through multidisciplinary research, education and outreach programs. Water Institute affiliate faculty members from UF/IFAS and other campus units are working with SJRWMD scientists to investigate the function, water flow and water quality of several Florida springs. The collaborative work under way will help to advance the scientific foundation that will lead to more effective management of water resources and stronger protection for springs, groundwater and surface water resources.

Florida Water and Climate Alliance – Facilitated by the UF Water Institute, the Alliance is a partnership between scientists and stakeholders to develop data on climate variability/change and harness it for practical application. The partnership with water utilities and resource agencies, promotes the development of relevant scale models and use of climate-science data to support water resource management, planning and supply operations in Florida. Scientists participating in the Alliance seek to understand and provide information that utilities personnel need regarding climate variability/change and sea-level rise, along with projections showing how these phenomena may affect water demand, water availability, water quality, and the infrastructure used to provide water.

Statewide Extension Water Initiative – UF/IFAS is the parent organization for UF/IFAS Extension, which brings scientific knowledge and expertise to the public. As part of its long-range planning, UF/IFAS Extension has identified seven top-priority issues that will receive special attention during the next decade. One such issue is water; UF/IFAS Extension will specifically focus on three goals – protecting water quality, promoting water conservation and encouraging water awareness among all state residents. These goals will also be the foundation for action plans communicated to UF/IFAS Extension personnel statewide, to shape their day-to-day activities and help them promote sustainable water use by homeowners, property managers, farmers and green-industry personnel.

Water School – To educate local decision-makers, agricultural producers and concerned citizens about municipal water supplies, UF/IFAS operates a multiweek educational program, Water School. Currently offered in five Central Florida counties, Water School combines classroom teaching with field trips to provide a broad overview of the process needed to deliver potable water to large communities, along with information on related topics such as the water cycle, water law and local water-use trends.

Smart Irrigation – New irrigation technologies such as soil moisture sensors can make landscape irrigation far more efficient, using 30 percent to 50 percent less water than conventional systems regulated by timers. UF/IFAS is home to one of the nation’s foremost research and Extension programs on irrigation technologies. Led by Michael Dukes, a professor with the agricultural and biological engineering department, the program has conducted extensive studies on irrigation controllers and used the resulting data in numerous workshops, publications and direct-to-stakeholder outreach efforts. The program also helped spur a change in state law, requiring newly installed irrigation systems to include a shut-off mechanism that activates during periods of sufficient soil moisture.

Best Management Practices – To protect water quality, UF/IFAS personnel encourage agricultural producers and other large-scale water users to follow Best Management Practices, or BMPs. These are voluntary guidelines addressing four aspects of crop production that impact the environment – fertilizer use, pest management, water use and sediment management. The BMPs are developed by scientists and communicated to stakeholders by UF/IFAS Extension personnel. Thus far, BMPs have been developed for citrus, vegetables, potatoes, cattle pastures, landscape construction and commercial lawn care, among other industry sectors.

High Tunnels – When wintertime freezes threaten, Florida fruit growers may employ sprinklers on their crops to promote ice formation and protect plants against frost damage. This strategy uses large amounts of water, so UF/IFAS researchers are investigating a potential alternative – high tunnels, which are portable greenhouses constructed of plastic sheeting stretched over a lightweight metal or plastic frame. By retaining heat and keeping out cold air, the tunnels can maintain interior temperatures about 15 degrees warmer than the atmosphere outside, potentially eliminating the need for sprinklers.

Florida-Friendly Landscaping – Irrigation uses more than half the water “produced” in Florida, and much of this water is used to establish and maintain residential and commercial landscapes. To encourage water conservation, UF/IFAS offers the Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program, which provides voluntary guidelines for homeowners, property managers and landscaping professionals. The guidelines emphasize informed decision-making, low-maintenance plant varieties and sustainable practices.

Water Survey – To better understand the public’s perspective on agriculture-related topics, UF/IFAS launched the Center for Public Issues Education, an academic unit that conducts opinion surveys. A recent project asked Florida residents to describe their own levels of concern regarding several major issues. The results showed that water ranked third, behind the economy and healthcare. These results help guide UF/IFAS outreach efforts, by demonstrating that ordinary citizens are motivated to conserve water if shown how to do so effectively.

Nursery Sustainability – Plant nurseries are one of Florida’s biggest agricultural industries, responsible for \$4 billion in annual revenue. To help reduce their water usage, UF/IFAS developed an instructional video series, Moving Nurseries Toward Sustainability. Available free on the Internet, the videos show real-life examples of how growers have changed their operations to conserve water and minimize nutrient runoff.

Sustainable Floridians – A new program offered by UF/IFAS Extension through county offices, the Sustainable Floridians Volunteer Program teaches Florida residents how to reduce their environmental footprint via daily life choices. The program educates participants about the role that individuals and households play in consuming resources, particularly fossil fuels and water. Instructors emphasize easy-to-make lifestyle adjustments that conserve resources, and point out the potential monetary savings that can result.

IrriGator Project – While building a UF/IFAS website dedicated to sustainable irrigation, faculty members Michael Dukes and Kati Migliaccio have launched a Twitter feed and a blog that focus on landscape and crop irrigation, under the name UF/IFAS IrriGator. Both outreach efforts are updated several times weekly, and feature on-site photos and descriptions of training sessions, inspections, installations and other activities in Florida that relate to the use of sprinklers, in-ground irrigation systems, drip irrigation and related technologies.

Key Financial Supporters for The Nature Conservancy's Mississippi River Program, Including America's Watershed Initiative

The Nature Conservancy thanks the individuals, foundations and corporations who have so generously supported America's Watershed Initiative and the work in the Mississippi River watershed during the past three years, contributing more than \$3 million through The Nature Conservancy's Mississippi River Program. We especially acknowledge the following companies and foundations for their financial commitment to this work:

Bank of America
Cargill
Caterpillar Foundation
DuPont Pioneer
Ingram Barge Company
McKnight Foundation
Monsanto
The Mosaic Company Foundation
Walton Family Foundation
Wells Fargo



THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION



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Speaker Biographies

Brigadier General Duke DeLuca (Ret.)

Commander, Mississippi Valley Division, USACE

President, Mississippi River Commission

Brigadier General Duke DeLuca assumed command of the Mississippi Valley Division, Vicksburg, Miss., September 24, 2013. He also serves as president-designee of the Mississippi River Commission. DeLuca came to MVD from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., where he was the commandant of the United States Army Engineer School, United States Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence.



As MVD commander, DeLuca is responsible for a \$2 billion civil works program. In addition, he plays a vital role in managing the Corps water resources program in the Mississippi River Valley.

DeLuca was commissioned from the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Pennsylvania in 1983 after earning bachelors of science degrees in economics and mechanical engineering. He also earned a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University in 1993.

DeLuca has served from platoon level through combatant command in Army, Joint, multi-national and Interagency environments. He has commanded from company through division level, including command of a battalion and a brigade in combat. He has run multi-billion dollar annual construction programs in Iraq and in a region including the northeast United States, Europe and Africa supporting foreign militaries, the U.S. Army, the U.S. Air Force, the Department of Defense family and several other federal agencies. DeLuca is an engineer and a Eurasian foreign area officer, a graduate of the Defense Language Institute and has served in fellowships at Columbia University, the George C. Marshall Center for European Security Studies and Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

A life of Army service has allowed DeLuca to work professionally in 29 states of the United States and 23 countries, including three years in formally declared combat zones. It has offered opportunities for both remarkable experiences and for the ability to work with the finest and most amazing American citizens and foreign partners.

His awards include the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Combat Action Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge and Ranger Tab.

The Mississippi Valley Division is responsible for water resources engineering solutions in a 370,000-square-mile area, extending from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and encompassing portions of 12 states. Work is carried out by district offices located in St. Paul, Minn.; Rock Island, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; Memphis, Tenn.; Vicksburg, Miss.; and New Orleans, La.

Since 1879, the seven-member Presidentially appointed Mississippi River Commission has developed and matured plans for the general improvement of the Mississippi River from the Head of Passes to the Headwaters. The Mississippi River Commission brings critical engineering representation to the drainage basin, which impacts 41% of the United States and includes 1.25 million square miles, over 250 tributaries, 31 states, and 2 Canadian provinces.

Bill Dennison

Professor, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Bill Dennison was born and raised in southern Ohio, spending lots of time in and on Ohio waterways. He went to Western Michigan University for his B.A. degree in Environmental Science, University of Alaska for his M.S. degree in Oceanography and the University of Chicago for his Ph.D. degree in Biology. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Stony Brook University and a junior faculty at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. Bill spent ten years at the University of Queensland, Australia and then returned to the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science as the inaugural Vice President for Science Application. He created the Integration and Application Network and has recruited a team of talented Science Integrators and Science Communicators who work in a variety of globally significant projects.



Mayor Greg Fischer

Mayor, Louisville, KY

Committed to growing jobs and creating a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, accessibility, and transparency, Greg Fischer was elected Louisville's 50th mayor in 2010 and is now seeking a second term. Since taking office, Mayor Fischer has pursued three top goals: making Louisville a city of lifelong learning, a much healthier city and an even more compassionate community



Mayor Fischer's accomplishments include:

- Regaining the 42,000 jobs lost to the long recession, including creating 12,400 new jobs in 2013 alone.
- Launching full-speed-ahead construction of the two Ohio River bridges while opening the pedestrian and bicycle friendly Big Four Bridge
- Bringing innovation and efficiency to city government by using data to increase performance through LouieStat, championing the Louisville Water/MSD consolidation, and reaching a deal to bring \$27 million in efficiencies to city facilities with no upfront costs.
- Earning "International Model City of Compassion" recognition for Louisville in part by creating the Give A Day week of community service, which drew more than 144,000 volunteers and acts of compassion in April, 2014.

Mayor Fischer was named a 2013 "Public Official of the Year" by Governing Magazine, the only U.S. mayor to earn the distinction. Greg is an entrepreneur who started several businesses including SerVend International and Iceberg Ventures, a private investment firm. Greg graduated from Trinity High School and Vanderbilt University. He and his wife Alex have four children.

Terry Fleck

Chairman, Friends of Lake Sakakawea

Terry Fleck has been fishing Sakakawea since the early 80s. He's been involved with the Friends of Lake Sakakawea, first as vice-chairman and then as chairman since 2006. Terry spent 30 years in the radio business and is also a free-lance public speaker (The Attitude Dr.) As chairman of the Friends and the Burleigh Water Resource Board, Terry is knee-deep in water issues, but when he's not working, he's fishing on Lake Sakakawea.



Ben Grumbles

President, U.S. Water Alliance

Ben Grumbles is President of the U.S. Water Alliance, an environmental nonprofit, 501(c)(3), based in Washington, D.C., that educates the public on the value of water and the need for “One Water” solutions as part of a national water strategy. Mr. Grumbles has served as Assistant Administrator for Water at U.S. EPA, Director of Arizona’s Department of Environmental Quality, and Environmental Counsel and Senior Staff Member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Science Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. He’s a member of the Virginia Water Control Board and the National Academy of Science’s Water Science and Technology Board. He has a Master’s Degree in environmental law from George Washington University, a J.D. from Emory University Law School, and a B.A. from Wake Forest University. Ben lives with his wife and kids in the Spout Run watershed of the Potomac River, Arlington, Virginia and grew up in the Beargrass Creek watershed of the Ohio River, Louisville, Kentucky.



Dr. Heath Kelsey

Program Director, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Dr. Heath Kelsey is Program Director for the Integration and Application Network at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science in Cambridge, Maryland. His work fosters science application and communication through facilitated collaborations between scientists, managers, and stakeholders. Dr. Kelsey has developed integrated assessments and ecosystem health report cards in many areas, including Chesapeake Bay, Australia’s Great Barrier Reef, Coastal India, and numerous other systems. Dr. Kelsey earned his Master of Science on Public Health and PhD in Environmental Health Sciences at the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health.



Greg C. Heitzman, P.E.

Executive Director, Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District

Greg Heitzman became Executive Director of the Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) on May 1, 2013. Prior to MSD, he worked 31 years with the Louisville Water Company serving as Chief Engineer from 1991 to 2007 and President from 2007 to 2013. Louisville MSD provides wastewater, flood protection and drainage services to approximately 750,000 people in Metro Louisville.



He has bachelor and masters degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Kentucky and an MBA from the University of Louisville.

He currently serves on the following Boards:

- Greater Louisville Fund for the Arts, 2013 Campaign Chair
- Kentucky-Indiana Exchange (KIX) – The Regional Leadership Coalition
- Louisville Better Business Bureau, Secretary
- Louisville Chamber of Commerce – Greater Louisville, Inc.

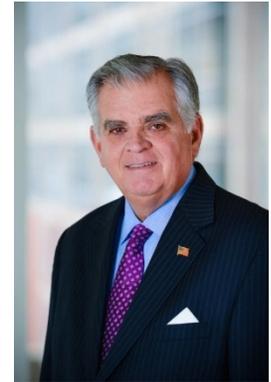
- Louisville Water Foundation
- Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Water ISAC)
- Water Research Foundation
- WaterStep Advisory Board

He and his wife, Linda, reside in Louisville. Their daughter, Claire resides in Lexington, KY.

Ray LaHood

Senior Policy Advisor, DLA Piper

Former Secretary, US Department of Transportation



Ray LaHood is the former US Department of Transportation Secretary.

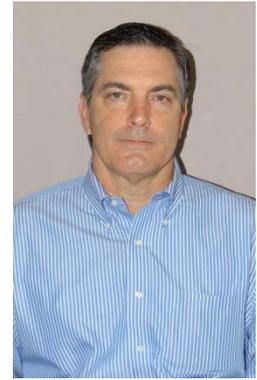
With a 36-year career in public service, Secretary LaHood has extensive experience on major national policy issues, among them transportation and infrastructure. He served as the 16th Department of Transportation Secretary from 2009 to 2013 and quickly became known as a bipartisan leader and skilled conciliator in a highly partisan environment.

Secretary LaHood's tenure was marked by landmark efforts to improve safety in every mode of transportation, from aviation and rail to pipelines and automobiles. Under his leadership, improvements to America's infrastructure included building or replacing 350,000 miles of highway, repairing 20,000 bridges and renewing or constructing 6,000 miles of rail track. Secretary LaHood also achieved more stringent fuel efficiency requirements from automakers, took steps to address airline pilot fatigue and turned the problem of distracted driving into a national concern. As Secretary of Transportation, he oversaw an agency with more than 55,000 employees and a US\$70 billion budget in charge of air, maritime and surface transportation.

Before heading the US Department of Transportation, Secretary LaHood served from 1995 to 2009 in the US House of Representatives on behalf of the 18th District of Illinois and also served on various House committees, among them the powerful House Appropriations Committee and the House Intelligence Committee. He served as chief of staff to US House Minority Leader Robert Michel from 1982 to 1994. He was director of the Rock Island County Youth Services Bureau from 1972 to 1974; chief planner of the Bi-States Metropolitan Planning Commission from 1974 to 1977; and district administrative assistant for US Congressman Tom Railsback from 1977 to 1982.

He is married to Kathy LaHood, and they have four children and eleven grandchildren.

Brigadier General John R. McMahon, P.E. (Ret.)
Korea Relocation Program Manager, CH2MHILL
Former Commander, Northwestern Division, USACE



John R. McMahon joined CH2MHILL International Services in December 2013 as the Program Manager for the Korea Relocation Program in Pyeongtaek, Republic of Korea (ROK), a \$10.7B program to expand Camp Humphreys and consolidate the US Forces Korea footprint on the peninsula. In this role, he works with the US and ROK government agencies to lead, manage and drive the program to completion through a consortium of one US and four ROK engineering firms, comprised of 360 US and ROK team members.

John retired from active duty on 1 August 2012 after 35 years of service. His last command was the Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, assumed on November 20, 2009. In his last assignment, he oversaw an annual program of more than \$4 billion in civil works, environmental restoration, and military construction in more than a dozen states, primarily within the Columbia-Snake and Missouri river basins. John orchestrated Corps of Engineers' efforts with those of other federal, state and local agencies, the Army and Air Force, the Administration and the Congress.

As Division Commander, he was responsible for providing guidance and direction to five operating district commands located in Portland, OR, Seattle and Walla Walla, WA, Kansas City, MO, and Omaha, NE, with a combined professional workforce of nearly 5,000. Key missions include support to military installations and civilian communities throughout the region, managing the nation's water resources infrastructure for economic growth, environmental sustainability, and strengthening national security. John led the Corps' response and recovery efforts to the unprecedented Missouri River Basin flooding of 2011.

Prior to this assignment, John served in numerous stateside and overseas assignments such as Director of Engineering, U.S. Forces Afghanistan; Division Commander, U.S. Army Engineer Division; South Pacific, San Francisco, CA; Chief of Staff at Corps Headquarters in Washington D.C.; Commander and District Engineer, Japan Engineer District, Camp Zama, Japan; and Brigade Engineer, 3rd US Infantry Division (3ID), in the liberation of Kuwait. In each of these roles, John always led from the front, stayed focused on the mission and the people assigned to execute it, and used his influence to improve conditions with a long view.

John is a registered Professional Engineer in Virginia. He was commissioned through the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) Program at Syracuse University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering in 1977. He subsequently earned master's degrees in Applied Mathematics at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, and in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University.

John is married to the former Catherine Helen Kuttas of Satellite Beach, Florida, and they have four married children and two granddaughters. They now call Rockledge, Florida, their home.

Major General John Peabody

Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations, USACE

A northern Ohio native, Major General Peabody entered military service in 1980 upon commissioning as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers, spending most of his career as a combat engineer.

He has had multiple staff assignments at the tactical, operational and strategic levels as a Combat Engineer, Political-Military Advisor in US Southern Command covering Latin American issues, as the senior Engineer Trainer at the National Training Center, and for Army Legislative Liaison. He has commanded combat engineer units at the company, battalion and brigade levels, as well as three Corps of Engineers Divisions for over eight consecutive years – in sequence, the Pacific Ocean, Great Lakes and Ohio River and the Mississippi Valley Divisions. He also served five years on the Mississippi River Commission, culminating as the 36th President of the Commission. He has had operational deployments to Honduras, El Salvador, Somalia and Kuwait and Iraq, including command of the 3rd Infantry Division's Engineer Brigade during the attack to Baghdad and subsequent transition to stability operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom I in 2003.



MG Peabody is a graduate of the United States Military Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College with a master's degree in Strategic Studies. He also holds a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University and studied international relations and political sociology as an Olmsted Scholar at El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico City. He holds a Professional Engineer License from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

He and his wife Kelly spend their free time with their young daughter, Reagan.

As the Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations, Major General Peabody is responsible for a \$10 Billion dollar annual program. He exercises oversight of Corps' civil works activities conducted by over 23,000 military and civilian professionals operating in 8 engineer divisions and 38 districts nationwide. The Corps Professionals conduct research and development, as well as plan, design, build, operate and maintain the nation's water resource civil infrastructure valued at \$125 Billion dollars, including more than 693 dams, 4,254 recreation areas, over 12,000 miles of commercial inland waterways, and approximately 14,000 miles of levees and 926 harbors. Major General Peabody is also responsible to coordinate all emergency response missions and preparatory activities for civil disasters in support of FEMA and state and local authorities. He serves the Chief of Engineers and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works as their principal military advisor for Civil and Emergency Operations.

Denise Reed, Ph.D.

Chief Scientist, Water Institute of the Gulf

Denise Reed, Ph.D., is the Chief Scientist for the Water Institute of the Gulf. She is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in coastal marsh sustainability and the role of human activities in modifying coastal systems. She has worked on coastal issues in the US and in other parts of the world, for over 30 years. Dr. Reed has been extensively involved in restoration planning in coastal Louisiana since the early 1990's with a focus on bringing scientific knowledge to bear in developing sustainable solutions. Reed has also been engaged in ecosystem restoration research and planning both in the California Bay-Delta and coastal Louisiana. She has served on numerous boards and panels concerning the effects of human alterations on coastal environments and the role of science in guiding ecosystem restoration, including a number of National Research Council Committees. She received her BA and PhD from the University of Cambridge in England.



Steven Sockton, P.E.

Director of Civil Works, USACE

Steven L. Stockton serves as the Director of Civil Works, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C. In this position under the policy guidance of the Chief of Engineers and the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), leads, manage and directs the policy development, programming, planning, design, construction, emergency response, operation, and maintenance activities of the Army Civil Works Program, a \$5 billion annual program of water and related land resources of the United States. He also serves as Chairman of the U.S. Section Permanent Engineering Board for the U.S.-Canada Columbia River Treaty, the Corps of Engineers Dam and Levee Safety Officer, is a Governor on the World Water Council Board of Governors, and serves in several national and international water resources Committees.



Mr. Stockton was selected to the Senior Executive Service in January 1996. From August 1998 thru May 2005, he served as the Director, Engineering and Technical Services; Director, Programs Management; and Director, Regional Business; for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Pacific Division in San Francisco, California. From May until November 2004, Mr. Stockton was the Director, Business Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, Gulf Region Division in Baghdad, Iraq. From his selection in January 1996 thru July 1998, Mr. Stockton was the Chief, Engineering Division, Civil Works Directorate, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C.

CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

- 1988 – 1996: Chief, Planning and Engineering Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, Portland, OR
- 1975 – 1988: Various positions including Branch Chief, Geotechnical Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, Portland, OR
- 1972-1975 Naval Officer. Multiple Mediterranean and Caribbean deployments

COLLEGE:

- BS, Civil Engineering, Oregon State University, 1971

SIGNIFICANT TRAINING:

- Senior Executive Fellow, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1991

CERTIFICATIONS:

- Registered Professional Civil Engineer, State of Oregon

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Presidential Rank Award – Meritorious Executive, 2003
- Oregon State University, Academy of Distinguished Engineers
- Secretary of the Army’s Exceptional Civilian Service Award
- Meritorious Civilian Service Award (2)
- Superior Civilian Service Award (2)
- Commanders Awards for Civilian Service (3)
- North Pacific Division and the Portland District Engineer of the Year Award, 1982

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS:

- Army Engineer Association
- Society of American Military Engineers
- American Society of Civil Engineers (Fellow)
- National Academy of Construction
- Governor, World Water Council

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2012: *Preparing USACE for the 21st Century*, 2003
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: *Building Strong Collaborative Relationships for a Sustainable Water Resource Future: National Report*
- *Water in the U.S. American West, 150 Years of Adaptive Strategies*, Policy Report for the 6th World Water Forum
- Developed and published the powerful *Federal Support Toolbox for Integrated Water Resources Management*, a one-stop shop (Portal and Clearinghouse) for national and international water resources information (www.watertoolbox.us), public release on February 28, 2013
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: *Building Strong Collaborative Relationships for a Sustainable Water Resource Future: Understanding Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)*, January 2014

Michael Toohey

President/CEO, Waterways Council, Inc.

Michael Toohey serves as President/CEO of Waterways Council, Inc., a position he has held since August 2011.

Prior to that, Mr. Toohey was a consultant for The Livingston Group from 2007 to 2011, providing legislative representation before Congress and the Executive Branch for clients from the chemical and transportation sectors.

He also served as Vice President, Director of Government Relations, Associate Director of Government Relations, and Senior Washington Representative for Ashland Inc. from 1998 through 2007.



Nominated by President George Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Mr. Toohey was Assistant Secretary of

the U.S. Department of Transportation from May 1992 through January 1993

He also served as Staff Director of the Republican Staff, Committee on Public Works and Transportation, from 1983 through 1989, and as Staff Director, Republican Staff, Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries from 1981 through 1983. He was also a Professional Staff Member on the Committee on Public Works and Transportation from 1975 through 1981.

Commissioned as an Officer in the U.S. Army, he served on active duty as a staff officer for the Chief of Engineers from 1971 through 1975.

He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry.

He serves on the Board of Directors for the American Highway Users Alliance. He served on the Board of Waterways Council, Inc. and as its Secretary/Treasurer from 2003 to 2005.

He was also a member of the Board of the Danny Thompson Memorial Leukemia Foundation, a Supporting Member of The Marrow Foundation, The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Foundation, and Ducks Unlimited.

Conversant Biographies

[Anne Murray Allen](#)

Vice President of Organization Design and Integration, Conversant

Anne's career working in organizations has been both as an insider and as a consultant to large multinational organizations. She is a systems-thinker who has had bottom-line experience in a variety of organizational functions.

Anne has taught graduate level management classes and has presented at conferences around the world. She co-authored the 2005 *Reflections Journal* article, "The Nature of Social Collaboration: How Work Really Gets Done." She published an article in the July 2012 edition of *OD Practitioner* on culture integration when merging organizations. She is a past recipient of an American Society of Training and Development (ASTD) Torch Award.



Anne served in several executive positions within Hewlett-Packard (HP) including Senior Director of Knowledge and Intranet Management; Director for Strategic Change which included an assignment leading the culture integration between HP and Compaq companies; leading the strategic planning process in both division and companywide positions; production management; and information technology management. Anne has an undergraduate degree in psychology and an MBA, and is currently working on her Doctorate in Social Science.

[Jennifer Simpson](#)

Chief Innovation Officer, Conversant

Jennifer has dedicated her life and career to improving lives, strengthening communities, and adding value to organizations. Jennifer is responsible for developing innovative customer solutions and keeping our work on the cutting edge of business and science.

A dynamic leader, Jennifer has an impressive track record of engaging multiple stakeholders to produce results and accelerate business success. She specializes in translating organizational vision into practice, and mindfully managing change dynamics to build on and strengthen organizational capacity in times of transition.



Jennifer has developed and delivered high-ROI projects in business areas including: Finance, Human Resources, R & D, Service Operations, IT, Global Operations, and Executive Management in a wide range of Fortune 500 and Global Philanthropic organizations.

Jennifer's lifework is to create a world where individuals thrive in healthy, rewarding, and successful organizations and communities. Jennifer is author or editor of two books and multiple journal articles and book chapters. Her varied background includes more than twenty years of experience working in and with organizations across the private, public, corporate, and not-for-profit sectors to create more meaningful and effective ways of living and working together; more than a decade of teaching university courses in communication and leadership disciplines; and a lifetime of bridging worlds in a way that capitalizes on the best in organizations to enhance creativity and stimulate whole system learning.

Jennifer holds a B.S. in communication and psychology from Syracuse University, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Organizational Communication from the University of Colorado at Boulder where she retains an adjunct faculty appointment.



America's Watershed Initiative Steering Committee Biographies

**Dru Buntin, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association (UMRBA)
St. Paul, MN**

Prior to joining UMRBA in 2013, Dru spent 12 years at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) where he served as the Deputy Director for Policy, Chief of Water Resources, and Director of Governmental Affairs. In these roles Dru worked on important river-related issues, including flood recovery, endangered species, drought relief, energy efficiency, water quantity and hydropower.



He also served on multiple intergovernmental bodies during this time, including UMRBA's Board of Directors, holding the position of UMRBA Chair in 2011-2012. Additionally, Dru worked in Missouri's Washington, D.C. Office and the Office of the Missouri Governor for several years before joining Missouri DNR.

“The states in the Upper Mississippi River Basin have a longstanding commitment to collaborative and integrated management of resources in the Upper Mississippi River watershed. We work in partnership with a diverse array of government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private sector partners to support sustainable management of the Upper Mississippi River for its multiple beneficial uses. However, the scale of the many challenges that exist in the larger Mississippi River watershed are immense and require all of us to expand our collaborative efforts. AWI offers a unique opportunity for governmental, non-governmental, and private sector partners to work together to address challenges and take advantage of opportunities so that we can preserve the magnificent Mississippi River for the benefit of future generations.”

**Nancy DeLong, DuPont Pioneer
Johnston, IA**

Nancy directs DuPont Pioneer efforts in conservation-based agriculture to help farmers and ranchers protect their freedom to operate and improve their livelihoods while being the best stewards of natural resources. She works to support policy and programs that operate within a sustainable framework to ensure that DuPont Pioneer focuses resources to enhance Pioneer's effectiveness as a thought leader and advocate. Nancy began her career at Pioneer in 1990 holding diverse roles throughout the organization.



Prior to joining Pioneer, Nancy worked in the financial and insurance services industry in human resources and has worked as a college career counselor. Nancy has a bachelor of science, with honors in Psychology from The University of Iowa, and a master of science in Counseling and Guidance from the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

She serves on the Conservation Technology Information Center board of directors, the Sand County Foundation Board, the H.A. Wallace Endowed Chair Advisory Committee, the Dallas County Conservation Board in Iowa and the National Cover Crop and Soil Health Working Group. Nancy & her husband have restored 15 acres of native Iowa eco-type savannah.

“AWI strives to find collaborative solutions that engage producers, scientists, policymakers and agricultural organizations in working to address the evolving challenges associated with optimizing water use and water quality in agriculture. Working across all sectors is critical to implementing sustainable solutions. DuPont Pioneer strives to provide farmers across the globe the products, services and information they need to make informed choices on local conservation practices that can improve water quality while bringing benefit to their farming operations. We need farmers to continue to feed the world's growing population sustainably through sound conservation practices.”

Sean Duffy, Sr., Big River Coalition
Metairie, LA

Sean assumed the duties of Executive Vice President-Maritime Advocate with the Louisiana Maritime Association in 2011, and was hired to promote improvements beneficial to maritime stakeholders along the Lower Mississippi River. He also currently serves as the Executive Director of the Big River Coalition.



Under his tutelage, the Big River Coalition has grown and now represents navigation interests across the entire Mississippi River basin. He continues in this role to passionately represent the economic engine of navigation on the largest and most dynamic river system in the world. The term he prefers is the “world’s economic superhighway.”

Mr. Duffy served as the President and Chief Executive Officer for the Gulf States Maritime Association from 2005 to 2011. During his previous tenure, Sean became a proponent for local industry and specialized in lobbying Capitol Hill for supplemental funds for maintenance dredging and waterway maintenance. As the third generation of his family to work in the maritime industry, Sean began working on the docks in the Port of New Orleans in his early teen years during breaks from school. Previous employment experiences include various management duties, Boarding Agent, Deckhand, Stevedore General Superintendent and Marine Surveyor. Mr. Duffy is intimately familiar with obstacles faced by the maritime industry, both nationally and those specific to Louisiana, and he has become an expert on coastal restoration and maintenance dredging.

His many professional associations include Congressman Scalise’s Maritime Advisory Group; the National Association of Maritime Organization; America’s Wetlands Foundation Big River Works Initiative, and the Louisiana Freight Advisory Council, to name only a few.

“The Big River Coalition is committed to protecting maritime commerce across the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MRT). The Coalition focuses on maximizing transportation efficiencies on the deep-draft ship channel from Baton Rouge to the Gulf of Mexico. As concerns grow about the future management of the Mississippi River system, and efforts are increased to help reduce or prevent adverse impacts related to flood protection, protecting water supplies, recreational boating, fishing, invasive species, coastal restoration, and minimizing the negative impacts of runoff and pollutants, it is critical to the nation’s economy that navigation remain unimpeded. The best economic estimates available indicate that the MRT has over a \$200 billion annual impact on the economy of the United States. Therefore, as visions of the future of the MRT are shaped, it is imperative that navigation representatives strive to ensure that systematic approaches protect maritime trade by maintaining fully authorized channel dimensions while also updating and maintaining our navigation infrastructure, specifically the locks and dams along the MRT.”

**T. Stephen Gambrell, *Mississippi River Commission,*
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division
*Vicksburg, MS***

Stephen has served in the delivery of water solutions on the ground and in the political arena for more than three decades. He has listened to and engaged in every aspect of water challenges from North to South in the USA (Canada to the Gulf of Mexico), and East to West (Helena, Montana to Pennsylvania).

Stephen has traveled to more than 24 countries speaking in local public schools helping students “build and reach their dreams” and participating in water dialogues related to the challenges and solutions of complex water resources.

He holds a bachelor of science in civil engineering, Clemson University, SC, and a majority of hours for a Masters’ of Divinity from New Orleans Seminary, LA. He is a graduate of Harvard University’s Senior Executive Fellows and numerous executive programs at Harvard.

Mr. Gambrell, his wife and son, live near the mighty Mississippi River where they serve a local church and serve international missions to help people in remote areas. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Ducks Unlimited, and a Regional Vice President for the Society of American Military Engineers. www.mvd.usace.army.mil/mrc.

Since 1879, the seven-member Presidentially appointed Mississippi River Commission has developed and matured plans for the general improvement of the Mississippi River from the Head of Passes to the Headwaters. The Mississippi River Commission brings critical engineering representation to the drainage basin, which impacts 41% of the US, and includes 1.25 million square miles, over 250 tributaries, 31 state, and 2 Canadian provinces. Listening, Inspecting, Partnering, and Engineering since 1879.

“The work of science based public informed data and information delivery – in a way that people along the waters in the great Mississippi and its hundreds of tributaries can understand the future state is vital! So that, WE can take action and enjoy a quality life unmatched in the world ... for generations ... this is worthy of our best people’s time and energy let’s build our future in a way that makes us secure at home and provides food-water-energy for nations in desperate need.”



**Teri Goodman, City of Dubuque
Dubuque, IA**



Teri was appointed Assistant City Manager in February 2007. In that position she focuses on intergovernmental relations, strategic partnerships and private and public grant funding. She is the City's legislative liaison working with city, county, state and federal elected and appointed government officials maintaining effective working relationships and alliances.

Prior to joining the City of Dubuque, Teri led the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium's national development efforts, including the management of government relations and strategic partnerships, fund development, national outreach and education as the Director of National Advancement for the NMRMA and National Rivers Hall of Fame. In this capacity, she was the lead campaign coordinator for the nationally recognized and highly successful America's River project, the \$188 million phase one riverfront redevelopment initiative in Dubuque, Iowa which opened in 2003. In addition, she was responsible for launching and managing the museum's national education and outreach program River Works Discovery featuring the conservation, commerce and culture of the rivers of America.

Prior to her employment with the Dubuque County Historical Society/National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium, she worked for sixteen years as a political campaign manager and consultant, managing campaigns for city, county, state legislative, congressional and presidential campaigns. In addition, she taught French and Spanish to elementary students at area schools.

Teri serves as a trustee of Clarke University, Dubuque, Iowa and for the National Waterways Foundation. Teri is a founding member of America's Watershed Initiative and serves on the AWI Steering Committee. She is a member of the Dubuque County Magistrate Appointing Committee.

Teri was appointed by the Environmental Protection Agency Administrator to serve on the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) advising the Commission for Environmental Cooperation as defined in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Teri is also a board member of the John C. Culver Public Policy Center at Simpson College.

"Water is an essential resource. Building partnerships to protect and manage the Mississippi Watershed, now and into the future, is in the nation's best interest."

**Sue Lowry, Wyoming State Engineer's Office
Cheyenne, WY**



Sue began working in the Wyoming State Engineer's Office in 1988 as an Interstate Streams Engineer dealing with interstate issues in the Bear, Yellowstone, Snake, and Belle Fourche River basins of Wyoming. From 1995 to 2002 she served as the Director of Policy for the agency.

This position involved work on regional and national policy issues, water planning and water conservation topics, as well as budget and personnel issues. In March 2002 the interstate activities of the agency were centralized into a separate Division, and Sue was appointed as the Administrator. After receiving her B.S. degree, Sue worked from 1981 to 1985 for the Farm Credit System as an agricultural loan officer in Casper and Laramie, Wyoming. Sue serves as Wyoming's representative on a number of western councils and organizations, including the Western States Water Council. Sue also recently served as the President for the Interstate Council on Water

Policy. Governor Mead named Sue as Wyoming's commissioner to the Bear River and Yellowstone River Compact Commissions in June, 2012.

Sue received a B.S. in Agricultural Economics (1981) and an M.S. in Range Management/Water Resources (1988) from the University of Wyoming.

Originally from a farm near Brush, Colorado, Sue has lived in Wyoming since 1977, and is married to an environmental program manager with the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

“As a western state with headwaters flowing to the Missouri River, by participating in AWI, Wyoming is able to better understand the myriad of issues facing water users throughout the Mississippi River basin. Only through dialog with those who depend on the river in different ways can we seek to understand how we may be able to approach the management of this huge and significant basin in a wiser way.”

Steve Mathies, AECOM
New Orleans, LA

Steve currently serves as a Vice President with AECOM, and is responsible for their Coastal Protection and Restoration market sector. For more than 30 years his professional focus has been on ecosystem restoration and/or hurricane protection in the Gulf of Mexico coastal region serving in both private and public sector positions.



Public sector service included serving as Executive Director of the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, Deputy Secretary for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Director of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program, and Chief of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Project Management Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District.

All of these positions required management of individual projects as well as coordination of numerous projects simultaneously to ensure accomplishment of overall program objectives while fostering trusting relationships with agency representatives, area stakeholders, and the general public. Accomplishments were recognized by Governor Mike Foster, the CWPPRA Task Force, the American Planning Association, and by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation with selection as the “Professional Conservationist of the Year.”

“The very existence of my home – coastal Louisiana – depends on water and sediment from the Mississippi River. How we manage that resource in the future will determine if we thrive and grow or if we wither and die. I see AWI as the chance for all of the watershed stakeholders from Canada to the Gulf to collaboratively work together to shape our future. The days of independently managing separate sub-basins without considering the greater needs of the broader watershed will certainly result in unacceptable negative consequences.”

Dan Mecklenborg, Ingram Barge Company
Nashville, TN

Dan joined Ingram Barge Company in 1996 as Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, and was promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer in 2002. He is responsible for the company's Legal, Claims, Safety, Environmental and Governmental Affairs functions. He also leads Custom Fuel Services, which is an Ingram subsidiary engaged in the sale and distribution of marine fuels and lubricants at ten locations throughout the inland river system.



Dan has been actively involved in civic and professional organizations throughout his career. In 2003 he completed a four-year term as a Member and then Chairman of the Inland Waterways Users Board. He rejoined the Users Board in 2013 as Ingram's representative. Dan currently serves on the Board and Executive Committee of Waterways Council, Inc. and was its Chairman from 2007 through 2009. Since 2010, Dan has served on the Board of The Nature Conservancy's Great Rivers Partnership. He also serves on the Steering Committee for America's Watershed Initiative.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Dan received his Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of Dayton in 1977, and his Juris Doctor degree from Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 1981. He is licensed to practice law in both Tennessee and Ohio.

"We need to encourage policymakers to think of the Mississippi watershed as one integrated system. Our current management model looks at and manages the watershed as several distinct systems. This can result in inflexible and parochial decision making rather than a cooperative and flexible approach. Toward this end, Ingram supports AWI which convenes diverse stakeholders through the watershed to work toward a "whole watershed" approach to managing the Mississippi."

Rob Rash, Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association
Germantown, TN

Rob is Chief Executive Officer/Chief Engineer of the St. Francis Levee District of Arkansas and Executive Vice President of the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association. As Chief Engineer he is responsible for the ownership, operation and maintenance of 411 miles of levees along the Mississippi and St. Francis Rivers.



These levees protect 2 million acres of cultivated farmland and 250,000 residents. The Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association represents over 175 different organizations, including levee boards, drainage districts, municipalities, port authorities and state agencies in the states in the Mississippi River Valley. Since being organized in 1922 the Association has been instrumental in securing authorization and appropriation of funds for the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project and other water resources projects.

**Michael Reuter, North America Freshwater Program, The Nature Conservancy
Kirkwood, MO**

Michael Reuter is director of The Nature Conservancy's Freshwater Team in North America, and for more than two decades has worked to protect the vital great rivers of the world for people and nature. In the United States, Michael and his colleagues are focused on creating shared solutions for some of the nation's most significant freshwater challenges – protecting water supplies, reducing flood risk, and building smarter infrastructure.



Michael's career-long passion for the Mississippi River – and the common land- and water-use dilemmas that affect billions of people who depend upon large freshwater ecosystems globally – spurred him to develop the Great Rivers Partnership in 2005. Through this effort, Michael has promoted comprehensive, collaborative approaches to management of the Yangtze and Mekong rivers in Asia, the Niger, Zambezi, and Ogooué rivers in Africa, the Colorado and Mississippi rivers in North America, and the Magdalena, Paraguay-Parana and Tapajós rivers in South America.

Michael's roots in the Midwest shaped a keen interest and expertise in finding sensible, economically viable solutions that reduce agricultural impacts on water and wildlife while maintaining yields for farmers. He has played leadership roles in national initiatives such as the Keystone Field to Market Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture.

Michael is a member of the founding steering committee for America's Watershed Initiative and serves on a variety of boards, including the International Society for River Science, Institute for Principled Leadership in Public Service, Alliance for Water Stewardship, and the Illinois Valley Central Educational Foundation. Michael has received the Silver Eagle Award from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and One Conservancy Award from The Nature Conservancy. He holds a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from Iowa State University and a Master of Liberal Studies from Bradley University.

Michael lives in St Louis, Missouri, with his wife and three children.

“AWI grew out of a shared recognition of the growing challenges we face today in sustaining the vital Mississippi River system and all its associated economies and communities that support our quality of life in this nation. Our success depends on having a future vision for the whole system that is grounded in sound science, shared by those who depend upon this resource, and communicated in a way that generates mutual commitments to implementing needed solutions at local, regional and national levels. The wealth of future generations depends on our decisions today, as we have inherited a river from those who came before us.”

Rainy Shorey, Caterpillar Inc.
Peoria, IL

Rainy joined Caterpillar in 2007 and has spent most of her career there as an Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) Professional and Manager in Central Illinois. Rainy is currently a Project Manager for New Products Introduction at Caterpillar's Sosnowiec, Poland facility.



Prior to joining Caterpillar, Rainy worked as a Professor of Natural Sciences at both Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan and Illinois Central College in Peoria, Illinois.

She has extensive laboratory and field research experience, including international projects based in remote locations such as Kenya and the North Slope of Alaska. Rainy holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology with minors in Chemistry and Environmental Studies from Alma College. She completed both her Master's and dual Ph.D. degrees from Michigan State University in the areas of Fisheries and Wildlife Management; and Ecology, Evolution and Behavioral Biology.

“AWI recognizes that the diverse stakeholders throughout the Mississippi River watershed have a collective interest in the long-term stability and health of the system and the resources it provides. AWI offers an open forum for all partners to voice their goals and challenges, and to work together toward joint ecologic, economic and social management solutions.”

Charles C. (Chuck) Somerville, PhD, FLS., Ohio River Basin Alliance
College of Science, Marshall University
Huntington, WV

Chuck Somerville is a Professor of Biological Sciences and Dean of the College of Science at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. He earned his PhD in Marine Microbiology in 1989 and worked at the Biological Station in Roscoff France, the EPA Environmental Research Laboratory in Gulf Breeze Florida, and the US Air Force Environics Lab in Panama City Florida before joining the faculty at Marshall University in 1997. He served as chair of the Department of Biological Sciences from 2005 to 2009, and has been dean of the College of Science since 2009. He currently serves on the Executive Committee for the Ohio River Basin Consortium for Research & Education (ORBCRE), the West Virginia Science & Research Council, the West Virginia Environmental Quality Board, and is currently Chair of the Steering Committee for the Ohio River Basin Alliance (ORBA). His research interests are in biodegradation/bioremediation of anthropogenic contaminants in aquatic environments, and microbial community structure and dynamics in large rivers. In 2011 he was elected as a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London.



“AWI connects me, my colleagues, and our students to a network of highly informed, engaged, and diverse stakeholders in the Mississippi River Basin. But the connection is just the beginning – through the Report Card process. AWI is turning interest into action, and acquaintances into partners working for effective resource management.”

**Roger Wolf, Iowa Soybean Association
Alkeny, IA**

Roger is the Director of Environmental Programs and Services for the Iowa Soybean Association (ISA) and Executive Director of Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance. Wolf provides agricultural leadership in such organizations as the America's Watershed Initiative Steering Committee, U.S Water Alliance Board of Directors, and the 25x25 Climate Adaptation Working group.

Roger has 25 years of agricultural conservation resource management experience and holds a B.S. in Geography from the University of Iowa.

He is co-owner, with his father and brothers, of a diversified farm in Southern Iowa. He resides in Cumming, Iowa with his wife and four children.

“As a key stakeholder in the watershed, our goal is to improve the competitiveness of Iowa soybean farmers by continuously improving soybean productivity, natural resource management and profitability of environmentally sound cropping systems. The supply and demand for our products and services locally, regionally and globally which supports our economy; depends on the successful management of our resources. AWI embodies multi-stakeholder engagement, fact based and data driven management solutions, while working at multiple spatial and organizational levels all in support of using and improving management of the watershed landscape and the Mississippi River. AWI should be important to everyone.”



**Harald (“Jordy”) Jordahl, America’s Watershed Initiative
Madison, WI**

Prior to becoming director of America’s Watershed Initiative, Jordy worked on resource policy issues with state, local, federal and tribal governments while serving in legislative, executive, administrative and advocacy positions, including policy advisor to the Governor, legislative policy aide, director of intergovernmental relations for the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and director of government relations for The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin. His interests have focused on advancing projects affecting working landscapes and the connections between conservation and communities, agriculture, forestry and transportation.



Jordy’s first exposure with the Mississippi River came on duck hunting trips with his dad to pool #9, in Wisconsin normally ending with a fresh catfish sandwich before returning home. Jordy lives in the upper Mississippi River watershed in Madison, Wisconsin with his three children, wife and hunting dogs and also manages family agricultural and timber properties in western and northern Wisconsin.

He graduated from the University of Wisconsin -Madison and also studied at Nansenskolen (Lillehammer, Norway) and University of Oslo Norway.

In his spare time, he hunts, is a runner, biker, assistant soccer coach, and swim team driver!