



NEHA News for Affiliates

2021 AEC Transitions to a Virtual Series

After careful deliberation, the NEHA Board of Directors has made the difficult but necessary decision to transition the face-to-face 2021 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition scheduled for July 12-15, 2021, in Spokane, Washington, to a three-part virtual series.

Part One: April 20-21, 2021

Part Two: June 1-2, 2021

Part Three: July 14-15, 2021 (Preconference: July 12-13)

EH professionals have been on the front line of an unprecedented global pandemic. COVID-19 brought with it changes in our roles and increases in our responsibilities. **Together** we are working for a **safer and healthier tomorrow**. Discover how local agencies, industries, and levels of government are working to ensure the safety of the public and environment, and how they contribute to the advancement of the environmental health profession.

Registration for the [NEHA 2021 AEC Virtual Series](#) opens March 1. All registration categories include access to over 100 educational sessions across the series.

NEHA is excited to announce John Wilson as our 2021 AEC Virtual Series keynote speaker. The ability to effectively communicate has never been more important for EH professionals. Wilson's presentation, "Communication and De-escalation," will provide attendees with guidance on how to foster these skills.

Wilson is the founder of CBL Training and Consulting. He has served as a sergeant in a major California law enforcement agency where he led a crisis intervention training unit and is a U.S. Army veteran. He is certified by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc. in Assisting Individuals in Crisis and Group Crisis Intervention. Wilson has thousands of hours of domestic and international instructional experience with a diverse spectrum of audiences.

Updates to the REHS/RS Exam and Study Guide

A new study guide for NEHA's Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian (REHS/RS) credential will be available for purchase in mid-June. Furthermore, the new exam will begin being administered on September 1, 2021. Virtual town hall sessions will be presented February–April for anyone who wants to learn more.

REHS/RS credential holders demonstrate competency in an impressive range of EH issues, directing and training personnel to respond to routine or emergency situations, and providing education to their communities on health concerns. In addition, REHS/RS holders are key members in ensuring communities are in compliance with local, state, and federal environmental health regulations.

Please visit our [FAQs](#) and the [updated REHS/RS exam blueprint](#) for further details.

Questions can be directed to Sarah Hoover, credentialing manager, shoover@neha.org.





NEHA Government Affairs

Environmental health professionals are critical, but the value of your work is not always fully understood. NEHA knows better than any other association why EH professionals are so vital. That is why NEHA partners with our members to tell the stories of your essential service and promote a deeper understanding of environmental health with policymakers and the public. **Policies and legislation made at the national and state level directly impact our profession.**

It has never been more important to stay informed and exercise our influence as a community. That is why we are more committed than ever to expanding our government affairs program and bringing you more resources and timely information. We will speak not only about federal issues, but also about the local issues that matter the most in the communities where you work and live.

*Here are some ways to stay up-to-date with
NEHA Government Affairs*

Support through Membership

All our government affairs work is done on behalf of our members who support the work of our organization. This year we hope to grow our membership so that we can wield more influence and bring you more of the resources that matter. If you are not already member, [we encourage you to JOIN.](#)

If you are a member, please consider telling our colleagues about our advocacy work. Spreading the word about NEHA benefits all of us because we can do so much more together than apart.

[Your Insider in Government Affairs Blog:](#) Stay in the know on critical and timely issues through this regularly updated blog.

[Government Affairs Webinars:](#) If you missed any of our recent government affairs webinars you can view them anytime on our website.

[Position Statements:](#) These papers guide NEHA's efforts on public policy, directing the association's responses to specific issues affecting environmental health.

[Policy Statements:](#) These statements set forth NEHA's beliefs on a specific subject related to environmental health, and are shared with state, local and federal policy makers, including both the executive and legislative branches, as well as relevant environmental and public health boards.

[Letters and Sign-Ons:](#) NEHA partners with like-minded organizations to gain greater attention for a policy or legislative position.

[Legislative Actions:](#) Government Affairs tracks key pieces of federal and state legislation that promote or reflect NEHA's policy statements.

For more information contact Doug Farquhar, Director of Government Affairs, at advocacy@neha.org.



Dr. Bailus Walker, Jr. Diversity & Inclusion Awareness Award

Organizations around the country are increasing diversity awareness and NEHA is no exception. One step we are taking to denounce racism and to promote diversity is introducing the [Dr. Bailus Walker, Jr. Diversity and Inclusion Awareness Award](#).

Dr. Bailus Walker, Jr. had a long career as a researcher, faculty, and administrator in Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health. Dr. Walker was a Professor of Environmental and Occupational Medicine and Toxicology at the historically black university, Howard University in Washington D.C.

[The Dr. Bailus Walker, Jr. Diversity and Inclusion Awareness Award](#) will be given annually to recognize an individual or group that has made significant achievements in the development and enhancement of a more culturally diverse, inclusive, and competent environment. The application period is open From January 15 to April 15, 2021.

More Award Deadlines

- ◆ [Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award](#): **March 15**
- ◆ [NEHA Joe Beck Educational Contribution Award](#): **March 31**
- ◆ [NEHA Walter S. Mangold Award](#): **March 31**
- ◆ [AAS Davis Calvin Wagner Sanitarian Award](#): **April 15**
- ◆ [NEHA/NSF Walter F. Snyder Award](#): **May 15**
- ◆ [2021 AEHAP Student Research Competition](#): **February 26**
- ◆ [NEHA/AAS Scholarship](#): **March 31**

Management and Supervisory Practices for Environmental Professionals Workbook

Looking for Continuing Education opportunities? Dr. Herman Koren, esteemed Sanitarian and Mangold award recipient, has published a workbook worth 20.0 NEHA continuing education credits. The two-volume set provides leadership practicums for EH professionals and state-of-the-art management and supervisory skills essential for those working with the public, looking to advance their management careers, and wanting to learn or refresh their knowledge of practical competencies needed to work with people to resolve problems and successfully carry out programs.

The first volume is available on Amazon and Google Play: *Management and Supervisory Practices for Environmental Professionals: Basic Principles, Volume 1, 4th Edition*: ISBN-13: 978-0367675202, ISBN-10: 036767520X.