

CorpsReformNetwork

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Washington DC **2010**

Come to this year's CRN Membership Meeting and learn about 21st Century solutions to our water challenges.

Our agenda features an all-star lineup of water managers, policy experts, scientists, and advocates that will provide new useful tools, important contacts and fresh ideas that you can apply to your work back home.

There will be plenty of opportunities to network with your peers from around the country facing similar challenges. Share success stories, lessons learned, and build lasting relationships.

Don't miss out on the exiting events we have planned:

- Dinner Cruise on the Capitol Elite Yacht
Network with fellow water advocates while enjoying an evening on the Potomac River
- Meet the New Obama Administration
Present your concerns directly to high-level Obama Administration Officials
- Meet Our friends at the Clean Water Network!
We are coordinating with our friends at the Clean Water Network to offer more opportunities for networking and collaboration



**REGISTER
TODAY!**

*Ushering in a New Era of
Stewardship for our Rivers,
Wetlands and Coasts*

Sunday, March 14th -
Tuesday March 16th



Agenda at a Glance:

Sunday March 14th

- Sign-up for consultations on Corps' civil works projects and permitting (see registration form)
- Networking with fellow water advocates

Monday March 15th

- Briefing on needed improvements to the Administration's current proposal to revise federal water planning guidelines (P&G)
- Panels on projects that work with nature to protect floodplains and communities from climate change impacts
- Distribution and training on the new Citizen's Guide for influencing projects and permits

Tuesday March 16th

- Meeting with White House Officials to provide your recommendations for improving the proposed new water planning guidelines (P&G)
- Visits with Members of Congress on climate change/water adaptation legislation and member priorities

Make Your Hotel Reservations Today

The Conference is at the Channel Inn Hotel, on the Potomac River. Ask for the Corps Reform Network group rate of \$130/night.

\$400 Scholarships Available

Sunday March 14th

1:00 - 4:00 **One-on-One and Group Consultations.** A team of lawyers, economists, and other experts will be available for consultations to assist you with Corps projects and permitting decisions. (Sign-up required on registration form)

5:00 - 8:30 **Clean Water Network Strategic Planning Meeting (for CWN Steering Committee)**

6:30 - 8:00 **Dinner at Hotel**

Monday March 15th

8:00 - 8:45 **Registration**

8:45 - 9:00 **Welcome: Corps Reform Network Co-Chairs**

- **Melissa Samet**, Co-Chair, Corps Reform Network
- **Cynthia Sarthou**, Executive Director, Gulf Restoration Network

9:00 - 10:30 **Panel Discussion: Improving the White House Council on Environmental Quality's new proposed 'Principles and Guidelines' (P&G) for federal water projects.** How you can help influence the new guidelines to better address your water resource needs and challenges.

- **Melissa Samet**, Co-Chair, Corps Reform Network
- **Andrew Fahlund**, Senior Vice President for Conservation, American Rivers
- **Steve Malloch**, Senior Water Program Manager, National Wildlife Federation

10:30 - 10:45 **Break**

10:45 - Noon **Panel Discussion: Ensuring Better Management of America's Floodplains.** How do federal policies and programs need to change to better protect people and wildlife?

- **Steve Ellis**, Vice President, Taxpayers for Common Sense (Moderator)
- **David Conrad**, Senior Water Resource Specialist, National Wildlife Federation
- **Sam Riley Medlock**, Policy Council, Association of State Floodplains Managers
- **Nicholas Pinter**, Professor, Dept. of Geology and Environmental Resources & Policy Program, Southern Illinois University
- **Mike Cohen**, Vice President of Governmental Affairs, RenaissanceRe, on behalf of SmarterSafer.org

Noon - 1:30 **Keynote Lunch Speaker: Jo-Ellen Darcy - Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works** to discuss the direction of the Corps' civil works and regulatory programs.

1:30 - 2:45 **Panel Discussion: Community and Environmental Protection in an Era of Global Climate Change.** How do we work with nature to adapt to rising seas, changing water cycles and more frequent and intense storms?

- **Vicki Deisner**, Associate Director National Water Resources Campaigns, National Wildlife Federation (Moderator)
- **Paul Schwartz**, National Policy Coordinator, Clean Water Action
- **Dr. Susan Ivester Rees**, Planning and Environmental Division, Mississippi Coastal Improvements Program, US Army Corps of Engineers
- **Jim Titus**, East Coast Sea Level Rise Expert

2:45 - 3:00 Break

3:00 - 3:30 **Restoring Clean Water Protections**

- Jan Goldman-Carter, Wetlands & Water Resources Counsel, National Wildlife Federation
- Jennifer Peters, Deputy Director, Clean Water Network

3:30 - 4:00 **Citizens Guide to the Corps of Engineers**. Receive a free copy of this newly-updated Guide that discusses the universe of tools to influence Corps projects and permitting decisions.

- Melissa Samet, Co-Chair, Corps Reform Network, and Citizens' Guide Primary Author
- George Sorvalis, Manager Water Resources Campaigns, National Wildlife Federation, and Coordinator, Corps Reform Network

3:30 - 5:00 **Concurrent: CWN Hosts Mississippi River Capitol Hill Briefing**

4:00 - 4:15 Break

4:15 - 5:00 **Strategic Plan Roll-Out / Steering Committee Elections**. Provide input on implementing the CRN's new Strategic Plan, and vote on new CRN Steering Committee Members.

6:30 - 8:30 **Dinner Cruise** RenaissanceRe Insurance sponsors a dinner cruise for Corps Reform Network and Clean Water Network members to dine together aboard the Capitol Elite Yacht for a scenic tour of DC from the Potomac River with special events planned!

Tuesday March 16th

8:45 - 9:45 **Corps Reform Network Members Present on their Campaigns**, followed by a group discussion to share challenges and tactics that lead to success.

- Brad Walker, Upper Mississippi River Coordinator, Izzak Walton League of America, on behalf of the Nicolett Island Coalition
- Maya van Rossum, Executive Director, Delaware Riverkeeper Network
- Dan Tonsmeire, Riverkeeper, Apalachicola Riverkeeper

9:45 - 10:00 Break

10:00 - 11:00 **A View From the Hill**: Congressional Staff from the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and Appropriations Committee discuss project and policy priorities, and process insights.

11:00 - Noon **White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Listening Session on America's New Water Policy (P&G Revisions)**. Corps Reform Network Members will provide their comments on the proposed Principles and Guidelines (P&G) to the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

- Nancy Sutley, Chairwoman, CEQ (invited)
- Jon Carson, Chief of Staff, CEQ
- Mike Boots, Associate Director for Land and Water Ecosystems, CEQ
- Amelia Salzman, Associate Director for Policy Outreach, CEQ

9:00 - Noon **Concurrent: CWN Meets With EPA on Non-Point Source Pollution Issues**

Noon - 1:00 **Lunch and Hill Visits Preparation**

1:00 **Hill Visits and Departure**

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Washington DC **2010**

REGISTRATION FORM

Sunday March 14th to
Tuesday March 16th

To register, download this registration form and email it to CRN Coordinator George Sorvalis at sorvalisg@nwf.org, or mail it to George at 901 E Street NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20004. After we receive your registration form, we will contact you to confirm your registration. Please register by Monday February 16th to guarantee a space.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Organization _____ Title _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Scholarship Request (*see details below*) \$_____ Arrange a Roommate for me _____

Vegetarian ____ Vegan ____

I plan to attend the one-on-one/groups consultations on Sunday afternoon: YES ____ NO ____

If you checked 'YES' above, please describe what you would like training on (topics include economic, legal and advocacy strategies on proposals and projects regarding ports, navigation, dams, coastal, streams, 404 permits) :

Location and Reservations

The meeting will be at the Channel Inn Hotel, located on the Potomac River in S.W. DC (650 Water Street, S.W., Washington DC 20024). Call the hotel at 202-554-2400 to reserve a room and ask for the Corps Reform Network group rate of \$130/night, confirmation number 150770. Please make your reservation by February 16 to guarantee a room. If you'd like a roommate, please write 'yes' next to "Arrange a Roommate for me" above, and we will do our best to find you a roommate.

Getting to Washington DC

Washington DC is conveniently located near Reagan National (DCA), Baltimore Washington International (BWI), and Dulles International (IAD) airports. Of these three, Reagan National is the closest, and is around a \$20 cab fare (or \$3.75 metro ride) to the Channel Inn Hotel. The hotel is located a short walk from the Waterfront Metro stop. All three airports offer public transportation options, which George will be happy to help you coordinate if interested.

Questions?

Contact meeting
coordinator George at
202-797-6617 (office)
410-409-1993 (cell)
sorvalisg@nwf.org

Scholarship Information

The CRN has a limited number of scholarships of up to \$400 each available for CRN Members. To apply: 1 - Fill in the "Scholarship Request Amount" above, and 2 - Return this completed Registration Form to George Sorvalis before February 16. *Please note that scholarships will be paid on a reimbursement basis by sending George receipts for lodging and airfare. Then the CRN will send you a check for the total amount up to \$400.*