

State News for NSPE Members

Don't Miss Out: Upcoming NSPE-CA Events



NSPE-CA is holding in-person events once again! Below is our tentative schedule for 2023. As we finalize dates and other details (including registration) we will be adding these events to our [Calendar of Events](#) listings.

February 15 — [NSPE-California and SWE Los Angeles members-only hosted Engineer Social](#)

February 19 — [National Engineers Week event in San Diego](#)

February 23 — [National Engineers Week event in San Joaquin County](#)

April — Tour in Pasadena or Berkeley (in planning)

May — California Public Utilities Commission lunch topic (in planning)

June 10 — Biomethane production facility tour followed by lunch in Bakersfield

July — Member event in Pasadena (in planning)

NSPE-CA Discussion — Ethical Insights

If you missed the recent discussion on Ethical Case Insights: Lessons in Disclosure, you can still [access the webinar](#) at your convenience (add the webinar to your cart, then check out for free as an NSPE member) and [discuss the case](#) in the community. NSPE-CA member Harold V. Hartman, P.E., served as the discussion host.

A Deadly Building Flaw Common in California Brings Destruction and Misery to Turkey, Syria

As seismic engineers study the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria that killed more than 20,000 people as of February 11, it's becoming clear that a significant cause of the destruction involved a building design common in California and other parts of the US.

The flaws of non-ductile concrete construction are found across the Golden State, with many buildings having not been evaluated or retrofitted and at risk of collapse in a serious earthquake, the [Los Angeles Times reports](#).

It can be tempting for Californians to assume that their structures are inherently better than those in Turkey. But the state hasn't been tested with a magnitude 7.8 earthquake in more than a century. And that event—the great 1906 earthquake — destroyed much of San Francisco.

It will take time for structural engineers to compile a comprehensive report on the damaged and destroyed buildings in Turkey and Syria. But several experts, looking at photos and videos of the pancaked structures, said the primary flaw is already obvious: They were non-ductile concrete buildings, which have an inadequate configuration of steel reinforcing bars that allows concrete to become brittle and explode out of the structure's columns when shaken. [Read more](#).

Five Ways California is Storing Water from Winter Storms

California is taking urgent action to protect communities from climate-driven extremes in weather and expand the state's capacity to capture storm runoff in wet years.

"California isn't waiting to act – we're moving aggressively to modernize how we capture and store water to future-proof our state against more extreme cycles of wet and dry," Governor Gavin Newsom stated in a [news release](#). "We're expediting projects across the state to maximize stormwater capture and storage above and below ground during times like these, reshaping our water systems for the 21st century and beyond."

Leveraging the more than \$8.6 billion committed by Governor Newsom and the state legislature in the last two budget cycles to build water resilience, the state is taking aggressive action to prepare for the impacts of climate-driven extremes in weather on the state's water supplies:

- **Advancing clear, ambitious targets** to build drought and flood resilience,

including increasing annual groundwater recharge capacity by 500,000 acre-feet.

- **Fast-tracking groundwater recharge** efforts by streamlining permits.
- **Maximizing stormwater capture** through new projects.
- **Supporting reservoir repair and expansion** to boost water storage above and below ground.
- **Modernizing water conveyance infrastructure** across the state, including the Delta Conveyance Project.

This budget funding includes \$500 million that will be provided in 2025-26 to help ensure strategic water storage projects can be completed. In the 2023-24 state budget, Newsom is proposing an additional \$202 million for flood protection and \$125 million for drought related actions. [Read more.](#)



NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

The latest California jobs are pulled from the NSPE Job Board and appear on the NSPE-CA website. New career opportunities are also posted through NSPE-CA social media profiles on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#).

Featured Jobs

Principal Civil Engineer

Stockton, CA

Director of Engineering

Oakland, CA

Deputy Director of Engineering and Surveying

Auburn, CA

Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the NSPE Job Board.

Meet the FEYA Top 10 Finalists

NSPE is pleased to announce the 10 finalists for the [2023 Federal Engineer of the Year Award](#), honoring engineers employed by a federal agency with at least 50 engineers worldwide. All have made extensive contributions to their organizations and also to the public that PEs ultimately serve.

The winner of this year's award will be announced during a ceremony at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, on February 24, and will be selected from the following finalists.

- **Stephen Craven, Ph.D., P.E.**, electrical engineer, networks/WAN specialist; Tennessee Valley Authority
- **Steven C. Dunn, Ph.D., P.E.**, electrical engineer; General Services Administration Public Buildings Service
- **Maj. Dustin L. Gooden, P.E., PMP, LSSBB**, chief, strategic basing corporate branch; US Department of the Air Force, Headquarters US Air Force
- **Chad C. Hogan, P.E.**, lead engineer; US Department of the Air Force, Air Force Material Command
- **Capt. Jeneé A. Jagoda, P.E., PMP**, engineering flight commander; US Department of the Air Force, Air Force Global Strike Command
- **Capt. Christopher C. Jankowski, P.E., PMP, ENV SP**, chief of operations engineering; US Department of the Air Force, Pacific Air Forces
- **Andrew R. Lawrence, P.E.**, salvage engineering response team principal architect; US Department of Homeland Security, US Coast Guard
- **Nicholas Brian Melly, P.E.**, fire protection engineer; US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- **Dr. Brandon L. Toliver, P.E.**, branch chief, basing and beddown; US Department of the Air Force, Air Force Installation & Mission Support
- **Brian R. Wybrecht, P.E.**, civil engineer; US Department of the Army, US Army Europe and Africa



NATIONAL SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

FEDERAL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR



Stephen
Craven, Ph.D., P.E.



Steven C.
Dunn, Ph.D., P.E.



Major Dustin
Gooden, P.E., PMP,
LSSBB



Chad C.
Hogan, P.E.



Captain Jeneé A.
Jagoda, P.E., PMP



Captain Christopher C.
Jankowski, P.E., PMP,
ENV SP



Andrew R.
Lawrence, P.E.



Nicholas Brian
Melly, P.E.



Dr. Brandon
Toliver, P.E.



Brian R.
Wybrecht, P.E.

Congratulations to the 2023 Top 10 Finalists!

2023 Lineup of 15 Free PDHs Are Available

NSPE membership offers the benefit of access to 15 on-demand webinars. This year's webinars address various topics of interest to professional engineers including ethics, emerging technologies, construction projects, and licensure. Upon successful completion of each webinar quiz (with a passing score of 70% or higher), the quiz taker will receive an attendance certificate with the appropriate credits earned for that session. [Access the free webinars](#) .

2022 NSPE Scholarship Winners

The NSPE Education Foundation awarded several scholarships to support talented students pursuing engineering degrees in ABET-accredited programs.

Auxiliary Legacy Scholarship

Leah Griesmer, from Broadview Heights, Ohio, is studying mechanical engineering at the University of Cincinnati.

Katelyn King, from Basking Ridge, New Jersey, is studying biomedical engineering at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Maureen L. and Howard N. Blitman, P.E., Scholarship to Promote Diversity in Engineering

Sebastian Rodriguez, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is attending Carnegie Mellon University to study mechanical engineering.

The George B. Hightower, P.E. Fellowship

Tyler Kleinsasser is a graduate student at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Swadesh and Om P. Popli, P.E., P.L.S. Scholarship

Eli Ordaz is studying civil engineering at Brigham Young University.

Steinman Scholarship

Kathleen Abrams is attending the University of South Carolina, majoring in biomedical engineering.

Michael Chavez is studying electrical engineering, with an emphasis on renewable energy, at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Jake Schneider, of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, is pursuing his degree in civil and environmental engineering at the University of Louisville.

Lindsay Steis, of Ridgway, Pennsylvania, is attending Gannon University, majoring in environmental engineering.

Jonathan Windham, of Sumrall, Mississippi, is pursuing an electrical engineering degree at Mississippi State University.

The 2023 Scholarship Season Opens

The NSPE Education Foundation is [now accepting applications](#) for the 2023 scholarship season through an online submission platform. The application deadline is **April 1**.

Congratulations to the 2022 Scholarship Winners!



Kathleen Abrams
Steinman Scholarship



Mike Chavez
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Leah Griesmer
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