

State News for NSPE Members

Department of Health Releases Grades for Louisiana Water Systems

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has [released final water grades](#) for 951 community water systems across the state, a process that creates accountability for water systems and provides transparency for water system customers, according to a [news release](#). Amanda Ames, P.E., chief engineer for the Louisiana Department of Health, led the initiative's implementation.

The water grades are enabled under Act 98 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, and is known as the Community Drinking Water Accountability Rule. The grades are calculated using points assigned to seven standards that evaluate the infrastructure, sustainability, and overall water quality. The grading system provides residents with a snapshot of the quality of their community water systems, and to encourage water systems to invest in improvements or explore consolidating with another water system to improve sustainability.

Water grade distribution

- A: 386 systems, or 41%
- B: 256 systems, or 27%
- C: 171 systems, or 18%
- D: 56 systems, or 6%
- F: 82 systems, or 9%

Commission Awards Feasibility Study for Louisiana International Terminal infrastructure

Governor John Bel Edwards recently praised the award of a contract to study the St. Bernard Transportation Corridor (among other roadway improvements) to support the Louisiana International Terminal, a \$1.8 billion container terminal

planned by the Port of New Orleans (Port NOLA) in Violet, Louisiana. The new terminal will be able to serve vessels of all sizes, dramatically increasing Louisiana's import and export capacity and stimulating the creation of more than 18,000 jobs statewide and more than \$1 billion in local and state tax revenue, the [American Journal of Transportation reports](#).

The Regional Planning Commission awarded the Lower St. Bernard/Louisiana International Terminal Roadway Network and Resilience Study to GIS Engineering, LLC. The study marks the next phase of the St. Bernard Transportation Corridor project, an elevated roadway that will connect the future Louisiana International Terminal with I-510 and create a new major artery in and out of St. Bernard Parish. [Read more](#).

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Connect with Your Colleagues at #NSPECon23



Register now for NSPECon23 and connect with your colleagues in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2-4. The conference [features multiple education tracks](#) in leadership, trends in the industry, and career development with the opportunity to earn up to 10 PDHs. Also stay tuned for information on engineering-related tours. **Register by June 29 to take advantage of discounted rates.**

[Register Now!](#)

Keynote Speakers

Bill Samuels, Jr., Chairman Emeritus of Maker's Mark Distillery, will open the NSPECon 23 meeting. Samuels, who helped design both the Gemini and Polaris missiles and became friends with the founding administrator of NASA, will talk about the, ["Trials and Tribulations of a Failed Aerospace Engineer."](#)



Megan Bendtzen, the CEO and founder of TheDoctorofFun.com, will give a keynote presentation on - [Beyond the Blueprint: Mastering the Most Important Project of Your Life](#) . In this clever and entertaining presentation, Bendtzen will completely shift your perspective, debunking the myth of work-life balance and revealing the single biggest lie surrounding the pursuit of happiness.



Conference Session Highlights

- [Ethical Obligations and Engineering Through a DEI Lens](#)
- [The Engineer's Blueprint: Success Principles for Winning at Work and at Home](#)
- [Lithium: The Race for North American EV Dominance But at What Cost to the Industry?](#)
- [Finding the Funds for Your Infrastructure Project](#)
- [Leaders Leading Leaders](#)
- [We Need YOU to Protect the License!](#)
- [Meeting the Challenges and Needs of The Engineering Workforce](#)
- [Speculative Technology and Exploratory Engineering for Designing the Future](#)

[Access the full conference program.](#)

Sponsor and Exhibitor Opportunities

NSPECon23 offers sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. Access the [Sponsor and Exhibitor Prospectus](#) for

more information.



New Webinar: Racing Towards Excellence

A new webinar will get you ready for NSPECon23 — [Racing Towards Excellence: Enhancing Customer Experience and Improving Safety at Churchill Downs](#) .

Neil Crawford, P.E., an accomplished engineer and project manager at Qk4 Inc., offers insight into the history of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby and its economic impacts on Kentucky. Learn about recent improvement projects to enhance the customer experience and also projects to improve equine/horseman safety and expand the racing operations.

The webinar is FREE for members and offers 1 PDH. [Register and watch now](#) .



ARPL Offers New Advocacy Resources

ARPL has released two new advocacy resources. A video, [Universal Licensing: A Closer Look](#) , (featuring Rebecca Bowman, Senior Director of Ethics and

Professional Practice) and an advocacy document, [The Critical Role of Licensing in Business Success](#), based on recent research. As a sponsoring member of ARPL, NSPE has access to these resources and others on the [ARPL website](#).

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