

State News for NSPE Members

Don't Miss the Upcoming NSPE-NV Meeting!

Topic: Utility Coordination and Plan Review Updates, Current Issues, and New Processes

NSPE-NV will host its monthly luncheon to highlight the topic of utility coordination and plan review updates, current issues, and new processes. The meeting will take place at **Lawry's The Prime Rib** (4043 Howard Hughes Parkway Las Vegas, NV 89169) on **Tuesday, September 21** from 11:30 a.m.-1.p.m.

Featured Speakers



Nass Diallo, P.E.

Engineering Manager, Planning and
Engineering Services Division
Las Vegas Valley Water District



Terry Kozlowski

Assistant Manager Plans Examination
Clark County Dept. of
Building & Fire Prevention



Zelalem Alemu, P.E.

Project Engineer II
Public Works, Land Development
and Stormwater,
City of Henderson



Christian Kessler, P.E.

Senior Civil Engineer
Development Services,
Clark County Water Reclamation District

Registration

The in-person registration fee for members is \$35 and \$20 for student members. Registrations submitted after September 16 will be charged an additional \$5 fee.

If you are unable to attend in-person, please join the meeting virtually from 11:50 a.m. to 1 p.m. A meeting link will be provided when registration and payment is received (\$10 for members and free for students). Access meeting information and registration [here](#).

Meeting Sponsor

NSPE-NV would like to recognize the sponsor of this month's meeting



NSPE-NV September Volunteer Opportunities

Virtual STEM Outreach Workshop

NSPE-NV is calling on members to volunteer for the [UNLV Battle Born Heroes Innovate \(BBHI\) virtual workshop](#) on **Saturday, September 18** from 12:30 p.m.–2 p.m.

Members who participate will engage with students through a NASA Lander Activity to demonstrate various design options. Participants must be able to share their computer screen with students.

The [BBHI program](#) encompasses the educational vision of the UNLV International Gaming Institute and the Clark County School District Career & Technical Education Department.

The program introduces under-resourced middle and high school students to Southern Nevada's science, technology, engineering, arts, and math careers, demystifies success in these fields, and provides an outlet for them to engage with role models and community leaders.

Volunteer at the Mobile Food Market

NSPE-NV members can volunteer for the next [Mobile Food Market](#) distribution project on **Saturday, September 25** (7:45 a.m.-11 a.m.) at **Canyon Springs High School** (350 E Alexander Rd, North Las Vegas, NV 89032). If you can't make it to this location, you can still [register online](#) for a different location.

If you can volunteer for the virtual STEM outreach workshop and/or the mobile food

market, please send an RSVP to Brook Demitropoulos [via email](#) or call 702-336-9896.

Transportation Industry Night with the Las Vegas Aviators

The Las Vegas Aviators will host a Transportation Industry game night on **Friday, September 24** (Las Vegas Ball Park) to show appreciation for the industry's contribution to the city.

Tickets can be purchased on [this website](#) for \$20-\$25. A portion of the ticket fee (\$5) will be donated to the [Three Square Food Bank](#).



2021 Annual MATHCOUNTS/NSPE/ACI Sporting Clays Fundraiser

The [Annual MATHCOUNTS/NSPE/ACI Sporting Clays Fundraiser](#) will be held on **Friday, October 15** at the Pro Gun Club (12801 Old U.S. 95, Boulder City, Nevada 89005). The fee for the tournament is \$125 per participant and includes tournament entry, lunch, an awards ceremony, and a raffle drawing.

Download the [fundraiser form](#) to register for the event and/or to sign up for sponsorship opportunities. Registration and payment are due by October 7.

State Licensing Board Meeting

The Nevada Board of Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors will hold a professional association liaison and general board meetings on **Thursday, September 16**.

Individuals that would like to attend the meetings can log on to this Zoom meeting [website](#) or dial into the meeting (1-669-900-6833, Meeting ID: 8286438008). The meeting agendas can be accessed on the licensing board [website](#).

Here's What's in the \$1T Infrastructure Package for Western Water

A \$1 trillion infrastructure bill that received bipartisan support in the Senate last month includes billions of dollars for Western water projects and programs.

The Biden administration has called the infrastructure bill, which includes \$8.3 billion for Western water infrastructure, "the largest investment in the resilience of physical and natural systems in American history," according to the *Las Vegas-Review Journal*.

Of the \$8.3 billion dedicated to Western water, \$450 million is set aside for a competitive grant program to fund large-scale projects that advance water recycling.

"This will secure the water future of Nevadans as well as Americans across the Colorado River Basin," Southern Nevada Water Authority General Manager John Entsminger said this month.

That program could help pay for a massive recycling project in California that would leave Nevada with access to more water in Lake Mead.

[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.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

Featured Job

[Utilities Director](#)

Boulder City, NV

Technical Project Manager, Energy Efficiency
Reno, NV

Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the [NSPE Job Board](#).

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

Anti-Licensing Forces Miss the Point

Extreme anti-licensing bills have popped up in numerous states and are posing a threat to the rigorous and established professional standards followed by PEs, architects, and others who design and construct the built environment, [according to an op-ed in The Hill](#).

Lawmakers calling for these extreme measures don't differentiate between barbers and manicurists, for example, and PEs and architects, say Tom Smith, executive director of ASCE, and Michael Armstrong, CEO of NCARB. "In their absolutist free-market view, reflected in the language of their model legislation, a visit to a barbershop or beauty salon should be treated the same as designing a bridge or water treatment plant."

The legislative proposals range from measures that [would eliminate licensing entirely](#) to [so-called "Universal Licensing"](#) bills that would require states to accept licenses from any state regardless of whether the out-of-state license had the same level of qualifications behind it.

NSPE Calls for PE Role in AI Risk Management

To protect the public from the potential dangers of artificial intelligence applications, NSPE is calling for the involvement of licensed professional engineers in the AI development process.

NSPE's [recommendations were submitted](#) to the National Institute of Standards and Technology in response to NIST's request for input on an artificial intelligence risk management framework. The recommendations advocate for professional engineers or certain certified individuals to be included within the risk management framework, which covers all levels of development and implementation.

"This individual would be responsible for making decisions related to protecting the public, including those who would use or potentially be affected by an AI application," wrote NSPE President Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE. "Oversight responsibility should include having the authority to approve or reject the process, methodology, or other characteristics of the specific AI project. Having a

credentialed individual to ensure these considerations are made can reduce risk that an artificial intelligence application will fail.”

Meet the 2021 Scholarship Winners

The [NSPE Education Foundation](#) recently awarded several scholarships to support talented students pursuing engineering. Meet the 2021 winners:

Markie Ash, of Waupaca, Wisconsin, is winner of the [Auxiliary Legacy Scholarship](#) and the [George B. Hightower, P.E. Fellowship](#). Ash is studying civil engineering with a structural emphasis at University of Wisconsin-Platteville. The \$2,500 auxiliary scholarship is awarded annually to a female undergraduate entering, or continuing, her junior year of a four-year ABET-accredited engineering program. The \$3,000 Hightower Fellowship is awarded annually to an engineering undergraduate or graduate student who is enrolled in, or graduated from, an ABET-accredited engineering program.



Justin Sivasothy is this year's recipient of the [Maureen L. and Howard N. Blitman, P.E., Scholarship to Promote Diversity in Engineering](#). The \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to a high school senior from an ethnic minority going into an ABET-accredited engineering degree program at a four-year college or university. Sivasothy, of Sugar Land, Texas, is attending the University of Texas at Austin.

The \$5,000 [Steinman Scholarship](#) has been awarded to five students studying in ABET-accredited programs this academic year. **Michael Kadus** (Chicago, Illinois) is studying industrial engineering at Purdue University. **Robert Schneider** (West Coxsackie, New York) is studying civil engineering at Clarkson University. **Annabel Sharnowski** (Novi, Michigan) is studying mechanical engineering with a minor in electrical engineering at the University of Michigan. **Noah Struck** (Alexandria, Minnesota) is studying civil engineering at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. **Jacob Witlin** (Ellicott City, Maryland) is studying fire protection at the University of Maryland.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MICHAEL KADUS, ROBERT SCHNEIDER, ANNABEL SHARNOWSKI,

Nominations Open for Federal Engineer of the Year Award

Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the [Federal Engineer of the Year Award](#) . Nominations for the award, which attracts participation from more than a dozen federal agencies, are open until **October 31**.

The FEYA ceremony is scheduled for February 24, 2022, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. Tickets will be available for sale in January. [Apply or nominate a worthy engineer](#) .

The 2021 Federal Engineer of the Year

Major Monica Pickenpaugh, Ph.D., P.E., of the US Air Force, was named NSPE's 2021 Federal Engineer of the Year Award winner during a [virtual awards event](#) in February. As US Forces Korea's chief of construction, she directed \$5.7 billion of funded construction in the Republic of Korea. As part of a sharing agreement with the US, the construction program supports USFK commanders' defense efforts through critical projects.



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