

# Illinois Green Infrastructure & Erosion Control Conference 2021

Wednesday, October 20, 2021, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (CST)  
a free virtual conference, hosted by:



## Conference Presenters

Stormwater Solutions Engineering, LLC

Urbana Park District \* Prosperity Gardens

University of Illinois Extension \* Green Sports Alliance

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## Champaign County Stormwater Partnership

City of Champaign \* City of Urbana \* Champaign County

Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign \* Village of Savoy

[www.ccstormwater.org](http://www.ccstormwater.org)

# Introduction

The Champaign County Stormwater Partnership (CCSP) extends a warm welcome to all in attendance at today's virtual conference. Today's conference is designed to engage the audience on how we can all work collectively to achieve the goals of the Clean Water Act. This event will demonstrate existing technologies, techniques, and social programs that:

- have a positive impact on stormwater and help stop severe erosion.
- demonstrate site regeneration.
- bring food security to our community.
- educate homeowners and businesses on developing pollinator-friendly, easy-to-maintain gardens.
- introduce sustainability to the sports world.

## Conference Agenda

- 9:00 **Welcome Statements**  
9:05 **Adrienne Cizek**, PhD, P.E. Senior Project Engineer, Stormwater Solutions Engineering  
10:00 **Andy Rousseau**, Project Manager, Urbana Park District (UPD)  
**Kara Dudek**, Park Planner, Urbana Park District (UPD)  
**Erin Pande**, Wetland Scientist, Engineering Resource Associates  
11:00 **Nicole Musumeci**, Director, Prosperity Gardens  
12:00 **Lunch Break**  
1:00 **Kelly Allsup**, Extension Educator, Horticulture, University of Illinois Extension  
2:00 **Garrett Wong**, Member Services Manager, Green Sport Alliance  
2:55 **Closing Remarks**

## Our esteemed presenters:



### **Adrienne Cizek, PhD, P.E.**

Adrienne earned her PhD studying Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance (RSC) at North Carolina State University, working along-side the NC state extension, state and local water quality regulators, and engineering design firms. She has been part of the Stormwater Solutions Engineering (Milwaukee, WI) team for the past seven years, working on Green Infrastructure and site design, community engagement, floodplain modeling, stormwater management plans, permitting, and grant applications.

**Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance (RSC), A New Tool for the Stormwater Toolbox** uses a series of pools and riffles connected by an

underlying media layer designed to convey, manage, and treat stormwater runoff in one footprint. RSCs provide ravine stabilization, reduction in land use, water quality improvement, and streambank stabilization. This presentation will introduce RSC and its many applications through up-to-date research and case studies so that the audience can add RSC to their stormwater toolbox.



### **Andy Rousseau**

Andy is the Project Manager for the Urbana Park District. He is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University and the University of Illinois-Springfield, with a Master's in Public Administration (MPA). He has worked for UPD in a variety of roles since 2009, and served as the Project Manager for the last 4 years. Andy currently oversees capital improvements and manages contracts for a wide-variety of projects. His projects have included the Crystal Lake Park Rehabilitation Project, a wetland restoration at Perkins Road Park Site, and a habitat enhancement project on the Saline Branch, as part of a joint venture with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



### **Kara Dudek, AICP, GIP**

Kara is Park Planner for the Urbana Park District. A graduate of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Illinois, she is a member of the American Planning Association's American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), as well as a trained Green Infrastructure Practitioner (GIP) through the National Green Infrastructure Certification Program. Kara is also a Climate for Health Ambassador through EcoAmerica. She supports the creation of safe, innovative, resilient, and inclusive parks as an essential tool to address some of the most pressing issues of our day: human and environmental health, climate change, and social equity. Her work ranges from district-wide strategic and climate plans, to park-specific planning; she writes and administers grants, performs GIS work, and collaborates with community members on new UPD projects and initiatives.



### **Erin Pande, PWS, CFM**

Erin is a professional wetland scientist and certified floodplain manager. She graduated from Augustana College in Rock Island, IL with a degree in biology and minors in environmental studies and geology. She has worked for Engineering Resource Associates 17 years. Prior to her work at ERA, she was a



wetland specialist at DuPage County. She has performed natural area assessments and designed and implemented streambank and shoreline stabilization, natural area restoration, and water quality best management practice projects. She has authored the wetland, buffer, riparian, best management practice and volume control sections of the Cook County Watershed Management Ordinance and the Kane County Stormwater Management Ordinance. Erin is also a past president of the Lake Branch of the American Public Works Association (APWA) Chicago Metro Chapter and remains active on numerous committees for the Branch.

### **Green over Grey Infrastructure: Crystal Lake Rehabilitation Project**

The Urbana Park District (UPD) and Engineering Resource Associates (ERA) discuss the Crystal Lake Revitalization project from planning and community input through design and implementation. History of Crystal Lake and common issues plaguing urban lakes will be briefly discussed, while green stormwater practices will be the focus. Learn why the Urbana Park District embraced green infrastructure for solving water quality, erosion, flooding, and habitat degradation concerns at Crystal Lake. Hint—the benefits are abundant!



#### **Nicole Musumeci**

Nicole is the Director of Prosperity Gardens in Champaign, IL. She is a University of Illinois ACES graduate with a degree in Agriculture and Environmental Communications. She has served as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer in Champaign and worked for two years in community-based programs in Zambia, Africa as a member of the US Peace Corps.

**Prosperity Gardens (Food Security & Environmental Justice)** is an urban farm workforce development program in the Champaign/Urbana community which helps combat food insecurity and takes on food and environmental justice issues. This is achieved in various ways through community partnerships. Conference participants will learn more about Prosperity Gardens workforce development program, which hires and trains vulnerable individuals and supports their transition from homeless to homed, from unemployed to employed. Learn about the urban farm location and how its presence has enriched the area, and the partnership between Prosperity Gardens and the Mobile Market, which strives to serve those located in local food deserts.



#### **Kelly Allsup**

Kelly is a Horticulture Educator for University of Illinois Extension serving Livingston, McLean, and Woodford Counties. She meets the educational needs of her community, including local chapters

of Master Gardener and Master Naturalist volunteers, through expertise in home horticulture and entomology. Her passion for ecologically friendly gardening and all things plants makes her a dynamic speaker on topics that range from beneficial insects, to growing vegetables and fruits, to urban trees. A graduate of University of Illinois, she is fervent about connecting the latest horticulture research to the communities she serves so that they may grow more food and conserve the environment.

### **"Know" Maintenance Gardening (Low Maintenance / Stormwater Control)**

is a new perennial garden theory, originally developed by author Roy Diblik, that allows perennial gardens to be more sustainable. Kelly shares a fresh perspective on perennial gardening by outlining specifics from Diblik on bed preparation, plant selection, garden design, watering, and weed maintenance that allow homeowners, businesses, and municipalities to have an easier gardening and landscape management experience.



#### **Garrett Wong**

A sustainability change-maker and sports aficionado, Garrett joined the Green Sports Alliance as the Member Services Manager, working directly with the organization's professional sports teams

and collegiate universities. After graduating from Arizona State University's School of Sustainability, he led the Sustainability Committee for the 2017 Final Four in achieving the Council of Responsible Sport's Evergreen Certification. Garrett sat on the School of Sustainability Alumni Board and provided opportunities for Sustainability alumni to further their network and professional development. He was the Emerging Professionals Chair for the U.S. Green Building Council Arizona Community, focused on continued education and networking for green building industry professionals. Between training for his next marathon and improving his amateur photography skills, Garrett is beyond ecstatic to continue working alongside the GSA members to bolster their sustainability programs and push their brands to new heights.

### **Green Sports Alliance: Solutions from Sports - Catalysts for Sustainable Change.**

GSA is an environmentally-focused trade organization that convenes stakeholders from around the sporting world, as they promote healthy, sustainable communities where we live, work, and play.



## Champaign County Stormwater Partnership

The Champaign County Stormwater Partnership is a collaboration of local government entities in Champaign County, Illinois, consisting of Champaign County, City of Champaign, City of Urbana, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the Village of Savoy, and the Champaign County Soil & Water Conservation District. We share common resources and efforts to develop a regional consistency in fulfilling Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requirements. This collaboration helps to minimize costs, while maximizing improvements in the quality of stormwater that runs off of the land and into rivers, lakes, and streams.

Thank you for joining us virtually today. Look for our next stormwater forum education conference in 2022, which will be hosted by the Macon County MS4 Group.

Thanks to the CCSP partners for planning this conference, and to all of our speakers who helped make it a success, despite all the hurdles involved.

A special thanks goes to Amanda Christenson and the U of I Extension Team for all their help setting up the Zoom Conference, and making this virtual conference a reality! And, as great as this was, we hope our next CCSP biennial conference will return to in-person at the iHotel in 2023. See you then!



## Champaign County Stormwater Partnership Members

### Champaign County

**John Hall**, Director of Planning and Zoning

### Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District

**Erin Gundy**, Resource Conservationist

**Renee Weitekamp**, Administrative Coordinator

### City of Champaign

**Alex Nagy**, Assistant City Engineer for Environment

**Leslie Heath**, Engineering Technician II

### City of Urbana

**Tim Cowan, P.E.**, Public Works Director & City Engineer

**Beth Reinke**, Stormwater Engineering Technician

### University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**David Wilcoxon**, Associate Director, Environmental Compliance

**Betsy Liggett**, Coordinator, Special Programs, Environmental Compliance

**Colleen Ruhter, P.E.**, Coordinator, Special Programs, Environmental Compliance

### Village of Savoy

**Roland White, P.E.**, Public Works Director

**Brian Marcotte**, Operations Superintendent

