ORBA/ORBCRE SUMMIT

FROM PLANNING TO ACTION: PROTECTING AND RESTORING THE OHIO RIVER BASIN

OCTOBER 5-6TH, 2023
EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON CINCINNATI RIVERCENTER COVINGTON, KY
PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 04th

4:00-6:00pm: PRE-MEETING SOCIAL EVENT at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Cincinnati RiverCenter

Thursday, October 05th

7:30-8:30am–Registration (with continental breakfast): Hotel Lobby

8:30-9:00am–Opening Remarks: Craig Butler, ORBA Chair and Chuck Somerville, ORBCRE Executive Director, City View Ballroom

9:00-10:00am–Keynote Speaker: Colonel Jayson Putnam, Commander of the Huntington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, City View Ballroom

10:00–10:30am–Break: View Exhibitor Tables and Student Posters, Hotel Lobby

10:30-11:45am–Panel Discussion: Federal Partners in the Ohio River Basin, City View Ballroom

· NPS:
· USACE:
· USEPA:
· USFW:
· USGS:

11:45am–1:15pm–Lunch: City View Ballroom

1:30–3:00pm–Restoration Initiative Sessions: Location TBA

1:30–2:00pm: Overview of the Restoration Plan, Jordan Lubetkin and Richard Harrison
2:00–3:00pm: ORBA Working Groups

3:00–3:30pm–Break: View Exhibitor Tables and Student Posters, City View Ballroom

3:30–4:30pm–Workforce Development: ORBCRE and USACE, Location TBA

4:30–5:30pm–Student Poster Session: Location TBA

6:00–8:00pm–Banquet: Student Presentation and “Friends of the Ohio River Basin” Awards, City View Ballroom
Friday, October 06th

7:30-8:30am—Registration (with continental breakfast): Hotel Lobby

8:30-10:00am—Legislative Session: City View Ballroom

10:00-12:00 pm—Concurrent Sessions: Research Presentations

Breakout Room #1, Location TBA
10:00-10:30am:
10:30-11:00am:
11:00-11:30am
11:30-12:00pm

Breakout Room #2, Location TBA
10:00-10:30am:
10:30-11:00am:
11:00-11:30am
11:30-12:00pm

12:00-1:00pm—Lunch on your own

1:00-4:00pm—POTENTIAL FIELD TRIPS: Please see Appendix 1 for Field Trip Descriptions

Field Trip #1
Greater Cincinnati Water Works Richard Miller Treatment Plant
5651 Kellog Avenue, Cincinnati, 45230

Field Trip #2
SD1 Green Building Tour and nearby Constructed Wetlands
1045 Eaton Drive, Ft Wright, KY 41017

Field Trip #3
Thomas More Biology Field Station/Boat Electrofishing
8309 Mary Ingles Highway, California, KY 41007
Keynote Speaker: Colonel Jayson Putnam, Commander of the Huntington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Colonel Jayson Putnam assumed command of the Huntington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on July 15, 2021. As the District Commander, he is responsible for carrying out the District’s mission within the Ohio River Basin, which includes more than 300 navigable miles of the Ohio River in West Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio, plus nine major tributaries. This area encompasses 45,000 square miles in five states – West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, and North Carolina. His staff of more than 1000 employees supports the District’s mission to operate and maintain 35 multi-purpose reservoirs and 9 locks and dams, providing flood damage reduction, commercial navigation, recreation, and water supply while protecting the environment.

The District is involved in significant planning, design, and construction efforts that address replacement of outdated navigation structures on the Ohio and Kanawha Rivers, dam safety measures at operating projects in central Ohio and southern West Virginia, other significant water resource challenges, as well as emergency management. His staff performs the Corps’ regulatory mission in West Virginia and Ohio.

Colonel Putnam was born in Berlin, VT. He was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers through the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1997. Prior to his assignment to the Huntington District, he served as the USACE G3 at HQ, USACE. His previous assignments include Commander of the 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion; Brigade Deputy Commander/Provisional Commander for 3rd Brigade, 3ID; Commander of the 11th Engineer Battalion at Ft. Benning; Executive Officer for the Director of Operations, OACSIM at the Pentagon; Executive Officer for the Strategy & Effects Directorate at ARCENT’s Operational Command Post (OCP) in Kuwait; Battalion Executive Officer and Operations Officer for the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) at Ft. Belvoir; Executive Officer for the Deputy Chief of Engineers at HQ USACE, Branch Chief for the Multi-Spectral Branch at NGA’s School for Geospatial-Intelligence (TSG); Brigade Engineer for 4/3 ID at Ft. Stewart and in Iraq; Company Commander for E/3-7 Infantry (C/11th EN BN) at Ft. Stewart and in Iraq; Battalion Adjutant and Company Executive Officer for the 65th Engineer Battalion at Schofield Barracks; and Platoon Leader for C/91st Engineer Battalion at Ft. Hood and in Bosnia.

Colonel Putnam’s decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), NATO Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Combat Action Badge. Colonel Putnam has deployed to Bosnia, Iraq, and Kuwait.

Colonel Putnam earned his Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Environmental Engineering at West Point, a Master’s of Science Degree in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri-Rolla, a Master’s Degree in Defense Geographic Information Systems from the Royal School of Military Survey at Denison Barracks, Hermitage, UK and a Master’s Degree in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College.
Appendix 1: Potential Field Trips

Participants are responsible for their own transportation to each field trip location and should meet directly at the Field Trip location.

Greater Cincinnati Water Works Richard Miller Treatment Plant Tour
5651 Kellogg Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45230
Minimum participants required: none
Maximum participants Allowed: none

Greater Cincinnati Water Works serves about 1.1 million people in the Cincinnati, Ohio Area. About 900,000 of the area’s residents are served by the Richard Miller Treatment Plant (RMTP) which draws water from the Ohio River. This 2.5 hour tour will show you the overall treatment process at the RMTP including Granular Activated Carbon and our new state-of-the-art ultraviolet disinfection facility. This cutting-edge drinking water treatment facility relies on much of the original early 1900s infrastructure combined with expanded and modern treatment technologies. GCWW relies heavily on multiple types of analytical and monitoring equipment to evaluate source water, various stages in the treatment process and water quality in the distribution system. You will see how online monitors and analytical equipment are used to ensure the drinking water is safe from the source to the tap. The tour will finish with a historical tour of the “Old River Station,” the original 1907 pumping station complete with the original steam engines which moved water from the river up to the treatment plant.

SD1 Green Building Tour and nearby Constructed Wetlands Tour
1045 Eaton Drive, Ft Wright, KY 41017
Minimum participants required: 5;
Maximum participants Allowed: none

For the first part of this tour, SD1 invites you to visit Public Service Park (PSP) for a ~ 1 hour guided tour. The park features environmental best management practices (BMPs) and cutting edge public educational programming. PSP is a national model for environmental outreach. This one-of-a-kind, innovative facility features the following educational tools and Best Management Practices (BMPs): vegetated roof, wetland classroom, storm water garden, retention and detention basins, vegetated bio-swales, watershed plaza, oil/water separator, porous pavements, cistern, urban forest, environmental art sculptures, Native American creek walk and more! For the second part, SD1 invites you to the Banklick Creek Regional Wetland and the recent bank stabilization project. The wetland provides natural water quality treatment for Banklick Creek, reducing the quantity of bacteria, sediment and nutrients in the impaired stream. It was funded in part with a $1.4MIL loan through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. In recent times, a portion of the equilibrium basin for the wetland was at risk due to streambank erosion. Loss of the berm would not only discontinue the operations of the wetland but also lead to sediment loading to the stream network via sustained bank erosion. SD1 received a 319(h) Nonpoint Source grant to implement a bank stabilization project. The project restored ~ 430 linear feet of streambank as well as enhanced an existing riffle to stabilize the grade and improve aquatic habitat within Banklick Creek. The restoration was completed during the early part of 2018.

More on next page.
Thomas More University Biology Field Station Tour with Boat Electrofishing Demonstration
8309 Mary Ingles Highway, California, KY 41007

Minimum participants required: 5
Maximum participants Allowed: 15

This field trip will consist of an in-depth two-hour tour of the Thomas More University Biology Field Station facilities, with emphases on the mussel propagation aquaculture laboratory, managed in conjunction with the USFW and KYFW and the harmful algal bloom detection system. Pending weather and interest level, boat electrofishing on the mainstem of the Ohio River will also be offered. The Field Station is a 25-acre teaching and research facility situated along the banks of the Ohio River (RM451) in Campbell County, Kentucky, just upstream from Cincinnati, Ohio. It was the previous site of the U.S. Government Lock and Dam 35, built in 1919, and one of 51 wicket dams along the Ohio River. The Field Station includes classrooms, research and teachings labs, a conference center & lodge, four houses, an interpretive nature trail and a fleet of research boats. The main activities involve undergraduate research in the field of aquatic biology and K-12 STEM outreach programs.