

SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION FORUM

SURF Break | July 2024



Prioritizing Vulnerability Assessments at Remediation Sites

Regardless of your location, you've likely experienced some type of extreme weather the past few months. As these climate change impacts become part of our daily lives, developing resiliency strategies for contaminated sites should move to the top of remediation practitioners' "to do" lists. Climate impacts (like altered precipitation patterns) can lead to secondary effects (like flooding and drought), which can change site conditions and the assumptions on which the conceptual site model is built. Wondering where to start? Check out these resources:

- For approaches that build on existing resources and summaries of interesting global examples, read SURF's Resilient Remediation: Addressing Extreme Weather and Climate Change, Creating Community Value (click [here](#)).

- To integrate sustainability and resilience in specific remediation project life-cycle phases, read Section 6 of the Interstate Technology Regulatory Council’s Sustainable and Resilient Remediation (click [here](#)).
 - To see how Washington state is addressing this issue, click [here](#) for its guide for cleanup project managers or attend SURF’s webinar on August 13, 2024 (see Upcoming Events).
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Dive In! DOE Seeks Input on Draft Environmental Justice Goals

The Department of Energy (DOE) is seeking public input on its strategic plan to address and advance environmental justice. The Environmental Justice Strategic Plan is being developed to fulfill DOE’s responsibilities under Executive Order 14096, *Revitalizing Our Nation’s Commitment to Environmental Justice for All*. Written comments are due by July 31, 2024; additional submission details and requirements are provided [here](#). Once published, the plan will be updated every four years.



Did You Know? The Potential Positive Impact of Alternative Materials

Did you know that the cement industry contributes up to 8% of global carbon dioxide emissions ([Source](#))? Each day, more and more cement alternatives emerge to help reduce this footprint. One example is carbon-negative cement. Researchers estimate that “replacing 35 percent of the regular cement in a concrete mix with silica would produce a carbon-neutral cement” and “subbing 40 percent or more would make it carbon negative.” (Click [here](#) to read the article.) Bottom line? The viability and applicability of alternative materials are worth considering for remediation projects.

Upcoming Events

SURF Events

SURF Webinar: Sustainable Remediation in Washington State – Combining Climate Change Resiliency and Green Remediation

August 13, 2024

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EDT

Presenter: Chance Asher (Washington State Department of Ecology)

Registration link coming soon!

SURF Meeting @ AEHS East Coast Conference

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. EDT

SURF meetings are always open to members and non-members attending the conference. At this Fall meeting, participants will be providing their perspectives on specific SURF topics in a working meeting format. SURF welcomes and appreciates your input.

Click [here](#) to register for the conference.

Other Webinars and Conferences

EPA Webinar: Tools for Adaptation Planning – LASSO and ICLUS

August 1, 2024

3:00 p.m. – 4 p.m. EDT

Register [here](#).

Annual Georgia Environmental Conference

August 21-23, 2024

Jekyll Island, Georgia

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

California Land Recycling Conference (CALRC) 2024: From the Ground Up

September 17-19, 2024

Carson, California

[Register now](#) while early-bird pricing lasts!

AEHS East Coast Conference: 40th Annual International Conference on Soils, Sediments, Water, and Energy

October 21-24, 2024

Amherst, MA

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.