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SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION FORUM

SURF Break | November 2024



Engaging Moments: SURF @ AEHS East Coast Conference

Last month SURFers gathered at the Association for Environmental Health and Sciences Foundation (AEHS) East Coast Conference in Amherst, Massachusetts, to learn, share, and network. Proof that others had the same goals?

- SURF's two technical sessions. Conference attendees showed up big for the SURF-hosted sessions, which included 10 speakers presenting on a range of topics – the range and value of sustainable remediation tools, the concept of a community site model, climate change resilience during

remedy selection, and an assessment of the relationship between the social and technical aspects of remediation.

- The SURF meeting. Meeting attendees said they liked interacting with others after a day of listening to presentations. Ditto. The group split into three smaller groups and discussed PFAS and sustainability, climate change and resilience in remediation, sustainable remediation tools, and artificial intelligence.
- SURF's Wave of Wisdom Quiz. The good vibes (and promise of good prizes) emanating from the SURF booth during the social hour attracted conference attendees excited to network and answer questions about sustainable remediation. Thanks to the following SURF sponsors for donating prizes: Cascade, EA Engineering, Haley & Aldrich, Jacobs, Langan, and Woodard & Curran.

See you March 17-20, 2025 in San Diego, California, at the AEHS West Coast Conference! Click [here](#) for information.



Dive In! Report on Europe's Progress in Meeting SDGs

Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, recently published a report on Europe's progress toward achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs). *Sustainable Development in the European Union: Monitoring Report on Progress Towards the SDGs in an EU Context – 2024 Edition* uses a set of over 100 indicators to assess progress, identify short-term trends, provide long-term insights, examine the effects of the pandemic, and analyze how European Union consumption patterns affect global sustainability efforts. Links to the report and an overview are available [here](#).



Did You Know? Washington's GHG Emission Reduction Program

The *Washington Climate Commitment Act*, passed in 2021, calls for a mandatory cap-and-invest program to reduce statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. On November 5, 2024, Washington voters (62%) rejected a ballot initiative to repeal the Act. Washington is only the second state (California is the other) to implement a program aimed at creating a market-driven incentive for reducing emissions. How does it work? In Washington, the program sets an annual GHG emissions limit (i.e., cap) of 25,000 metric tons or more for businesses. These businesses must obtain allowances equal to their total emissions by buying them at quarterly auctions or trading them on secondary markets. The cap is lowered annually with the goal of 95% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050. The revenue generated is reinvested into clean energy and emission reduction programs. Implementation of the program began in January 2023 and has raised \$2.3 billion for the state. In September, the Research, Development, and Demonstration Program received a \$14 million grant funded by auction revenue to support research such as carbon capture technologies and low-carbon concrete products. To learn more about the Act and auction reinvestments, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

SURF Events

AEHS West Coast Conference: 34th Annual International Conference on Soil, Water, Energy, and Air

March 17-20, 2025

San Diego, CA

SURF is hosting two technical sessions and a meeting during the conference.

Conference attendees are invited to the SURF meeting. For more information about the conference, click [here](#).

Other Events

EPA Webinar:

ECOTOX Knowledgebase and PFAS Updates

December 5, 2024

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST

Click [here](#) to register.

EPA Webinar:

Better Together: Participatory Science Resources & Opportunities at EPA

December 11, 2024

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST

Click [here](#) to register.

JOIN SURF