

HARVEST ROOM B/C: Breakout Sessions

11 AM – 12 PM

SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

MODERATOR – FREYA THAMMAN

Ali Elhassan, Metropolitan Council

Dr. Ali Elhassan is the manager of water supply planning for the Metropolitan Council. He oversees assessment of the region's water supplies and the development of plans to ensure that supplies are able to meet projected demands. Prior to joining the Council in 2012, Ali worked for 10 years as a senior water resource engineer in both New Mexico and California. Dr. Elhassan has a PhD in engineering from Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology in Japan.

Carmelita Nelson, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Carmelita is a Water Conservation Consultant with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR). Her current responsibilities include: State coordinator for water supply planning, well interference coordinator, developing the state water conservation program, assisting with the Great Lakes Compact and other water allocation planning, groundwater strategic planning, and public outreach and communication. She has spent 30 years with the MnDNR as a Prairie Grassland Coordinator, among other responsibilities. She holds a Master's degree from the University of Michigan and a Bachelors from University of St. Catherine.

Lanya Ross, PG, Metropolitan Council

For over two decades – most recently as Environmental Analyst in Metropolitan Council's Water Supply Planning unit - Lanya has worked with public water suppliers, local government, and agency partners to identify and address water supply issues in the Twin Cities metro area. Lanya studied geology and geography at Macalester College and worked for the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community before joining the Council. She also holds a M.S. in Geology from Northern Arizona University and is past president of the Minnesota Ground Water Association.

Mark Wettlaufer, Minnesota Department of Health

Mark Wettlaufer is a planning supervisor for the Source Water Protection (SWP) Unit with the Minnesota Department of Health. He works with public water suppliers, local government, and agency partners implementing wellhead protection, surface water SWP protection and other efforts to advance drinking water protection at the State and local government level. Mark has over 20 years' experience working with local government in land use, water planning and holds an M.A. in Urban and Regional Studies from Mankato State University.

Plant

