



## Mid-Atlantic Conference 2013 Declared A Success! Kathy Hale, MAC 2013 Co-Chair

The Mid-Atlantic Sections of the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) – NJ, DE, PA, Philadelphia Metro and National Capital – hosted the Mid-Atlantic Conference (MAC) “Water Resources Adaptation and Advancement” on September 26-27, 2013.

Water resource professionals from around the Mid-Atlantic joined the hosting sections for two days of “Community, Conversation, Connections” at the Conference Center at Mercer.

The Mid-Atlantic Conference (MAC) was first held in 1991 at West Point, NY. During the 1990s and early 2000s, the conference was held every year. Matamoras, PA was the location for many of the conferences. Responsibility for planning was shared among the participating sections.

In 2005, when it was NJ-AWRA’s turn to host MAC, the section decided to take a new approach. MAC 2006 was held at the NJ School of Conservation in Branchville, NJ and a high bar for the MACs to follow. DE-AWRA took the lead (some say they were coerced into taking the lead!) for the 2007 MAC and continued to set an excellent standard. The 2013 MAC followed the high standards set in 2006 and 2007.

NJ-AWRA took the lead in planning, with significant support from the Delaware, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia-Metro and National Capital sections.

The call for abstracts resulted in nearly 50 proposals for posters and presentations. These presentations combined to yield an outstanding set of five concurrent sessions over two days.

Current national AWRA President and Executive Director of the Delaware River Basin Commission Carol Collier welcomed attendees to MAC on Thursday morning and provided an overview of AWRA’s roles and activities.

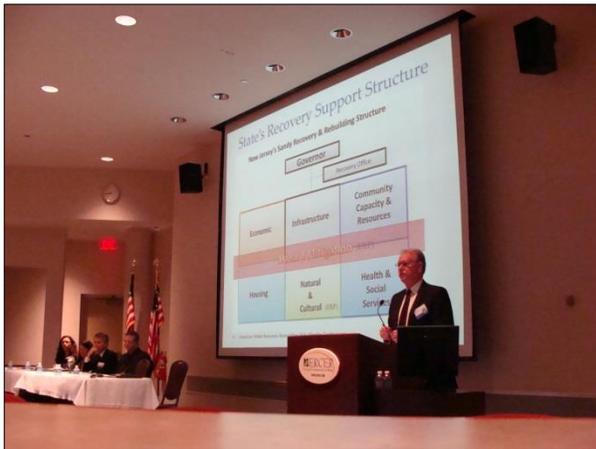




Thursday's keynote speaker, Dr. Radisav Vidic from the University of Pittsburgh discussed "Environmental Challenges and Opportunities in Shale Gas Extraction".

Thursday's concurrent sessions included presentations on green infrastructure, water resources data and stormwater.

Thursday concluded with the annual Water New Year's Eve Celebration and conference banquet. John Miller chaired the Excellence Awards committee, which presented awards to two outstanding projects. This issue of Aquaduct includes summaries of those projects. The traditional Water's Eve trivia quiz kept each table searching for answers until the very end.



On Friday morning, attendees were treated to not just one, but three keynote speakers. On Fred Sickels, Director of the Division of Water Supply & Geoscience, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, presented "New Jersey's Water Infrastructure...Enhancing Resiliency Post Sandy".



We also welcomed Dr. David Robinson, NJ State Climatologist and Gary Szatkowski, National Weather Service, discussing the data and impacts from Superstorm Sandy.



Fridays's concurrent sessions included a double session on Superstorm Sandy, as well as sessions on stormwater and water quality.

All of the presentations from MAC are posted at <http://sdrv.ms/1aYNU2k>.



MAC would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors. The full list of sponsors can be viewed here: <http://mac2013.wildapricot.org/Default.aspx?pageid=1470909>. The atrium of the conference center buzzed with attendees visiting the sponsor booths.

Thank you to all of the conference committee, the presenters and the attendees. Each of our participants helped make MAC 2013 a successful event that continues to set a high standard for future MACs.

