

MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society
45th Annual Meeting

MIDSOUTH AQUATIC PLANT



MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

est. 1982

PROGRAM

October 26th-29th, 2026
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Hilton Capitol Center

MidSouth APMS Meeting Agenda

Baton Rouge, LA
October 26th - 29th, 2026

Monday, October 26th

12:00pm – 5:00pm
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Evening

Exhibitor Set up
MSAPMS Board Meeting
MSAPMS Preconference Social [Room TBD]
Dinner on your own

Tuesday, October 27th

General Session I: Welcome, Keynote, and Regulatory Updates

Moderator: Adam Charlton, *Aquatic Control Inc., Elizabethtown, KY*

8:00 am Opening Remarks
Adam Charlton
Aquatic Control Inc., Elizabethtown, KY

8:10 am Presidential Address
Stephen Turner
Tennessee Valley Authority

8:20 am Keynote Address – A History of Aquatic Plant Management in Louisiana
Dr. Dearl Sanders
Louisiana State University – Extension, Retired

9:10 am EPA & Regulatory Updates
Carlton Layne

9:30 am AERF: Integrating Restoration and Management Projects in the 21st Century
Jim Petta
AERF President

9:40 am EPA Updates Regarding the Endangered Species Act
Dr. Jay Ferrel
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

10:00 am Refreshment Break

Research Session I: New Research in Aquatics

Moderator: Derek Smith, *Aqua Services, A Jones Lake Management Partner, Guntersville, AL*

10:20 am Geographic and genetic patterns of Cuban bulrush (*Cyperus blepharoleptos*) morphology in the invaded range
Gray Turnage
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

10:40 am Initial Concentration-Exposure Time Relationships for *Vallisneria* × *pseudorosulata* with Select Herbicides
Maxwell G. Gebhart
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

11:00 am Can planting native SAV suppress hydrilla regrowth after herbicide treatment?
Dr. Lyn Gettys
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

11:20 am Preliminary results of field trials for reduction of invasive *Vallisneria* taxa in Florida
Gray Turnage
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

11:40 am Preliminary Phenological Trends of *Vallisneria* Grown in Mesocosms
Maxwell G. Gebhart
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

12:00 pm Lunch Provided

General Session II: Professional Development & Outreach

Moderator: Cody Bragg, Aquatic Control Inc., Elizabethtown, KY

1:00 pm	Boater Safety Captain <i>Louisiana Department of Wildlife Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA</i>
1:20 pm	TBD Kim Brown <i>Kim Brown Consulting</i>
1:40 pm	DOT Regulations Captain <i>Louisiana State Police, Baton Rouge, LA</i>
2:00 pm	Worklife Balance Anne Stuckey Williams <i>Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA</i>
2:20 pm	Public Outreach and Engagement in Aquatics Brittany Chesser <i>Texas A&M University</i>
2:40 pm	TBD
3:00 pm	Refreshment Break

General Session III: Resource Management and Technology

Moderator: Matt Townson, Aqua Services, A Jones Lake Management Partner, Guntersville, AL

3:20 pm	A field demonstration of dioecious hydrilla control in the Spring Creek arm of Lake Seminole Michael Durham <i>US ARMY ERDC- CAIP, Gainesville, FL</i>
3:40 pm	Aquatic Plants Management Activities of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Mike Pursley <i>Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Biloxi, MS</i>
4:00 pm	Less is best: low dose copper sulfate treatments can improve water quality Dr. Alan Wilson <i>Auburn University, Auburn, AL</i>
4:20 pm	Aquatic Vegetation Management in Mississippi: Successes, Failures, and Lessons Learned Buford Lessley <i>Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, & Parks, Pearl, MS</i>
4:40 pm	Interactive Study Applications as a Foundation for an AI Field-Support Agent in Applicator Training Chris Taylor <i>Jones Lake Management</i>
5:00 pm	Day 1 Presentations Conclude
5:30 pm	Presidents Reception

Wednesday, October 28th

General Session II: Student Presentations

Moderator: Tim McLean, *Alabama Power, AL*

- 8:00 am A New Taxa of Eel grass
AJ Horstead
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
- 8:20 am Seasonal Efficacy of Herbicide Mixtures for Giant Salvinia Management in Mesocosms
Kori Paliwoda
Texas A&M University
- 8:40 am Aquatic Use and Select Non-Aquatic Use Herbicide Efficacy on *Vallisneria spiralis* in Mesocosms
Abigail Pugh
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
- 9:00 am How do salvinia weevils respond to herbicide treated giant salvinia?
Samantha Prinsloo
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
- 9:20 am Initial Concentration-Exposure Time Relationships for *Vallisneria spiralis* with Select Herbicides
Jill Skidmore
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
- 9:40 am Student Q&A
- 10:00 am Refreshment Break [Room TBD]

General Session III: Industry, Resource management, Government Agencies, Technology

Moderator: Matt Horton, *Arkansas Game and Fish*

- 10:20 am Industry Updates - Platinum and Gold Sponsors
- 10:40 am TBD
- 11:00 am Automated Mapping of Non-Indigenous Aquatic Plant Species via Unoccupied Aerial Systems and Artificial Intelligence
Daniel McCraine
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
- 11:20 am Alabama Power Aquatic Plant Management Program
Tim McLean
Alabama Power, Alabama
- 11:40 am General New Direction of USFWS regarding AIS species in the region
Kayla Kimmel
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Tupelo, MS
- 12:00 pm Lunch Provided

Research Session II: New Research

Moderator: Brittany Chesser, *Texas A&M University*

1:00 pm	TBD Ben Sperry <i>US ARMY ERDC- CAIP, Gainesville, FL</i>
1:20 pm	Does Integrated Pest Management Improve Control of Cuban Bulrush? Chris Mudge <i>Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA</i>
1:40 pm	Wildlife/Coastal Restoration in the face of nutria/swine issues David Curtiss <i>US Department of Agriculture, APHIS, Wildlife Services, Port Allen, LA</i>
2:00 pm	Aquatic Use and Select Non-Aquatic Use Herbicide Efficacy on <i>Vallisneria × pseudorosulata</i> grown in mesocosms Gray Turnage <i>Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS</i>
2:20 pm	TBD
2:40 pm	TBD
3:00 pm	Refreshment Break

General Session III: Resource Management and Technology

Moderator: Wykle Green, *The Orion Companies*

3:20 pm	Biobase & EcoFish: Understanding the Technology Troy Goldsby <i>Biobase</i>
2:20 pm	Aquatic Vegetation Management in Texas Private Ponds: Challenges, Practices, and Knowledge Gaps Brittany Chesser <i>Texas A&M University</i>
4:00 pm	TBD Stephen Turner, TVA
4:20 pm	TBD Matt Townson, Aqua Services, a Jones Lake Mgmt Company
4:40 pm	TBD
5:00 pm	MSAPMS Business Meeting

Thursday, October 29th

6:00 am – 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00 am	Buses leave for LSU Mesocosm Aquatic Plant Workshop Field Day
8:20am – 11:00am	Tour LSU mesocosm, crawfish production farm, and campus lake restoration projects
11:00am	Buses leave LSU for hotel & final sessions.
11:20am	Arrive back at hotel
11:30am	Aquatic Plants and Restoration: A look at restoration on LSU's campus lakes. Kayla Kimmel US Fish and Wildlife Service, Tupelo, MS
11:50am	Louisiana's Crawfish Industry and Aquatic Plants Todd Fontenot <i>Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA</i>
12:10pm	Closing Remarks and Adjourn
