

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Sacoby Wilson, PhD

Associate Professor, School of Public Health, University of Maryland

Sacoby Wilson is an Associate Professor with the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health and Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, University of Maryland at College Park. He is also Director of the Community Engagement, Environmental Justice and Health (CEEJH) laboratory, which provides technical assistance and research support to communities fighting against environmental injustice and environmental health disparities in the DC-Maryland-Virginia region and across the nation. Sacoby is a member of the EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, and the National Academy of Science's Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology. He is Editor in Chief of the publication, *Environmental Justice*. He is Co-Founder of the DC-Md-Va Environmental Justice Coalition and Founder of 17 for Peace and Justice, and is steering the recently relaunched National Black Environmental Justice Network. He has been recognized with the 2018 Taking Nature Black Environmental Champion Award and the American Public Health Association's Environmental Justice Award in 2015. A two-time EPA STAR fellow, an EPA MAI fellow, a Udall Scholar, a NASA Space Scholar, and Thurgood Marshall Scholar.

Greg Allen, PhD

Environmental Scientist, US EPA Region III, Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Greg Allen is an environmental scientist in the US Environmental Protection Agency Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Office. He has served as an EPA environmental scientist for more than 20 years. He is Coordinator of CBP's Toxic Contaminants Workgroup, and a Coordinator of the Partnering, Leadership, and Management Team of CBP. He is also Watershed Implementation Plan lead for Federal Agencies. He has experience with management systems for quality environmental, and strategy management. Greg is a recipient of the White House Closing the Circle Award for leadership in implementation of environmental management systems.

Vicki Blazer, PhD

Fish Pathologist, U.S. Geological Survey

Vicki Blazer is a research scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey's National Fish Health Research Laboratory, Leetown Science Center in Kearneysville, WV. Her current research interests involve understanding fish health and its relationship to ecosystem health, environmental contaminants, pathogens, parasites and land use, and the sources, pathways and effects of endocrine disruptors and other contaminants of emerging concern. Vicki received her BS in Marine Biology from Southampton College, a PhD from Rhode Island University and completed a postdoctoral position at the Veterinary College at the University of Georgia. She was the Assistant Unit Leader of the Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit where she directed numerous graduate students and taught classes in fish disease, fish pathology and fish nutrition. Since coming to WV in 1992, she has continued to work with graduate students through West Virginia University, Hood College and Penn State and teaching classes through the Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center.

Mike Ichniowski, MD**Chair, Environmental Health Committee, American Academy of Pediatrics, Md. Chapter**

Michael Ichniowski is a physician who retired last year after over 40 years in pediatrics. He received a Bachelor's degree in Biology from New York University, his M.D. degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and completed his pediatric training at the University of Maryland Hospital. He also completed a Certificate in Environmental Studies at Johns Hopkins University. He has served as chairperson of the Environmental Health Committee for the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics for the past 10 years. Mike represents the Academy on the Smart on Pesticides Coalition.

Ana M. Rule, PhD, MHS**Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health**

Ana Rule is director of the exposure assessment labs and member of the Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health at the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Ana has been involved in exposure science research for over 15 years with a focus in environmental and occupational exposures to aerosols, including biological aerosols. She has worked in industry and academia, served in the Scientific Advisory Board for the Maryland Environmental Health Network and is an expert advisor for the WHO task force on PPE during COVID-19. Ana's main research goal is the development and evaluation of novel sampling and analysis strategies for the assessment and control of exposure to air pollutants. She has worked toward this goal doing field research as well as laboratory-based controlled studies. Her current research includes the study of exposure to metals from electronic cigarettes and exposure to biological aerosols in agricultural and nosocomial environments.

Thomas Green, Ph.D.**Co-founder and Board President, IPM Institute of North America**

Dr. Thomas Green is an entomologist and co-founder of the IPM Institute of North America. He is a national leader in pest management programs that sustain human and environmental health. A certified crop advisor and co-founder of IPM Institute of North America, Tom's market-based IPM initiatives have seen widespread adoption by clients such as Sysco, Frontier Co-op, farming communities, and schools and universities and other facilities. A recipient of the Entomological Foundation's Medal of Honor and the International IPM Symposium's Lifetime Achievement Award, Tom serves on the boards of the IPM Institute of North America, the Heartland Health Research Alliance, IPM Voice, Protected Harvest as well as the Maryland Pesticide Education Network. He also operates Green Pest and Tick Control, focusing on structural and landscape pest management for sensitive environments in Wisconsin. He brings valuable hands-on experience with everyday pest management struggles facing farmers, and innovative, non-chemical solutions.

Cleo Braver, Esq.**Cottingham Farm**

Cleo Braver is an attorney-turned-farmer and the owner of Cottingham Farm, an organic farm on the Eastern Shore. She currently serves as a Maryland Pesticide Education Network

representative on the Maryland Department of Agriculture-led Healthy Soils Consortium and the Soil Health Advisory Committee. Cleo worked as General Counsel for a Baltimore corporation and also worked as an attorney in the non-profit world. She helped form the

Environmental Committee of Talbot County Democratic Forum and serving as first Chair. That activism led her to give up being a "gentleman farmer" and becoming a certified organic farmer.

Jay Feldman

Executive Director, Beyond Pesticides

Jay is a cofounder of the organization and has served as its director since 1981. Jay dedicated himself to finding solutions to pesticide problems after working with farmworkers and small farmers through an EPA grant in 1978 to the national advocacy organization Rural America (1977-1981). Since that time, Jay has helped to build Beyond Pesticides' capacity to assist local groups and impact national pesticide policy. He has tracked specific chemical effects, regulatory actions, and pesticide law. He is very familiar with local groups working on pesticides and has helped develop successful strategies for reform in local communities. His work with media has helped to bring broader public understanding of the hazards of pesticides. Jay has a Masters in urban and regional planning with a focus on health. In September 2009, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack appointed Jay to the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB), where he completed a 5-year term in January 2015.

Virginia Ruiz, Esq.

Virginia Ruiz is an immigration attorney at Just Neighbors, an organization that provides immigration legal services to vulnerable immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in Virginia, Maryland and Washington, DC. For more than 20 years, Virginia worked on state and federal policy and legal issues related to farmworkers in the U.S. As the Director of Occupational and Environmental Health at Farmworker Justice, she focused on administrative and legislative advocacy and community education for farmworkers and other low-income Latino communities on issues related to environmental justice, occupational health and safety, and access to healthcare. Prior to working at Farmworker Justice, she was Staff Attorney for California Rural Legal Assistance's Indigenous Project, where she represented indigenous migrants from southern Mexico and Guatemala.

George Harman, B.S.

Environmental Consultant

George Harman has 40 years' experience in environmental program development and management, including state agency and private engineering firm service. He developed the statewide system for biological assessment of water quality and established the Maryland Water Monitoring Council, the first state programs in the US for PCB and asbestos inspection and hazardous materials transportation safety, formed the State's first bioassay laboratory, served as MDE representative on the Governor's Pesticide Council, MDE's federal facilities coordinator and chaired the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Committee. George ran for Baltimore County Executive in 2014.