



Fall Conference

October 7-9, 2026

Spark by Hilton Ames

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026		
10:00 AM	Golf Outing - Ames Golf & Country Club (5752 George Washington Carver Ave., Ames)	
5:00 PM	Welcome Reception & Golf Awards - Torrent Brewing Co. (504 Burnett Ave., Ames)	
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026		
Moderator: Beth Richards, Chapter President (Morning) & Justin Clausen, Chapter President-Elect (Afternoon)		
7:30 AM	Registration Check-in & Breakfast	
9:00 AM	Welcome	Beth Richards, Iowa Chapter President Mayor John Haila, City of Ames Bill Stogsdill/Wilf Nixon, APWA
9:30 AM	Partnering with Elected Officials: Communication, Advocacy, and Legislative Change (Panel)	Chelsea Hoyer, Iowa League of Cities Mayor John Haila, City of Ames Mayor David Kuhn, City of Huxley Shelby Hagan, City of Bondurant
10:15 AM	MORNING BREAK	
10:30 AM	CMAR Delivery for Altoona Water Treatment Plant	Alex Potter, McClure John Dostart, City of Altoona
11:15 AM	Safety Starts Within: Integrating Mental Health in the Workplace	Brittany Neese, City of Cedar Rapids
12:00 PM	LUNCH & ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING	Beth Richards, Iowa Chapter President
1:15 PM	AI Demystified	Zaid Alsamawi, City of Coralville
2:15 PM	Iowa DOT Local Systems Update	Tyler Wilson, Iowa DOT
2:45 PM	AFTERNOON BREAK	
3:00 PM	Stacking the Deck: Combining Funding Sources for Flood Resilience	Tracy Warner, Eocene
3:45 PM	Iowa LTAP Update	Bret Hodne, Iowa LTAP
4:00 PM	Pedestrian Master Planning - Using Innovative Tools & Inclusive Planning to Transform Walkability	Brian Willham, JEO Consulting Group
4:30 PM	Best Practices for Pedestrian Underpasses	Nathan Hardisty, Shive-Hattery
5-9 PM	Hospitality Hour & Annual Awards Banquet	
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026		
Moderator: Baylor Bestgen, Iowa Chapter West Region Director		
7:00 AM	Breakfast	
8:00 AM	Asset Management: Near and Far	Chris Senesi, HDR Engineering Damion Pregitzer, City of Ames
8:45 AM	SUDAS/PWSB Update	David Carney & Beth Richards, SUDAS/ PWSB
9:00 AM	FHWA MCTC & Modern Specifications for Today’s Concrete	Mike Praul, FHWA MCTC
9:30 AM	BREAK	
9:45 AM	Creating Connections: Facilitating Meaningful Public Input	Justin Clausen & Mark Peebler, City of Ames
10:15 AM	The Power of GIS Applications to Support Transparency & Record Keeping	Rachel Koch & Jacob Ahrens, Bolton & Menk; Liz Hix, City of Perry
10:50 AM	Case Study & Conversation: Engineering Ethics in Real Time	Kate Padgett Walsh & Clark Wolf, ISU




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