



MEHA Spring Education Conference

May 7-8, 2026

Sugar Lake Lodge, Cohasset, MN

Thursday, May 7th, 2026		
7:00 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast	
8:00 am – 8:30 am	Registration and Networking	
8:30 am – 8:45 am	<i>MEHA President's Message & Exhibitor Introductions</i> Kyle Johnsen	
8:45 am – 9:35 am	<i>Environmental Health Strategies: A Multi-Agency Roundtable Workshop</i>	
9:35 am – 10:25 am	NEHA Executive Director Dr. David Dyjack National Environmental Health Association	
10:25 am – 11:05 am	BREAK: Vendors and Networking	
11:05 am – 12 pm	<i>MDH Update</i> Kirk Smith Minnesota Department of Health	
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	LUNCH	
	FOOD	GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
1:00 pm – 1:50 pm	<i>QAP Implementation</i> Cody Miller Olmsted County	<i>Climate Adaptation in Agriculture</i> Katie Black UMN Climate Adaptation Partnership
1:50 pm – 2:40 pm	<i>Live Animal /Bird Markets</i> Levi Muhl Minnesota Department of Agriculture	<i>PFAS</i> Matt Simcik UMN School of Public Health
2:40 pm – 3:10 pm	BREAK: Vendors and Networking	
3:10 pm – 4:00 pm	<i>Allergens and Food Code</i> Michelle HW Hill CFP Allergen Committee	<i>[Placeholder Title]</i> TBD Employer or Organization
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	AWARDS DINNER Frank A. Staffenson Environmental Health Professional of the Year Award Emerging Professional Award & Merit Award Prize Raffle benefiting the Mary Lauren Olson and Northstar Scholarship Funds	
8 pm – 11:00 pm	Bean Bag Tournament	

Friday, May 8th, 2026		
7:00 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast	
8:30 am – 9:15 am	MEHA Annual Business Meeting Members Encouraged to Attend and Participate in Your Organization	
	FOOD	GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
9:15 am – 10:05 am	<i>Model Food Code and State Adaptation</i> Angie Wheeler Minnesota Department of Health	<i>Environmental Radiation</i> Jesse Fillmore MDH Public Health Lab
10:05- 11:00	<i>Food Waste</i> Twila Singh City of Edina	<i>Septic</i> Bill Phillips Hennepin County
11:00 - 11:20 am	BREAK: Exhibitors and Networking <i>TBD</i>	
11:20 am - 12:15 pm	<i>Making Meaningful Connections: How to Charge Up Your Network</i> Dr Janel Anderson Working Conversations LLC	

Interested in helping plan future MEHA Conferences?

- We would love your help! Email Kelly Smeltzer (kelly.smeltzer@state.mn.us) to join the conference planning committee.
- Have speaker ideas? Working on something interesting that would be a great topic for next year? Send them our way!
- Watch your email for a post-conference survey. We use the feedback to help plan the next meeting.

Volunteer for MEHA committees

Many committees are looking for volunteers. Scan the QR code and go to the committees page for descriptions of volunteer opportunities.