

Arkansas Environmental Policy Summit Agenda
Friday, September 9th, 2016
Heifer International Headquarters
1 World Avenue, Little Rock, AR

8:30-9:30am **Networking Breakfast and Check-in** (Heifer Village Conference Room)
9:30-10:00am **Welcome/Overview**
10:00-10:50am **Session 1** (three concurrent sessions)

- **Arkansas Energy 101: What's Happening In The Natural State?** -Big changes are afoot in Arkansas's energy sector, and we're bringing you the experts who can help explain it all. Join us for a sharp, informative, and interactive discussion about the Clean Power Plan, changes to renewable energy "net metering", and our state's pending energy efficiency work. *(Energy track)*

Moderator- Stuart Spencer- Associate Director, Air Division, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

Panelist- Kelly McQueen- Assistant General Counsel, Environmental for Entergy Services Inc.

John Bethel, Director- Arkansas Public Service Commission

Ken Smith- Policy Director, Arkansas Advanced Energy Foundation

- **Keeping our waters clean-** Arkansas has some of the cleanest water in the lower 48. Hear from a panel of experts on some of the main issues facing the quality of our State's water resources. Learn what regulations, policies and campaigns are in place and underway to protect this precious resource. *(Water track)*

Moderator- Ross Noland- Owner, Noland Law Firm, P.A.

Panelist- Sarah Clem- Branch Manager, Water Quality Planning, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

Colene Gaston- Staff Attorney, Beaver Water District

Debbie Doss- Director, Arkansas Watertrails Partnership

Don Richardson- Conservationist and Commissioner, Arkansas Natural Resource Commission

- **Planning for progress-** Are you concerned about an environmental issue and want to take action but aren't sure how to be effective? Attend this session to learn how to create a campaign plan, organize other concerned citizens around your issue, and how to effectively communicate your message to decision makers and the public. *(Skill building, offered twice)*

Presenters: Bill Kopsky- Executive Director, Arkansas Public Policy Panel

Kyle Leyenberger- Communications Coordinator, Arkansas Public Policy Panel

Chris McNamara- Citizens Climate Lobby

Kymara Seals- Policy Director Arkansas Public Policy Panel

11:00-11:50am **Session II** (three concurrent sessions)

- **Our changing climate-**This session will offer a brief overview of the science of climate change, the impacts this will have on Arkansas, provide viewpoints from a variety of voices, and arm participants with ideas for taking action. *(Energy track)*

Discussion Leaders: Chris Balos- Marshallese Community Organizer
 Nancy Brown- Psychotherapist
 Fannie Fields-Board of Directors, Arkansas Public Policy Panel
 Robert McAfee- Co-convener, Arkansas Citizens Climate Lobby
 Don Richardson- Conservationist, Commissioner Arkansas Natural Resource Commission
 Marilyn Rumph- PhD., Sierra Club member
 Robin Rumph-PhD., Sierra Club member
 Retha Spencer- Gould City Council
 Chandra Taylor Smith- Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion
 Jack Stewart- Director, National Audubon Society
 Lay Vongnarath- Advocate for Wellness, Social Justice & Environmental Justice

- **AR Water Plan-** The Arkansas Water Plan (AWP) is the state’s policy for long-term water management. The AWP was recently updated for the first time in 30 years. Hear how the plan was updated, what issues and recommendations are incorporated into the AWP and how to support implementation of policies and practices that will protect our water resources to meet future needs. *(Water track)*

Presenter: Edward Swaim- Water Resources Division Manager, Arkansas Natural Resource Commission

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12:00-1:30pm **Lunch with Keynote Speaker: [Chandra Taylor Smith](#) - “The Transformative Power of a More Diverse, Equitable, Inclusive Environmental Movement”**

1:30-2:00pm **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Environmental Justice Strategy Presentation-**
 Arturo Blanco- Director, Office of Environmental justice, USEPA Region 6

2:00-4:00pm **How to be an effective environmental advocate-** Panel discussion with key environmental decision makers
Moderator: Glen Hook- Chapter Director, Sierra Club of Arkansas
Panelist: John Bethel- Director, Arkansas Public Service Commission
 David Branscum-District 83, Arkansas House of Representatives
 Ron Chastain- Agricultural Liaison for Senator John Boozeman
 Barry Hyde- Pulaski County Judge

4:00pm **Adjourn**