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## 2016 Arkansas Watershed Conference: October 27/28 – Eureka Springs

## Arkansas Environmental, Energy, and Water Law Blog

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The 2016 Arkansas Watershed Conference ("Conference") will be held October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission are co-sponsoring the Conference.

The theme of this year's Conference is *A Fluid Mosaic: The Big Picture of Watersheds*. The theme is stated to reflect the inclusiveness that is necessary to foster successful community partnerships.

Conference speakers will address a variety of water quality issues, tools and resources for communities to help conserve and protect local water resources, and successful watershed projects.

The keynote speaker is Tiffany Frey who serves as Executive Director of the James River Basin Partnership in Missouri. The title of her keynote address will be *Diverse Partnership Building*.

The Conference is designed for attendees such as:

- Conservation and Restoration Practitioners
- Water Quality Specialists
- Land Use and Water Supply Planners
- Elected Officials and Managers
- Citizens Engaged in Watershed Work

Other activities such as a scavenger hunt are scheduled.

The agency co-sponsors are seeking nominations for three water quality service awards, honoring individuals, professionals, and/or projects making a difference in their watershed's communities. The deadline for submission of nominees is October 7<sup>th</sup>.

A new award is also being presented this year. This award is denominated the "Innovator of the Year Award." It is intended to highlight innovative measures or outside-the-box projects that reduce runoff water impact. Nominations are open to schools, research teams, private and public entities, businesses and agricultural operations.

A link to the Conference webpage can be found here.



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