

THE ARKANSAS FIRE POLICY FORUM

A forum hosted by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Forestry Commission.
Sponsored by the Arkansas Environmental Federation.

Land managers utilize fire in a variety of contexts including forestry, conservation, and in the agricultural sector. While Arkansas is attaining and maintaining all national air quality standards, smoke from fires still contains air contaminants that affect air quality. Due largely to the growing urban/rural interface, complaints related to smoke from fires have increased over time. Facilitating healthy air quality requires an on-going effort by land managers and air quality experts.

This event is an effort to bring diverse professionals together to discuss how Arkansas's air quality can be maintained by careful and prudent use of fire as a tool. The primary purposes of these discussions are:

- To promote air quality as a factor to be considered when conducting activities that cause air contaminant emissions
- To promote, encourage, and enhance best management practices and plans for use of fire as a management tool
- To stimulate discussion of recent and up-coming actions that might affect these practices, and to develop recommendations for any future federal, state, or local policies that may be appropriate for further consideration.

The primary goal of this forum is to foster a vibrant dialogue surrounding the use of fire as a land management tool and its effect on air quality in the State of Arkansas.

March 29-30
Wyndham
Riverfront Hotel
North Little Rock,
Arkansas



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Keynote Speaker

Congressman Bruce Westerman

U.S. House of Representatives

Fourth Congressional District, Arkansas



Congressman Bruce Westerman is a Hot Springs native currently serving his second term as representative from the Fourth District of Arkansas, having first been elected in 2014. Westerman serves on the Committee on the Budget, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Committee on Natural Resources, where he is Chair of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. Westerman also serves on the Majority Whip Team under the leadership of House Majority Whip Steve Scalise.

Prior to serving in Congress, Westerman was elected to two terms in the Arkansas General Assembly, where he was the state's first Republican House Majority Leader since Reconstruction following the 2013 GOP takeover of the Arkansas House of Representatives.

An engineer and forester by trade, Westerman worked for twenty-two years at Mid-South Engineering in Hot Springs. He was named Engineer of the Year by the Arkansas Society of Professional Engineers in 2013.

A 1990 graduate of the University of Arkansas with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Westerman was a four-year walk-on member of the Razorback football team. He was awarded the Outstanding Young Alumni Award in 2005 and the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2012. Westerman is also a graduate of Yale University, earning a Master of Forestry degree in 2001.

Westerman lives in Hot Springs with his wife, Sharon. They have four children. He enjoys hunting and fishing.

For more information on Rep. Bruce Westerman, please

- Visit <https://westerman.house.gov>
- Follow him on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/RepWesterman>
- Follow him on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/RepWesterman>

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March 29, 2018

7:00 a.m.–8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast		
8:30 a.m.–8:45 a.m.	Welcome	Stuart Spencer, Associate Director ADEQ Office of Air Quality
8:45 a.m.–9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	Becky Keogh, Director Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality Wes Ward, Secretary Arkansas Agriculture Department
9:00 a.m.–9:30 a.m. Keynote Address Congressman Bruce Westerman U.S. House of Representatives, Fourth Congressional District, Arkansas		
9:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.	ADEQ Perspective	Mark McCorkle, Environmental Program Coordinator Air Planning and Policy ADEQ Office of Air Quality
10:00 a.m.–10:15 a.m. Break		
10:15 a.m.–10:45 a.m.	The Need for Smoke Management	Joe Fox, State Forester Arkansas Forestry Commission
10:45 a.m.–11:15 a.m.	Fire as a Tool	McRee Anderson, Director Fire Restoration Program The Nature Conservancy Arkansas Prescribed Fire Council
11:15 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	EPA's Regional Haze Rule	Michael Vince, MPA Executive Director CenSARA
11:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.	Agricultural Practices and Policies	John Bailey, Director Environmental and Regulatory Affairs Arkansas Farm Bureau
12:15 p.m.–1:30 p.m. Lunch		
1:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m.	Legal Overview	Jamie Ewing and Dara Hall Assistant Attorneys General Arkansas Office of the Attorney General
2:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.	Impact of Crop Residue Management on Rice Production and Developing Crop Residue Burning Inventory	Yi Liang, Associate Professor Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering University of Arkansas Jarrod Hardke, Rice Extension Agronomist University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture
2:30 p.m.–2:45 p.m. Break		
2:45 p.m.–3:30 p.m.	Prescribed Burning and Air Quality	Dr. Mohammad Bataineh, Professor School of Forestry and Natural Resources University of Arkansas, Monticello
3:30 p.m.–3:50 p.m.	Storm Debris Burning	Brent Day, Inspector Supervisor Compliance ADEQ Office of Air Quality
3:50 p.m.–4:30 p.m.	State of the Air in Arkansas	Tricia Treece, Epidemiology Supervisor Air Planning and Policy ADEQ Office of Air Quality

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Featured Speaker

Wayne Cascio, MD, FACC

Acting Director

National Health and Environmental
Effects Research Laboratory

Office of Research and Development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Dr. Wayne Cascio is Acting Director of the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Prior to joining the EPA in 2011, Dr. Cascio worked to increase access to cardiovascular health care in underserved rural areas, and served on EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee for Particulate Matter.

Dr. Cascio now serves as the EPA's liaison to Federal Fire Science Coordinating Committee. He also serves on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Environmental Health-Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's Board of Scientific Counselors, the Institute of Medicine's Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research and Medicine, and the U.S. Surgeon General's National Prevention Council.

Dr. Cascio's current research includes the study of the health effects of environmental pollutants, especially wildland fire smoke, for the purpose of informing risk assessment, risk-management decisions, and improvement of public health and quality of life through increased environmental health communication and literacy. He has played a key role in the evolution of the field of environmental cardiology since the late 1990s. Dr. Cascio has conducted, collaborated, or consulted on research studies that have resulted in a wide variety of publications, including "Wildland Fire Smoke and Human Health" and "Community Vulnerability to Health Impacts of Wildland Fire Smoke Exposure" in 2017, and "Fine Particulate Matters: The Impact of Air Quality Standards on Cardiovascular Mortality."

Dr. Cascio is a clinician/scientist and is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Diseases.

THE ARKANSAS FIRE POLICY FORUM

March 30, 2018

8:30 a.m.–9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast		
9:00 a.m.–9:45 a.m.	Remote Sensing and Satellite Detection Research	Jessica L. McCarty, Ph.D., Assistant Professor Department of Geography Miami University
9:45 a.m.–10:30 a.m.	Smoke Models	Bill Jackson, Air Resource Specialist Region 8, Southern U.S. Forest Service
10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.	FLM Role in Regional Haze	Tim Allen, Meteorologist/Modeler U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
10:45 a.m.–11:00 a.m. Break		
11:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.	Exceptional Events	Brad Busby, Manager Air Monitoring and Assessment Section Arizona Department of Environmental Quality The Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies
11:30 a.m.–Noon	Prescribed Burns and PM_{2.5}	Taylor Deems, Environmental Engineer ECCI Arkansas Environmental Federation
Noon–1:30 p.m. Lunch on your own		
1:30 p.m.–2:45 p.m. Wildfire Smoke: Health Effects and Public Health Outreach Wayne Cascio, Acting Director National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL) Office of Research and Development U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)		
2:45 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	Exceptional Events and Air Monitoring	Dorothy Crawford U.S. EPA Region 6
3:15 p.m.–4:00 p.m.	Medical Marijuana Comes to Arkansas	Morril Hilton Harriman, Jr. Counsel Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.
Adjourn		