The 2026 Delaware Wetlands Conference Presentation Information

We are accepting abstracts for 15-minute oral presentations and/or proposals for poster presentations. Abstracts for oral presentations will be accepted until October 17, 2025. You will receive notification of acceptance by October 23, 2025. Poster proposals will be accepted until December 19, 2025. The selection process is competitive and not all submitted abstracts will be accepted. Additional details regarding registration and logistics will be provided upon acceptance of the submission.

Presentation Formats:

15-Minute Oral Presentation:
Presenters will be allotted 15 minutes for their presentation, followed by five minutes for questions after the presentation concludes. All presentation rooms are equipped with a PC laptop (with Office Suite loaded), LCD projector, remote, and screen. Wireless internet is also available in all presentation rooms. We will be collecting presentations from accepted presenters day-of so please have it ready on a portable drive.

Poster Presentation:
Poster presentations should be 36 inches high by 48 inches wide. We will provide clips to attach your poster to the display board. Posters will remain up through the entire conference with time set aside for networking and discussion.

Chris Sommerfield Memorial Student Competitions:
Undergraduate and graduate research students are encouraged to participate in the student oral presentation and/or the student poster competition as a way to gain experience and put your research in front of professionals in the field. The student competitions will follow the same format of the regular oral presentations or poster presentations (see above). Please refer to the Oral Presentation Judging Rubric and/or the Poster Judging Rubric for guidance on scoring. Awards will be given to the first, second, and third-place winners of each competition.

Note: Students that do not wish to participate in the oral presentation or poster competitions may still submit an oral presentation abstract or poster proposal.

Submission Content Category:

This year we are requesting applicants to self-select any content categories that best describe the abstract submission theme. The options provided are not an all-encompassing list and we encourage any and all wetland related topics. This information helps the conference planning committee better group presentations by content similarity. Please note that your selection does not necessarily determine the session your presentation will be part of.

Submission content categories are as follows:
- Wetland Plants and Animals
- Monitoring and Assessment
- Tidal Restoration
- Non-Tidal Restoration
- Planning and Conservation
- Coastal Resiliency and Climate Change
- Education, Outreach, and Science Communication
- Mapping, GIS, and Modeling
- Policy and Legislation
- Beneficial Use
- Other

Tips for Success:

A carefully crafted presentation can ensure that your message is heard by your audience. With that in mind here are a few helpful tips that all presenters should consider when developing their presentations:
- Keep it Simple: Limit the use of bullet points and text. Avoid transitions or animations. Use meaningful, clear, and large graphics. Keep a consistent simple background.
- Fonts: Make sure your font is simple and easy to read. Using common fonts such as Calibri, Arial, or Verdana is recommended for PowerPoint. A 40-point font is good for titles and 32-point font is good for subtitles or bullet points. No font should be smaller than 24-point.
- Graphs and Charts: Make sure the audience can read them! Create simplified graphs or charts that highlight the important parts of the larger picture and refer your attendees to where they can find the complete story.

In a nutshell if you think you are going to have to say, "you probably can't read this, but...", then change the slide so people can read it. After all, the main reason you're at our conference is to share your work!

For questions or further clarification please email Alison Stouffer at alison.stouffer@delaware.gov.