

## 2022 IMPACT REPORT

# WATER CHATS

The Water Chats Advisory Council included **water quality professionals from 25 organizations** in South Carolina.

Year One of the program focused on **four key themes** identified by the Council: emerging contaminants, harmful algal blooms, stormwater control measures, and source water protection.

**\$39,161**  
Total Economic  
Benefit<sup>1</sup>

## 2022 SUMMER WEBINAR SERIES

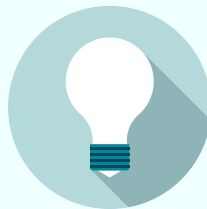
Over **470 attendees** from approximately 90 organizations representing the program's target audiences (technical managers, natural resource managers, regulatory staff, decision makers, engineers, outreach professionals, and researchers) were in attendance throughout the eight free webinars.

57% of registrants attended, representing an **above average attendance** rate for trainings or workshops.<sup>2</sup>



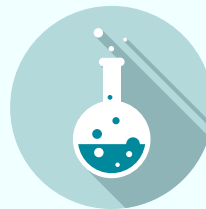
**92%**

found the  
webinars a good  
use of time



**95%**

gained new  
knowledge from  
the webinars



**74%**

plan to apply  
knowledge to  
their work



**48**

CEU certificates  
provided at no cost  
to the attendee

*"These Water Chats are terrific - great job in selecting a range of timely and applicable topics and speakers. Some of these could easily be turned into a half-day workshop." —Program Attendee*

<sup>1</sup> The total 2022 economic benefit of Water Chats was calculated based on CEU savings, travel costs, and opportunity costs.

<sup>2</sup> Molay, Ken (2009). *Best Practices for Webinars*. Adobe Systems Incorporated White Paper. [http://www.osach.ca/SG/Meeting\\_4\\_2012/BestPracticesforWebinars.pdf](http://www.osach.ca/SG/Meeting_4_2012/BestPracticesforWebinars.pdf), accessed 2/22/2023

## STUDENT COMPONENT

The **student component** of the program included ten student speakers from five universities in presenting current research as part of the summer webinar series. These webinars provided the students' presentation experience with audience feedback, an opportunity for connection building, and engagement on various research needs.

*"These are great learning experiences for the students."  
—Program Attendee*

*"This is important to develop the presentation skills of young scientists and future science or project leads"—Program Attendee*

## SPECIAL JOURNAL ISSUE

The Water Chats special issue of ***Journal of South Carolina Water Resources*** is on track for publication in 2023 with ten articles. Manuscript authors include students, early career professionals, outreach professionals, and academic researchers.

## SPECIAL CONFERENCE SESSION

Approximately 30 participants attended the **panel discussion** at the 2022 South Carolina Water Resources Conference and collectively provided input to inform the focus of the next Water Chats webinar series.