



**For Immediate Release**

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**The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Environmental Conference is pleased to announce the addition of our newest practice area, Equity and Environmental Justice.**

**Jekyll Island, GA – August 26 – 28, 2015 – The Annual Georgia Environmental Conference**, lead by our Steering Committee of 50 Environmental Professionals, has established our newest practice area, Equity and Environmental Justice. Participants will hear from local, regional and national leaders presenting 56 topics across 11 practice areas.

**The Equity and Environmental Justice practice area will feature the following topics:**

**Brownfields to Healthfields** – How can a community take action to reduce exposures to contamination and improve the overall health of the community through revitalization? How can a revitalization of brownfields address the health disparities of a community? Brownfields to Healthfields is a concept of using land reuse projects to address environment and health disparities. This panel discussion is being coordinated by Camilla Warren, Brownfields and Land Revitalization Support, US EPA.

**Diversity & Inclusion in the workforce: Why it is essential to maintaining a competitive edge in business** – This panel discussion will discuss the Green 2.0 report, which takes a deep dive into the lack of diverse leaders and professionals employed by environmental companies. It will highlight why addressing these findings are essential to the growth of our industry. And this panel will present a company success story, how an intentional approach to diversity increased profits. This panel discussion is being coordinated by MaKara Rumley, Environmental Justice Staff Attorney, GreenLaw.

**Equitable Development: Linking People, Places, and Planet in downtown Atlanta** – This panel will highlight equitable development issues around NPU V–South Atlanta. Topics include major brownfields redevelopments like Turner Field and University Ave site, and flooding in adjacent neighborhoods. This panel discussion is being coordinated by Nathaniel Smith, Founder and Chief Equity Officer (CEqO)/CEO, Partnership for Southern Equity.

**Energy Equity 101** – This panel will discuss new local and regional efforts to encourage the equitable benefits and burdens of energy production and distribution. This panel discussion is being coordinated by MaKara Rumley, Environmental Justice Staff Attorney, GreenLaw.

To learn more about the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Environmental Conference, visit <http://www.GeorgiaENet.com/>

#### **About the Annual Georgia Environmental Conference**

The **Annual Georgia Environmental Conference** is the state's largest, most comprehensive and diverse educational opportunity and will be attended by over 700 Local, State, and Federal Government Officials, Business and Industry Leaders, Attorneys, Consultants, Engineers, Developers, Land Owners, Architects, Agribusiness Leaders, Energy Experts, Water Planning Districts, Universities, Public Health Officials, Solid Waste, Enviro-Tech, and Recycling Experts, and many, many others with a strong interest in environmental activities in Georgia and the Southeast region.

Over the three-day event, this conference will host an elite group of environmental professionals seeking to exchange knowledge and share ideas around environmental concerns in Georgia and across the Southeast region. The curriculum, designed and developed by our 50 member Steering Committee, offers 56 unique courses, allowing attendees to design their own personalized curriculum by selecting ten (10) educational breakout sessions, while receiving approved Continuing Education Credits. With the combined efforts of the Southeast's leading environmental organizations, the Annual Georgia Environmental Conference has proven to be a valued educational requirement focused on *Sustaining the Future for the People of Georgia and the Southeast region*.

This year's conference will be held at the LEED Certified **Jekyll Island Convention Center**. Jekyll Island is located on Georgia's east coast, southeast of Atlanta and Macon (294 and 211 miles, respectively) and north of Jacksonville (74 miles).