

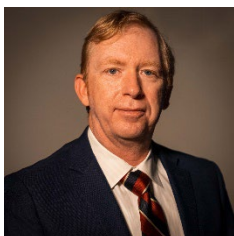
Meet the Speakers



Rhonda Thompson has been with SC DHEC's Bureau of Air Quality for over 31 years. She has been the Chief of the Bureau of Air Quality since April 2016. Prior to becoming Bureau Chief, she served as Assistant Bureau Chief for 9 years.

At the regional and national level, Rhonda currently serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA), Board Member and past chair of the Southeastern States Air Resource Managers (SESARM), and Treasurer of the Carolinas Air Pollution Control Association (CAPCA) Board of Directors.

Rhonda has a B.S. Degree in Engineering from the University of South Carolina, and she is a Registered Professional Engineer (P.E.) in South Carolina.



Tom Richmond is an Environmental Health Manager at the SCDHEC Bureau of Land and Waste Management-Hazardous and Solid Waste Compliance Section. Tom is responsible for oversight of the RCRA program. Prior to his current position, Tom was a project manager for the Bureau of Water-Water Pollution Enforcement Section. Tom has over twenty years of environmental experience in the private sector. Tom earned his Bachelor of Science in Political and Environmental Science from Lander University.



Henry Porter has served as the Chief of Land and Waste Management since September 2018. He has more than 32 years of service with DHEC. Over his career at DHEC Henry has worked in the Air, RCRA, Radioactive Waste and Wastewater Programs.

Henry has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of South Carolina.



Myra Reece serves as the director of Environmental Affairs, overseeing DHEC's Office of Environmental Quality Control and Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. A member of the DHEC team for more than 30 years, Reece previously served as chief of the agency's Bureau of Air Quality. Before serving as Air Quality bureau chief, Reece served as director of DHEC's Environmental Quality Control District in Aiken.

Reece received a bachelor's degree in microbiology from Clemson University and a master's degree in public health with an emphasis on hazardous materials management from the University of South Carolina. She is also a graduate of the Management Academy for Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a graduate of the Southern Center of Excellence in Environmental Health at Emory University and has obtained professional certification as a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager. Reece is also serving on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee, making her the sole state representative from the southeastern states.



Ethan Ware is chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Group at Williams Mullen and represents clients in a broad range of matters involving environmental issues.

Located in the Columbia, South Carolina office, Ethan has defended cases, both in courts and before administrative agencies at both the state and federal level. Those cases have included class action lawsuits, federal and state enforcement actions in the courts, cost recovery actions, permit appeals and administrative investigations and litigation.

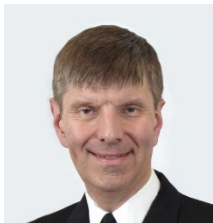
As part of his background, Ethan has defended mining, manufacturing, and importers/distributors in all facets of EPA regulation. His cases have involved exposures to and releases of heavy metals from manufacture and fabrication, organic chemicals, paint, pesticides, asbestos, PCBs, hazardous wastes, air and water emissions, animal waste and regulatory requirements.

Ethan has defended cases arising under the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, EPCRA, RCRA, CERCLA, TSCA, and their state counter-parts. He has also represented clients in connection with criminal prosecutions and investigations. His experience also includes review of environmental issues in transactions and environmental and health and safety training and auditing programs. As part of service to the mining industry, Ethan has defended cases for mine safety and exposure liability.

Ethan is listed as a leading environmental attorney by *Chambers USA* (2016-present), and he is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for environmental law and environmental litigation (2013-present). In 2013, Ethan was named the *Best Lawyers*® Columbia Lawyer of the Year for both environmental law and environmental litigation. In addition, Martindale-Hubbell has rated Ethan an AV attorney, its highest rating available. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of South Carolina and a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Wofford College.



Nicole Saniti is a Principal Consultant and the Manager of Consulting Services for Trinity Consultants Charlotte office. She has provided environmental permitting and compliance support to industrial facilities for 17 years and works closely with clients in several industries, including chemical, automotive, and electric power, to ensure continuous compliance while achieving business objectives. Ms. Saniti graduated with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Rochester and an MBA from Wake Forest, and is a Professional Engineer in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas. Outside of the office, she lives the soccer mom life with two daughters (8 and 10 years old), and also finds time for running, hiking, and traveling.



Dr. Edward Simmer, MD, MPH, DFAPHA, is the Director of the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). Appointed to the position by the S.C. Board of Health and Environmental Control, he assumed his duties as agency director on Feb. 4, 2021.

Prior to being confirmed as agency director, Dr. Simmer served over thirty years on active duty in the United States Navy where he held increasing leadership positions, including Chief Medical Officer for the TRICARE Health Plan and Commanding Officer and CEO at the Naval Hospital in Oak Harbor, WA. He holds over 25 years of extensive clinical leadership and team-building experience

with a strong track record of transforming large health care systems.

He received his doctor of medicine degree from the Saint Louis University and holds a master of public health degree, with a focus on epidemiology, from the Eastern Virginia Medical School/Old Dominion University Consortium as well as a bachelor of arts degree from Hiram College. In addition, Dr. Simmer is board certified in general and forensic psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and has an administrative psychiatry certification from the American Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Simmer has been married to his wife Peggy for over 31 years. His personal awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), Army Commendation Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal (two awards). He has also received numerous unit, campaign, and service awards. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.



Ethel Bunch is the President and CEO of Sustain SC , a 501(c)3 bringing together a diverse group of business, economic development, academic, conservation and state agency leaders with the mission to connect the sustainability goals of business in South Carolina with local solutions that benefit the economy, environment and people.

Prior to founding Sustain SC , Ethel co-founded Wittering Advisors, a consulting group working with clients to raise the standard for informed decision making that maximizes South Carolina's economic growth and strong natural resource based infrastructure. Serving organizations such as the Palmetto Conservation Foundation, Lowcountry Land Trust and Congaree Land Trust she helped match corporate environmental and social commitments with

South Carolina's needs.

She has 20+ years of fundraising and communications experience bridging the nonprofit and private sectors operating in healthcare, environment and education. She has served as Director of Development and Marketing for EdVenture Children's Museum, Prevent Child Abuse South Carolina and Heathwood Hall Episcopal School. Born and raised in South Carolina, Ethel earned a B.A. in English and Masters in Mass Communication from the University of South Carolina. She is married to Bill Bunch and has two daughters, Caroline and Claiborne who keep her motivated and humble.



Travis Tarbet is the environmental manager for BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC, where he is responsible for environmental compliance and environmental management activities for Plant Spartanburg and regional non-manufacturing facilities. Travis has a Bachelor of Science degree from Clemson University in Biosystems Engineering, a Master of Engineering degree from North Carolina State University in Civil Engineering, and is a licensed Professional Engineer in South Carolina.

In his free time he enjoys spending time with his wife and two children, golfing, and fishing.



I am Jennifer Mapes and have worked for Milliken & Co. and Sage Automotive Interiors for over 24 years. I graduated from Clemson University with a B.S. in chemical engineering in 1997. Over the years, I have worked in multiple roles in manufacturing including production manager, process improvement manager and quality support leader. Nearly 17 years ago, I was placed in the role of environmental engineer at the Abbeville facility and found my calling in the environmental field. Currently, I have international responsibility for our locations as Global Corporate Environmental Engineer overseeing ISO 14001 certification, regulatory compliance, and sustainability initiatives.

I was born and raised in St. Matthews, South Carolina and have resided in the Upstate of South Carolina since graduating college. I am blessed to be the mother of three daughters and a son. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, weight training, hiking, running, and cheering on the South Carolina Gamecocks. Being a native South Carolinian and raising my children here gives me ultimate motivation for conservation and sustainable solutions for our state. I want South Carolina to continue to provide future generations with what makes our state so unique from the mountains to the beautiful beaches.



Maurie Lawrence currently serves as Sustainability Director, Associate General Counsel of Milliken & Company, headquartered in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Milliken is one of only seven companies to earn World's Most Ethical Companies designation every year since the honor's inception.

Prior to joining Milliken, Ms. Lawrence assisted clients with regulatory and transactional matters in private practice as a shareholder with Wyche, P.A. Her responsibilities increased at Wyche to include service as Chairperson. Ms. Lawrence received her undergraduate degree from Smith College with high honors and her law

degree from Georgetown University Law Center. She currently serves on the boards of Piedmont Health Foundation, Public Education Partners, Clement's Kindness, the Greenville Housing Fund and the City of Greenville's Public Facilities Corporation.

She has been recognized for achievements by Chambers USA, Best & Brightest Under 35 by Greenville Magazine, South Carolina Super Lawyers, South Carolina Lawyers Weekly, YWCA, CREW Upstate and Who's Who in the Upstate of South Carolina.



Michael Martin is a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Greenville, South Carolina. With eight years of experience, he has had extensive involvement with environmental compliance, site assessment and remediation, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permitting, other federal, state, and local environmental permitting, water resources, stormwater management, and construction oversight in the southeast. Mr. Martin holds a bachelor's degree (B.S.) in Biosystems Engineering from Clemson University.



Jennifer Hughes is a graduate of the University of South Carolina with a master's degree in public health. She began her DHEC career in 1997 as part of the Bureau of Water's drinking water compliance and enforcement program. Jennifer served 18 years in the Aiken regional office where she worked on the front lines in all program areas with much of her time devoted to the water programs. In 2016, she became an Assistant Bureau Chief (ABC) with the Bureau of Environmental Health Services and shortly thereafter transitioned to an ABC position in the Bureau of Water. With more than 24 years of service in DHEC's Environmental Affairs program, Jennifer became the Chief of the Bureau of Water in December 2021.