



Urban Watershed
Environmental
Research Group

Water@Wayne Seminar Series Presents:

Wendy Barrott, Manager of
Research & Innovation, Great Lakes
Water Authority

Innovation in Today's Water Utility

Thursday, October 26, 2017
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Bernath Auditorium, Undergraduate Library
5155 Gullen Mall, Detroit, MI 48202

Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA), is a regional water and wastewater authority that services nearly 40 percent of the water customers and nearly 30 percent of the sewer customers in Michigan. On January 1, 2016, GLWA assumed operational, infrastructure improvements, environmental compliance and budget setting responsibilities for the regional system's water (5) and sewage (1 wastewater treatment and 8 combined sewer overflow basins) treatment plants, major water transmission mains and sewer interceptors, and related facilities. GLWA is an important example of regional collaboration in southeast Michigan, with the city of Detroit, the counties of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb and the state of Michigan officially uniting to ensure that both city and suburban water and sewer customers have a powerful voice in the direction of one of the largest water and wastewater utilities in the United States.

Ms. Barrott will explore the traditionally risk adverse nature of utilities, the multiple challenges facing them, elements needed to create a culture of innovation, and what GLWA is doing to create a culture that innovates. Further building on the need for innovation, the specific goals of the Research & Innovation Group will be linked to research projects that are underway and contemplated.

A reception will immediately follow the seminar.

The seminar is free and open to the public; registration is requested at <https://events.wayne.edu/>.

