



April 2026 Newsletter

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Upcoming Section Events

April

01 - The Arch April 2026

08 - [Case History Sem/Student Projects](#)

09 - FZ Stream Night

09 - [Mid-America Student Symposium](#)

14 - [YMG Airport Site Visit](#)

14 - [April Luncheon](#)

15 - Mid-Month Update

18 - [YMG Happy Hour](#)

22 - Earth Day

22 - [EWRI Speaker Series](#)

25 - [STL Work Zone Awareness Run](#)

30 - [ASCE Region 7 Award Nom. Due](#)

2026 Section Board of Directors

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From the President

Greetings St. Louis Section,

It's been a bit of a whirlwind with the "hot and cold" temperature swings over the last few weeks, but it finally feels like Spring is here to stay. Along with the

blooming flowers, this month brings a full slate of events that highlight the very best of our professional community—from students just entering the field to celebrating our life members and all their accomplishments.

We are excited to continue our Spring tradition of honoring our new life members at the [April luncheon](#). These individuals have been leaders in our profession at the local, regional, and national levels.

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I hope to see many of you there to help celebrate their achievements!

I am also particularly excited to join our Younger Member Group on April 14th for an exclusive tour of [St. Louis Lambert International Airport](#). This is a unique opportunity to see the engineering system of one of the region's most critical infrastructure systems behind the scenes. I have my hard hat ready!

Over the last few months, I've had the pleasure of visiting several of our student chapters. Those visits brought back a lot of memories from my own days at the [Mid-America Student Symposium](#), and it's inspiring to see that same passion in the current students. Next week, their hard work comes to a head at the **student competition at SIUC**. Our local chapters have been putting in long hours on their concrete canoes, steel bridges, and various technical challenges - I can't wait to see the results. I'll also be judging the **Concrete Bowling Competition**.

Whether you are a seasoned Life Member, a student preparing for your first competition, or one of our members thank you for your continued dedication to the St. Louis Section. I look forward to seeing you all throughout the month.

Melissa Rettig

2026 St. Louis Section President

Attend the April Section Luncheon

[#asceSTL](#) is proud to partner with the St. Louis Section's **Sustainability Committee** to host [Olivia Paxson](#) at our upcoming Section Luncheon. She will present on **An Introduction to Embodied Carbon and How to Reduce it on Typical Structural Projects**. We will also welcome **new Life Members!**

Embodied carbon is a hot topic in the building industry, but how is it defined and what are we supposed to do about it? This presentation will define how embodied carbon appears in structural systems and it will identify ways to reduce it in typical projects. Many current recommendations for structural engineers are vague, rely on material changes, or are cost prohibitive.

Embodied Carbon by Building Component



The goal of this presentation is to highlight specific ways to achieve significant carbon reductions on the typical project, without large cost increases or extra design work. It will break the recommendations into clear, concise guidance, and it will discuss the carbon impacts of reductions in equivalent comparisons. There will be a focus on recent code provisions and industry recommendations. Both design changes and specification language will be

addressed. This presentation will challenge typical design standards and will discuss a handful of building materials to target how the average structural engineer can reduce carbon on their projects, so that every project can achieve embodied carbon reductions.



Olivia Paxson, E.I., M.ASCE

Olivia is a Project Engineer at **KPFF** working towards building a more sustainable future. She received her Bachelors and Masters from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio and now resides in St. Louis. She serves as a committee member on the SE2050 SEI Committee, focusing on reduction strategies and encouraging structural engineers around the country to reduce their buildings' embodied carbon.

Register for the event!

Register by 10 am on April 8th

[Maggie Cox](#), *Programs Chair*

When: Tue, April 14th @ 12:00 pm

Registration at 11:30 am, lunch served at 11:45 am, and program begins at 12:00 pm. One (1) PDH is available from this program.

Where: [Il Monastero Banquet Center](#), Saint Louis University

Special thanks to our venue host

SLU School of Science and Engineering at Saint Louis University



Communications Volunteers Needed

Communications
Committee



The Communications Committee is looking for volunteers interested in **helping support the Section's newsletter, website, and social media outreach**. These efforts help share member achievements, promote events, and highlight the work of civil engineers across our region.

If you have an interest in marketing, communications, writing, or social media, we'd love your help! Volunteers can contribute as their schedule allows and play an important role in keeping our members informed and engaged.

[Learn more about this opportunity!](#)

2026 Legislative Fly-In to Washington D.C.

On March 17-18th, over 265 ASCE Members, including St. Louis Section members **Alison Graves, Jordan Pettibone**, and ASCE Society Past-President **Marsia Geldert-Murphey**, attended the **2026 Legislative Fly-In** in Washington, D.C. We urged our Senators and Representatives to protect the municipal tax exemption, reauthorize critical infrastructure programs expiring in 2026, such as surface transportation programs and state revolving funds, timely passage of the **Water Resources and Development Act of 2026**, and invest in resilient infrastructure by adopting the most up-to-date building codes and standards.

To get more involved with our Drive-In and Fly-In programs, contact the St. Louis Government Relations Chair/ Missouri Advocacy Captain [Alison Graves](#).

Right: STL ASCE Members **Marsia Geldert-Murphey, Alison Graves & Jordan Pettibone**.

(1st Row) L: ASCE Missouri Members **Bayley Hotson (KC), Danny Hotson (KC)** and **Alison Graves** with **Representative Ann Wagner's** Legislative Aide. R: IL Delegation at Game Changers Reception. (2nd Row) L: MO Delegation with **Senator Eric Schmitt's** Legislative Aides. R: IL Delegation with **Senator Tammy Duckworth's** Legislative Aides.



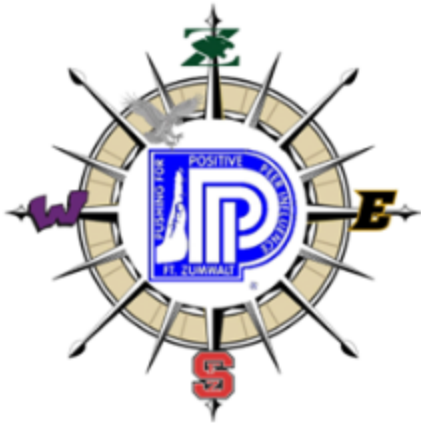
[Learn more about GPR!](#)

**2026 Mid-America Student Symposium -
Good Luck!**



Best of luck to our Student Chapter members participating and Section members attending the [2026 Mid-America Student Symposium](#) next week, cohosted by **Southern Illinois University Carbondale & Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.**

STREAM Volunteering Event



Volunteers needed for **Fort Zumwalt School District STREAM event on April 9** from 5:30-7:00PM at the [#asceSTL](#) booth. We are seeking 1–2 volunteers on April 9 at 5:30-7:00PM at Forest Park Elementary in O'Fallon, MO. This may be a convenient opportunity for those located on the western side of the St. Louis Metro area. Please feel

free to forward this message to anyone who may be interested. Reach out to [Nichole](#) or [Jacob](#) for coordination!



Younger Member Group (YMG)

We hope to see you at our upcoming April Happy Hour in Grafton this month. We also look forward to our upcoming Lambert St. Louis Airport site visit. A special thank you to everyone who showed up to trivia last month!

ASCE

ST. LOUIS SECTION

YOUNGER MEMBER GROUP



Thank you to everyone who joined [#ascestlymg](#) for our recent Happy Hour at **Barrel and Bru Edwardsville**! A special thank you to our sponsor, **Volkert**, for their generous support!

APRIL HAPPY HOUR

THE LOADING DOCK GRAFTON, IL

APR. 18 @ 3 PM

ASCE

ST. LOUIS SECTION

YOUNGER MEMBER GROUP

#ASCESTLYMG

RSVP here for this YMG Event!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS



#asceSTlymg

Upcoming YMG Events

- **YMG Site Visit**
 - St. Louis Lambert International Airport

Brandon Hamel, E.I., M.ASCE
YMG President
Oates Associates, Inc.

- Tue, Apr 14 @ 9am-11am
- [April Happy Hour](#)
 - The Loading Dock (Grafton, IL)
 - Sat, Apr 18th @ 2pm



ENVIRONMENTAL & WATER RESOURCES INSTITUTE
St. Louis Chapter

Environmental & Water Resources Institute (EWRI) St. Louis Chapter

We hope to see you at our upcoming April Happy Hour in Grafton this month. We also look forward to our upcoming Lambert St. Louis Airport site visit. A special thank you to everyone who showed up to trivia last month!

Infrastructure BMPs for surface flooding management in the Metro East Region

The [St. Louis Chapter of EWRI](#) is pleased to announce our monthly webinar on **Wednesday, April 22, from 12:00 – 1:00 pm CT.**

This presentation will be broadcast live over a webinar. Registration is free to ASCE members. Advance registration is required by noon, Wednesday, March 18. Registrants will receive detailed login and dial-in information prior to the event. *Contact [Keara Trompen](#) with questions, topic ideas, or have interest in presenting.*

Register here for this event



John O'Donnell

John is a Water Program Manager for **HeartLands Conservancy**. John O'Donnell has worked in the water quality and flood management space for over 10 years in both New Orleans and the Metro East and currently works on watershed planning and watershed plan implementation in the region with HeartLands.

Upcoming EWRI STL Events

- [EWRI STL Webinar Series](#)
 - Wed, Apr 22, 12pm-1pm

[Jiaman Xu, P.E., ENV SP, PMP, M.ASCE](#)

EWRI STL Chair

Illinois American Water



**GEO-
INSTITUTE**
St. Louis Chapter

Geo-Institute (G-I) St. Louis Chapter

The St. Louis Chapter of Geo-Institute is excited to host our annual **Case Histories Night and Student Projects** on April 8th.

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 5pm to 9pm

LOCATION: Il Monastero, Saint Louis University, 3050 Olive St, St. Louis, MO 63103.

REGISTRATION: Registration includes a dinner. Vegetarian meals are available upon request. Registration link will be provided later. Attendees will receive PDH credits.

TOPICS

- Design and construction of the lower Meramec Tunnel Project
- Ground movement patterns and shallow foundation performance in Iskenderun coastline during the 2023 Kahramanmaras earthquake sequence

Register here for this event

A limited number of sponsorship opportunities are available for this event. If interested, please contact [Beya Kazadi](#) or [Zachary Fallert](#).

G-I STL Chapter Officer Nominations Open

The Chapter is accepting nominations for officer positions.

In particular, we're seeking nominations for **Treasurer/Secretary for a two-year term** beginning October 1, as the individuals currently holding Officer positions will be official nominees for new positions or rotate off leadership positions. A description of this position is available on the [G-I St. Louis Chapter website in our chapter by-laws](#).

Please submit nominations via email to [Travis Kassebaum](#) and [Zachary Fallert](#) **prior to May 1st**.

Geo-Institute St. Louis Scholarship Opportunities

G-I STL is calling applications for a few scholarships, including:

- **Alizadeh/Geotechnology Scholarship** - Students pursuing a Master's degree in Civil or Geological Engineering with an emphasis in geotechnical or environmental engineering are eligible. Application deadline expected early May 2025.
- **GeoConfluence Research Scholarship** - Students pursuing a Master's degree (thesis option) or Ph.D. degree specializing in geotechnical/geoenvironmental engineering at a university within the ASCE St. Louis Section are eligible. Application deadline June 30th.
- **Shamsher Prakash Geotechnical Scholarship** - Students pursuing a Bachelor's degree with an emphasis in Geotechnical or Geological Engineering at a university within the ASCE St. Louis Section are eligible. Application deadline June 30th.

For more information, please visit [Geo-Institute St. Louis Chapter](#).

Upcoming G-I Events

- Case Histories Seminar
 - Wed, April 8th at 5pm
 - Il Monastero, Saint Louis University

[Travis Kassebaum, P.E.,](#)

[M.ASCE](#)

G-I STL Chair

Terracon





ST. LOUIS WORK ZONE AWARENESS RUN

2026

5K RUN/WALK &
1 MILE WALK

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

8:00 AM

14301 S OUTER FORTY RD
CHESTERFIELD, MO 63017

RAISING WORK ZONE SAFETY AWARENESS



SCAN TO REGISTER



Runsignup.com/Race/MO/Chesterfield/WorkzoneAwareness5K

Sign up for this partner event



ULI Southwest Missouri

IMPACT SUMMIT

WHERE THE FUTURE IS BUILT

Presented by **Greater Springfield BOARD OF REALTORS®** **SPRINGFIELD, MO** Supported by

**MAY 1st
2026**

OWN Engineering & Design **VALIANT GROUP**

The **IMPACT SUMMIT** is a one-day conference bringing together civic leaders, development professionals, business owners, and community stakeholders to shape a thriving, sustainable future for our region. We are collaborating with the **Route 66 Centennial Celebration**, and special sessions will explore the legacy and future of Route 66—and what it teaches us about transportation, planning, economic development, placemaking, and the built environment.

Register for Impact Summit on May 1st

ASCE | MEMBER ADVANTAGES

JOBS CORNER

VIEW PARTNER JOB POSTINGS

SENIOR ENGINEERING PROJECT MANAGER

ENGINEERING PROJECT MANAGER

American Water Works Company, Inc. - Varies



SENIOR ENGINEER - CODES, STANDARDS & PRODUCT TESTING

MiTek Inc. - Earth City, MO



SENIOR ENGINEER

Board of Municipal Utilities - Sikeston, MO



GEOTECHNICAL STAFF ENGINEER

SCI Engineering, Inc. - St. Charles, MO; O'Fallon, IL



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ASCE St. Louis Section

St. Louis, MO

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