



Graduate Seminar

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Associate Professor

*Civil and Environmental Engineering
Department at Rutgers University*

November 25, 2024 (4:00 pm - 5:30 pm), Kupfrian Hall - Room 205

[Zoom Link: Click Here](#) Meeting ID: 994 3917 6432 Passcode: 058807

Protecting and monitoring public health through sewer and wastewater microbiology

Abstract

Because wastewater treatment systems are designed to inactivate infectious agents, urine and feces from patients with infectious diseases are allowed to enter sanitary sewers. However, sewer overflows during wet weather are a widespread issue in the US. Results from field studies and laboratory experiments will be presented towards understanding the processes affecting the transport and survival of pathogens in sewers. Of particular interest is the potential application of the knowledge gained here on in-sewer biological processes for mitigating water quality issues due to sewer overflows and improving wastewater-based epidemiology.

About the Speaker

Nicole Fahrenfeld is an associate professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Rutgers University. She earned her B.S. from Johns Hopkins University, M.S. from Clemson University, and Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. Her research team focuses on the fate of microbial and organic chemical contaminants across environmental matrices.

