

Environmental and Water Resources Engineering and Center for Water and The Environment Seminar Series Presents:

Thursday, September 4th 2025, 3:30-4:30 pm, ECJ 1.324



Zoom Link: <https://utexas.zoom.us/j/88522939494>

Lead and Copper Rule Improvements – My Experiences Supporting Utilities Early in My Career

Deepika Krishnakumar and Ashley Kent

Arcadis

Deepika will provide an overview of the final Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) from the perspective of a junior engineer. She will cover key requirements of the rule and will discuss the work she has done to support utilities with submission of service line inventories, data collection and management, field verification methods, predictive modeling, sampling protocols in high-risk facilities and lead service line replacement requirements. She will also highlight industry practices and lessons learned to show how utilities are preparing for compliance and addressing challenges. Lastly, she will also outline the types of skills, tools, and approaches that are valuable for students interested in building careers in water resources optimization, regulatory compliance, and infrastructure management. At the end, Deepika and Ashley will both share some of their advice for graduate students entering the industry and save plenty of time for Q&A!



About The Presenters

Deepika Krishnakumar

Water Engineer II, Arcadis



Deepika Krishnakumar is a Water Engineer II at Arcadis based out of the Austin, TX office, with a passion for tackling water quality challenges. She brings experience in Lead and Copper Rule Revisions/ Improvements (LCRR/ LCRI), lead service line replacement planning, and data management. She also brings experience in projects like Advance Metering Infrastructure (AMI), emerging contaminants, and water resources. She started her professional journey with Arcadis in 2023 and is driven to deliver sustainable solutions for water management issues. She is proficient in data management to support water quality, water resources and infrastructure projects.

Ashley Kent, PE

Professional Water Engineer, Arcadis



Ashley Kent was a 2013 graduate from the UT EWRE program! Since completing her research on biological treatment with Dr. Kirisits, she has been managing projects across the country supporting municipalities and research organizations. She has been the Principal Investigator on multiple Water Research Foundation projects focusing on biological treatment and monitoring, in addition to working with municipal water systems on holistic water optimization. Ms. Kent is the past-Chair of the AWWA Biological Treatment Committee and Co-Chair for the newly published Biological Treatment Manual of Practice (M80).