

ASCE Richmond Branch Newsletter



Upcoming Events Calendar

September 20: September Technical Meeting
October 12: Bi-Annual Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

President's Message



Hello Richmond ASCE Members,

I'm excited to step into the role of President this year, and I'm looking forward to sharing some of the upcoming events that we have planned. I would be remiss if I didn't begin by thanking our outgoing President, Kyle Hogan, for his tireless dedication to the Branch and the local engineering community over the last year. Much like students returning to school, ASCE is ramping up for the 2026-2027 year and has a number of exciting opportunities to connect with your industry colleagues.

July saw multiple opportunities for us to gather as a colleagues:

- We held our second annual joint pickleball tournament with WTS, and we saw a great turnout in both the social and competitive brackets. It's become a highlight of the summer calendar and something we look forward to planning again for next summer. Thanks to everyone who came out!
- Representatives from Lee and Shoemaker spoke at our August Technical Meeting on engineering liability, contract terms and risk management.
- Representatives from both Branch and Section gathered in Capital Square on 8/25 to release the Annual ASCE Report Card for the State of Virginia. See the link below in the newsletter to learn more.
- ASCE members gathered to enjoy both a Kickers game and a Squirrels game

There's also plenty of events on the horizon. We hope to see everyone at the upcoming Technical Meeting on September 29th, and also to help with the planned Roadway Clean-Up on October 12th. More details on both are included in this newsletter!

For those looking to get directly involved, we are still looking to fill several important roles on our committees. All that is required is a willingness to pitch in, we will gladly train anyone interested in one of the roles below:

- Communications Chair
- Webmaster
- SEI Co-Chair

Please reach out to me (jutz@jmt.com) if you are interested in discussing any of these positions.

Thanks, and have a safe and productive month,

Jay Utz, P.E., M.ASCE
ASCE Richmond Branch President

Upcoming Events

Bi-Annual Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

ASCE Richmond is hosting their bi-annual roadway cleanup with happy hour following the cleanup. This Columbus Day, October 12th we will meet at our adopted stretch of highway along Lakeside Ave and collect trash and debris in our effort to keep Virginia beautiful. Immediately following the Roadway Cleanup, we will be finishing the event with a quick happy hour.

For more information and to RSVP, email Travis Miller at tmiller@kbjwgroup.com. We look forward to seeing you out there!

Event Details:

 Date: Monday, October 12th

 Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

 Location: Meeting at Lakeside Center (5623 Lakeside Ave., Richmond, VA 23228)

Dress for the weather but ensure you have close-toed shoes.
Gloves, safety vests, water, and cleanup supplies will be provided.



September Technical Meeting

The next Technical Meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 20th at the Libbie Mill Library from 11:45 am - 1:15 pm.

Kenneth Bannister, Director of Geological Services with KBJW will present on **Available Groundwater in the Bedrock Aquifer of the Virginia Coastal Plain.**

A recent Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) report delivers a stark warning:

Eastern Virginia's groundwater supply is severely constrained, and major new water withdrawal permits east of Interstate 95 can no longer be safely approved. This regulatory ceiling threatens to freeze data center expansions, halt heavy manufacturing, accelerate land subsidence, and trigger a multi-billion-dollar economic stagnation across the Commonwealth.

Sound interesting? Come by the meeting to learn about a potential solution to this problem!
Registration can be accessed at the below link:

Register



Event Recaps

2nd Annual Pickleball Tournament

ASCE Richmond Branch partnered with WTS Central Virginia in hosting our 2nd Annual Pickleball Tournament.

The tournament was held on August 7th and drew a strong turnout of nearly 30 teams, successfully raising funds to provide scholarships to local civil engineering students. Thank you to all who came out to play and to our event and court sponsors! We hope to see you at next year's tournament!



August Technical Meeting Recap

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our most recent technical meeting.

Lee and Shoemaker spoke at our August Technical Meeting on engineering liability, contract terms and risk management. We extend our thanks to Daniel and Curtis for helping us learn more about this topic and the interesting case studies they shared with us.

ASCE Virginia - Infrastructure Report Card Release

The ASCE Virginia Section released the 2026 Virginia Infrastructure Report Card in Richmond, awarding the Commonwealth an overall grade of C, unchanged from 2022 and consistent with the national infrastructure grade.

A key takeaway was that consistent infrastructure investment delivered measurable results. We saw improvements in several sectors, with Bridges and Broadband earning a B+ and Roads improving from a C- to a C. However, sectors needing further improvement include Energy earning a D and Schools and Wastewater both earning a D+.

ASCE emphasized the need for continued investment, resilience planning, and asset modernization to support Virginia’s growing population and economy while preparing for future infrastructure demands and extreme weather events.

Richmond Kickers Outing

ASCE Members were joined by 3600+ other fans to celebrate a wonderful community at City Stadium as the Richmond Kickers defeated the New York Cosmos in a hard fought 2-0 battle. As part of our annual appreciation event members enjoyed complimentary merch, a free ticket and eclectic networking opportunity. We hope to see you next year as ASCE looks to continue to highlight the community and value of our membership.



Job Postings

Interested in posting a job listing in our monthly newsletter and/or our website?

Our newsletter reaches hundreds of local engineering professionals, and our website is where our members register for Richmond ASCE events. Email Secretary, Charles Balina at CBalina@jmt.com for more information!

Sponsorship

Interested in sponsoring a future ASCE Richmond event?

For information on how your company could sponsor future ASCE Richmond events please contact Membership Co-Chair, Niko Ambrose at Niko.Ambrose@vdot.virginia.gov.

Comments? Questions? Ideas?

Send me an email at kyle.hogan@timmons.com and I would love to discuss.

Thank you,
Kyle Hogan, PE, M.ASCE
ASCE Richmond Branch Interim Communications Chair

