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Whitman Vice President to Lead Rutgers Continuing Education Class

By Betsy Kraat

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ--Geologists and environmental professionals as well as engineers, regulators and corporate site managers are invited to attend a one-day, continuing education class focused on remediating groundwater in fractured sedimentary bedrock at Rutgers University on April 2.

Whitman's Vice President of Geological Services Richard D. Britton will take a broad-based approach to groundwater remediation, drawing on years of real-world experience to illustrate the challenges and common mistakes of remediating groundwater at this type of site.

"In urbanized areas of New Jersey, where hundreds of contaminated sites have been identified, usable bedrock aquifers are often affected by a variety of contaminants," Britton said.

"Unfortunately, inadequate understanding of the complexities of the bedrock aquifer often leads to a misdiagnosis of the contamination problem that can prolong investigation and remediation efforts."

Britton will co-teach the class with Andrew Michalski, a groundwater consulting specialist, formerly of Whitman. The two have worked together on numerous major industrial sites within the so-called Passaic Formation, where fractured bedrock is prevalent.

The course is aimed at industry professionals and will consider how contaminants move through fractured bedrock and the harmful consequences of using inadequate conceptual models and testing methods to determine groundwater flow. The class will also consider procedures, advantages and pitfalls of expedited contamination testing. Attendees can bring problem site information for informal class discussion.

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