

**WCI 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Waterways Symposium and Board of Directors Meeting 2025**

Loews Vanderbilt Hotel | Nashville, Tennessee

Agenda | [Indicates Room Name](#)



**Monday, December 8**

5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Welcome Reception | [Loews: Starstruck](#)

**Tuesday, December 9**

7:30 a.m. Annual Waterways Symposium Registration Opens | [Loews: Symphony Foyer](#)

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Buffet Breakfast | [Loews: Mason's Restaurant](#)

8:30 – 11:00 a.m. WCI Annual Membership/Board of Directors Meeting | [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
(WCI Members Only)

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Networking Break

11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch and Keynote Address | [Loews: Starstruck](#)  
David Wasserman, *Senior Editor & Elections Analyst* for The Cook Political Report with Amy Walter

1:30 – 2:15 p.m. Geopolitical Importance of the U.S. Inland Waterways | [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
Jacob Shapiro, *Geopolitics Pundit*

2:15 – 3:00 p.m. USDA Update on Inland Waterways | [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
Adam Sparger, *Director, Transportation Economics Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Networking Break + Sweet Treat | [Loews: Symphony Foyer](#)

3:15 – 4:00 p.m. Recommendations for Improving Inland Waterways Capital Projects Delivery | [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
Paul Dierking and Christine Altendorf, *HDR*

4:00 p.m. Closing Remarks and Adjourn | [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
Tracy Zea, *WCI President and CEO*

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Opening Reception | [Loews: Starstruck](#)

7:00 p.m. Dinner (*on your own*)

**Wednesday, December 10**

7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Buffet Breakfast | [Loews: Mason's Restaurant](#)

9:00 a.m. Opening Remarks

9:05 – 9:50 a.m. Corps of Engineers – Civil Works Update | [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
Theodore "Tab" Brown, *Chief, Programs Integration Division for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

9:50 – 10:35 a.m. Economic Outlook: Global Supply Chain for Commodities Moving on the Inland Waterways  
| [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
Ken Eriksen, *Managing Member, Polaris Analytics and Consulting*

10:35 – 10:50 a.m. 40 Years of the National Rivers Hall of Fame National Achievement Award Honorees  
| [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)

10:50 a.m. Closing Remarks and Adjourn | [Loews: Symphony II/III](#)  
Tracy Zea, *WCI President and CEO*

**Thursday, December 11**

11:00 a.m. Seamen's Church Institute River Bell Awards Luncheon | [Paducah, Kentucky](#)  
*Separate registration required, [see Seamen's Church Institute website for details](#)*