

2026 Environmental Compliance Conference

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Michael E. Scott received bachelor's and master's degrees from North Carolina State University in Agronomy and is a graduate of the N.C.S.U. Natural Resources Leadership Institute. Michael has worked for the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (formerly the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources) for 23 years and previously served as the branch head of the Composting and Land Application Branch, section chief of the Solid Waste Section and deputy director of the N.C. Division of Waste Management before becoming director in 2016. As the director, Michael is responsible for managing the Hazardous Waste, Solid Waste, Superfund and Underground Storage Tank Sections, as well as the administrative functions (such as budget, purchasing, personnel, safety, computer/software support, and public information officer). Michael provides policy guidance in the establishment of goals and objectives and coordinating interaction among program areas to promote consistency and ensure that quality services are provided to the sections and the division's customers statewide. Michael also directs, organizes and manages legislative issues related to the state Division of Waste Management, including presentations before state committees, contact with individual legislative members and drafts of proposed bills for policy and conformity to division and department goals. Michael has also been involved on multiple fronts related to emerging compounds from site assessment and remediation to the development of groundwater standards for select PFAS.