

## **How to Collect Trustworthy Data**

12-1, Thurs, Oct. 16

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An investigative study can require the generation of a variety of physical, biological, and chemical data. These data may be obtained in the field or in the laboratory with procedures ranging from simple counting in the field to utilizing state-of-the-art equipment in a research facility. No matter the type of data collected, data of known, appropriate quality can best be obtained only through a well thought out quality assurance (QA) process. If meaningful QA oversight is not a part of the data collection effort, the reliability of the data is in question.

Ann Bailey, president and founder of EcoChem, Seattle, WA, will step through a meaningful QA process for data collection efforts based on her past 20 years of experience in QA oversight of environmental site investigations.