



**Monday, April 24, 2017**

**3:30 p.m. Dean's Auditorium**

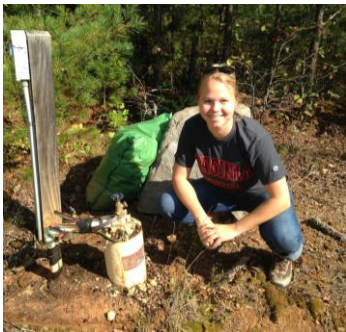
**Refreshments at 3:15 p. m.**

## **Access to Safe Potable Water in the US: Infrastructure Inequality and Environmental Injustice**

**Kelsey J. Pieper, PhD**

**USDA NIFA Fellow**

**Civil and Environmental Engineering, Virginia Tech**



In April 2014, the officials in the City of Flint, Michigan stopped purchasing treated water from Detroit, and instead, treated water from the Flint River. Within months of the switch, residents began reporting water quality issues, the utility issued boil warnings, and water main breaks were occurring throughout the city. Concerned citizens discovered that corrosion control had not been implemented by the city and lead (Pb) was leaching into their water. Thanks to these concerned citizens, Dr. Marc Edwards and a group of Virginia Tech students were informed about the water issues who created the Flint Water Study to support Flint citizens by empowering them with sound science and independent information about their tap water. Through this collaborative research, the corrosion problems in Flint were uncovered and the city began purchasing the Detroit water again in October 2015.

**Co-sponsored by:**

PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
**Discovery Park**  
CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**PURDUE**  
ENGINEERING  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND  
ECOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

If you would like to meet with Dr. Pieper, please contact Connie Foster at 4-4773 or [cfoster@purdue.edu](mailto:cfoster@purdue.edu)