Steve T. Irwin

Meteorologist

Mr. Irwin joined STI as a Meteorologist in 2020. He is responsible for issuing daily air quality forecasts for a variety of pollutants in several cities across the United States, and he produces monthly and yearly air quality summaries for select locations. Mr. Irwin is also skilled in building and updating air quality forecasting tools using machine learning and creative air quality displays.

In 2010, Mr. Irwin started his career in operational weather forecasting for a private meteorological consulting firm near Kansas City, Kansas. There, he issued forecasts for numerous clients across the Midwest, including international airports, professional sporting venues, public works departments, and park and recreation organizations. Along with forecasting daily weather conditions, he also gained experience in forecasting air quality. In 2014, Mr. Irwin transitioned to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) in Saint Paul, Minnesota, where he used his expertise in air quality forecasting and machine learning to develop a new statewide air quality forecasting system. His innovative work on that project was awarded the State Government Innovation Award by the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota in 2017, as well as the Gordie Award for Innovation by the MPCA in 2018.

Education

- BS, Meteorology, University of Oklahoma
- BA, Journalism, Point Loma Nazarene University

Memberships

American Meteorological Society

During his tenure at the MPCA, Mr. Irwin also became skilled at building analytical models in ArcGIS, creating data visualizations in Tableau, and communicating the importance of air quality forecasts through Prezi, Keynote, and PowerPoint presentations, both locally and nationally.

Mr. Irwin graduated with special distinction from the University of Oklahoma, where he majored in Meteorology. While attending the University of Oklahoma, he worked for the Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies, where he researched microburst-producing thunderstorms using new radar systems.