**Geology & Environmental Science University of Pittsburgh** 



## Spring 2024 Colloquium Series

## **DAVID HUBER**

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## Mechanisms and fate of fire-induced carbonates in a cold desert ecosystem

Drylands are intricately linked with wildfires, but climate change and shifts in plant communities are altering the fire regime of these sensitive ecosystems. Dr. Huber's research group has begun to address a knowledge gap in the origin and fate of soil carbonates, including the impact of fire-induced carbonates. Taking advantage of a BLM prescribed fire within a well-characterized and instrumented catchment (i.e., Reynolds Creek Critical Zone Observatory), we assess two likely drivers of fire-induced carbonate formation and their subsequent fate. This work also facilitates an interdisciplinary effort to characterize post-burn effects on watershed function and recovery. Finally, Dr. Huber and collaborators have been able to test custom greenhouse gas sensor technology for high risk, high reward situations such as wildfires.

Bagels, donuts, and coffee available in **SRCC 219** before the talk!

## April 11, 2024 Thaw 104 @ 4:00PM