Donna Ferguson is microbiologist specializing in public health, water quality and epidemiology. She started her career as a Public Health Microbiologist specializing in parasitology. This led to a research position at Metropolitan Water District of Southern California where she helped develop methods to detect Cryptosporidium in drinking water and upstream sources. She went on to supervise the water quality laboratory at the Public Health Department in Orange County and was involved in several microbial source tracking studies. She is currently a researcher at Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) and also working on her doctoral degree at UCLA.

Donna’s research interest is focused on helping local agencies find and reduce bacterial pollution of waterbodies. She recently co-authored a chapter on natural sources of fecal indicator bacteria for a textbook entitled, Microbial Source Tracking: Methods, Applications and Case Studies.