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Linking Member Associations with Important Federal Policies and Local Trends

Thursday, December 7, 2023

1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

Water Environment Federation
the water quality people

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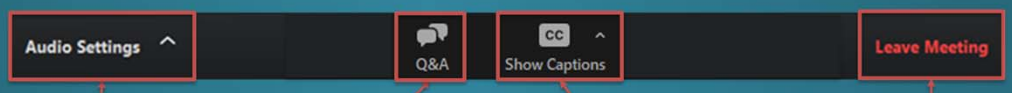
How to Participate Today



Submit your questions using the Questions pane.

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Audio Settings
Adjust your speaker output
(You can also optionally join via phone audio)

Enable auto-caption feature
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A recording will be available for replay shortly after this webcast.

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Today's Agenda

1. Introduction – *Julie Nahrgang*
2. Water Advocacy & WEF Resources – *Peter Garvey, Kristiana Dragash*
3. Lobbying and 501(c)3 – *Matt Morgan (Barnes & Thornburg LLP)*
4. MA Spotlights:
   a. New England WEA (NEWEA) – *Jeff McBurnie, Emily Prescott*
   b. WEA of Texas (WEAT) – *Heather Cooke, Julie Nahrgang*
   c. Florida WEA (FWEA) – *Jeff Greenwell*
5. Federal Legislative Outlook – *Steve Dye*
6. Questions and Discussion

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WEF's

WATER ADVOCATES

PROGRAM & ADVOCACY RESOURCES

WEF GAC MA Webinar
December 7, 2023

Kristiana Dragash
Peter Garvey

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Agenda

Water Advocates Program	Advocacy Resources	Advocacy Events – National Water Policy Fly In
• Introduction • History • How to Sign Up • Program Metrics • Calls to Action	• WEF & MA Advocacy Toolkits • WEF Position Statements	

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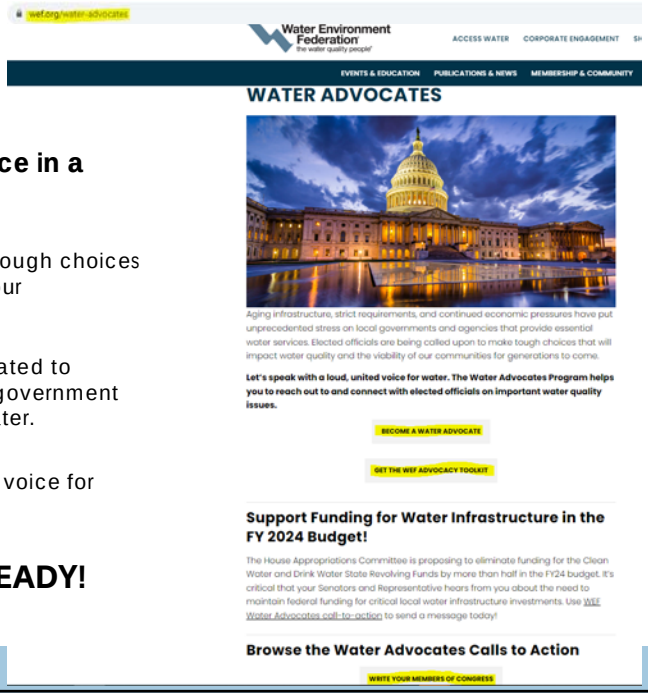
Water Advocates Program

What if you could make a real difference in a few moments of time?

- Elected officials are being called upon to make tough choices that will impact water quality and the viability of our communities for generations
  - The WEF Water Advocates Program was created to empower us to share our expertise to inform government decision-makers about the importance of water.
  - It is critical that we speak with a loud, united voice for water.

GET YOUR PHONES/ MOUSE READY!



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Federal Advocacy Efforts – Water Advocates Program!

2019	2021	2023	2024
4/8/2021 **495** ***Advocates***		***8/30/2023*** **944** ***Advocates***	
Federal Advocacy Workgroup created within House of Delegates	***11/5/2021*** **675** ***Advocates And Advocates in EVERY STATE***	*Permanent Water Advocacy Committee created in WEF's House of Delegates*	

Sign Up today !

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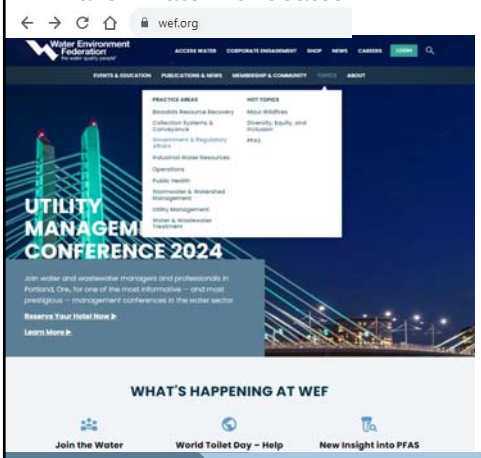
How to Sign Up for the Water Advocates Program

Three easy ways to sign-up:

1. **WEF.org – Government and Regulatory Affairs – Water Advocates**



2. **https://www.wef.org/water-advocates**

3. **New QR Code**

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WEF Water Advocates Program Calls to Action Get Results!!

2023	Urge Congress to Protect Water Utilities from CERCLA and Ensure Polluters Pay!	**1,491** Letters Sent	**Result: TBD!** KD0
2023	Ask your Members of Congress to Support the WIPPES Act (S. 1350/H.R. 2964) Today!	**696** Letters Sent	**Result: Bipartisan bills introduced in house and senate. House bill expected to pass committee this week.**
2023	Take Action Now: Support Water Infrastructure Funding in FY 2024!	**531** Letters Sent	**Result: TBD!**
2020	Include Funding for Water in Covid Relief Legislation	**1,668** Letters Sent	**Result: $1.136 Billion in low-income ratepayer aid**
2020	Help to Wastewater Utilities in PFAS Legislation	**1,047** Letters Sent	**Result: Provisions WEF was opposed to got dropped from bill.**

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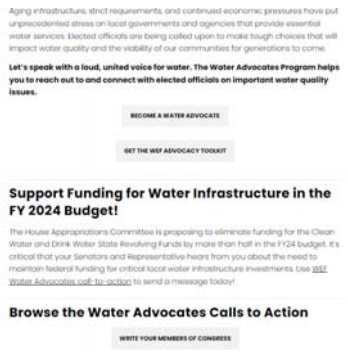
Slide 10

KD0 Can say that we are focused on getting support from democratic senators who are being approached by environmental NGOs.
Kristiana Dragash, 2023-12-04T16:57:46.362

How You Can Help the Water Advocates Program

1. JOIN the Water Advocates Program
2. Click the call-to-action buttons on the Water Advocates website:
   - **Support Funding for Water Infrastructure in FY 2024!**
   - **Urge Congress to Protect Water Utilities from CERCLA and Ensure Polluters Pay!**
   - **Co-sponsor Wipes Labeling Legislation**
3. Fill out your info (name and address will bring up your representatives!) and send the pre-drafted message!
4. Share on social media!



WEF Contact:
Amy Kathman
akathman@wef.org

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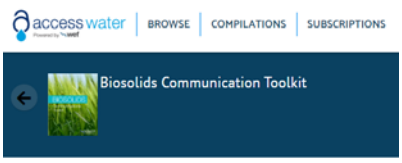
Advocacy Resources

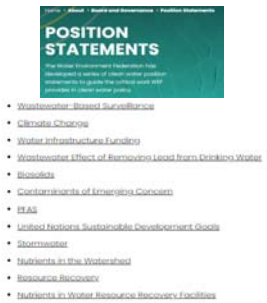
WEF's Water Advocacy Toolkit

Value of Water Campaign

NEWEA Advocacy Toolkit

WEF Position Statements





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Advocacy Resources

WEF's Water Advocacy Toolkit

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Advocacy Resources

WEF Position Statements

- Wastewater-Based Surveillance
- Climate Change
- Water Infrastructure Funding
- Wastewater Effect of Removing Lead from Drinking Water
- Biosolids
- Contaminants of Emerging Concern
- PFAS
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- Stormwater
- Nutrients in the Watershed
- Resource Recovery
- Nutrients in Water Resource Recovery Facilities

Title: Water Infrastructure Funding Position Statement
Date of Approval: February 11, 2021 **Date of Expiration: February 11, 2026**

BACKGROUND
To adequately and effectively address current and anticipated global water challenges, the water sector needs increased and more reliable funding and financing for wastewater, drinking water, water reuse, and stormwater infrastructure. The effects of the current shortage of available funding for replacement of aging water infrastructure and technology innovations are well documented and reported. Without significant funding increases, there will be long-term harm to public health, environmental protection, social equity, and economic growth in communities. Historically underserved communities, such as tribal, rural, and inner-city communities, have been most severely harmed by underfunding. In most countries, replacing aging infrastructure and meeting new regulatory requirements create the majority of the water infrastructure funding and financing gap. Local rate payers shoulder most of these investment costs, but many communities lack sufficient capital resources to meet their needs and are struggling with affordability, environmental and social equity, and climate change resilience challenges.

ALIGNMENT WITH WEF'S MISSION AND CRITICAL OBJECTIVES
Since 1928, the mission of WEF and its members has been to protect public health and the environment. This position statement is consistent with our mission and the following critical objectives:

3c - Generate an increased public awareness of the value of water leading to increased funding to protect water quality through appropriate levels of infrastructure, management approaches, and services.

4c - Establish the conditions that promote accelerated development and implementation of innovative technologies and approaches in the water sector.

POSITION
The water sector needs increased and more reliable funding and financing of water infrastructure to close the infrastructure funding gap and address such priorities as aging infrastructure and technology innovation to meet changing regulations. Governments and stakeholders at all levels must be engaged in addressing the water infrastructure funding and financing gap. WEF supports the following:

- National governments should substantially increase direct funding and financing assistance for water infrastructure and expand how existing funding mechanisms are used to support the nation's water infrastructure priorities.
- State or provincial governments should take full advantage of the funding resources made available through federal sources to increase funding available for utilities.
- National and state or provincial governments should provide regulatory flexibility and technical cooperation necessary to facilitate innovative infrastructure financing approaches by local authorities.
- All levels of government (national, state/provincial, and local) and stakeholders should increase their understanding, exploration, and use of innovative water infrastructure funding and financing approaches.
- Funds collected from water utility rate payers should be preserved for local water infrastructure investments.

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Advocacy Resources

WEF Position Statements

- Wastewater-Based Surveillance
- Climate Change
- Water Infrastructure Funding
- Wastewater Effect of Removing Lead from Drinking Water
- Biosolids
- Contaminants of Emerging Concern
- PFAS
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- Stormwater
- Nutrients in the Watershed
- Resource Recovery
- Nutrients in Water Resource Recovery Facilities

Title: Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Position Statement

Date of Approval: April 7, 2020 **Expiration Date: April 7, 2025**

BACKGROUND

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), or "highly fluorinated chemicals", are a large group of synthetic chemicals that includes Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS), Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBS), and thousands of other compounds. PFAS are of concern because evolving information about their potential impacts to human health and/or the environment has prompted further evaluation and investigation. In addition, fate, transport and impact, as well as treatment or mitigation are not fully understood. These substances, which are resistant to heat, oils, stains, grease, and water—properties which contribute to their persistence in the environment—were first used commercially in the 1940s in products that include stain- and water-repellent fabrics, nonstick products (e.g., Teflon), polishes, waxes, paints, cleaning products, and fire-fighting foams. In the 2000s, in the United States, PFOS and PFOA were phased out, and other governments started phasing out their use as well due to environmental and health concerns. As with other so-called Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs), treatment technologies and analytical methods for the detection of some varieties of PFAS are currently limited. There are no U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved certified methods for detection of PFAS in wastewater or biosolids. Finally, gaps in knowledge about these substances and concern about their presence in drinking water have led regulatory agencies to respond with a patchwork of standards.

ALIGNMENT WITH WEF'S MISSION AND CRITICAL OBJECTIVES

Since 1928, it has been the mission of WEF and its members to protect public health and the environment. This position statement is consistent with our mission and the following critical objectives:

3c: Educate decision makers and elected officials on the infrastructure funding gap and other water policy issues, and engage potential stakeholders

4b: Drive innovation and research in the water sector

POSITION

WEF is concerned about the presence of PFAS in our communities. Protecting public health and the environment has always been, and continues to be, the daily mission of water professionals. However, since water utilities and biosolids reuse programs are receivers and *not* generators or users of PFAS, they should not be penalized by legislation or regulation. WEF supports:

- Development of timely health and environmental assessments for PFAS;
- Development of national science and risk-based standards for PFAS;
- Development of better management practices for PFAS through source control;
- Continued regulation of biosolids under the Clean Water Act in the United States or similar regulations in other countries;
- Increased funding for research and development of the appropriate technologies, processes, approaches, and cost-benefit tools to respond to concerns about PFAS in wastewater and biosolids;
- Development of approved and certified analytical methods for the analysis of PFAS in water, wastewater, and biosolids that provides for consistent and equitable evaluation;
- Ensuring that legislation or regulations to address PFAS that impact utilities address implementation costs and provide adequate funding for municipalities to address PFAS.

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Advocacy Events

National Water Policy Fly-In

SAVE THE DATE!
April 9, 2024
Washington, DC
www.waterweek.us

- 392 Attendees
- 43 States represented (& Quebec)
- ~25 Member Associations represented
- 11 YP Scholarship recipients
- +500 Water Week Congressional Reception attendees

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Thank you!

Kristiana Dragash
kdragash@carollo.com

Peter Garvey
pgarvey@Dewberry.com

Let's speak with a loud, united voice for water! The Water Advocates Program helps you to reach out to and connect with elected officials on important water quality issues.

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Lobbying & Advocacy
Water Environment Federation
December 6, 2023

Matt Morgan, Partner

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While all lobbying is advocacy,

not all advocacy is lobbying.

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Takeaways from Today:

- Advocacy is not always "lobbying."
- Public charities may engage in "lobbying" so long as it is not a "substantial part" of the activities of the organization.
- Private foundations should stick to advocacy work and not engage in lobbying.
- Must put into place an appropriate accounting and compliance system to track lobbying activities.
- Individuals still retain their free speech rights.

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What is Advocacy?

- Much advocacy work, including efforts to educate and influence public opinion, does not constitute "lobbying."

- Examples of permitted activities:
  - Nonpartisan analysis, study or research
  - Attempting to influence an administrative agency
  - Executive Branch lobbying
  - Attempting to influence legislators on non-legislative matters

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What is Lobbying? IRS Definition:

- [A]ny community chest, fund, or foundation, organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational purposes … **no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation**.

- **Public charities** may engage in *some* lobbying.

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Compliance Recommendation

- **If you are talking to legislators OR talking about legislation OR implying that legislation should be passed…you probably need to talk to the lawyers and accountants.**

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What about Private Foundations?

- As a general rule, dollars spent by Private Foundations for legislative lobbying are prohibited as "taxable expenditures."
  - Dollars spent on lobbying activity incur an excise tax so significant it essentially acts as a prohibition
  - 20% on amount expended assessed on foundation
  - PLUS potentially 5% assessed on ***foundation manager***
  - Also, 501(c)(3) status at risk if a "substantial part" of its activities is lobbying.

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Back to: What is Lobbying? - Definition

- Under federal tax law, lobbying generally consists of communications that are intended to influence specific legislation.
  - **Direct Lobbying** = Communicating with legislators or their staff to support or oppose legislation.
  - **Grassroots Lobbying** = An attempt to influence legislation by communicating with the public regarding legislation and encouraging the audience to take action with respect to the legislation.

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Lobbying - Example

- "Say No to Drugs" Organization
  - Creates an educational pamphlet that provides analysis on a study about the harms of drugs on children.

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Example: Say No to Drugs Organization

- This is **advocacy**, not lobbying:
  - The pamphlet discusses the dangers of drugs and the study's results.
  - The pamphlet is distributed to the public.
  - The Organization encourages the public to send their legislators a coupon, printed with the statement "I support a drug-free America."
  - The phrase "drug-free America" is not widely identified with any of the many specific legislative proposals regarding drug issues.
  - The pamphlet does not support, oppose, or refer to any specific legislative proposal.

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Example: Say No to Drugs Organization

- This is considered **direct lobbying**:
  - The Organization schedules a meeting with a Member of Congress and discusses how the study could be incorporated into legislation.

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Example: Say No to Drugs Organization

- This is considered **grass roots lobbying**:
  - The pamphlet discusses the dangers of drugs and the study's results.
  - The pamphlet also states that the "President's plan for a drug-free America" should be passed.
  - The pamphlet is distributed widely to the public and encourages the public to contact legislators to ask them to vote for the President's plan.
  - No legislation or legislative proposal has the name "President's plan for a drug-free America," BUT that and similar terms have been widely used in connection with pending/potential legislation.
  - This is "grass roots lobbying" because the pamphlet refers to specific potential legislation, reflects a view on the legislation, and encourages the public to take action.

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Example: Say No to Drugs Organization

- Takeaway: These are **all** examples of lobbying:
  - Organization meets with a Member of Congress and discusses how the study could be incorporated into legislation (direct lobbying).
  - Organization meets with Member of Congress to urge Member to support President's plan for a drug-free America (direct/connected lobbying).
  - Organization sends pamphlet to all members telling them to call their legislators and urge them to vote for drug-free legislation (grassroots lobbying).
  - Organization sends pamphlet to all members telling them to call their legislators and urge them to support the President's plan for a drug-free America (grassroots/connected lobbying).

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Lobbying - How Much?

- **Public charities** may engage in *some* lobbying....so long as it is not a "substantial part" of the activities of the organization.

- How much is too much?

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Substantial Part Test

- Substantial Part Test
  - Whether an organization's attempts to influence legislation, i.e., *lobbying*, constitute a *substantial part* of its overall activities is determined on the basis of all the pertinent facts and circumstances in each case.
  - The IRS considers a variety of factors, including the time devoted (by both compensated and volunteer workers) and the expenditures devoted by the organization to the activity.

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History – Congress tries to make it easier (with emphasis on "tries")

- In 1976, Congress added Section 501(h) to the Internal Revenue Code. A 501(h) "election" created an alternative to the "no substantial part" test.
- Section 501(h) provides that a qualifying charity will not be denied 501(c)(3) status for engaging in too much lobbying, so long as its lobbying expenditures do not exceed certain calculable dollar limits.

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Expenditure Test/501(h) Election Limits

If the exempt purpose expenditures are—	The lobbying nontaxable amount is—
≤ $500,000	20% of the exempt purpose expenditures
>$500,00 but ≤ $1,000,000	$100,000 plus 15% of the excess of exempt purpose expenditures over $500,000
> $1,000,000 but ≤ $1,500,000	$175,000 plus 10% of the excess of exempt purpose expenditures over $1,000,000
>$1,500,000 but ≤ $17,000,000	$225,000 plus 5% of the exempt purpose expenditures over $1,500,000
>$17,000,000	$1,000,000

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Individuals still retain their free speech rights

- The restrictions on lobbying and political activities apply to 501(c)(3) organizations.
- 501(c)(4) social welfare organizations and 501(c)(6) trade associations are not restricted in the same way.
- Individuals, as long as they are not using the corporate resources of the 501(c)(3), may personally engage in lobbying activity.
- Membership or affiliation with a 501(c)(3) does not require you, in your personal capacity, to be mute. It only limits using the organization to further the lobbying activities.

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NEWEA MA Water Advocacy – Government Affairs Perspective

Water Environment Federation

Linking Member Associations with Federal Policies and Local Trends

Virtual
December 7, 2023

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MA Water Advocacy Activities

- The NEWEA Member Association
- Government Affairs Role
- What's Working/What Needs Work

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The NEWEA Member Association

- All six New England states
  - NEWEA ASA (Affiliation of State Associations) Directors
  - NEWEA ASA Presidents
  - NEWEA ASA Government Affairs Committees
- Varying levels of legislative activity
  - Full-time legislature
  - Part-time legislature
  - Biennial - long session, short session

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Government Affairs Role

- Facilitator, Coordinator, and Communicator
- Targeted Responses to State-Specific Legislation and Regulation
- Water Policy Fly-In
  - CT: 2 senators, 5 representatives
  - ME: 2 senators, 2 representatives
  - MA: 2 senators, 9 representatives
  - NH: 2 senators, 5 representatives
  - RI: 2 senators, 2 representatives
  - VT: 2 senators, 1 representative
  - In contrast NY – 26 reps, FL – 28, TX – 38, CA - 52

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What's Working/What Needs Work

- Excellent coordination among NEWEA Senior Leadership Team, GAC, and the ASAs especially re: messaging
- Success in gaining access to policy makers & staff
- Could do better with post-Fly In follow ups

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Contact Information

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Spotlight: Maine WEA

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MeWEA Government Affairs

- Pace of Committee Review
- Subgroups
- Connection to NEWEA & WEF
- Critical to have a local voice

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Linking Local & National

- Building connections
- Collaboration & Coordination
- Local, State, Regional & National Perspectives

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Contact

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MeWEA 2024 President
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Water Environment Association of Texas

Advocacy and Lobbying in the Lone Star State

It's Always a Water Session in Texas

Heather Cooke, Austin Water
Julie Nahrgang, WEAT | TACWA

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Water Environment Association of Texas

What we do:

We partner with like-minded organizations, track progress of regulatory and legislative bills, and provide expert testimonies in support of responsible water policies and practices.

ADVOCATE

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WEAT's Governmental Affairs Committee Leadership

- Heather Cooke, GAC Co-Chair, Austin Water
- Nathan Vassar, GAC Co-Chair, Lloyd Gosselink
- Phillip Goodwin, GAC Vice-Chair, Houston Water
- Ty Embry, Lloyd Gosselink

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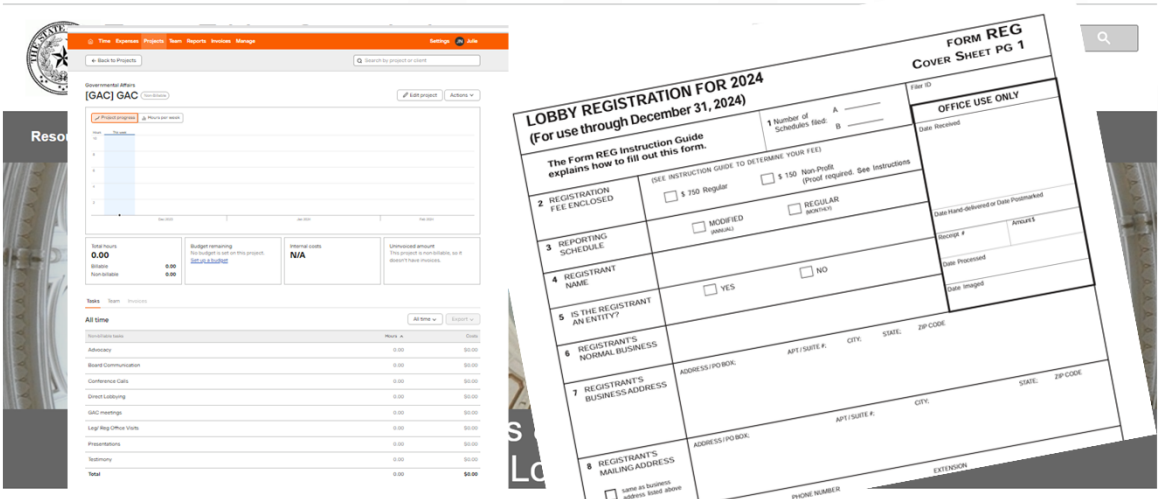
Lobbying in the Lone Star State



Forms of Lobbyist

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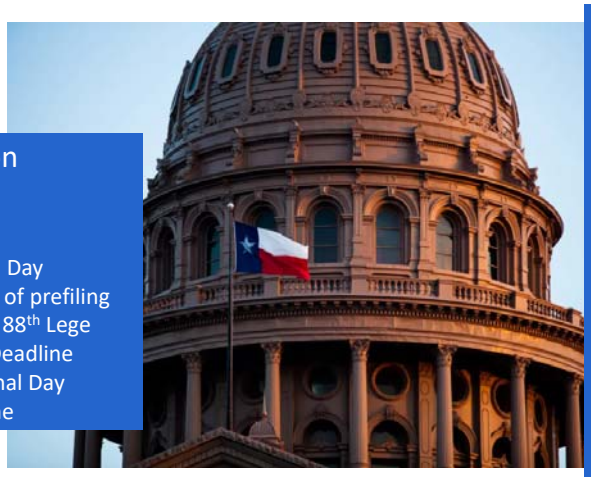
Setting up for Success: Calendars and Cadence



Legislative Session Key Dates:

November 8 – Election Day
November 14 – 1st day of prefiling
January 10 – 1st day of 88th Lege
March 10 – Bill Filing Deadline
May 29 – Sine Die – Final Day
June 18 – Veto Deadline

WEAT GAC Key Dates:

- April 8: Texas Water – Annual GAC Meeting
- June, July, August, September: GAC Agenda setting and stakeholder support
- November 15: Water Environment Horizon
- Nov – Jan: Legislator meetings; building relationships and shopping bills
- Jan – May: Bill tracking, testimony, offense and defense
- Wrap-up Lege Session Presentation

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Legislative Events

- 11/15 Horizon Conference
- 1/17 Central Texas Section Meeting
- 2/22 Houston Half Day Seminar
- 3/2 North Texas Section Meeting
- 3/9 TWCA Clean Water Presentation
- 3/13 WEAT Legislative Webinar
- 3/22 TACWA Meeting
- 4/12 Texas Water
- 5/26 TACWA Meeting
- 6/23 Nueces Basin Summit
- 7/20 WEAT Legislative Webinar

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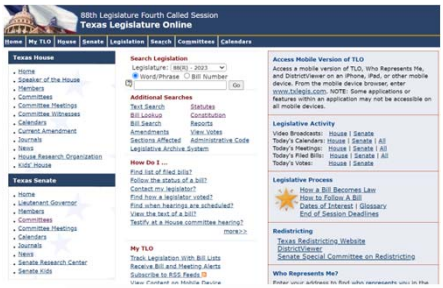
Tools

- Texas Legislative Service/Telicon
- TLO – Texas
- WEAT Website
- Coalition of Texas
- water organizations
- CTA Email blasts



https://www.weat.org/legislative-issues-updated

88th Session High Priority Water Quality Bills Passed

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Status
HB 1500	Holland, Justin	Relating to the continuation and functions of the Public Utility Commission of Texas and the Office of Public Utility Counsel, and the functions of the independent organization certified for the ERCOT power region.	Sent to the Governor 5/30/23
HB 1565	Canales, Terry	Relating to the functions of the Texas Water Development Board and continuation and functions of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas Advisory Committee.	Earliest Effective Date 9/1/23
HB 1688	Murr, Andrew	Relating to water quality protection areas.	Sent to the Governor 5/26/23
HB 1845	Metcalf, Will	Relating to the licensing requirements for certain operators of wastewater systems and public water systems.	Earliest Effective Date 9/1/23

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Testimony

88th Texas Legislature:
Transparency and TPDES Notice

HB 2369 (Kitzman, Stan) –Relating to publishing on an Internet website notices concerning certain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems permits. (Heard in HNRC, 3/28 hearing)

CSHB 2369 (Kitzman) –
- The commission shall consider and accommodate residents of each area affected by a proposed NPDES permit… who may need assistance accessing notice published by electronic means because of a lack of access… to Internet services
- **Only applies to counties with populations of 300,000 or greater**
- **Must publish notice in newspaper if switching to online**
- **TCEQ will add TPDES to list serve**

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Bills, Bills, Bills: The Fast and the Furious

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88th Texas Legislature
Surface Water

88th Texas Legislature
Catch-all

88th Texas Legislature
The Mighty **VETO** Pen

88th Te
Ground

SB 2440 (Pe
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HB 3059 (Ki
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HB 4256 (Mu
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HB 2178/S
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and Texas

SB 1047/H
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SB 1093 (S
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SB 2182/H
assistance

HB 981/SB 813 (Lopez, Ray)- Relating to providing notice to a state representative and senator of certain administrative actions of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Senate Bill No. 813 would add unnecessary bureaucratic duties to what is already required by Texas law. Our goal should be to eliminate bureaucracy, not add to it.

Since the Eighty-Eighth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 16th day of June, 2023.

GREG ABBOTT
Governor of Texas

Issue 11: Sh

A. Brief D

TCEQ's Occupa
occupational li
years, as the p
water and wastewater operators per capita in Texas. If this trend
significant shortage of licensed water and wastewater operators.

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The Results…

TEXAS INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION
Early Voting: Oct 23
Election Day: Nov 7

Proposition 6
Texas Water Fund

Promote Water Conservation
Proposition 6 will help repair and replace water infrastructure such as leaky pipes and support conservation awareness.

Support Sufficient Water Supply During a Drought
Proposition 6 will help support the development of new water supplies to meet the needs of our growing population, especially during an extended drought.

Help Local Communities and the Texas Economy
Proposition 6 will help expand water and wastewater infrastructure in local communities to preserve Texas' vibrant economy.

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Contact Us

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GAC Leadership
Heather Cooke,
Nathan Vassar,
Phillip Goodwin,

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Florida Water Environment Association

Utility Council

wef Member Association

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Mission Statement

"To assist our members in achieving sound public health and environmental goals for millions of Floridians in a cost-effective manner"

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What Do We Do

- Facilitate the Development of Statutes that Best Serve the Community and Environment
- Work with the Regulators to Craft Rules that are Science Based and Achievable
- Serve as Trusted Subject Matter Experts for Legislators
- Maintain Working Groups to Address Emerging Issues

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Contact Information

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Federal Update

WEF Government Affairs Department

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Funded in Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (A.K.A. BIL)

Clean Water Guaranteed Funding: $12.7B

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CW SRF)

- ✓ $1.9B in FY22
- ✓ $2.2B in FY23
- **$2.4B in FY24**
- $2.6B in FY25 & FY26

CW SRF Emerging Contaminants Grants (PFAS, Microplastics, 6PPD)

- $1B FY22 – FY26
  - ✓ $100M in FY22
  - ✓ $225M in FY23
  - **$225M in FY24**

Needs Annual Appropriations

Potential Additional Funding: $25B

CW SRF

- ✓ FY22 $1.6B (-$444M)
- ✓ FY23 $1.6B (-$863M)
- **FY24 $3B**
- FY25 & FY26 $3.25

WIFIA

- ✓ FY22 $63M
- ✓ FY23 $68M
- FY24 $68M

- ✓ **Low Income Ratepayer Assistance FY24**
- ✓ **Stormwater Centers of Excellence FY24**
- ✓ **Sewer Overflow Grants (OSG) FY24**
- ✓ **Water Workforce Development Grants**
- ✓ **Tech. Assist. To Wastewater Treatment**

Still Needs Initial Funding

- Resilience & Sustainability Grants
- Small POTW Grants
- Connecting to POTWs Grants
- Energy Efficiency Grants
- Stormwater Planning & Implementation Grants

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FY24 Appropriations

CW SRF

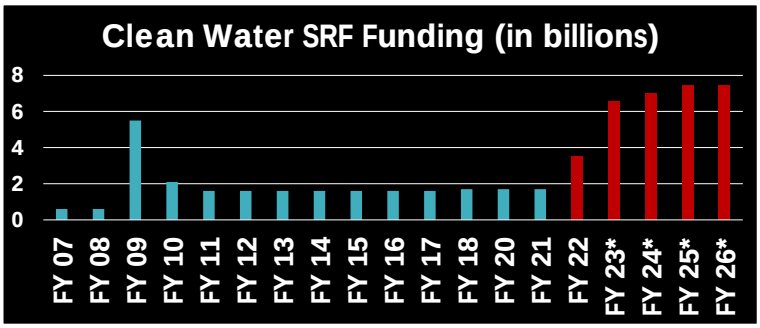
- ✓ FY22 $1.6B (-$444M earmarks)
- ✓ FY23 $1.6B (-$863M)
- FY24 $3B
- FY25 & FY26 $3.25

House FY24
$535M (-$470M)
= **$67M**

Senate FY24
$1.6B (-$345M)
= $1.3B

WIFIA

- ✓ FY22 $63M
- ✓ FY23 $68M
- FY24 $68M



Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Reuse Grants (OSG)

- ✓ FY23 $50M (increase of $7M/FY22)
- FY24 $50M in House & Senate bills

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Other Legislation Update

Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act (WIPPES)
H.R. 2964 passed House Energy & Commerce Committee on Dec. 6, 2023
S. 1350 bipartisan bill pending in Senate

Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act, S. 1430

Water Advocates Calls-to-Action:

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Federal Regulatory Update

Maui Guidance: *Applying the Supreme Court's County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund Decision in the Clean Water Act Section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Program to Discharges through Groundwater*
Federal Register, docket number EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0551
Comments Due: Dec. 27, 2023

Lead & Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)
Docket ID Number: EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0801
Comments Due: Feb. 5, 2024

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) to establish Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for six PFAS
Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0114
Rule Finalized by the "end of 2023"

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National Water Policy Fly-In 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

April 9, 2024

Washington, DC

www.waterweek.us

Join hundreds of water professionals from around the nation in Washington, DC, to advocate before Congress and the Biden Administration on the issues that are important to the water sector.

- Details posted on the Water Week website: **www.waterweek.us**
- Co-hosted by WEF, NACWA, WateReuse Association, and the Water Research Foundation

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Q&A Discussion

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