



July 15-17, 2024 Hyatt Regency Dallas

Program

As of June 17, 2024

The Water Environment Federation's second Circular Water Economy (CWE) Summit is designed to bridge the gap between industrial and municipal water leaders – and the communities they serve – as they pursue sustainable solutions to water challenges. The 2024 conference highlights industrial water solutions – including circular water solutions from specifically targeted sectors: agriculture and food processing, technology, municipal, financial, policy, fashion and textile, academia, and energy.

This 2.5-day program features distinct sessions aligning with the value proposition and business case of the circular water economy:

Session 1: Future Forward – AI in Circular Water Economy

Session 2: The Intersection of Innovation & Funding

Session 3: Circular Flow Modeling

Session 4: Industrial Symbiosis: From Policy to Practice

Session 5: Circular Water in Agriculture & Food Processing

Session 6: Drivers for Circular Water Strategies

The Summit will use a variety of formats including keynotes, principal speakers, facilitated panel discussions, small group roundtable discussions, simulations, and a variety of opportunities to build a constituency dedicated to leading this transformation together.

All events will be held at the Hyatt Regency Dallas.

For more information and to register, visit the Summit website at

<https://www.wef.org/cwesummit>

Monday, July 15, 2024

Pre-Summit Deep Dives

Deep Dives A and B are available to add on free-of-charge to all Summit registrants. Deep Dives run from 1:00pm – 4:00 pm, followed by the Evening Welcome Reception open to all Summit registrants from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm.

Deep Dive A

The Relationship Between Circular Water Economy and Oil & Gas Industry

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

(Limit 25 participants)

This deep dive is focused on the circular water economy for upstream, midstream or downstream users. We will explore what is the current state of circular water for the oil and gas industries, success stories, what can be improved, challenges and barriers, and how to improve circular water in O&G industry. Exploration of topics includes how to minimize by-products and waste, minimize consumption, and maximize reuse best practices.

- 1:00 pm Welcome
- 1:10 pm Introductions (at individual tables)
- 1:20 pm Setting the Stage: What Does WEF Mean by “Circular Water Economy”?
- 1:30 pm State of Circular Water Economy for the Oil & Gas Industry
Tom Sandy, Brown and Caldwell

The engaging presentation will speak to the upstream, midstream, and downstream markets. Topics relating to the circular water economy include direct air capture, LNG, RNG facilities with a community that includes water treatment, water reclamation facility, river, ocean, agriculture.

- 1:50 pm Breakouts to discuss in operations in relation to the above topics and tying back to the Circular Water Economy
Facilitator: Rusty Smith, Texas Produced Water Consortium
- 3:45 pm Wrap Up
- 4:00 pm Deep Dive Concludes

Deep Dive B

Introducing the ESG Game Experience: Ignite Sustainability and Collaboration

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

(Limit 20 participants)

Are you ready to embark on a transformative journey towards a more sustainable future? Introducing the ESG Game Experience – a dynamic and immersive simulation designed to empower your team with the knowledge, skills, and strategies to implement impactful Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices.

A simulation game for four teams of up to 5 people, the ESG Game Experience sets the stage with a carefully curated selection of ESG themes, each forming a gateway to a realm of innovation and responsible business practices. Your team will dive into captivating topics such as Employee

Relations, Community Engagement, Climate Change, etc. Every theme begins a remarkable adventure, leading your team toward sustainable success.

Empower your team to lead the way in environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and sound governance. Join us to embark on your ESG Game Experience and become a catalyst for a brighter, more sustainable future.

The game will guide you along the following path of discovery:

Unveil the Path to ESG Excellence

The ESG Game Experience sets the stage with a carefully curated selection of ESG themes, each forming a gateway to a realm of innovation and responsible business practices. Your team will dive into captivating topics such as Employee Relations, Community Engagement, Climate Change, and many more. Every theme sparks the beginning of a remarkable adventure, leading your team toward sustainable success.

A World of Choices and Action

Your journey continues as your team selects a theme in Phase 1, igniting a cascade of choices and decisions that mirror the real-world challenges faced by today's businesses. Will you embrace Circular Economy principles? Champion Gender Diversity? Promote Safe Working Conditions? You hold the reins, and your choices shape the path to progress.

Empowerment Through Learning

In Phase 2, knowledge becomes power. Teams explore their chosen ESG domain, crafting strategies and solutions that breathe life into their aspirations. This is where theory meets action, where teams forge alliances, and where innovation takes center stage. Engaging tasks and challenges guide your team, enhancing collaboration and transforming concepts into tangible impact.

Navigating the Unexpected

Phase 3 introduces a twist – the unpredictable. Teams will encounter unexpected challenges, mirroring the ever-evolving landscape of sustainable business. Adaptability, resourcefulness, and strategic thinking will guide you through these uncharted waters, ensuring your ESG initiatives stand strong against any tide.

Victory of Transformation

In the end, one team emerges victorious, having achieved the most remarkable transformation on their ESG journey. But in the ESG Game Experience, every participant wins. The wisdom gained, the bonds forged, and the strategies uncovered are shared triumphs that empower your entire team to make a positive impact, both individually and collectively.

Monday Evening Welcome Reception

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

To kick off the Circular Water Economy Summit, join us for a welcome reception with sustainability executives, decision-makers, and thought leaders from companies and municipalities that are successfully turning waste streams into value streams.

Sponsored by Xylem

Day 1: Tuesday, July 16, 2024

8:00 am – 6:30 pm

A breakfast buffet will be available in the foyer at badge pickup, 7:00 am – 8:00 am, with morning programming running from 8:00 am-Noon, followed by a luncheon Noon – 1:00 pm. Afternoon programming runs from 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm followed by the networking reception 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm.

Opening Session

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Early circular water principles can be found in indigenous practices that embraced a respectful approach to water and to nature as a whole. Water was and continues to be revered by many of these cultures. A special screening of *Our Blue World* and accompanying panel discussion will open the Summit and further “explore humanity’s profound relationship with water.”

View the [Our Blue World](#) trailer.

Featured Speakers:

- Mark Nelson, Institute of Ecotechnics
- Travis Numan, University of Nevada-Reno
- Our Blue World Panel

World Café / Small Group Roundtable Discussions

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Connect in small groups with other CWE Summit participants to learn what brought them and what they hope to take away from this experience.

10:30 am – 11:00 am Networking Break

Session 1

Future Forward – AI in Circular Water Economy

11:00 am – Noon

Fast-forward to the present day, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a part of the common vernacular. People in various industries are already tapping into the power of this new tool to improve and inform systems. A second-panel discussion hosted by thought leaders and practitioners will help uncover the power of AI and the potential behind this tool for water circularity.

The following speakers will discuss the traditional ancestral ways of integrating circularity into water practices and how, with the tools available to us, we can enhance our processes.

Featured Speakers:

- Edmundo Ortega, Machine & Partners
- Gigi Karmous-Edwards, Karmous-Edwards Consultants
- Rober Bornhofen, DC Water

Moderator:

- Barry Liner, The Water Council

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Luncheon

Sponsored by AECOM

Innovation Showcase

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Discover how Imagine H2O's portfolio companies are driving the transition towards a more circular water economy through their innovation and technological advancements. During these 30 minutes, you will hear from various featured companies who are promoting a more resilient and resource-efficient future.

Session 2

The Intersection of Innovation & Funding

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Innovation and funding are critical spokes in the circular water wheel and are often identified as both opportunities and barriers. Their interdependency can make or break impactful movements. We've invited four prominent organizations in this space to showcase how they work to propel more sustainable technologies forward.

Featured Speakers:

- Lauren Greenlee, XPRIZE
- Charles Werth, Department of Energy (DOE) Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy
- Earl Jones, DCVC
- Gregory Madden, H2O Innovation

Moderator:

- Gregory Madden, H2O Innovation

3:00 – 3:30 pm Networking Break

Session 3

Circular Flow Modeling

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Lean in to learn from top researchers versed in circular flow modeling for nutrients and decarbonization. This micro-course will give participants a high-level overview of the science-backed knowledge surrounding why it is critical to understand flow models and how they can inform circular opportunities across various industrial verticals.

Small group exercise: During the last half-hour participants will put circular flow modeling into practice together as a group.

Featured Speakers:

- Sally Brown, University of Washington
- Angela Fasnacht, Princeton University

Tuesday Networking Reception

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Grab a drink and snacks and connect with other participants and speakers met earlier today. Or, if the trailer shown in the Opening Session wasn't enough, come watch the full-length film, *Our Blue World*, discussing themes together with other Summit guests.

Sponsored by Arcadis and Grundfos

Day 2: Wednesday, July 15, 2024

8:00 am – 4:30 pm

A breakfast buffet will be available in the foyer at badge pickup, 7:00 am – 8:00 am, with morning programming running from 8:00 am-noon, followed by a luncheon Noon – 1:00 pm, and afternoon programming 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm.

Welcome and Keynote Speaker

Technology Spotlight: Meta’s Journey to Water Positive

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Learn how Meta is making water the undercurrent of their sustainability strategy. Meta will highlight how water is moving through their organization with data centers, water restoration projects, and utility partnerships.

Featured Speaker:

- Tom Birmingham, Meta

Session 4

Industrial Symbiosis: From Policy to Practice

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Adaptation has become a necessity in planning for circularity in industrial processes. Learn from trailblazing organizations that have found that power in numbers across non-traditional partners has created opportunities beyond the status quo. You will gain perspectives from policymakers, sustainable infrastructure experts, and municipal and industrial leaders.

During the last half-hour of the session, participants will have the opportunity to conduct a simulated industrial symbiosis exercise.

Featured Speakers:

- Rhys Roth, Center for Sustainable Infrastructure
- Rep. Mike Chapman, Washington State Legislature
- Robert Duff, Washington State Governor’s Office
- Steve Worley, City of Vancouver, Washington
- Morten Sien Lyngge, Consul General and Head of Energy North America, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

Moderators:

- Rhys Roth, Center for Sustainable Infrastructure
- Robert Duff, Washington State Governor’s Office

10:00 – 10:30am Networking Break

Session 5

Circular Water in Agriculture & Food Processing

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Water is required by nature to grow the food we depend on. This session will spotlight how circular water approaches inform best practices across various companies, from vertical agriculture to intelligent irrigation, food production, and distribution.

Featured Speakers:

- Gopi Sandhu, Nestle-Purina
- Daniel Baker, Manulife Investment Management
- Morgan Welch, Bowery Farming
- Kevin Hickey, Navitas and Beverage Industry Environmental Roundtable

Moderator:

- Tracy Ekola, Brown and Caldwell

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Luncheon

Innovation Showcase

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Discover how Imagine H2O's portfolio companies are driving the transition towards a more circular water economy through their innovation and technological advancements. During these 30 minutes, you will hear from four companies that are promoting a more resilient and resource-efficient future.

Session 6

Drivers for Circular Water Strategies

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Circular water strategies continue to infiltrate the dialogue across multiple sectors. From companies to utilities, institutions to governments, learn what drivers are guiding these decisions, where impacts are taking shape, and the potential of embedding these strategies into business as usual.

Featured Speakers:

- Matthew Jalbert, Trinity River Authority
- Betsy Hickman, Anthesis Group
- Pradipta Parhi J.P. Morgan

Moderators:

- Lucy Pugh, AECOM

Closing Keynote and Remarks

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

More details to follow.

The CWE Summit concludes at 4:30 pm.

CWE Summit Schedule At-A-Glance

Monday, July 15, 2024

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| 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Pre-Summit Deep Dive A: The Relationship Between Circular Water Economy and Oil & Gas Industry
Pre-Summit Deep Dive B: Introducing the ESG Game Experience: Ignite Sustainability and Collaboration |
| 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm | Monday Evening Welcome Reception |

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

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| 7:00 am – 8:00 am | Badge Pickup and Breakfast |
| 8:00 am – 12:00 pm | Morning Sessions |
| 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Lunch |
| 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Afternoon Sessions |
| 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm | Tuesday Networking Reception |

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

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|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 7:00 am – 8:00 am | Badge Pickup and Breakfast |
| 8:00 am – 12:00 pm | Morning Sessions |
| 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Lunch |
| 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm | Afternoon Sessions |
| 4:30 pm | CWE Summit 2024 Adjourns |