The Nebraska Water Environment Association (NWEA) was founded in 1952 as the Nebraska Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association. The Association began with 46 members. An annual meeting called the Great Plains Sewage Works Design Conference was scheduled for the first time in 1956 and continues today as the Great Plains Waste Management Conference.

- **Membership**
  - 271 WEF members
  - 316 MA only members (NWOD) Nebraska Wastewater Operators Division

- **Budget**
  - 2018-2019 Annual - $137,000
  - Reserves - approximately $188,000

- **Association Publications**
  - Quarterly member publication “The Effluent Line”
  - Laboratory Practices Manual for Wastewater Treatment
  - Bi-Annual Membership Directory - now online
  - Member Association website (www.nebwea.org)
  - Converted website in early 2019 working with “Star Chapter”

- **Conferences**
  - **Snowball Conference** – A wastewater operator conference held each year in January. Co-sponsored with the Nebraska League of Municipalities. Attendance 250-300
  - **Great Plains Waste Management Conference** – A wastewater, solid waste, and public works design and management conference held each year in April. Co-sponsors include Nebraska Cornhusker Chapter – SWANA, Iowa WEA, and Nebraska APWA. As the lead organization, NWEA plans and coordinates the program and events schedule. Attendance – 280-300 per year.
  - **Heartland Operators Conference** – A wastewater operator conference held each year in July. Sponsored by the Nebraska Wastewater Operators Division (NWOD). More recently coordinated with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) for wastewater operator certification testing. Attendance – 180-290/year
  - **Joint Annual Conference** – A general membership conference with a wide range of presentation topics for a professionally diverse membership. Co-sponsored with the Nebraska Section of AWWA and Nebraska Chapter of APWA. Attendance 250-300

- **Conference Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)**
  - NWEA Board Members have worked to update the MOU) for each of our conferences. These MOUs are focused on the responsibilities and identify financial responsibility and profit sharing agreements with the different organizations noted above.
• Committee Activities (20 Committees)
  o **Public Education** – Participation in the Stockholm Junior Water Prize, Children’s Ground Water Festivals, Science Fairs, conducts “Water is Jeopardy” at Groundwater Festivals.
  o **Safety** – Reviews programs and inspects treatment facility applicants for NWEA and WEF safety awards.
  o **Scott Wilbur Award Committee** – Reviews programs and inspects treatment facility applicants for outstanding operation, maintenance, and effluent quality. The “Scott Wilbur Award” is presented at the awards banquet during the Annual Conference.
  o **Scholarship Committee** – Reviews scholarship applications and grants scholarship funding at the awards banquet during the Annual Conference. To date the program has over $30,000 in cash and pledges. Awarded 5 total scholarships for a total $5,000 in 2018.
  o **NWOD Advisory/Training** – Assists with Snowball and coordinates Heartland Conferences and also created and presents the “Bruce Bates Award” for outstanding wastewater operator excellence and leadership.
  o **Governmental Affairs** – 4-State workshops with WEF, EPA Region 7, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri member associations and State Environmental Agencies. Summary of annual meeting in the Effluent Line publication and at the Great Plains Waste Management Conference
  o **Training Committee** – Kicked-off in 2011 as a NWEA/WEF “Operator Initiative” and NWEA created this committee in 2012 to provide wastewater certification training and wastewater CEUs to Operators.
  o **Young Professionals/Student Members** – Tours of various WWTPs and other facilities are conducted annually, bringing together senior and young professionals.
  o **Resource Recovery** – Formed in 2017, organized presentations for Annual Conference Program

• **Association Sponsored Events**
  o Scholarship golf outing and banquet, proceeds and contributions to the scholarship fund.
  o Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers (5S) luncheon and member election.
  o Young Professionals Texas Hold-em Tournament during Annual Conference raised $3,200 for Water for People.

• **Nebraska Operator Training Program**
  o Program Goals
    • Provide easily obtainable CEU’s to Nebraska WWTP Operators
    • Financially and resource (volunteer) sustainable
    • Educate WEF on what works and what doesn’t regarding frontline operator relations and training
  o Major Program Components
    • Resource Committee: Operators statewide are identified as available technical resources
    • Regional Training Events: Localized training opportunities for frontline operators statewide

• **Strategic Planning**
  o Annual Retreat/Strategic Planning – Conduct a 5 year strategic plan, with review of priorities and objectives for the MA at the Annual Retreat held in April. Attended by 25 members, officers, and committee leaders.