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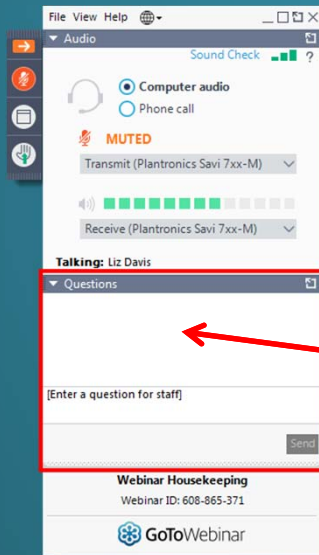
**Linking Member Associations with
Important Federal Policies and Local Trends**

August 19, 2020
1:00 – 2:30 PM Eastern

The Water Environment Federation logo is located in the bottom right corner of the teal slide. It features the same white stylized 'W' symbol and text as seen in the first image.

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How to Participate Today



- **Audio Modes**
 - Listen using Mic & Speakers
 - Or, select “Use Telephone” and dial the conference (please remember long distance phone charges apply).
- **Submit your questions using the Questions pane.**
- **A recording will be available for replay shortly after this webcast.**

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Today's Speakers

- Brandon Koltz and Julie Nahrgang, *moderators*
- Steve Dye
 - Federal Advocacy Update
- Julie Nahrgang, Rex Hunt, David Galindo
 - Texas Update
- Mary Barry, Vonnie Reis, Scott Firmin
 - New England Update
- Jared Voskuhl
 - California Update

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WaterWeek Partners: *Joint Water Policy Priorities Document*

<https://www.waterweek.us/>
<https://bit.ly/ww2020-priorities>

AMERICA'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTING & BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Investing in water infrastructure is essential to the nation's economic and public health. The report identifies key policy priorities to address the \$750 billion investment gap in water infrastructure over the next 25 years. Key findings include:

- SPENDING FEDERAL INVESTMENT:** A key barrier to federal investment is the ability to provide water infrastructure funding to states and localities. The report identifies key policy priorities to address the \$750 billion investment gap in water infrastructure over the next 25 years.
- EVIDENCE & RISK-BASED SCIENCE:** Investing in water infrastructure is essential to the nation's economic and public health. The report identifies key policy priorities to address the \$750 billion investment gap in water infrastructure over the next 25 years.
- RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION:** Investing in water infrastructure is essential to the nation's economic and public health. The report identifies key policy priorities to address the \$750 billion investment gap in water infrastructure over the next 25 years.
- AFFORDABILITY:** Investing in water infrastructure is essential to the nation's economic and public health. The report identifies key policy priorities to address the \$750 billion investment gap in water infrastructure over the next 25 years.
- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:** Investing in water infrastructure is essential to the nation's economic and public health. The report identifies key policy priorities to address the \$750 billion investment gap in water infrastructure over the next 25 years.

WATER WEEK 2020

APRIL 2020

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Federal Advocacy Update

Next Coronavirus Relief Package:

- Seeking 4B for low-income and unemployed ratepayer assistance
 - House-passed \$3T package includes \$1.5B for ratepayer aid
- Fix the provision to allow for public employers to receive sick and family leave benefits. In House-passed bill.
- Grants or low-interest loans to utilities for lost revenues to support operations and maintenance.
 - *Estimated \$13.9B & \$12.5B in drinking water and wastewater lost revenues, respectively.*

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the water quality people®

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Coronavirus Response Requests from the Water Sector

Economic Stimulus Package Priorities:

- Significant funding for water infrastructure should be included in any economic stimulus and infrastructure package.
 - The Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA) found \$73 billion in DW, WW and SW infrastructure needs
- Funds through SRFs, USDA, Title XVI, AWIA grants, etc.
- WEF members should send letters to Congress urging support for water infrastructure funding in package. Over 1,100 sent so far!
 - WEF Water Advocates Call-to-Action: <https://wef.org/advocacy/water-advocates2/>
- Joint Water Sector Letter: <https://www.wef.org/water-sector-covid-19-joint-asks>



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H.R. 2, The Moving Forward Act

\$1.5 trillion House Democrats' infrastructure package with a heavy green focus. Passed 233-188 on July 1, 2020. Key water funding provisions include:

- Reauthorizes the CW SRF at \$8B/yr
- Reauthorizes the DW SRF at \$5B/yr
- Restores Advanced Refunding for tax-exempt bonds
- Lifts the volume cap on Private Activity Bonds
- Restore the Build America Bonds
- Increases the EPA Sewer Overflow Control Grant Program to \$400M/yr
- Allows state SRF programs to use 1% for funds for water workforce development
- Creates a new \$10M/yr Dept. of Interior water workforce development grant program
- Authorizes \$1B in resiliency grants to WRRFs
- \$500 million grant program for Smart Water technology

Senate Majority Leader McConnell's package for \$1T was released July 28 but there isn't consensus among Senate Republicans. It contains no funding for infrastructure or ratepayer assistance. House, Senate, and White House negotiations are underway but a deal isn't imminent.



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Senate America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020

Key Provisions:

- Clean Water SRF Reauthorization
 - \$2B for FY21, \$2.5B for FY22, \$3B for FY23
- WIFIA Reauthorization at \$50M/yr. for FY21 & FY22
- Clean Water SRF Uses
 - Additional subsidization, such as grants, negative interest loans and loan forgiveness, or to buy, refinance or purchase debt
 - Funds can be used to design and engineer wastewater treatment systems
- Workforce Grant Program Reauthorized to \$2M
- Energy Efficiency and Energy Generation Grants
- Sewer Overflow Control Grant Program Reauthorized at \$250M/yr., FY21&22
- New Resiliency and Service Connection Grants, \$5M/yr. and \$20M/yr.



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Program	FY19 Omnibus	FY20 Final	Pres. FY21	House FY21	FY21 Asks	Function
Clean Water SRF	\$1.7B	\$1.6B	\$1.1B	\$1.6B + \$8B	\$1.6B x 2	Wastewater & Stormwater Loans
Drinking Water SRF	\$1.2B	\$1.1B	\$863M	\$1.1B + \$2B	\$1.95B*	Drinking Water Loans
WIFIA	\$68M	\$55M	\$25M	\$71M	>\$55M*	All Water Infrastructure Loans
USDA Loans & Grants	\$2.02B	\$1.45B	\$1.1B	\$1.47B	\$1.6B	Rural Communities Loans and Grants
Title XVI-WINN	\$20M	\$20M	\$3M	\$11.8M	\$50M	Western US Water Recycling and Reuse
Water Workforce Grants		\$1M	\$1M	\$3M	>\$1M*	Workforce Development Grant
AWIA – Sewer Overflow Control Grants		\$28M	\$61M	\$57M + \$400M	\$225M*	Grants for CSO, SSO, and SW Infrastructure
National Priorities Water Research	\$5M	\$6M			\$20M	Grants for Water Research

* = Authorized level



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PFAS Update – *Federal Only*

US EPA – Proposed Determination to OMB for PFOA and PFOS
“following through on its commitment in the Action Plan to evaluate PFOA and PFOS under the Safe Drinking Water Act.” (Dec. 3)

2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) – CWA and CERCLA not included.

2020 NDAA – Another push for PFAS provisions

H.R. 535, The PFAS Action Act of 2019 – Passed House in Jan. ‘20.

S. 1507, PFAS Release Disclosure & Protection Act of 2019 – Passed EPW in June 2019. EPCRA and SDWA focused. R&D, Data, and Disposal funding.

PFAS Receivers Fact Sheet: <https://www.wef.org/pfas>

Additional resources: <https://wef.org/biosolids/>



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Federal Regulatory Policy Issues

- Affordability
- PFAS and Emerging Contaminants
 - <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>
- Coronavirus Wastewater Based Epidemiology (WBE)
- EPA Nutrient Survey (voluntary)
 - <https://www.epa.gov/eg/potw-nutrient-survey>
- Nutrient Criteria for Lakes and Reservoirs
 - <https://www.epa.gov/nutrient-policy-data/technical-support-numeric-nutrient-water-quality-criteria-development>
- WIFIA FY20 Notice of Funding Availability
 - <https://www.epa.gov/wifia/wifia-application-materials>
- Workforce



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Contact Info

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Water Environment Federation
Sdye@WEF.org



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EPA's DRAFT AMBIENT WATER QUALITY CRITERIA RECOMMENDATIONS for LAKES and RESERVOIRS *Update to Water Environment Federation*

Rex Hunt, PE – Plummer Associates

August 19, 2020



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EPA's WQ CRITERIA DOCUMENT-HIGHLIGHTS

- Released May 23, 2020; Comments due August 20, 2020
- The approach:
 - Stressor-response models on EPA web site
 - New data collected nationally between about 2007 and 2012
- Draft criteria models are “nonregulatory” *
 - *.....if a state uses its discretion to not adopt new or revised nutrient criteria based on these CWA Section 304(a) criteria models, then the state shall provide an explanation when it submits the results of its triennial review.”

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INITIAL TAKEAWAYS FROM THE DOCUMENT

1. Unclear what is driving EPA to do this now
2. Stressor-Response model approach is better than the reference water body approach previously used
3. Data set used to drive the models is problematic
4. Impact could be substantial if the approach is implemented by the EPA and State regulatory agencies

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POTENTIAL CHLOROPHYLL-*a* CRITERIA

- Draft chlorophyll-*a* criteria for all lakes/reservoirs
 - Based on modeled relationship between zooplankton and phytoplankton

Chlorophyll- <i>a</i> Criteria for all lakes (3 Depth Classes)		
<3.2 m (~10 ft)	3.2 – 7.2 m (~10 – 24 ft)	>7.2 m (~24 ft)
41 to 48 ug/L	22 to 36 ug/L	13 to 16 ug/L

- Based on modeled microcystin relationship to chlorophyll-*a*

Chlorophyll- <i>a</i> Criteria for protection of Microcystin targets	
For Recreation MC target = 8 ug/L	For Drinking Water MC target = 0.3 ug/L
2-35 ug/L	0.1-2 ug/L

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POTENTIAL NUTRIENT CRITERIA

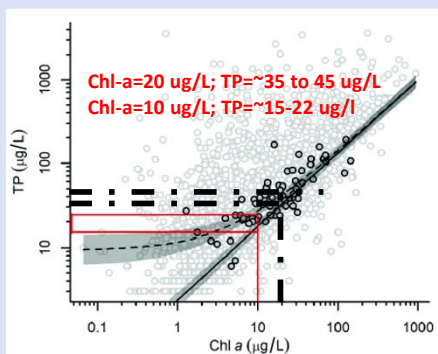


Figure 28. Illustrative Example of Deriving TP Criteria

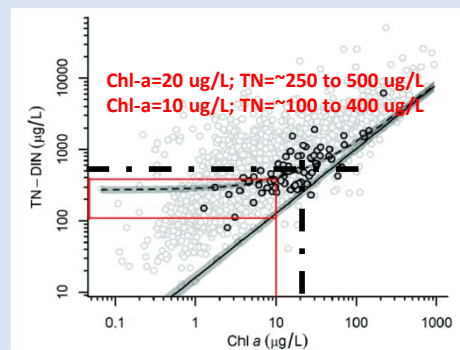


Figure 32. Illustrative Example of Deriving TN Criteria

NOTE: These nutrient criteria would be in-lake concentrations, not effluent limits for wastewater discharges.

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WEAT/TACWA COMMENT LETTER

- Support TCEQ's evolving approach to nutrient criteria
- Site-specific nutrient models and data should be given preference over generalized statistical models
- Data set used is flawed and insufficient
- TN and TP concentrations do not necessarily mean high chlorophyll-*a*
- Cyanobacteria concentrations do not necessarily mean toxicity
- States need to be allowed to develop/use their own approach



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Contact Info

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Practice Leader, Water Quality/Permitting
Plummer Associates
rhunt@plummer.com



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NEWEA's Approach to Local Legislative Advocacy and a Conversation on PFAS.

- Speakers:
- Mary Barry, NEWEA Executive Director
- Vonnie Reis, NEWEA Council Director/City of Framingham, MA , Director of Capital Projects
- Scott Firmin, NEWEA GAC Chair/Portland, ME Water District, Director of Operations



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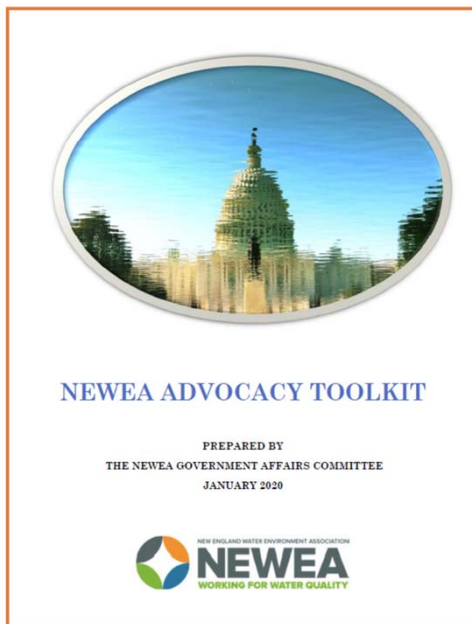
NEWEA's Approach to Local Legislative Advocacy and a Conversation on PFAS.



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NEWEA Government Affairs Toolkit

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- Developed for the new committee member or advocate
- Result of a strategic planning session

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Resources

- Links to position papers
- Links to videos
- Handouts
- Talking points
- Graphics, statistics
- Representatives on key congressional committees



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Key Tips For Reaching Out

- ✓ **Know the facts:** To gain and maintain credibility, it is critical that you have the all of the facts on both sides of any issue.
- ✓ **Have a clear and concise message:** Government officials, the press and the general public do not have time for long-winded conversations or documents — you need to get to your point quickly and concisely.
- ✓ **Nurture relationships and work collaboratively:** Advocacy is a joint venture; you need to find your allies and work with them. Be sure you and your allies have consistent data and the same messages.
- ✓ **Make your voice heard!** Advocacy is not the place for being shy. Make sure you spread the word.
- ✓ **Say "thank you"!** Always thank everyone who helped you achieve your victory!

Find Your Elected Officials

- ✓ <https://www.Whitehouse.gov/Contact/>
Write-or-call
- ✓ <http://www.Senate.Gov/Senators/Contact/>
- ✓ <http://www.House.Gov/Representatives/Find/>
- ✓ <http://www.Whoismyrepresentative.com>
- ✓ [https://www.Govtrack.us/Congress/ Members/map](https://www.Govtrack.us/Congress/Members/map)

WEF WATER ADVOCATES TOOLKIT SUMMARY

[HTTP://CQRCENGAGE.COM/WEF/HOME](http://www.CQRCENGAGE.COM/WEF/HOME)

THIS PAGE SUMMARIZES THE KEY POINTS IN THE WEF WATER ADVOCATES PROGRAM GUIDANCE. GO TO THE ABOVE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION.



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Tips for Writing Your Legislator

1. Begin by stating that you are a constituent.
2. Personalize your letter. Handwritten letters have the most impact. In making your case on the issue, use personal examples.
3. Make a strong connection between the issue and your local community.
4. If the legislator has supported your issues in the past, acknowledge this.
5. Keep your letter brief — one to one and a half pages at the most.

Tips for Calling Your Legislator

1. Plan: Before you make the call, plan what you are going to say. Your phone call will be very brief, so keep your message simple and to-the-point.
2. Message: Think about a key point or personal story that supports your position.
3. Call Local: If your legislator is in your home district on specific days or on weekends, call when he or she is in your home district.
4. Staff or Message: Be prepared to talk to one of the legislator's staff or to leave a message instead.

Make sure you get the staff person's full name.

5. Call Back: Call more than once. As you monitor the issue, call back to ask for specific support or action as appropriate to the process.

Keep the Momentum Going

1. Influence Policy: by generating personal contacts with state legislators or members of Congress.
2. Maximize Voter Turnout: Grassroots organizing is the most effective way to engage in voter engagement efforts.
3. Energize: Grassroots organizing creates a sense of energy, excitement, and momentum.
4. Provide a Personal Touch: Grassroots puts a "human face" on an issue.
5. Win: Organizations and campaigns that ignore grassroots organizing have been losing more and more in recent years.



THE UNITED STATE(S) OF WATER

THE NORTHEAST

Changing access to clean, safe water is critical to our economy, health, and way of life. Although we live in different parts of the country, Americans are united in our dependence on water and the infrastructure that connects, protects, and supports it.

WE NEED WATER

The average person living in the Northeast uses 60 gallons of water per day.

WE RELY ON REGULAR SERVICE

New York City, which has the largest regulated water system in the nation, supplies 10 million gallons of water to 15 million people each day.

LOTS OF NEW TECHNOLOGY EXISTS

The New England Public's Service Commission uses recycled water for flushing.

PROVIDING WATER ISN'T FREE

Public utilities in the Northeast pay an average of 20-30¢ per 100 gallons for drinking water and 10-15¢ per 100 gallons for wastewater that they use to clean and reuse. The average rate of water can be as high as 100¢ per 100 gallons.

OUR SYSTEMS ARE AGING

The combined average age of New York and Massachusetts drinking water pipes is 70 years old. The average wastewater pipe age is 60 years old.

WHAT WE CAN SAVE

10 million gallons of water, wastewater and grey water in the U.S. is being left to the sea.

WHAT WE MUST DO

Invest in water infrastructure in the Northeast. Stay on top of regulations and incentives that address water scarcity.

WE CAN DO THIS

With American ingenuity and a willingness to pay more for water.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wastewater currently should not drink the amount of energy needed to create a second stream of electricity north of Chicago, Dallas, Houston and New York City.

THE UNITED STATE(S) OF WATER

Changing access to clean, safe water is critical to our economy, health, and way of life. Although we live in different parts of the country, Americans are united in our dependence on water and the infrastructure that connects, protects, and supports it.

THE COST OF CLEAN

Water is clean, healthy & clear, safe, & flowing to us. We should invest in our systems.

20 billion in drinking water infrastructure systems

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE INVEST?

We could gain over 200 million in annual economic activity and generate 2.5 million jobs by investing U.S. water & wastewater infrastructure needs.

GOING GREEN SAVES GREEN

300-400¢ the amount of \$ saved by making investments in facilities with green industrial infrastructure.

VALUE OF WATER

100% of Americans are in need of drinking water or water clean water treatment.

20 billion in need for U.S. public health and safety clean water treatment.

THE THREE R'S

Every drop is recycled, reused, recycled, & returned to the environment.

The average American sends between 10-200 gallons of wastewater to the system each day.

20 million gallons of water are treated each day by U.S. water treatment plants.

AGE AT-A-GLANCE

Average age in 10-20 years old.

800,000 miles of water pipes

700,000 miles of wastewater pipes

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Every \$100 million invested in water infrastructure generates \$1 in returns.

WHERE'S THE WATER?

The average American uses 100 gallons of water daily.

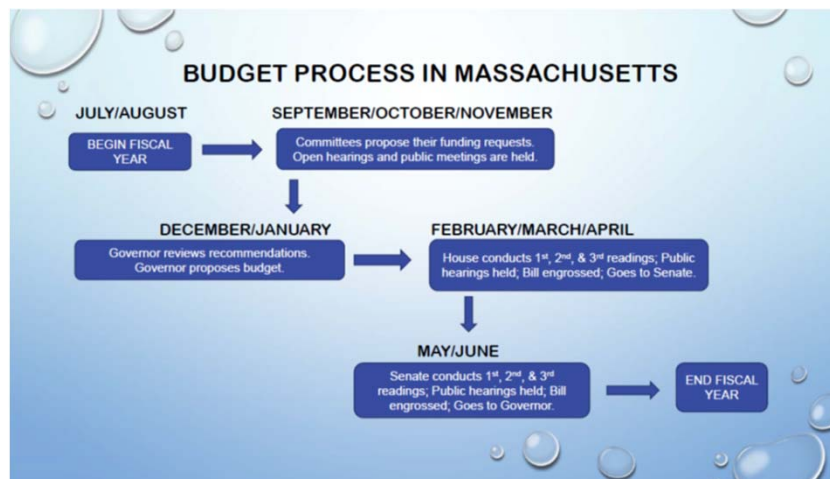
Correspondence:

- Example letters on key issues
- Thank you notes
- Press releases

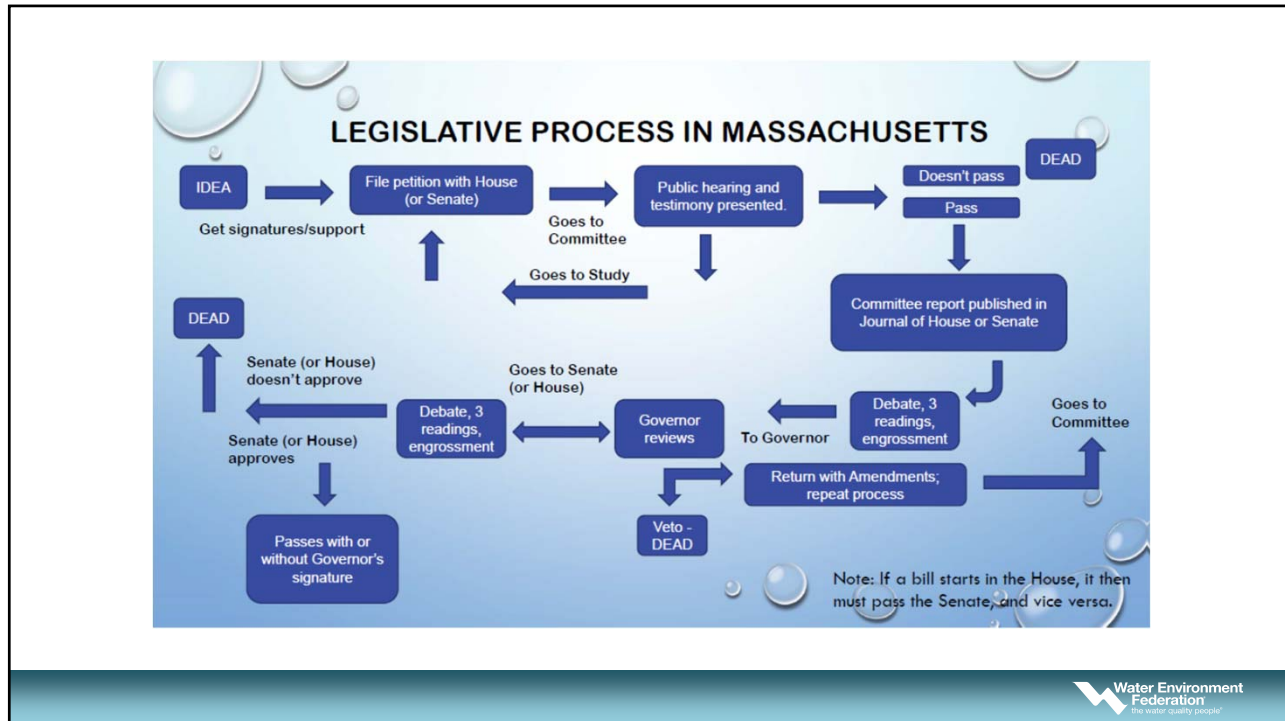


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Budget and Legislative Process in Each New England State



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Start a Conversation About PFAS!

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Start a conversation about PFAS!

- 5 Posters/Messages to engage legislators, customers, and the general public.
- 5 Bill Stuffers/1-Pagers (customizable)
- Suggested Donations for use:
 - \$200 (Individual Utility)
 - \$500 (Privately Held Company or State Association)
 - \$1,000 (Regional Association)
 - \$2,000 (National Association)
- For more information about the campaign or to access the materials, go to: <https://www.newea.org/pfas-campaign-partner/>

Water quality professionals need Partners to invest in understanding PFAS science and deliver data to Find efficient, Aggressive Solutions to safeguard our health and our environment.

Help meet constituents' needs with compassion, facts, and expertise. Partner with your local water quality professional on **PFAS** today.

Water quality Professionals deliver safe water for Families and the environment, Addressing contaminants that modern living adds to the water cycle.

How can you help limit or manage contaminants before they enter the water cycle? Talk to your local water quality professional about **PFAS**.

Synthetic chemicals in household cleaning Products, firefighting Foam, food packaging, clothing, and beauty products Are driven by consumer demand for Safer living.

Are you making informed choices? Talk to your local water quality professional about **PFAS**.

SAFETY. SCIENCE. SOLUTIONS.

SAFETY. SCIENCE. SOLUTIONS.

SAFETY. SCIENCE. SOLUTIONS.

SAFETY. SCIENCE. SOLUTIONS.

SAFETY. SCIENCE. SOLUTIONS.

Water Environment Federation
The Water Quality People

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California Regulatory Update

August 19, 2020

Jared Voskuhl
Manager of Regulatory Affairs, CASA

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CWEA's & CASA's Work in California

- **CWEA:** non-profit engaged in educational training, certification, and outreach; membership is comprised of personnel at agencies; CWEA does not advocate
- **CASA:** legislative and regulatory advocacy non-profit; membership is comprised of over 125 public agencies
- Frequently work together to co-sponsor sector events

Regulatory Developments in CA Since March 2020 Presentation Overview

- COVID-19 & State Budgetary Restraints
- PFAS at Wastewater Treatment Plants – State Investigation
- Definition of Microplastics
- Toxicity Provisions
- Laboratory Accreditation Overhaul
- Wet Wipes Labeling

COVID-19 & California State Budgetary Restraints

- \$54 billion budget deficit to the State had to be closed
- \$7 billion deficit for Cities
- Cal EPA and Cal NRA Operational Challenges: 10% pay cuts for employees; staff teleworking at least through end of the 2020 calendar year; 10% of staff re-assigned to contact tracing posts
- Massive Cal EPA expansion of DWQ fee-based programs – 25% increase in fees for permittees



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PFAS at Wastewater Treatment Plants – State Investigative Order (July 2020)

- **All facilities > 1 mgd must:** quarterly sample influent and effluent for 1 year, and biosolids once
- **All facilities > 5 mgd must:** quarterly sample influent, effluent, and biosolids for 1 year
- 31 analytes, composite samples
- Beginning 4Q of 2020
- Questionnaire due 1Q of 2021



State Water Resources Control Board

WATER CODE SECTIONS 13267 AND 13383 ORDER FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE PRESENCE OF PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES AT PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

ORDER WQ 2020-0015-DWQ

Pursuant to Water Code sections 13267 and 13383, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) requires you to submit information as described herein. Failure to comply with this Order may subject you to civil liability of up to \$10,000 per day for each day in which the violation occurs.



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Microplastics (June 2020)

California State Water Board

SB 1422 (2018) – MP in Drinking Water

- Adoption of Definition – June 2020
- Expanded days before adoption to includes ‘nanoplastics’
- Applicable to other environmental matrices (stormwater, wastewater)

California Ocean Protection Council

SB 1263 (2018) – Statewide MP Strategy

- SW & WW Research Authorized – June 2020

Toxicity Provisions (July 2020)

- 2nd Draft of Revised Toxicity Provisions released this summer
- The regulations will establish numeric water quality objectives for both acute and chronic toxicity and a program of implementation for dischargers to surface waters to control toxicity.
- Regs also feature a *cerio* study aiming to reduce within-lab variability and improve consistency between laboratories for the *cerior* reproduction toxicity test method

Laboratory Accreditation Overhaul (May 2020)

- California's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) will oversee the implementation of new regulations over the next 3 years requiring municipal and commercial labs in CA to become compliant with the TNI 2016 Standard in order to maintain their certification
- Adverse cost impacts to small and medium labs, short-term
- Reduction in labs that drop certification, long-term

Wet Wipes Labeling (AB 1672)

- CASA sponsored AB 1672 pertaining to the proper labeling of wet wipes products
- Bill language a product of extensive negotiations over last 6 months with the manufacturers
- Requires a collections system study and results posted on SWB site
- Passed the Senate EQ policy committee last week on Consent
- 2020 Legislative Session ends August 31

Closing & Contact

Thank you to WEF and CWEA for the invitation!

Contact Information

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www.casaweb.org

