



NACWA **Water Environment Federation** **WATERREUSE** **THE Water Research FOUNDATION**

National Water Policy Fly-In
Water Advocacy Update
&
How to Lobby Congress

Prep Webcast
 April 19, 2022
 1 – 2:30 PM ET

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Webcast Speakers

WEF

- Charlie Stevens, *WEF Government Affairs Committee, Chair*
- Steve Dye, *Director of Legislative Affairs*

NACWA

- Jason Isakovic, *Director, Legislative Affairs*
- Danielle Cloutier, *Director, Legislative Affairs*
- Tony Frye, *Director, Legislative Affairs*

WaterReuse

- Greg Fogel, *Director of Government Affairs*

The Water Research Foundation

- Christobel Ferguson, PhD, *Chief Innovation Officer*

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Webcast Agenda

- **Water Week Events**
- **2022 Funding and Policy Requests**
 - Clean Water Funding Requests
 - Water Reuse Funding Requests
 - R&D Funding Requests
 - Stormwater Funding Requests
 - Policy Recommendations
- **Hill Meetings**

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Water Week Partners:





















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Water Week Events

National Water Policy Fly-In

Hilton Washington DC National Mall The Wharf

Plenary Session w/ Congressional and EPA Leaders

April 27, 1:30 – 5 PM ET, *L'Enfant Ballroom*

Water Week 2022 Congressional Reception

April 27, 6 – 9 PM ET, *Hilton Washington DC National Mall The Wharf*

WEF Government Affairs Committee Meeting

April 27, 9 – 10 AM ET, *Archive Room*

Capitol Hill Meetings

April 27, 10 AM – 1 PM

April 28, all day

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Water Week Events

Virtual Events

WEF Stormwater Policy Forum (*WEF members only*)

April 25, 12:30 – 4 PM ET

Register at: <https://www.wef.org/advocacy/water-week/>

State of the Industry: Federal Action on Water Quality, hosted by the Water Quality Assoc.

April 26, 12 PM ET

Register at: www.WaterWeek.US

Navigating Supply Chain Disruption, hosted by the Water Quality Assoc.

April 27, 12 PM ET

Register at: www.WaterWeek.US

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National Water Policy Fly-In Plenary Session Agenda

Keynote Remarks

- Kishia Powell, COO, DC Water
- Radhika Fox, EPA Assistant Administrator, Office of Water (including time for Q&A)

Panel One

- Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management
- Jennifer McClain, Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
- Deborah Nagle, Director, Office of Science and Technology
- Brian Frazer, Director, Oceans, Wetlands and Communities Division, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds

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National Water Policy Fly-In Plenary Session Agenda

Panel Two

- David Palumbo, Acting Commissioner, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Sharon Nappier, National Program Leader for Water Reuse, U.S. EPA
- John O’Neill, Program Manager for Better Plants, Advanced Manufacturing Office, Department of Energy

Congressional Panel

- The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
- The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
- The Honorable Tom Carper (D-DE)

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Invite Your Member of Congress and their staff to the 2022 Water Week Congressional Reception!

Join Us for the 2022 Water Week



Congressional Reception

WHEN
Wednesday, April 27, 2022
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

WHERE
The Hilton Washington DC
National Mall The Wharf
480 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20024
Solarium Room

RSVP

Submit your RSVP by 4/22/22

*Proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test is required.

HOSTED BY



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Policy & Funding Requests



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Water Week Partners: Joint Water Policy Priorities Document

<https://www.waterweek.us>



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2022 Requests to Congress: Clean Water Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- \$2.75 billion for Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- \$280 million for Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants (OSG) program
- Minimum of \$50 million for Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (WIFIA)
- \$25 million for Clean Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Grants

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2022 Requests to Congress: Clean Water Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- Funding to establish the EPA Rural and Low-Income Water Assistance Pilot Program (IIJA Sect. 50109)
- \$20 million for Wastewater Energy Efficiency Grant Pilot Program
- Funding to establish the Small Publicly Owned Treatment Works Efficiency Grant Program
- \$40 million for connection Publicly Owned Treatment Works Grant Program

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2022 Requests to Congress: Clean Water Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- \$5 million to complete the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey
- \$18 million for the EPA Small POTW Technical Assistance Program, which is level with FY22 funding
- \$50 million in Grants for Construction and Refurbishing of Individual Household Decentralized Wastewater Systems for Individuals with Low- or Moderate-Income

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2022 Requests to Congress: Clean Water Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- \$1.6 billion for direct loans under USDA Rural Utilities Service Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account
- \$670 million for grants under USDA Rural Utilities Service Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account
- \$5 million for Water Infrastructure and Workforce Investment Grant Program

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2022 Requests to Congress: Water Reuse Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- \$25 million for the Alternative Water Source Grants Pilot program
- \$20 million for the Title XVI-WIIN Water Reuse Grants Program

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2022 Requests to Congress: Water Research Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- Dedicate \$20 million in the National Priorities Water Research Grant Program through the EPA's Science and Technology Account for extramural water research grants to non-profit organizations
- \$10 million for the Innovative Water Technologies Grant Program through EPA's Science and Technology Account

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2022 Requests to Congress: Water Research Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- \$100 million to fund ongoing activities related to the energy-water nexus within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the Department of Energy

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2022 Requests to Congress: Stormwater Programs

Provide FY23 Funding For:

- \$5 million for the establishment of 5 Centers of Excellence for Stormwater Control Infrastructure Technologies
- \$10 million for community planning and implementation grants for stormwater or watershed-based planning investments

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2022 Policy Requests: PFAS

Hold polluters, and not local water utility ratepayers, responsible for the costs of remediating PFAS.

- PFAS Fact Sheet: <https://www.waterweek.us/#resources>
- If PFAS are designated as hazardous substances under CERCLA, provide a CERCLA PFAS exemption for public and private drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities.
- Congress must also provide EPA adequate resources to advance research, risk assessment, and standards development to advance, not circumvent, the PFAS regulatory process.

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2022 Policy Requests: Wipes

Congress should require Do Not Flush labeling on non-flushable wipes packaging and give federal agencies the authority to require that wipes marketed as flushable disintegrate like toilet paper when flushed.

- H.R. 4602 & S. 3956, Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act (WIPPES Act)
- H.R. 6591, Protecting Infrastructure and Promoting Environmental Stewardship Act (PIPES Act)

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2022 Policy Requests: Investment Tax Credit for Water Reuse

Congress should establish a tax credit to help industrial facilities adopt water recycling technologies and systems – investments that recognize the need for sustainable water consumption and support job creation in the U.S.

- These tax credits should be structured on a sliding scale, reflecting the size and impact of improvements.

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2022 Requests to Congress: Other Requests

- **Buy America / Build America Requirements**
- **Affordability**
- **Cybersecurity**
- **Lead Service Line Replacement**

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Finding Your Member of Congress

If you don't already have a relationship with your Members of Congress, visit:

www.house.gov
www.senate.gov
www.govtrack.us/congress/members

Follow links to your Senators' and Representative's websites. Call their offices to ask how to request a virtual meeting with Member of Congress or staffer handling water infrastructure issues.

The screenshot shows the Govtrack.us website interface. At the top, there are navigation links: HOME, BROWSE, TRACK, ABOUT, and USE OUR DATA. Below that, the main heading is 'Find a Senator or Representative' with a subtext: 'Use this page to find current Members of Congress by state or district.' The search interface includes several input fields: 'By Last Name' (with a placeholder 'Type the last name of z'), 'By State' (a dropdown menu), 'By Zip Code' (with a placeholder 'ZIP or ZIP+4'), and 'By Address' (with a placeholder 'columbus, oh'). A green 'SEARCH' button is located below these fields. To the right of the search form is a map of the United States with congressional districts highlighted in various colors. At the bottom left of the search form, there is a link: 'List all Members of Congress'.

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What works best:

According to a Congressional Management Association survey of Members of Congress and Senior Staff:

- 95% said that "in-person visits from constituents" would have "some" or "a lot" of influence on an undecided lawmaker.
- 79% said "meet or get to know the Legislative Assistant with jurisdiction over their issue area"
- 91% said it would be helpful to have "information about the impact the bill/issue would have on the district or state."
 - Only 9% report they receive that information frequently.
- 79% said a personal story from a constituent related to the bill or issue would be helpful.
 - Only 18% report they receive it frequently.

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Important to Remember...

- Start by saying **THANK YOU!**
 - For \$50 Billion in the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act for drinking water, wastewater, water recycling, and stormwater infrastructure
 - For over \$1.2 Billion for low-income ratepayer assistance through the HHS in the CARES and ARPA covid relief packages

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Important to Remember...

- Be punctual -- and be patient!
- Tell them what they need to know about what's going on back home.
- If you don't know the answer to a question, say you don't know -- promise to get back to the legislator or staff with the requested information.
- **NEVER** offer to make a political contribution or pledge of political support!
- Don't look at your smartphone. Silence it!

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Important to Remember, continued...

- ***Make the ask!*** Be clear and concise, and ask who the correct staff person is for following up.
- Don't use acronyms or terms that someone outside of your profession won't understand.
- Thank the legislator and offer to serve as a resource on other water-related issues.
- After the visit, write a thank you letter/email reviewing the key points discussed.

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Water Week Partners: Joint Water Policy Priorities Document
www.waterweek.us

Sustaining Progress for America's Water Infrastructure

Important Policy Areas

PFAS Congress is the "polluter pays" approach of holding those that produce and are truly responsible for this pollution liable for their pollution and the cost of cleanup. It is not an appropriate use of tax dollars to pay for cleanup. It is not an appropriate use of tax dollars to pay for cleanup. It is not an appropriate use of tax dollars to pay for cleanup.

Build America, Buy America Requirements Recognize their own challenges, such as inflation, disruption to supply chains, and the need to support local industry. It is not an appropriate use of tax dollars to pay for cleanup. It is not an appropriate use of tax dollars to pay for cleanup. It is not an appropriate use of tax dollars to pay for cleanup.

Drinking Water Programs

- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
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Stormwater Programs

- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)

Water Reuse Programs

- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)

Watershed Programs

- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)

Programs That Benefit All Water Infrastructure and Consumers

- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)
- \$2.75 billion for the American Clean Water Drinking Water System (AWDS) (P.L. 117-103)

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