



2020 Winter Conference

Chasing Zero: How Today's Policies are Shaping the Future of Clean Water

February 4 – 7, 2020 | JW Marriott Buckhead | Atlanta, GA

Δ – Board of Directors Committees

Current as of 01/28/2020

Tuesday, February 4

Morning

9:15 – 10:30 Executive Committee Δ
Nashville

10:45 – 1:00 Board of Directors Meeting Δ
Salon I & III

Afternoon

12:30 – 4:00 Registration
Ballroom Foyer

1:30 – 2:30 Water Quality Committee
Salon II, IV & VI
A recent challenge to Missouri's nutrient criteria is raising new questions over the development of numeric nutrient criteria and the Committee will discuss how the outcome in Missouri will likely impact other states. EPA Headquarters, though focused almost entirely on the new Waters of the US rule, continues to explore market-based and watershed-based approaches and we will discuss NACWA's recent comments related to water quality trading and other opportunities for NACWA to engage with the current Administration on these issues. We will also provide updates on a range of other topics.

2:45-3:45 Climate & Resiliency Committee
Salon II, IV & VI
We will consider current federal dialogue around addressing resilience and ways NACWA can help drive the conversation from the perspective of ensuring utility resilience. We will also discuss NACWA and AMWA joint efforts to provide a forum for utility resilience dialogue, including the upcoming December 2020 *Water Utility Resilience Forum*.

4:00 – 5:00 PFAS Advocacy Update and Discussion
Salon II, IV & VI
As EPA continues to untangle the complex web of PFAS actions outlined in its PFAS Action Plan and states continue to press for lower and lower regulatory limits, NACWA is holding this "Issue Update" to discuss the legislative, regulatory, and legal updates on the PFAS front and how the water sector can best engage with regulators, lawmakers, and the general public.

Evening

5:30 – 6:30 Registration
Nox Creek Foyer

5:30 – 6:00
Nox Creek Southern
Grill
First Time Attendee and New Member Meet & Greet
NACWA invites all first-time conference attendees and new members for cocktails and conversation with Association staff and leadership and their utility peers. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn more about the association and make valuable connections!

6:00 – 7:00
Nox Creek Southern
Grill & Charleston
Welcoming Reception

Wednesday, February 5

Morning

7:30 – 9:00
Salon I
Women's Water Network Breakfast (*RSVP Required*)
Join your fellow female colleagues for a thought-provoking and self-reflecting breakfast on mentorship and the broader role employee-to-employee coaching contributes to women in the water sector! This complimentary breakfast for all women attendees of the Winter Conference provides a unique opportunity for learning and networking with your peers

8:30 – 12:00
Ballroom Foyer
Registration

9:00 – 5:00
Atlanta
Networking Lounge
NACWA has added more opportunities for you to network! The lounge provides an opportunity to connect with your peers on Wednesday and Thursday during the conference.

9:15 – 10:15
Salon II, IV & VI
Biosolids Management Committee
In the wake of the Office of Inspector General's report and recent PFAS-related developments, EPA is dedicating more resources to the biosolids program. We will provide an update on EPA's latest activities and discuss how NACWA can continue to effectively engage the Agency to ensure all biosolids management options remain viable into the future. A roundtable discussion will include recent biosolids-related developments from around the country and we will discuss an upcoming EPA-state regulator meeting on biosolids.

10:30 – 11:45
Salon II, IV & VI
Legal Affairs Committee
In early November, the US Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the most important Clean Water Act (CWA) case in over a decade to reach the High Court. The case focuses on whether the transmittal of pollutants to surface water via groundwater is sufficient to trigger CWA liability. The committee will receive a summary and analysis of arguments in the case and thoughts on how the Court may rule. Also on the agenda will be a dialogue about ongoing NACWA advocacy over CSO long-term control plan regulatory issues and legal implications for CSO communities.

Afternoon

12:00 – 2:00
Lunch on Your Own

1:45 – 4:00
Ballroom Foyer
Registration

2:15 – 3:30
Salon II, IV & VI
Legislative & Regulatory Policy Committee
The committee will receive updates and engage in discussion on a number of critical regulatory and legislative issues facing NACWA members. On the regulatory side, discussion will focus on EPA's upcoming blending rule proposal and the Agency's

recent Lead and Copper Rule proposal. Legislative issues will center on federal funding and appropriations issues, recent legislation to increase Clean Water SRF funding along with extended Clean Water Act permit terms for certain permittees, and priorities for the 2020 Water Resources Development Act.

3:45 – 4:45
Charleston

One-2-One Networking

Pair up with your clean water colleagues for an informal 15-minute networking blitz and take advantage of this unique opportunity to connect and share ideas. This 1-hour time block has been set aside to facilitate connection and networking. Use the One-2-One Networking event email to schedule meetings with your water sector peers.

Evening
6:00 – 7:30
Salon I, III & V

National Environmental Achievement Awards Ceremony & Reception

Join us in a celebratory evening honoring NACWA's National Environmental Achievement Award recipients. The evening will begin with an Awards Ceremony showcasing the very best NACWA's member agencies have to offer from operations to public outreach, as well as individuals who have made a difference for both their community and their utility. Following the ceremony, join your colleagues in celebrating the evening's honorees at the Awards Reception.

Thursday, February 6

Morning

8:30 – 12:00
Ballroom Foyer

Registration

9:00 – 5:00
Atlanta

Networking Lounge

NACWA has added more opportunities for you to network! The lounge provides an opportunity to connect with your peers on Wednesday and Thursday during the conference.

9:00 – 12:00
Salon III-VI

PLENARY SESSION I

Opening Remarks

John Sullivan

NACWA President

Chief Engineer

Boston Water & Sewer Commission

Boston, MA

Welcoming Remarks

Joshua Williams

Chief Operating Officer

City of Atlanta

Atlanta, GA

Roundtable Discussion

How Atlanta is Shaping its Own Clean Water Future

As a participant in the 100 Resilient Cities initiative, Atlanta has been helping to catalyze the manner in which water resources should be viewed in the 21st century. The City remains steadfast in building drought and flood resilient infrastructure in a changing climate, applying its diverse and cultural traditions to drive fundamental water innovation, and striving to ensure equitable and affordable water is available to all of its residents. This session will highlight how the City of Atlanta is positioning itself as not only a regional, but also a national trailblazer on many critical water sector issues.

Moderator

Kishia Powell

NACWA Treasurer

Commissioner

City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management

Atlanta, GA

Participants

Chris Haney

Vice President, Water Resources Group

Wade Trim Associates, Inc.

Atlanta, GA

Cristina Ahmadpour

President

Isle Utilities

Palo Alto, CA

Radhika Fox

Chief Executive Officer

US Water Alliance

Oakland, CA

Robert Bocarro

Deputy Commissioner, Office of Engineering Services

City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management

Atlanta, GA

10:15-10:30

Networking Break

Featured Speaker

US EPA Perspective: Issues and Opportunities for the Water Sector

With the 2020 election on the horizon, a number of federal initiatives are underway that will impact the municipal clean water community such as rulemakings on blending and lead and copper, work to establish a municipal ombudsman's office, efforts on affordability and environmental justice, the PFAS Action Plan, and a national Water Reuse Action Plan. This featured session will highlight issues EPA is working on and opportunities for the water sector to engage with the Agency.

Andrew Sawyers

Director, Office of Wastewater Management

Office of Water

US Environmental Protection Agency

Washington, DC

Roundtable Discussion

Nutrients, Pathogens, and PFAS... Oh My! How State Leadership is Moving the Ball Forward on Clean Water

As the federal government continues to grapple with how best to manage and mitigate what is likely one of the most defining pollutants of the Clean Water Act to date – PFAS – states are taking the lead. While these actions are filling the void left by the lack of clear direction from the federal level, the resulting patchwork of regulatory requirements on PFAS is complicating implementation. The important role of the states is also making its mark on issues involving nutrients, pathogens and much more. This session will highlight these ongoing developments and provide some

insights into how the states view their role in defining the next 50 years of water policy.

Moderator

Sue McCormick
NACWA Board Member
Chief Executive Officer
Great Lakes Water Authority
Detroit, MI

Participants

Donald Welsh
Executive Director
Environmental Council of the States
Washington, DC

Alan Roberson
Executive Director
Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
Arlington, VA

Julia Anastasio
Executive Director & General Counsel
Association of Clean Water Administrators
Washington, DC

Closing Remarks

Tom Sigmund
NACWA Secretary
Executive Director
NEW Water
Green Bay, WI

Afternoon

12:00 – 2:00

Lunch on Your Own

1:45 – 4:00

Ballroom Foyer

Registration

2:00 – 4:30

Salon III-VI

PLENARY SESSION II

Opening Remarks

Terry Leeds
NACWA Vice President
Director
KC Water
Kansas City, MO

Featured Speaker

Working Down the Redfield Ratio: the Past, Present and Future of Clean Water Treatment

This featured presentation will explore the Redfield Ratio: the relative fractions of trace elements in cellular systems and how the importance in managing these compounds has evolved over time. The water sector is beginning to see the rise of specific compounds and classes of chemical constituents that are driving the regulatory environment. Endocrine disruptors and PFAS are two examples that will have long term impacts on how we manage wastewater collection and treatment.

John Norton
Director of Energy, Research & Innovation
Great Lakes Water Authority
Detroit, MI

Roundtable Discussion

Does the Environment Really Benefit from a “Zero-Sum Game”?

As clean water analytical detection capabilities become more refined and advanced, public clean water utilities are often on the front lines facing “relentless incrementalism”—a path to completely eliminate traditional pollutants and emerging contaminants from wastewater discharges. This slow march to zero can be a daunting challenge for regulated entities that must play in this economic game-theory and find the right balance between advocating for policies that reflect evidence-based science and the true costs to provide clean water—often without any real environmental benefit. This session will explore what utilities are facing and the innovative solutions they are deploying.

Moderator/Participant

Nicole Pasch
Acting Assistant Environmental Services Manager
City of Grand Rapids Environmental Services
Grand Rapids, MI

Participants

Dave Clark
Senior Vice President
HDR Engineering, Inc.
Boise, ID

Ken Williamson
Research and Innovation Director
Clean Water Services
Hillsboro, OR

Bill Gase
Director of Wastewater Treatment
City of Garland
Garland, TX

3:30-3:45

Networking Break

3:45-4:30

How Private Equity and Public Clean Water Utility Partnerships Deliver Triple Bottom Line Outcomes

Resource recovery, particularly the land application of biosolids, is often viewed as an undervalued commodity that has known environmental benefits. This session will showcase model partnerships between private equity firms and public utilities that cuts costs for clean water utilities, virtually eliminates contamination of groundwater, mitigates greenhouse gas emissions, and promotes environmental justice efforts.

Moderator/Participant

Ken Rubin
Managing Partner
American Infrastructure Holdings
Washington, DC

Participants

James Fotouhi

Biosolids Operations Manager,
Department of Resource Recovery
DC Water
Washington, DC

Michael Albrecht

Partner
Ridgewood Infrastructure
New York, NY

Closing Remarks

Tom Sigmund

NACWA Secretary

Evening

5:45

*Ballroom Entrance,
Lobby Level*

Bus Transportation to Reception

6:15 – 7:30

*Mission + Market
Three Alliance Center
3550 Lenox Rd. NE*

Reception

Friday, February 7

Morning

8:30 – 10:00

Ballroom Foyer

Registration

9:00 – 12:00

Salon III-VI

PLENARY SESSION III

Opening Remarks

Kishia Powell

NACWA Treasurer

Featured Speaker

Hype or Reality? Will Digital Disruption Change Our Industry?

This featured presentation will address the digital revolution and how data-driven solutions are fundamentally changing the relationship between utilities and their partners.

Rich D'Amato

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Brown and Caldwell
Denver, CO

Balancing Risk and Benefit in Wet Weather Management

Given everything the clean water community has invested in meeting wet weather consent decrees and other wet weather-related obligations, and as we await the roll out of the much-anticipated blending rulemaking from US EPA, there is a clear desire and need to balance the potential risks and benefits associated with wet weather management. This balance will be particularly important as the country increasingly witnesses a more unpredictable climate. This wet weather waterside chat will look at how communities are assessing the risks and benefits associated with wet weather

management, including after the completion of combined sewer overflow long-term control plans, and the harnessing of stormwater as a resource.

Waterside Chat

Beth Card

Director, Environmental and Regulatory Affairs
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
Boston, MA

Mike Slevin, III

NACWA Board Member
Environmental Services Director
City of Tacoma
Tacoma, WA

Ed Othmer

Vice President, Global Sector Leader for Stormwater & Wet Weather
Stantec
San Diego, CA

Michael Hope

Principal and Executive Vice President
Greeley and Hansen LLC
Philadelphia, PA

Chris Kloss

Chief, Municipal Branch
Water Permits Division
Office of Wastewater Management
US Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Looking Forward: How a Tech-Centric World is Driving Creative Water Solutions

With artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), and real time capabilities to monitor our waters, the 21st century promises creativity and innovation in how the water sector will continue to meet its Clean Water Act compliance obligations. These innovative solutions in return are driving cities and communities more broadly in increasingly sustainable directions. This future-focused session will provide a preview of how technology available today and just on the horizon will change our fundamental approaches to providing clean water.

Moderator

Debra Coy

Partner
XPV Water Partners
Clarksville, MD

Participants

Luis Montestruque

Vice President, AIA Digital Solutions
Xylem, Inc.
South Bend, IN

Jim Cooper

Global Solutions Lead, Intelligent Water

Arcadis

Akron, OH

MaryLynn Lodor

Deputy Director

Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati

Cincinnati, OH

12:00

Salon III-VI

Closing Remarks

Kishia Powell

NACWA Treasurer