

# Amplifying the Utility Voice

## NACWA and the Power of Collective Action

### President's Note

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as NACWA's President this year!

NACWA is uniquely positioned to find the solutions of today and the innovations of tomorrow for what I believe are the thorniest challenges we face. I look forward to working with the Association's network of members to address these challenges with vigor and amplify the voice of clean water utilities nationwide.



**Diane Taniguchi-Dennis**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Clean Water Services, Hillsboro, OR

### The Power of Engagement

NACWA's growing suite of virtual and in-person events, committee meetings, and online forum discussions provided unmatched opportunities for peer-to-peer connection and collaboration on shared clean water challenges and best practice solutions.

41

Total number of in-person and virtual events

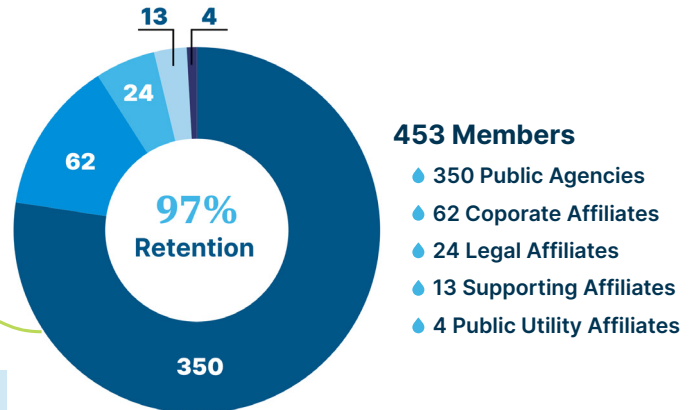
2.1k+

Attendees, 29% of whom were first-time participants

900+

Engaged members across 20 workgroups and committees

### The Power of Our Network



- **22** New members this year adding their voices and support to our advocacy efforts
- **7000** Clean water professionals receiving communications and engaging in the Association
- **130+ Million** People served 24/7, 365 days a year by NACWA's Public Agency Members

### Amplifying Member Achievements

NACWA Award Programs provide national recognition of a utility's efforts to innovate, and their commitment to excellence, to their communities, and to the environment. Most importantly, they showcase the positive impact utilities have on their customers' lives.

This year we recognized:

- **510** Member Agency Treatment Facilities with Peak Performance Awards
- **181** Treatment Facilities for perfect NPDES compliance for 5 to 35 years; and
- **27** Member Agencies in 9 categories with National Environmental Achievement Awards

#### Read the Full Report

Use your phone to scan the QR code or visit [nacwa.org/2024annualreport](https://nacwa.org/2024annualreport)



## A Unified Voice

### NACWA's Advocacy in Action

As your champion, NACWA is dedicated to amplifying the crucial role public utilities play in communities across the country and to working with you to strengthen trust in the work you do



Read more about NACWA's advocacy work over the last year, at [nacwa.org/2024annualreport](https://nacwa.org/2024annualreport)



## Elevating Our Role

### Ensuring Equal Partnership in Clean Water

- Actively worked with EPA, Congress and the courts to urge flexibility in how utilities pursue clean water compliance.
- Engaged with U.S. EPA to advance non-regulatory approaches to helping utilities improve their cybersecurity.

## Shaping the Narrative

### Advocating for Rational PFAS Solutions

- Engaged with EPA, strongly advocating to preserve land application as a biosolids management option.
- Advocated on CERCLA's impact on the clean water sector, leading to an EPA policy stating it will not pursue enforcement against publicly owned treatment works, municipal stormwater systems or farms using biosolids.

## Guiding the Sector

### Our Influence on Legal and Regulatory Initiatives

- Led clean water sector efforts on key initiatives impacting utility permitting, investment, revenue, and cleanup liability.
- Collaborated with members to advocate for PFAS liability protections, leading to EPA endorsement of NACWA's "polluter pays" approach and legislation that would offer key protections for water utilities.

## Bridging the Divide

### Ensuring Equitable and Increased Federal Funding

- Worked with a coalition of water groups on Capitol Hill and at the Department of Health and Human Services seeking to secure ongoing support for and permanent authorization of the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP).
- Supported State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs while highlighting the impact of earmarks and urging increased federal investment.

## Strength in Unity

### Amplifying National Advocacy Priorities

- Initiated efforts to develop a national communications campaign to highlight the vital role of public clean water utilities in their communities.
- Committed to making water infrastructure funding a bipartisan priority, equal to the energy and transportation sectors.



As a leader in clean water policy, we stand ready to support you and ensure your voice is heard in these complex times.

Read the full Report at  
[nacwa.org/2024annualreport](https://nacwa.org/2024annualreport)