

connecting ideas | inspiring leaders

Celebrating 50 Years in 2024



Welcome

Clint Rogers





Celebrating 50 Years

Dave Galbraith





WEF Message

Kalpna Solanki **WEF Board of Trustee**







Our Mission

Inspiring the water community in pursuit of human and environmental well-being



Our Vision





Our Core Values



Lead boldly with purpose and agility



Focus on our customers through empathy and service



Collaborate for collective impact



Integrate **Diversity**, **Equity**, **and Inclusion** in all we do





WEF Strategic Plan

Our Mission

Inspiring the water community in pursuit of human and environmental well-being

Our Vision

Life free of water challenges



Our Three-Year Outcome Statement

Amplify the stories of water to grow, strengthen, and diversify the water community

Our Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Attract and develop a diverse and passionate water workforce

Goal 2: Cultivate a purposedriven community to sustainably solve water challenges for all Goal 3: Lead the transformation to the Circular Water Economy

Our Core Values

- Lead boldly with purpose and agility
- Focus on our customers through empathy and service
- F Collaborate for collective impact
- Integrate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in all we do





Goal 1

Attract and develop a diverse and passionate water workforce

Goal 1 Strategies

- Raise public awareness about the importance of water and the water workforce
- 2. Reduce barriers to workforce entry and retention
- 3. Provide extraordinary opportunities for connection, growth, and education
- 4. Cultivate strategic partnerships





Diversity, Equity & Inclusion





Water Leadership Institute





Operator Support

TRAINING THE **OPERATOR** OF THE **FUTURE**

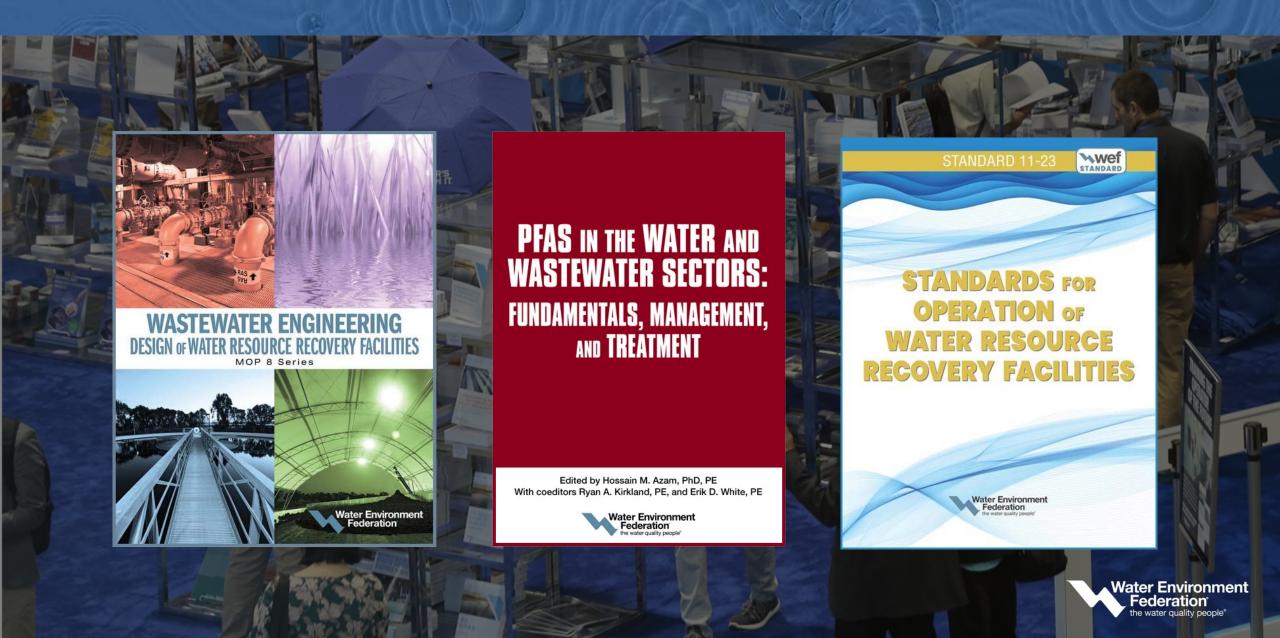
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FUNDAMENTALS

MANUALS ONLINE COURSES | STUDY GUIDES | TRAINER'S KITS





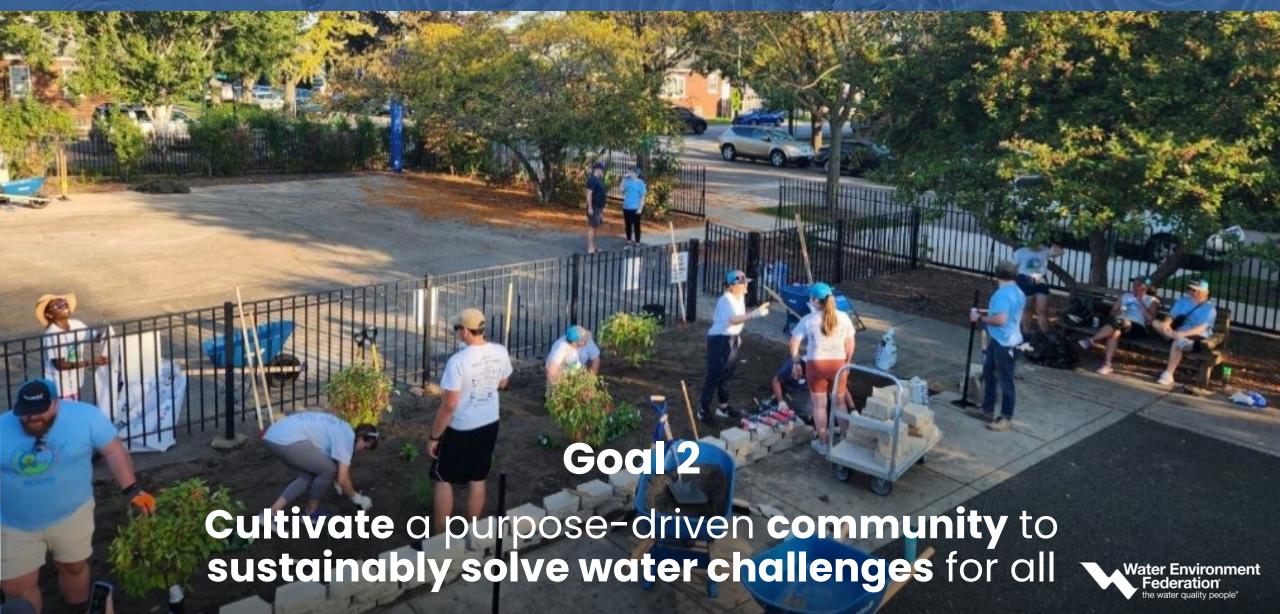
Educational Materials



Wastewater-Based Disease Surveillance



Our Strategic Goals





Goal 2



Cultivate a purpose-driven community to sustainably solve water challenges for all

Goal 2 Strategies

- Drive connection and collaboration for the development of innovative solutions
- 2. Deliver best-in-class member experience
- 3. Creatively develop and deliver content and programming



Ops Challenge







LEADING THE FUTURE OF WATER

Conference & Exhibition
October 5 - 9, 2024
New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center



Specialty Conferences



WEF/AWWA Utility Management
Conference 2024

February 13 – 16, 2024 Oregon Convention Center Portland, Oregon



Collection Systems and Stormwater Conference 2024

April 9 – 12, 2024
Connecticut Convention Center
Hartford, Connecticut



Innovations in Treatment
Technology Conference 2024

May 21 - 24, 2024
Virginia Beach Convention Center
Virginia Beach, Virginia



Residuals and Biosolids Conference 2024

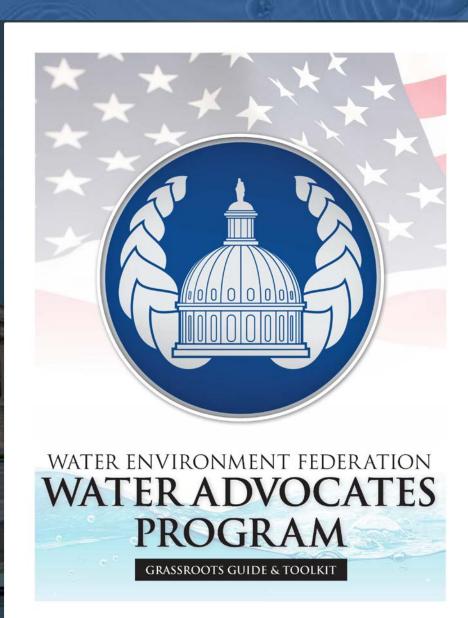
June 18 - 21, 2024Oklahoma City Convention Center
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



Circular Water Economy Summit 2024

July 15 - 17, 2024 Hyatt Regency Dallas Dallas, Texas

Water Advocates









Goal 3

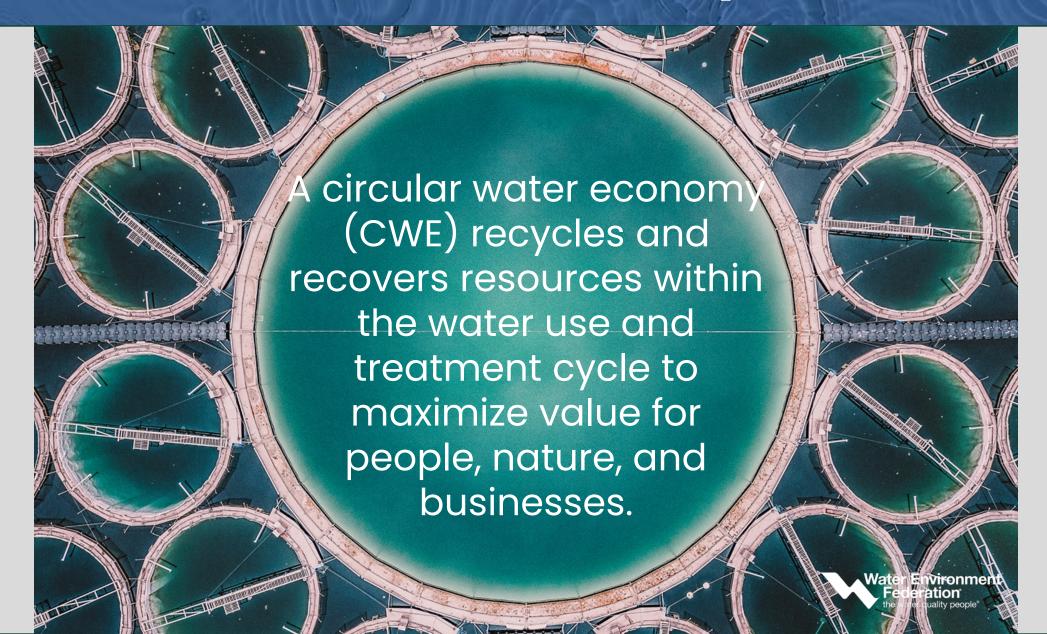
Lead the **transformation** to the **Circular Water Economy**

Goal 3 Strategies

- 1. Convene stakeholders to craft WEF's Circular Water Economy framework and best practices
- 2. Proliferate WEF's Circular Water Economy framework and best practices
- 3. Champion adoption of Circular Water Economy
- Eliminate barriers to Circular Water Economy adoption



Circular Water Economy Defined





WEF Circular Water Economy Summit







OUR BLUE WORLD



WEF Student Members

Supporting the Water Workforce of the Future





Objectives:

Brainstorm how we can best serve our students

Strengthen Student Chapter Annual Reports

1) Overview of WEF Offerings 2) Capture MA Offerings (and wishes) 3) Sharing Successes and Replicable Strategies

But first....

What did YOU want/need as a student?

What student groups were you a part of?

Strategic Plan Goal 1: Attract & develop a diverse and passionate water workforce

- Strategy 1: Raise public awareness about the importance of water and the water workforce
 - WaterPalooza; Stockholm Junior Water Prize







Strategic Plan Goal 1: Attract & develop a diverse and passionate water workforce

- Strategy 2: Reduce barriers to workforce entry and retention
 - Student Design Competition; InFLOW; WEF Student Chapter of the Year Award







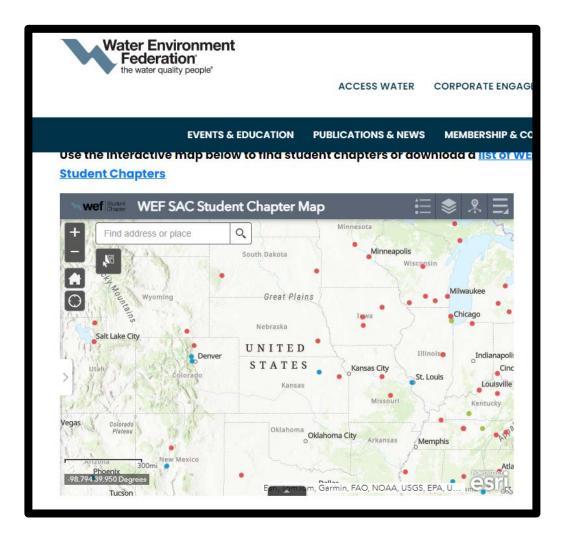
Strategic Plan Goal 1: Attract & develop a diverse and passionate water workforce

- Strategy 3: Provide extraordinary opportunities for connection, growth; and education
 - **Student Chapters** and all that comes with that: WEFTEC Attendance; SYPC involvement; SAC; Activites Toolbox; WEF Mentorship Program; Canham Scholarship (graduate); Springboard program (generally graduate participants).





Student Chapter Map:







MA Offerings... & Wishes

- Please take 5 minutes with the handout (5)
- Share with table (15)

Report out something you learned & admire from another MA

(15)





Wrapping up: Zachary Loeb, FWEA



"The FWEA and WEF student competitions provided an outlet for my water passionate to be engaged and encourage throughout different stages of my education and continue in my career. It is my honor and joy to be able to give back to the programs that laid the foundation for where I am today."

May 20th Deadline! Annual Student Chapter of the Year Award (via Annual Report)



BREAK

10:00 - 10:15 am





MA SHARING SESSION

WEA of Texas – Matias Pasch

CWP-KT – Valeria Lucas

Illinois WEA- Christina Smith

AWEA - Tina Sheikhzeinoddin & Matt Alpaugh

AZ Water – Amy Baker

WEASC – Beth Thompson



Miles & Miles of Texas

How WEAT Staff and Leadership Support the Diverse Needs of Our Sections

WEFMAX Park City 2024

Matias Pasch - Operations Coordinator, WEA of Texas



Context Matters

- 4,114 Members
- 254 Counties grouped into 19 Sections

Sections

Abilene

Beaumont/Port Arthur

Bryan/College Station

Central Texas

Coastal Bend

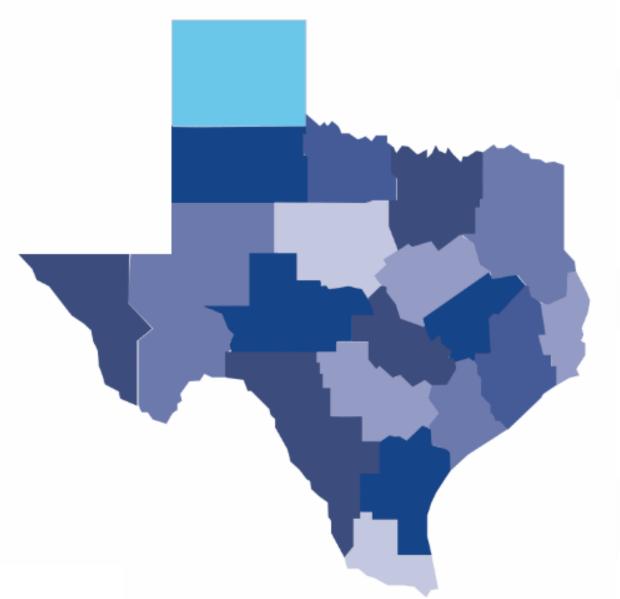
El Paso

Harlingen/Brownsville

Lubbock

Mid Rio Grande

Midland/Odessa



North Texas

Northeast Texas

Panhandle

Port Lavaca

San Angelo

San Antonio

Southeast Texas

Waco

Wichita Falls



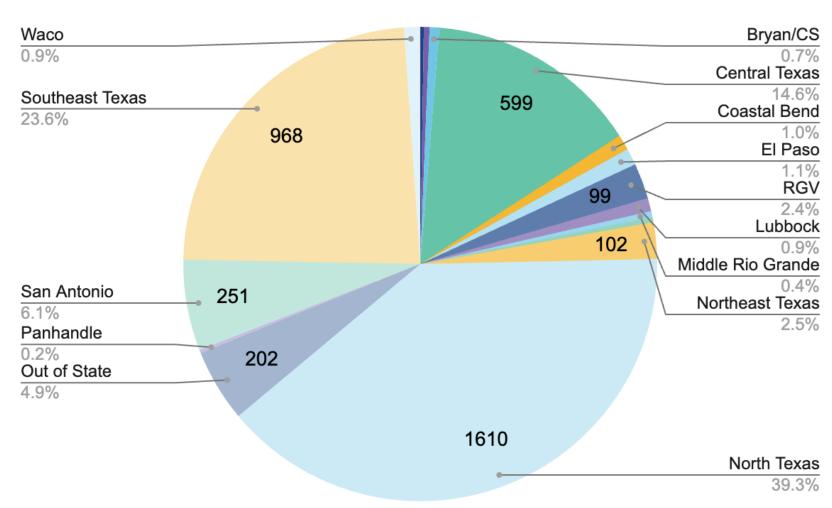




Water Environment Association of Texas

Members by Section

Section	# Members
Abilene	10
Beaumont/Port Arthur	16
Bryan/CS	27
Central Texas	599
Coastal Bend	43
El Paso	47
RGV	99
Lubbock	37
Middle Rio Grande	17
Midland/Odessa	14
Northeast Texas	102
North Texas	1610
Out of State	202
Panhandle	10
Port Lavaca	3
San Antonio	251
Southeast Texas	968
Waco	36
Wichita Falls	9







How did you find your MA?

- Active Section
- Networking with Clients?
- Voluntold by Supervisors or Mentors

Active networks are self perpetuating





WEAT Section Engagement Committee

Geographic Diversity: It's In The Strategic Plan

- WEAT Executive Director Julie Nahrgang
- Past President Rick Hidalgo
- Bylaws change & nominations ex-officio member





Seeding New Sections

- Identify & Recruit Leaders
- Draft & Approve Bylaws
- Financial Support & Assuredness
- Deliver Meetings!

El Paso in August 2023, January 2024, April 2024 Lubbock in January 2024





Staff & MA Support

- Financial Credit Cards & Banking
- Logistical Website
- Swag
- Officer & Leader Presence
- Awards at our Annual Meeting
- Event Hosting Across Texas

Q1 2024 Board Meeting – El Paso

Q1 2025 Board Meeting - Lubbock

Collections/OCM Conference May 2024 - McAllen

REBRANDING: CLEAN WATER PROFESSIONALS



Valerie A. Lucas, PE Executive Director



The Evolution of WEF

Progress began long before we did.

Federation of Sewage Works Associations (1928)

Federation of Sewage & Industrial Wastes Associations (1950)

Water Pollution Control Federation (1960)

Water Environment Federation (1991)



VISION

Integral to every clean water professional's career



MISSION

Boldly leading a professional community dedicated to safe and clean water through education, innovation & advocacy.



Clean Water Professionals

of Kentucky & Tennessee



UN-DUNG HERO

TURD HERDER

#1 IN THE #2 BUSINESS

For decades, public perception of our profession has (literally) been down the toilet, in part, because of the language we use around our sector.



So why are we still calling ourselves wastewater people?

We CLEAN water.

it's time to tell a new story.



It's time we call ourselves what we are.





In 2019, we started a grassroots #cleanwatermovement working with utilities across KY & TN to clean up our collective story.

Why now?

Water Research Foundation projects that in the next 10 years roughly one-third of all current water utility workers will retire.



WEF estimates 220,000 water job openings every year from now until 2026.



And, currently, only 15% of the water workforce are women.



What sparked your passion for water?

I first became interested in civil engineering in middle school. Doing meaningful work and contributing to the greater good were criteria I wanted my future career to meet. I have really found my niche in clean water. It's all about providing an essential service to society and protecting the environment.

Everyday is a learning experience and another opportunity to make an impact!

- Emily Epperson Lexington Fayette Urban County Government



Perhaps it's time to own our awesomeness.

A "clean water" title is all-encompassing and focuses on our vision. We're all passionate about clean water and want to be more clearly visible to those outsiders that want to learn and engage in what we do.

Michelle Hatcher
Director of Water Management
Franklin, TN



Cleaning up our language will help clean up our reputation.



The only way to change how they talk about us is to change the way we talk about ourselves to others.



#clean upour language

what used to be... is now... wastewater treatment plant......water resource recovery facility (WRRF) wastewater industry.....water sector wastewater jobs......water quality careers wastewater utility......clean water utility wastewater operators......clean water operators effluent wastewater.....reclaimed water

It's time to remind ourselves who we are and leverage the power of what we do.



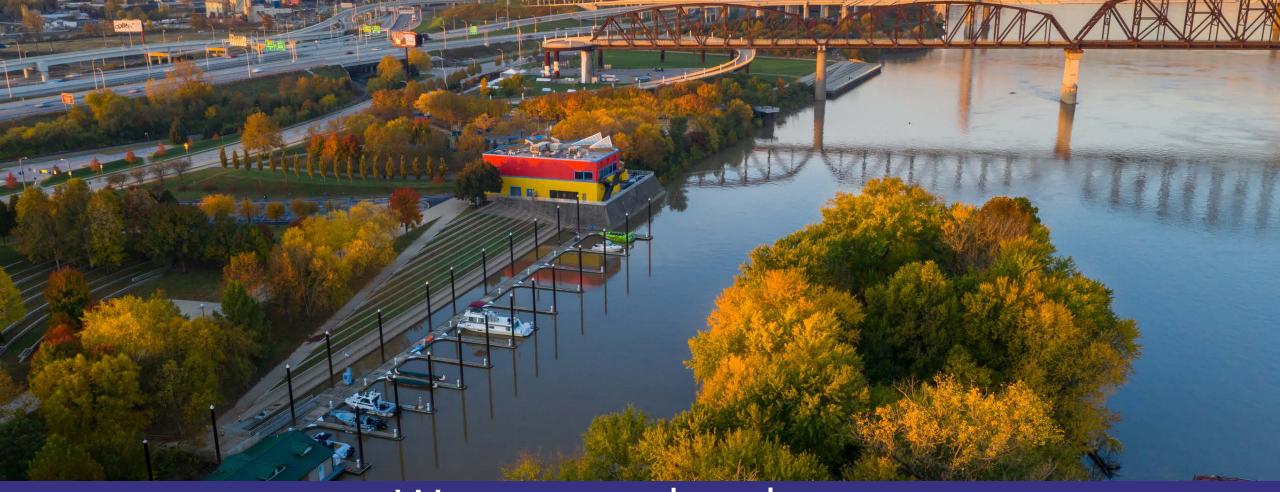
We are the <u>backbone</u>

of environmental advancement, economic expansion and community development.



Each job
in Water
Infrastructure
construction adds

3.68 jobs to the economy.



We protect the planet.

We already know there is no new water on the planet.

By recycling and reclaiming water, we're doing our part to preserve our beautiful states.

We protect our people.

We know quality water means quality of life, so we make sure to leave water cleaner than we found it.





Our work literally <u>flows</u> through our communities.

Through Clean Water partnerships, our sector is reminded of our purpose and passion to provide clean water for all.



















Clean Water Movement PROGRESS



Adopting New Naming Conventions for Plants

City of Murray, KY Bowling Green Municipal Utilities First Utility District of Knox



The #CleanWaterMovement Takes Hold in Bowling Green

Bowling Green Municipal Utility reaps the benefits of signing on as CWP's first Clean Water Partner

Kick-Off Meetings & Education at BGMU

I knew we had turned a corner when I overheard a phone call answered as "Water Recovery Facility" by an individual several weeks after our kick-off meeting. I knew at that point the message had been taken to heart.



Updating Language on Public-Facing Websites

"First Utility District is in the beginning stages of several upgrades to our Water Resource Recovery Facility (previously called a wastewater plant)."

The Clean Water Movement TO DATE

- Launch at WPC19
- Official name change at Annual Meeting 2020
- Roadshow Presentation
- Onboarding Folder
- Promotional Materials:
 - Stickers, t-shirts, hats
- Monthly email to members
- Website
- Training resources
- Social media guide & posts
- Campaign & rebranding nationally awarded by WEF







The Clean Water Movement SUCCESS







i clean water. what's your superpower?

Clean Water Professionals

Clean Water Professionals

Clean Water Professionals







CLEAN WATER PROFESSIONALS

OF LOUISIANA



Clean Water Professionals

of Kentucky & Tennessee











YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLEAN WATER MOVEMENT





Join us.

#cleanwatermovement





Clean Water Professionals of KY & TN



CONTACT INFORMATION

Valerie Lucas valerie.lucas@cleanwaterprofessionals.org







The Importance of Student Chapter Outreach for the Water Industry

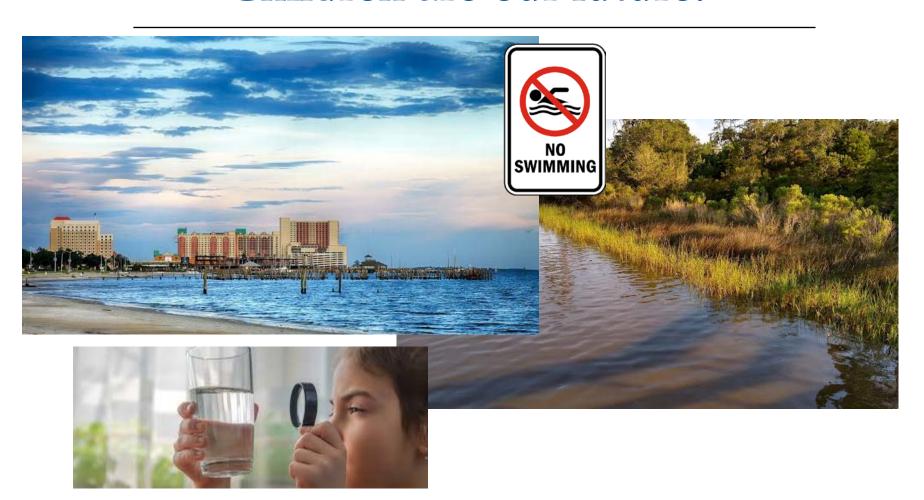
Christina Smith
IWEA Diversity Equity and Inclusion Chair







Children are our future.







Topics we will discuss:

Students Across America have 100% interest in their environment.

Many do not know the role local water jobs play.

- Student Outreach May look like ...
- High Schools & Colleges want to advertise your open positions.
- Resources for Student Outreach





Students Across America have 100% interest in the environment. This means water...

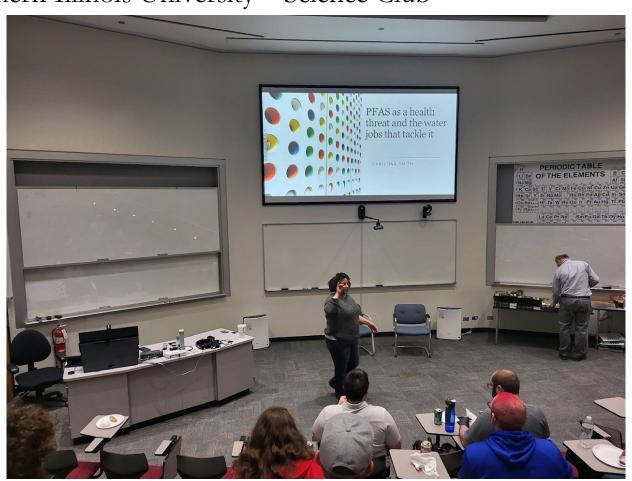
Teaching students about water and water careers

- Many College Students continuously research where to apply their degree or are looking for other options.
- High School Students are not all turning to college after graduation. Visit schools to discuss with students the roles at your facility and how they can begin work after graduation and earn on the job training and certifications.
- In Illinois, all 5th grade students discuss wastewater facilities and drinking water. They see the schematic, let's a face to the work.
- Scout Troops water badges
- Home School STEM





• Northern Illinois University – Science Club







• Local High School event – Meet a Scientist







• Plant Tour – provide job descriptions with pay ranges! Be candid.







• School activities – Invest in the future.







Local High Schools and Colleges want to advertise your open positions.

...Not all Students go to college or want to.

- High School are required by the state to post open positions requiring HS diplomas:
- Colleges are hungry to have their students find employment after graduation. Water careers meet the interest of students and the pay demanded after college tuition.







Resources:

- Who to contact:
 - Colleges: Science Teachers, look for professors online & email them.
 - HS: Student Services, College and Career Centers, Counselors
 - Grade School: Principal, general phone number
 - Local Libraries look for activities and events to host
- Allow and encourage word of mouth have your card!
- Online PPTs available for beginners: https://www.slideshare.net/pradeepbujji7/water-ppt-39058197
- Advanced Students:
 https://www.awwa.org/Portals/0/AWWA/Communications/HIGHSC
 HOOLPowerPoint.pptx
- High Thinking: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/pfas-npdwr-presentation/4.9.24 overview.pdf





Resources:

- Encourage employees to connect with students. Give them time to prepare!
 - Allow and encourage word of mouth
 - Search for STEM events
- HBCU Connect annual Event this June 28-29 in DC –



HANDSHAKE









Christina Smith
IWEA Diversity Equity and Inclusion Chair
City of St Charles Laboratory Supervisor
630-597-6108
csmith@stcharlesil.gov





Investing in Your Future—How to Support YPs and Student Chapters

Tina Sheikhzeinoddin and Matt Alpaugh AWEA Delegates







AWEA- Alabama's Water Environment Association

- About
- Size-YP and Student percentages
- Rotating Board Meeting Locations
- New Delegate/Board Member
- Conference
- Goals







Young Professionals

- Creating a Community
- Networking-why?
- Lunch and Learns- Communication skills, Finance, YP 5 min presentations..etc....
- Growth opportunities
- Support
- Answer the question: What are you missing out if you don't join?







Students

- Career path options
- Connections for internship/jobs
- Scholarships
- MA support
- SWAG
- Ongoing goal: keep students engaged after graduation

Ideas: Water award given by university, having a cord for graduation..







How to Increase Student, YP and EP Membership

- MA conference includes YP and student activities: Job fair, game night social, student poster competition, students presenting, dedicated "meet the boss" event If you don't have events, they will not come
- Pay for student lodging and travel expenses to come to conference-key time to interact with the local water and wastewater community and keep them engaged
- Develop relationships with professors—competing with other student organizations and conferences
- Increase scholarship amounts
- "Not only happy hour"- YPs to hold technical sessions-not just social events
- Figure out what works

 casual after work events or lunch and learns during the day
- Provide money, time, and resources to the group

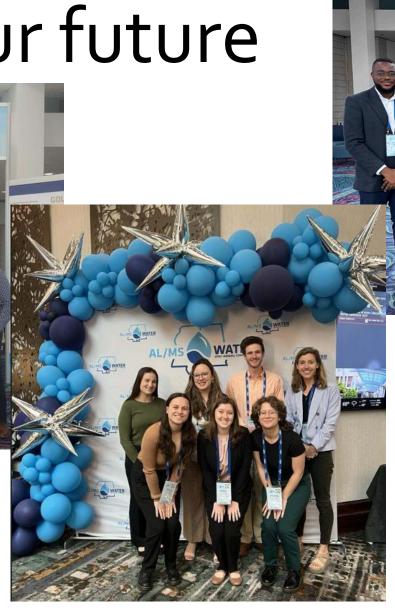






This is our future











Welcome Alabama / Mississippi Water Joint Annual Conference

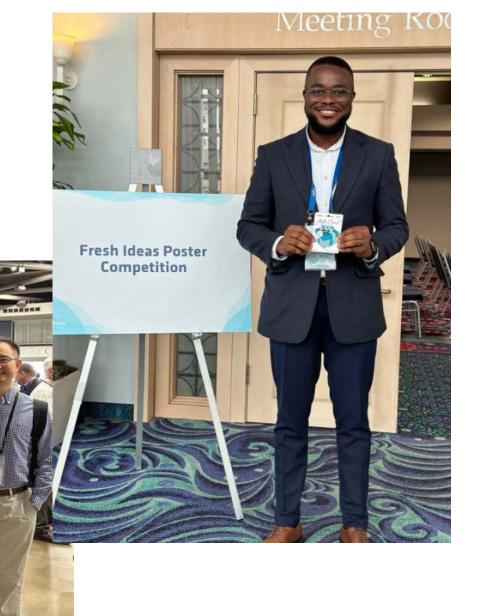








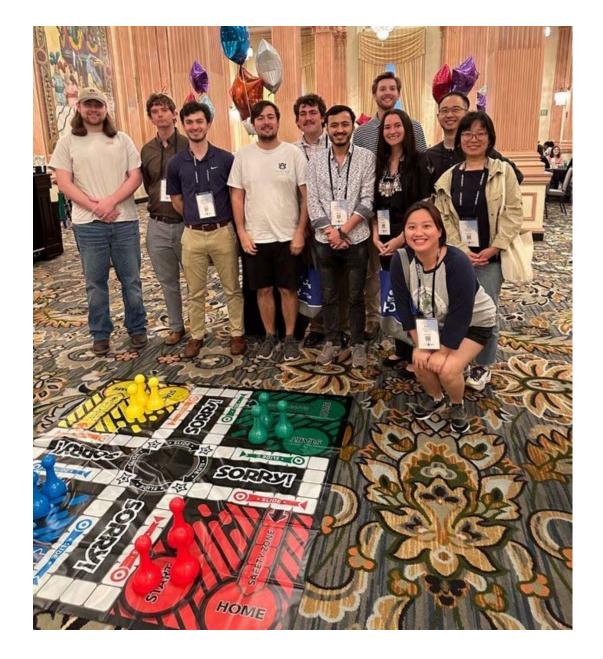














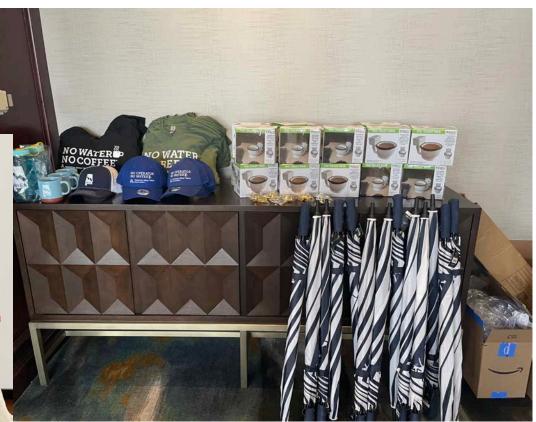














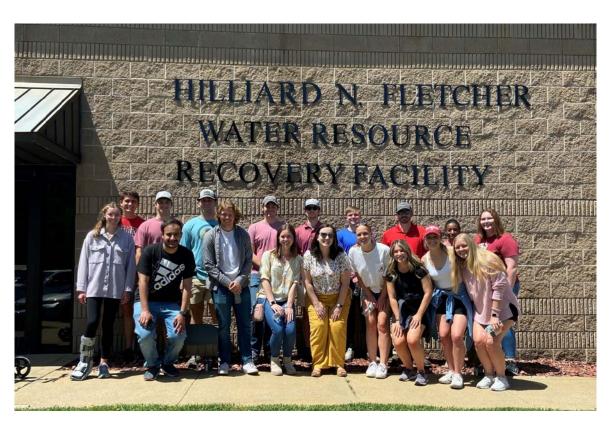
































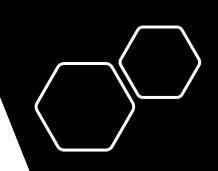
THANKYOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION







Workforce Education & Lifelong Learning





Promotional Video

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xwg-5NBQhnlhRRsSDCG-Bh1QUp4RznZ_/view?usp=sharing



What is it?

- Evergreen Course Access
- Self-Paced Online Training
- Recorded Videos
- Embedded Quizzes/Surveys
- Sponsorship opportunity
- Automatic certificates/PDHs
- Course Materials-attachments
- Access through azwater.org
 - Mobile-friendly page

What is it not?

- Not a live event tool
- Not a virtual conference
- Not an app

Initial Rollout - Summer 2024







Intro to Wastewater Treatment part 1

Intro to Arizona Water Resources

Introduction to Water Conservation

Intro to Water Distribution part 2

Intro to Water Treatment part 2

Intro to Wastewater Collection part 2

Intro to Wastewater Treatment part 2

1 Introduction to Digital Infrastructure

Introduction to Operator Math

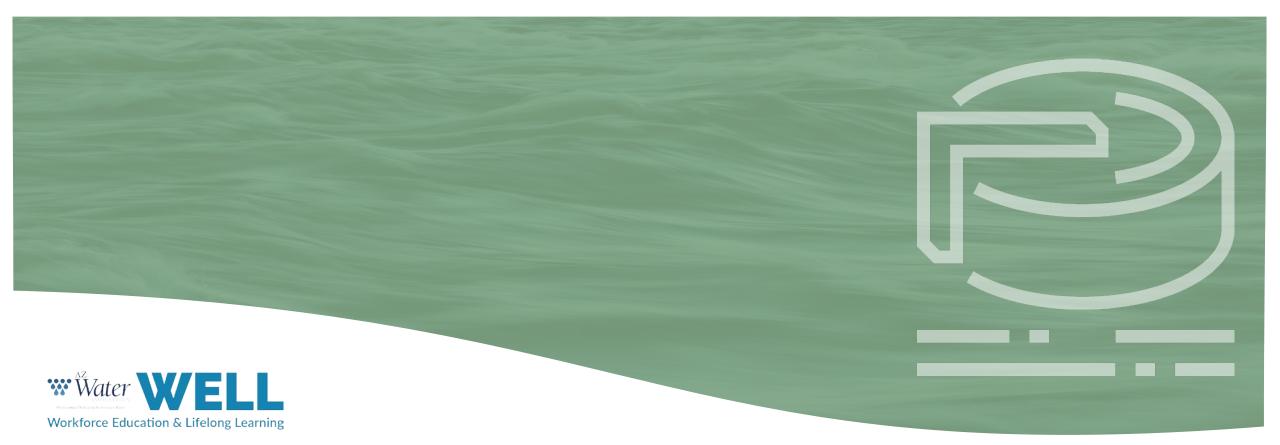




Additional Introduction Courses?

- Lab Practices
- Cross Connection and Backflow
- Energy Management
- Pretreatment
- Stormwater
- Biosolids
- Customer Service
- Advanced Water Treatment
- Many others.....

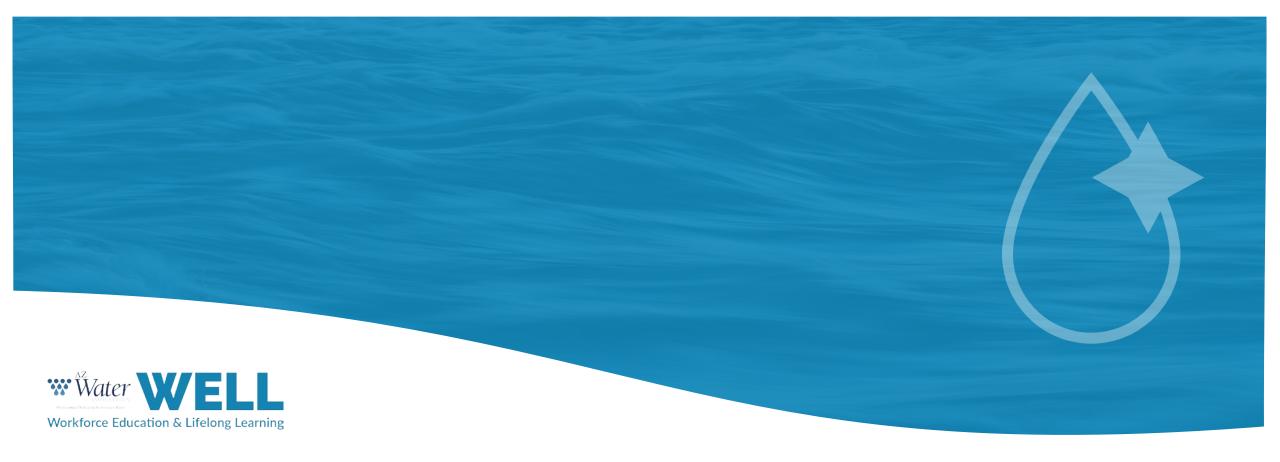




Introduction to Wastewater Treatment part 1

Overview of Wastewater Treatment, including Operation & Maintenance

Trainers: Heather Jennings, Erin Daugherty and Ibrahim Teres



Introduction to Water Resources

Learn about Water Resources in Arizona

Trainers: Kathryn Sorensen and Jennifer Davidson



Phase 2 Rollout - Winter 24/25

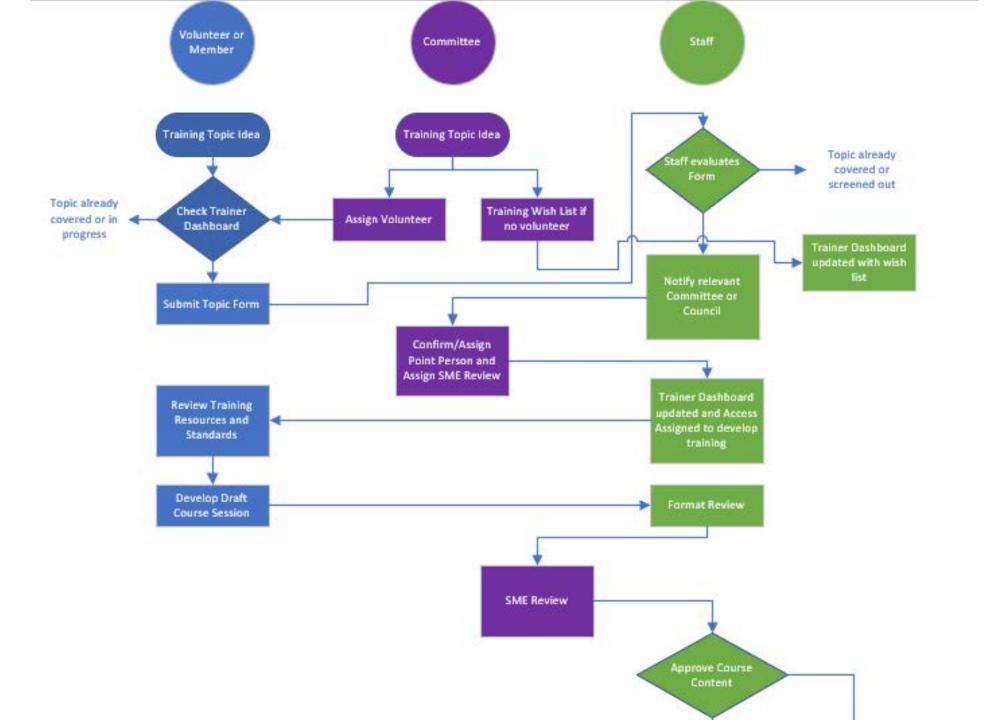
Add Intermediate and Advanced Courses (driven by committees and partners)

Expand "Introduction" Courses (additional disciplines and topics)

Roll out Vendor Showcase – Sponsored Trainings

Regularly evaluate platform traffic, interest and membership numbers





							Status
#	Categories	Title	Status	Lead Instructor	Assigned Committee	Assigned Reviewer	Date
	Soft Skills	Unconscious Bias for Dummies	Form Submitted	John Smith	JEDI Committee		
į	Soft Skills	Why AZ Water is Awesome	Needs Champion	Jane Doe			
2	Wastewater Treatment	Denitrification in small systems	Form under Review	Jane Doe	Wastewater Treatment Committee		
2	Unassigned	Pump Preventative Maintenance	Form under Review	Vendor XYZ			
3	Operator Training	Chemical Feed Systems 101	In Development	John Smith	Water Treatment Committee		
4	Unassigned	I love water random training	Sent to Committee	Excited New Volunteer			
	Advanced Water Treatment	GAC in AWP	Needs Champion	Jane Doe	Water Treatment Committee		
-	Advanced Water Treatment	AOP	Needs Champion	John Smith	Wastewater Treatment Committee		
	Advanced Water Treatment	RO and NF	Needs Champion	Jane Doe	Water Treatment Committee		
9	Advanced Water Treatment	MF and UF	Needs Champion	John Smith	Wastewater Treatment Committee		
10	Advanced Water Treatment	Monitoring Technology	Needs Champion	Jane Doe	Water Treatment Committee		
11	Advanced Water Treatment	AWP Lab Practices	Needs Champion	John Smith	Lab Practices Committee		

What will the Training Platform offer?

Initial Features

- Workforce Training (Intro Courses)
- Free to Members
- Automatic PDH issuance

Rollout in 2024

Future Features

- Additional Topics/Disciplines
- Sponsored Vendor-led Trainings
- Fees for Premium Content
- Public-facing trainings

Develop after Rollout

Frequently Asked Questions

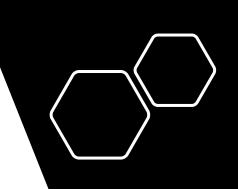
Is this Platform going to conflict with engagement at the conference?

- Out of ~2800 conference attendees in 2023, 403 attended Operator Training. They obtained an average of 1.5 PDHs in operator training, so operator training was a small part of their overall conference experience. Assuming those were all operators, we reached only 7% of the 5,644 certified operators in Arizona.
- Our goal will be to reach a larger percentage of those 5,644 operators, and also help prospective future operators and water professionals learn and grow their interests.



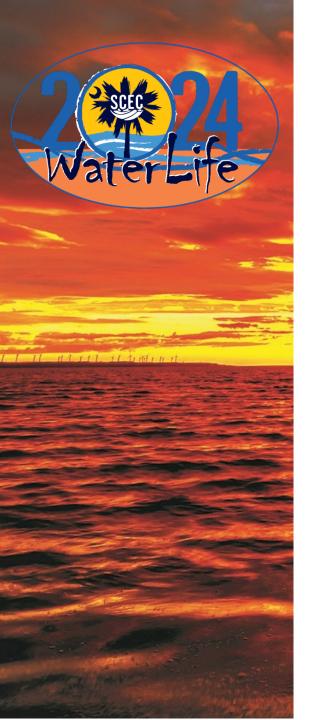
Workforce Education & Lifelong Learning

Thank you!





WOMEN IN WATER LIFE



MISSION STATEMENT

Providing our members educational and networking opportunities that promote, protect, and preserve South Carolina's water resources while fostering a community dedicated to the advancement of women in the water industry



2023 SC ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE

Geographic Arrangement

Blue Ridge Foothills

Upper Savannah

Catawba

Capital

Swamp Fox

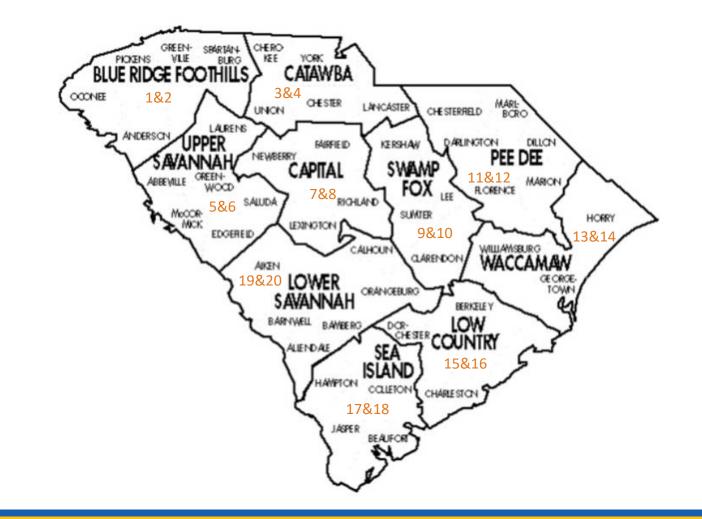
Pee Dee

Waccamaw

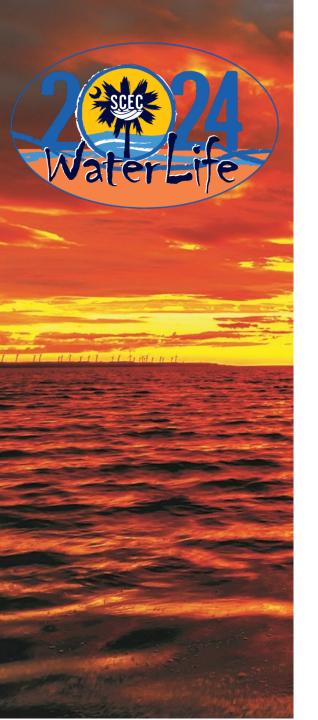
Low Country

Sea Island

Lower Savannah



WOMEN IN WATER LIFE



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

- What is your vision of this committee
 - Regionally?
 - Locally?
- What can groups do next year?
- What projects would you like to do longterm?
- What is the easiest way to get together?

- Multiple opportunities to mingle for drinking and conversation
- Outdoor hikes and activities
- Local water bill assistance programs for single parent households
- Mentorships
- Litter pickup service events
- Book club meetings
- Award program for women who have made an impact in SC

WIWL IDEAS



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

www.scwaters.org/group/WIWL



Nominations Committee 2024 Updates

Mark Poling and Kam Law





Nominating Committee Responsibilities

- Speaker Elect
- Delegate-at-Large (4)
- 6 Committees
 - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I)
 - Budget
 - WEFMAX
 - Nominating
 - Communications *New*
 - Water Advocacy *New*



Speaker-Elect

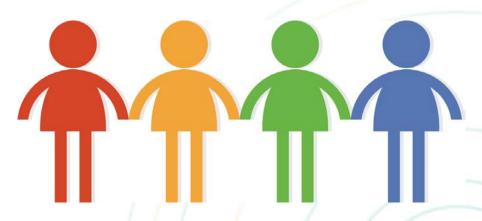
- Entering or completing at least 2 years serving as a Delegate
- One year term
- Duties
 - Assist the Speaker of the House
 - Member of HOD Steering Committee, Nominating Committee, and Budget Committee
 - Attend 2 WEFMAX meetings
 - Attend mid-year meeting
 - Attend Board of Trustees meeting
 - Serve as the House liaison to the Committee Leadership Council





Delegate-at-Large

- 4 selected each year
- 3-year term
- Represent an underrepresented demographic group in the HOD
 - Professional Perspective
 - Operations
 - Utility Leadership
 - Manufacturers
 - Demographic Perspective (Age, Race, Ethnicity, Gender)





HOD Committees

Comprised of Speaker-Elect and Delegates

- Budget (6)
- Nominating (6)
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (6)
- WEFMAX (6)
- Communications (6)
- Water Advocacy (6)
- Steering (Speaker, Speaker Elect, Chairs of all Workgroups, Committees)





HOD Budget Committee

- Review the budget development process with the WEF Treasurer and finance staff
- Administers the WEF MA grant program
 - 14 applications received (in February)
 - recommends proposals for funding
 - Compiling ideas proposed that might be beneficial for other MAs to consider.
- Participation in WEF's annual process via WEF Audit Committee.
- Considering a work task relating to revenue diversification to strengthen MA finances.





HOD Nominating Committee

- Fill Committee Positions Annually!
 - Review application materials for updates
 - Drive recruitment!
 - Administer the evaluation of applicants
- Liaise with other Committees (Communications, Onboarding)
- Assist with appointments of BOT Audit Committees (Chair & Vice Chair of HOD Budget Committee)





HOD Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

- Foster a sense of belonging among all members of the water sector
- Host regular quarterly calls with WEF membership
- Provide DE&I messaging to MA leadership
- Develop social media guidance targeted towards underrepresented and underserved populations to create interest in water profession careers.





HOD WEFMAX Committee

- Plan at least 3 years beyond the current year to identify MAs to host WEFMAX meetings
- Consider schedule, format, and content of WEFMAX meetings
- Set conference agenda and speakers
- Track registrations and organize conference logistics:
 - Alexandria, VA: 66 registered, 33 first time attendees
 - Park City, UT: 69 registered, 30 first time attendees*
 - St. Petersburg, FL: 53 registered, 16 first time attendees





HOD Communications Committee

- Responsible for the coordination, development, and distribution of materials pertaining to the HOD, both internally and with outside stakeholders.
 - New delegate onboarding
 - Quarterly HOD reports and BOT backgrounders
 - Monthly HOD videos
 - Social Media posts
 - Document management
 - Maintenance of WEFUnity page
 - MA Coordination for articles, advertisements, etc
- Consider schedule, format, and content of WEFMAX meetings



HOD Water Advocacy Committee

- Strengthens local, state, and regional MA Water Advocacy efforts
- Authored an advocacy article published in WE&T
- Publish regular updates on social media
- Coordination with local conferences to raise awareness
- Assist Government Affairs Community MA focus groups with water advocacy webinar
- Increase awareness for the National Water Policy Fly In

WATER ADVOCATES





HOD Steering Committee

- Comprised of Speaker of the House, Speaker-Elect, Immediate Past Speaker, HOD Workgroup chairs, HOD Committee chairs
- Advise the BOT on issues of strategic direction and public policy development
- Review and provide input on information received from committees and workgroups



Apply Now!

 Getting involved is not just for senior delegates!

 Encourage 1st year delegates to apply for committee positions.

We need you!

Any questions? Contact:

Amanda.Sheposh@jci.com





Thank you!





LUNCH

12:00 am - 1:00 pm



Build a Bike Service Project

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm



Help WEAU raise funds and get kids riding. Your donated funds will be used to purchase bikes. The bikes will be put together at the WEFMax in Park City on May 16-17, 2024, and donated to Free Bikes 4 Kidz.

Scan to donate online









BREAK

2:15 pm - 2:30 pm





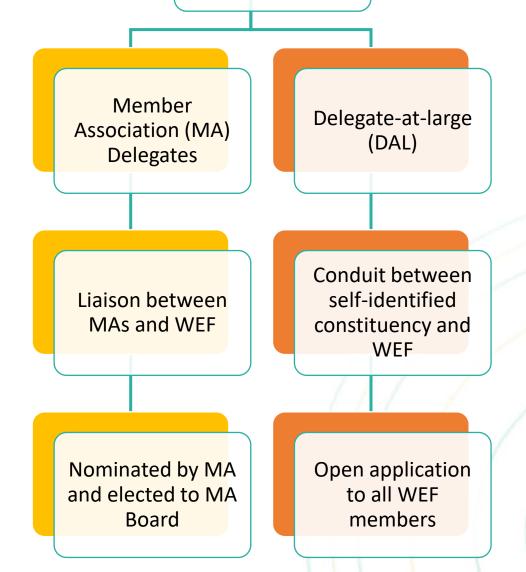
WEF Delegate-at-Large Constituency Update

ValaRae Partee



What is Delegateat-large (DAL)?

House of Delegates (HOD)





Delegate-at-Large Constituency

Introduction of what is a Delegate-at-Large (DAL) constituency:

ValaRae Partee

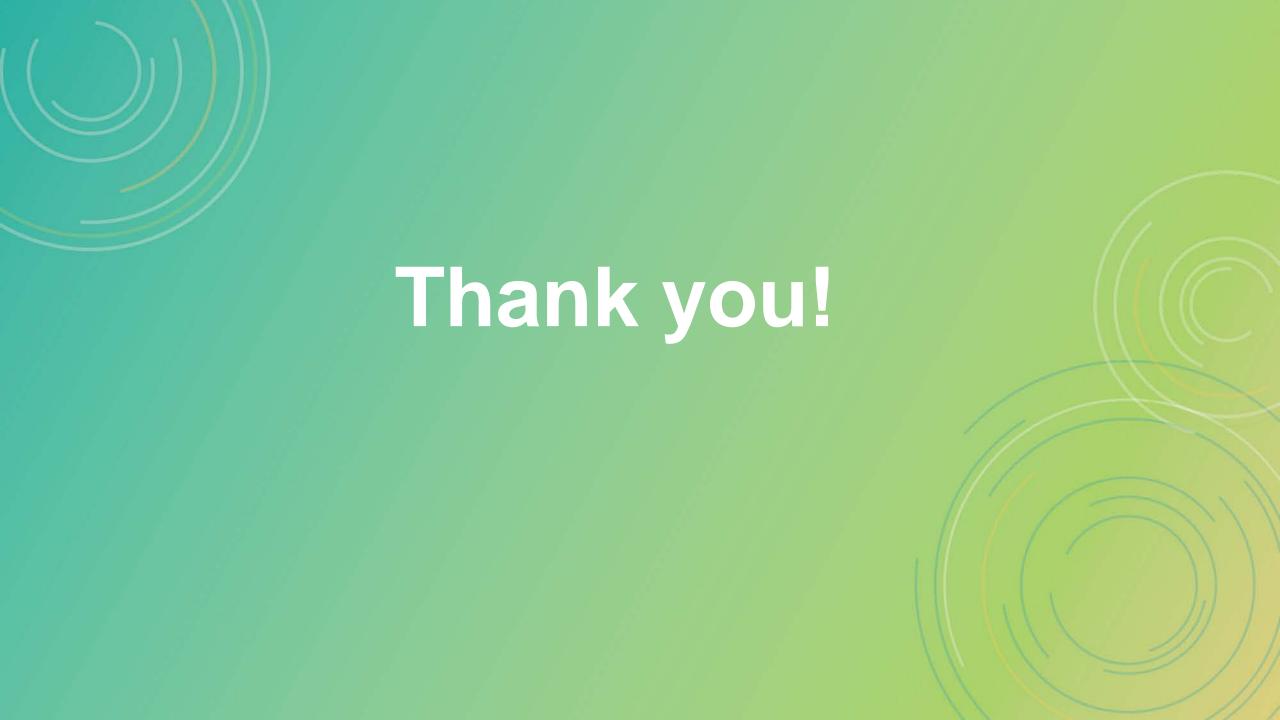
Black Women in Water, YP's of Color



Workgroup Charter

- To continue the 2022-2023 HOD of the Future discussions, particularly as it pertains to the Delegates-at-Large (DAL)
 - Surveying questions sent to 12 DALs
 - Results received in January 2024







WEF Community Leadership Council (CLC)

Ian Fife WEF CLC Vice Chair





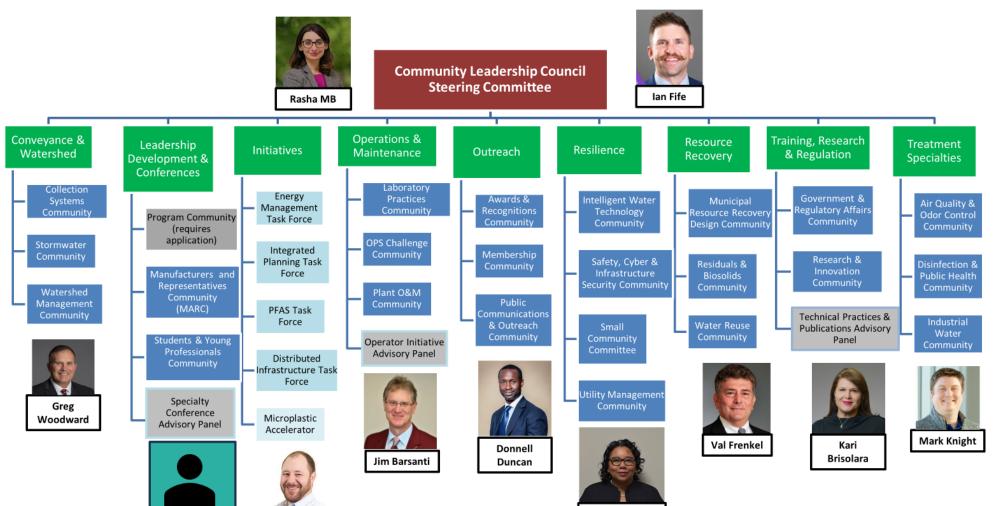
Community Leadership Council







CLC Steering Committee



Scott

Schaefer

TBD

Zonetta English





Membership Engagement Transformation (MET)



Why?

- 35,000 WEF MEMBERS GLOBALLY
- **3,100** (<9%) of MEMBERS SERVE ON A NATIONAL COMMITTEE
- 600 (<2%) ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED AT WEF'S NATIONAL LEVEL
- CURRENT STRUCTURE CONTAINED ENGAGEMENT BARRIERS
- MEMBERS NOT CONFIDENT HOW TO GET ENGAGED & CONNECTED IN



MET Objectives

- PROVIDE <u>EASIER PATH</u> FOR ENGAGEMENT FOR BOTH EXISTING AND NEW MEMBERS
- PROVIDE SOURCE TO <u>SPARK</u> NEW AND EXISTING MEMBERS TO BECOME MORE ACTIVELY INVOLVED
- CREATE <u>WELCOMING</u>

 ENVIRONMENT TO BRING NEW

 AND ACTIVE MEMBERS INTO OPEN

 ACCESS COMMUNITIES







More Opportunities

Accelerators – 1 year

- An emerging topic is identified as a perceived gap
- The team needs to be open access, fluid and dynamic and collaborate across communities

Task Forces – 2 years

- WEF members need to assemble and work on a defined cross community task
- Can be the result of accelerator progress, Board of Trustees requests, sector concerns





MET Created

- New Leadership Opportunities
- Communities with Open Access
- More communication channels
- New Communication Platform







community.wef.org/page/welcome





The Transformation



Let's celebrate!

- 31,220 WEF MEMBERS GLOBALLY
- 3,100 (<9%) 5600 (16%) of MEMBERS SERVE IN A NATIONAL COMMUNITY
- 600 (<2%) 1,120 (3%) ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED AT WEF'S NATIONAL LEVEL
- Variety of levels of engagement, members engage as





Driving Collaboration and Engagement



What <u>are</u> the possibilities?





CLC Steering Committee







National Water Policy Fly-in 2024

Debrief & Brainstorm

WEFMAX Park City, UT

Peter Garvey, Delegate-at-Large



Putting the WE in WEF "Collaborating for Collective Impact"

May 2024 WEFMAX Park City, UT





Life Free of Water Challenges

WEF STRATEGIC PLAN





WEF Strategic Plan

Our Mission

Inspiring the water community in pursuit of human and environmental well-being

Our Vision

Life free of water challenges



Our Three-Year Outcome Statement

Amplify the stories of water to grow, strengthen, and diversify the water community

Our Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Attract and develop a diverse and passionate water workforce

Goal 2: Cultivate a purposedriven community to sustainably solve water challenges for all Goal 3: Lead the transformation to the Circular Water Economy

Our Core Values

- Lead boldly with purpose and agility
- Focus on our customers through empathy and service
- + Collaborate for collective impact
- Integrate
 Diversity, Equity,
 and Inclusion in
 all we do



Collaborate for Collective Impact

- Partner with....
 - WEF Communities
 - Other MAs
 - WEF Staff
 - WEF Trustees



Collaborate for Collective Impact

- Partner with....
 - WEF Communities
 - Other MAs
 - WEF Staff
 - WEF Trustees



WEF Communities – Specialty Conferences

- WEF Collection Systems 2017 Omaha
 - 90+ NWEA members involved in planning the event
 - Local Planning Group and National Planning Group



WEF Communities – Specialty Conferences

- WEF Collection Systems Omaha
 - 325+ attendees at the "Social Activity" at Lauritzen Gardens
 - Invited all NWEA membership to attend
 - "Best date we have been on in years" Aaron Dressel and his wife









WEF Communities – Specialty Conferences

- WEF Collection Systems Omaha
 - 100+ attendees within a 3-hour drive
 - Benefit Accelerated our overall membership connection to WEF







WEF Communities - Specialty Conferences

- Utility Management Conference YP Summit
 - NWEA and NSAWWA send 2 Young Professions to the Conference each Year
 - Benefit Our YP Committee engagement has grown immensely



NWEA YP Committee – Texas Hold'em



12th Annual Texas Hold'em Tournament

Presented by: NSAWWA/NWEA Young Professionals Committee at the Nebraska 2023 Fall JointConference

To Benefit: Engineers Without Borders

1st Place: \$200

Location: Younes Conference Center
Time: Following Banquet, 8:30 p.m. to

Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2023,

2nd Place: \$150

\$100

Midnight

4th Place: \$50

3rd Place:

Join us for a night of No-Limit Texas Hold'em to benefit

5th Place: \$2

Engineers Without Borders.

Plus, Consolation Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to all tournament players. 3 Raffles during the Tournament!



SUGGESTED TOURNAMENT DONATION: \$20 Make checks payable to NWEA.

WALK IN NIGHT OF THE EVENT TO PLAY!

To Sign-Up to Volunteer as a Dealer, Please Contact: Sarah Nguyen

> Email: nguyen@jeo.com Phone: 402.310.5108





Collaborate for Collective Impact

- Partner with....
 - WEF Communities
 - Other MAs
 - WEF Staff
 - WEF Trustees



Other MAs – 4 State Governmental Affairs

- Nebraska (NWEA), Iowa (IAWEA), Kansas (KWEA), and Missouri (MWEA)
- EPA Region 7 Officials, including EPA Region 7 Director
- Regulatory Officials from the Four States
 - IDNR, KDHE, NDEE, MoDNR
- Municipalities/Public Utilities
- Consultants



Other MAs - NWEA and IAWEA DE&I

- NWEA chartered our DE&I Committee in 2021
 - Number of IAWEA members on NWEA's DE&I Committee
- Helped IAWEA charter their DE&I Committee in 2023







Collaborate for Collective Impact

- Partner with....
 - WEF Communities
 - Other MAs
 - WEF Staff
 - WEF Trustees



WEF Staff – Strategic Planning

- Linda Kelley NWEA Strat Plan in 2016
- Kelsey Hurst Strat Planning for Other MAs and HOD
- Do-it-Yourself Strategic Planning Workshop training webinar



WEF House of Delegates
Strategic Planning & Goal Setting
Overview





WEF Staff - Operator Outreach/Membership

- June 2023 Partnered with WEF to assist in transition
- July 2023
 - WEF Leadership presented at summer operators conference
 - WEF offered a reduced operator membership rate (40% off) for a limited time to assist in transition.
 - \$20 current versus \$87 going forward
- Current
 - Tracking operator transition process
- NWEA Nominations Committee
 - Identified slate of new NWEA Board Members Including more operator representation





WEF Staff - Operator Outreach/Membership

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WEF Staff – Get to Know the Individuals

- MA Staff Liaisons Dianne, Kelsey, Ama, and Renee
- MA Resource Center



Advertising, Exhibition And	Financial Management	
Sponsorship Sales	Government Affairs And Strategic Partnerships	
Association Engagement &		
Governance	Human Resources	
Business Development, Corporate Sales And Industry Relations	Information Technology	
Communications	Journals And Books	
Conference Operations	Marketing Membership Operator Programs	
Content Creation		
Customer Service		
Education And Training	Water Science And Engineering Center	
Executive Team	Web Services	
Exhibitions	WEFTEC Education	
Facilities Management	1 //	



Collaborate for Collective Impact

- Partner with....
 - WEF Communities
 - Other MAs
 - WEF Staff
 - WEF Trustees



WEF Trustees – Annual Conferences

- Plan your annual conference engagement
 - You have the best of the best coming to your MA!!!
- Don't just fill out the request form.
 - Engage in as many activities as possible
- We usually hold 1-2 planning calls with the trustee coming to our annual conferences.

WEF OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Member Association: Nebraska WEA WEF Representative Attending: Jamie Eichenberger, WEF Dates of Conference: November 3-5, 2021 President

TRANSPORTATION, ACCOMODATIONS, & REGISTRATIONS

- Provide the date/time Jamie should plan to arrive/depart the conference:
 Arrive: 11/3/21 at 3 PM
 Depart: 11/5/21 at 11:30 AM
- 2. What airport do you recommend he fly into? Kearney International Airport a. What mode of transportation is available from the airport? Uber/Lift/Cab b. What is the travel time from the airport to the conference venue? 15 minutes

3. Who is his main contact?

Name: Mike Milius Position: NWEA WEF Delegate
Phone: 308.227.2630 Email: mmilius@olsson.com

4. Will the MA reserve hotel accommodations: Yes No Is the WEF Representative responsible to pay for the hotel? Yes No Hotel: TBD Phone: TBD

Address: TBD

5. Will the MA arrange conference registration? Yes No Will the WEF Representative pay for conference registration? Yes No

Provide name and position of the NWEA official representative(s), if applicable.
 Name: Mike Milius
 Position: NWEA WEF Delegate

7. Each WEF Representative is prepared to present on an array of technical topics (invited without abstract requirement please). Is your MA interested in having the WEF representative present? Yes No If yes, indicate the time/place/topic in the form below.

Provide a schedule of the events for the WEF Representative to attend and their role

Required?	Function	Date	Time	Role
Yes	Board Meeting	11/3/21	3-5 PM	Participant
Yes	WEF Presentation (30 Minutes)	11/4/21	8:30-9:00 AM	Presenter
Yes	NWEA/AWWA Joint Lunch	11/4/21	12:00 PM	Presenter?
Yes	NWEA Business Meeting	11/4/21	1:30-3:30 PM	Participant
No	Committee Chair Workshop	11/4/21	3-4 PM	Participant
Yes	NWEA Banquet	11/4/21	6:00 PM	Brief Presentation/Assist with Awards (Agenda will be provided in advance)
Yes	Board Meeting #2	11/5/21	10-11:30 AM	Participant

May Jamie help your MA in any other way?

WEF Trustees – Annual Conferences

- Aimee Killeen Women in Water Breakfast
- Jenny Hartfelder Texas Hold'em Player
- Jaime Eichenberger MA and WEF Engagement









Member Engagement Transformation

WEF Communities at-a-Glance



Air Quality & **Odor Controls**



Awards



Collection Systems



Disinfection & **Public Health**



Government & Regulatory **Affairs**



Industrial Water



Intelligent Water Technology



Laboratory **Practices**



Membership



Municipal Resource Recovery Design



Ops Challenge



Plant O&M



Public Communication s & Outreach



Research and Innovation



Residuals & Biosolids



Safety, Cyber & Infrastructure Security



Small Communities



Stormwater



Students & Young **Professionals**



Utility Management



Water Reuse



Watershed Management



Open Access | Any member can join Invited | Must Apply or be Appointed *Task Forces | Cross-Community collaboration with 2 year end goal

 Accelerators | New Focus Areas at WEF Advisory Panels | Appointed Panels to

govern WEF initiatives



Program

Envision



Manufacturers & Representatives (MARC)



Technical **Practices**





Distributed





Operator

Make it as easy as 1, 2, 3...



Make it easier

to join a Community



WEF will simplify the Registration & Onboarding Process

Make it easier

to get rapidly

engaged



New roles for volunteering and leadership to promote engagement and interaction

Showcase

Volunteer Opportunities





New Communications

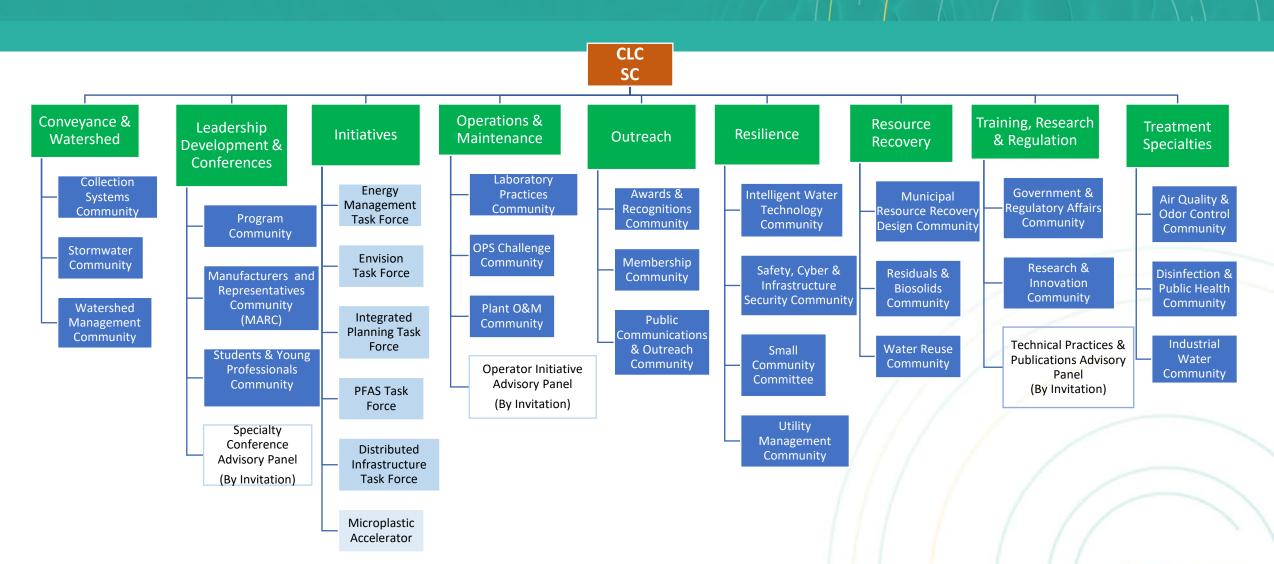
Platform to improve communications, collaboration, networking, while showcasing volunteer opportunities

- Abby Kigin
- Adib Amini
- Brian Kramer
- Brian Bakke
- Brittany Travers
- Gary Ganoe
- James Kendrick
- Jascika Maclean

- Jeff Saltzman
- Jascika Maclean
- Karol Giokas
- Keith Kontor
- Kylie Wilmes
- Michael Arends
- Patricia Nelson
- Ronald Wienands

- Ryan Hurst
- Scott Aurit
- Shawn Ovenden
- Tian Zhang
- Todd Boling
- Todd Steinbach
- Warren Humphrey
- Zachary Matyja







Leadership Team				
Role (2 Year Term)	Think Chief	Responsibilities		
Community Chair	Executive Officer (CEO)	 □ Leads the execution of the IWC Strategic Plan and Quarterly Calls, Mid-Year and WEFTEC Meetings □ Leads the Steering Committee and participates in the Nominating Committee □ Coordinates and communicates with WEF Staff, CoP Director, CLC, and other Community Chairs □ Transitions to Community Past Chair role after 2 years' service as Community Chair 		
Community Vice Chair	Operations Officer (COO)	 Develops and maintains IWC Steering Roadmap (Yearly Plan) and Scorecard (Goals & Progress) Participates in the Steering Committee and Nominating Committee Mentors Focus Group Chairs and Projects, Member Engagement, & Partnerships Directors Transitions to Community Chair role after 2 years' service as Community Vice Chair 		
Community 2 nd Vice Chair	Marketing Officer (CMO)	 Develops and maintains IWC Strategic Plan (5 Year Plan) Leads the Strategic Planning Committee and participates in the Steering and Nominating Committees Mentors Support Subcommittee Chairs and Onboarding, Social-Media & MA Engagement Directors Transitions to Community Vice Chair role after 2 years' service as Community 2nd Vice Chair 		
Community Past Chair	Executive Advisor	 □ Participates in the Nominating Committee and Strategic Planning Committee □ Mentors Chair, Vice-Chair, 2nd Vice Chair □ Supports with specific Projects as required □ Rolls off Leadership Team after 2 years' service as Community Past Chair 		



Community Directors				
Role (2 Year Term)	Think Director of	Responsibilities		
Projects Director	Project Execution	 □ Works with Member Engagement / Partnerships Directors to get opportunities into Volunteer Portal □ Works with Project Teams to set goals and ensure tasks are completed vs set timeline □ Estimated ~8-16 hours per month commitment 		
Member Engagement Director	Project Staffing	 □ Works with the Focus Groups and Projects Director to connect volunteers with opportunities □ Manages the Volunteer Portal and IWC Roster □ Estimated ~4-8 hours per month commitment 		
Onboarding Director	Human Resources (HR)	 Welcome/informs new members about the IWC (manages welcome packet & mentorship program) Introduces new members to Member Engagement and Project Directors to connect with projects Estimated ~2-4 hours per month commitment (based on number of new members) 		
Social Media Director	Marketing & Coms (MarCom)	 □ Solicit materials to promote on IWC & external communication channels □ Develops Member Profiles to highlight rising professionals, standout volunteers, and hot topics □ Estimated ~2-4 hours per month commitment 		
MA Engagement Director	External Relations	 □ Prioritizes which Member Associations (MA) to partner with □ Acts as a liaison with industrial / similar communities in the Member Associations □ Estimated ~4 hours per month commitment 		
Partnerships Director	Strategic Partnerships	 Works with WEF Community Liaisons & Projects Director to get opportunities into Volunteer Portal Manages External Partnerships with other associations and NGO's Estimated ~4 hours per month commitment 		



0.5 Hours per Week (~1% of your time) → Great Volunteer
1.0 Hours per Week (~2.5% of your time) → Committee Leadership
4.0 Hours per Week (~10% of your time) → We're Putting you on the Board

1.Grow Your Professional Network 2.Gain Technical Knowledge 3.Build Your Soft Skills 4.Learn to Lead 5.It's fun!





Putting the WE in WEF "Collaborating for Collective Impact"

The NWEA Story

May 2024 WEFMAX Park City, UT





Next Steps...

Dave Galbraith





WEFMAX DAY 1 WRAP

