



American Water Works Association
Pacific Northwest Section

SPRING 2025

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The Official Magazine of the
Pacific Northwest Section – AWWA

Welcome to the PNWS-AWWA's **Annual Conference**

May 7-9, 2029 | Boise, ID

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Rising to the Challenge

When I stepped into this role as Chair of PNWS, I challenged our Subsection and Committee leadership to find new ways to strengthen our Section – both by building on the programs that have long been the foundation of our success and by exploring fresh opportunities to bring value to our members. After hearing from our leaders at the recent winter Trustee Meeting, I couldn't be more inspired by the way they have risen to this challenge with passion and dedication.

Across our Section, our leaders are creating meaningful opportunities for professional growth and connection. From impactful Young Professional events to engaging local Subsection gatherings, they are finding ways to bring our members together and ensure that PNWS remains a vibrant and supportive community. Networking events like golf tournaments and Wine for Water continue to foster relationships and strengthen the bonds that make our organization unique. These events don't just bring us together – they reinforce the camaraderie and shared purpose that define who we are.

None of this would have been possible without the incredible team of leaders I have had the privilege of working alongside on the Board. Their dedication, insight, and unwavering commitment to advancing PNWS have made this year an unforgettable experience. Collaborating with them to further strengthen our Section and set the stage for future success has been one of the greatest honors of my tenure.

I also want to take a moment to recognize Chair-Elect Joel Cary. From the very beginning, our ongoing dialogue and commitment to ensuring alignment in the direction of our

Section has been invaluable. His leadership, vision, and passion for PNWS will undoubtedly propel our Section to even greater heights in the year ahead. I have every confidence that under his guidance, our members will experience another incredible year of growth, engagement, and success.

As I look ahead to our Annual Conference in Boise this May, I feel a deep sense of gratitude for this community and all that we have accomplished together. This conference will be a celebration of the dedication and


enthusiasm that each of you brings to our Section. It will also be a moment for us to reconnect, share ideas, and continue building on the incredible work of this past year.

Thank you for your commitment to PNWS and for making this organization the incredible place that it is. I cannot wait to see you all in Boise and celebrate everything we've achieved together. 🙌


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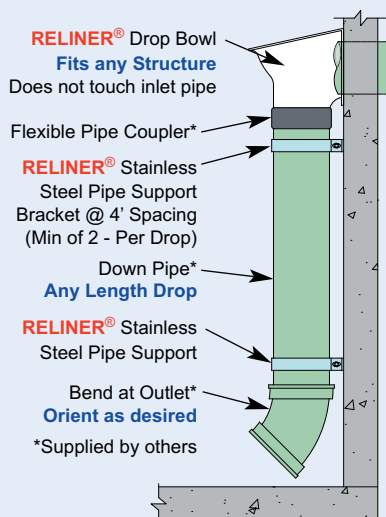
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New Leadership, Strategic Plans, and Advancing Water Policy

Since my last update, the National Board of Directors gathered for our winter meeting January 23 through 25. The in-person meeting was modified and a virtual option added due to the severe weather conditions forcing many of us unable to attend in person. With the modified meeting schedule the primary focus was the election of new presidential officers, updates on the 2025 business plan, legislative expectations, and the Water 2050 initiative.

Tracy Mehan and Nate Norris of the Government Affairs office spoke about the current makeup of the Administration and the challenges that may be faced securing favorable legislation and funding for programs such as the low-income water assistance program that AWWA has been working on along with other associations to secure permanent funding. They also reported that AWWA continues legislative efforts to address recent PFAS/PFOA and LCRI Regulations implemented by the EPA. There is more information on the state of these processes available on the Association's webpage. The annual Washington, DC legislative fly-in is scheduled for April 8–9, 2025. The fly-in is an opportunity to meet with legislators to discuss issues and policies that will impact the water utilities, sustainability, and the levels of service provided to consumers. This year it will be of particular importance to have a strong participation at the event.

The 2025 business plan was developed to support the four strategic initiatives – member experience, organizational stewardship, knowledge creation and exchange, and water policy and leadership – and will guide the association through the year. A renewed focus on membership value will be part of a five-year strategy that includes an evaluation of conference content, improved communication with public officials, continued leadership on PFAS and Lead and Copper Regulations, along with increased communications, resources and information about Water 2050.

The committee working on the Water 2050 initiative has been concentrating on forming actionable activities that can help move the campaign from a concept to sustainable, implementable solutions for the future. At the 2025 ACE conference in Denver there will be five presentations that will lay out some actionable measures such as the introduction of a Utility Performance Standards certificate program that will be getting under way in 2025; this coupled with full cost pricing models and national governance structure guidelines will help to move this very important project forward and provide some guidelines – a look at how the initiative can truly help to shape the future of the water industry as a whole.

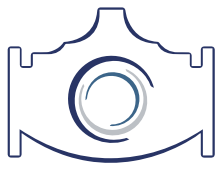
The meeting concluded with the election of the new Presidential Officers that will join the executive committee at

the conclusion of the ACE conference in Denver. The four new Vice-Presidents are Andrea Odegard-Begay from the Arizona Section, Andrea Song from the Rocky Mountain Section, John Eisnor from the Canada Section, and Kevin Smith from the Virginia Section. Brent Tippy from the Kentucky-Tennessee Section was elected as the next Board of Directors Chair-Elect. Brent is the current East Region Drinking Water Lead for HDR and a current Vice-President on the Board of Directors. He has been an active member at both the section and association levels since 1999. The elections were highlighted with the election of Lilly Lopez from the Cal-Nevada Section as the first Young Professional Director-At-Large, a position that was approved by the Board of Directors in the 2024 summer meeting at ACE in an effort to ensure that the future leaders of the water industry will always have a major voice in the shape and direction of the Association.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Section conference in May in Boise, where we welcome new President-Elect Jolene Gibson, Oregon-Idaho Trustee Kyle Arnhart, Washington Trustee Jeremy Djajadi, and Trustee at Large Katie Dillon to the Board. Alex Mofidi, who is your incoming Association Director will officially take over the position at the conclusion of the Denver ACE conference in June. The Section is truly in great hands. 🙌

James Dean
PNWS-AWWA Association Director

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Member Engagement and Development Committee (MEDC)

MEDC Purpose:

To support the Pacific Northwest Section of AWWA (PNWS) in the engagement, retention, and growth of membership.

Looking Forward to Seeing You in Boise!

With the Spring conference approaching, we look forward to seeing you in Boise, ID May 7–9. MEDC will be hosting a first timer's meet and greet and welcome any new attendees to join to learn about the PNWS-AWWA and how to make the most out of the conference.

Membership Summit Highlight

Membership is the foundation of AWWA, which is the world's largest scientific and educational association dedicated to improving water quality and supply. The importance of AWWA's members, and their contributions to the success of the organization were emphasized during the annual Membership Summit in Denver, January 15–17, Tyler Clary attended along with other Association and Section membership committee members to learn about and discuss strategies to build a strong membership engagement program. This year a \$250 award was presented to the Section for achieving a net growth of 0.3%.

Mentorship Program Update

Thank you to all who responded, and we are now in full swing with the 2024–2025 program, where we develop a relationship with a fellow AWWA member networking and providing invaluable job and leadership skills. Mentor pairs meet about once a month over a six-month period, with sessions on various career development topics. If you are interested in learning more about this program, feel free to contact Kyle Wong at kyle.wong@spwater.org with any questions.

Need Help with Reaching Your Subsection Members?

Let us know! We can pull member lists that are specific to your subsection



and renewal date to outreach specific members. Please reach out to the MEDC Chair, Doug Schlepp dschlepp@rh2.com or visit us at: www.pnws-awwa.org/member-groups/committees/membership-committee. We are close to the release of the membership portal that will put the list at your fingertips.


If you know of a fellow peer or colleague that is not a member and would like to join, they can find information on the AWWA website here: www.awwa.org/membership-volunteering/join.

MEDC Is Recruiting!

The MEDC is looking for new members to join our committee! With the transition of our current chair, Doug Schlepp, this May, we welcome

Tyler Clary as the next incoming MEDC Chair. With the leadership transition we are developing new roles for the committee and are looking for new recruits.

Thanks also to our current MEDC Committee Members: **Tyler Clary, Chris Young, Kyle Wong, Michael Neher, Jorge Miranda, Randy Black, Doug Schlepp, DeEtta Fosbury, Natalie Reilly, and Mehrin Selimgir** – also supported by our Trustee Liaison to the Membership Division **Chandra Hingston**.

Interested in learning more about the MEDC? Attend our next monthly call. We meet on the third Thursday of the month 12 pm to 1 pm. Contact Doug at dschlepp@rh2.com for the meeting invite. 

Young Professionals Committee

The Young Professionals (YP) Committee hosts events that foster valuable leadership skills, provide opportunities to grow technical knowledge to enhance careers in the water industry, and encourage networking between seasoned professionals and YPs. Young professionals have been in the water industry for less than 10 years.

The YP Committee meets virtually on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm (PST).

New for 2025!

Section Committee Presentations

The YP Committee is engaging the various section committees to present monthly to share what they do, how they contribute to AWWA, and how individuals can get involved. Here is the tentative schedule of what to expect – make sure to attend to learn more!

- **February** – Oregon Water Utility Council
- **March** – Water Treatment
- **April** – Membership Engagement and Development (MEDC)
- **May** – Water Quality

If you are a committee member or have insight you would like to share, reach out to the contacts below.

YP Wednesdays

The hit virtual meetings from the Northwest Oregon Subsection are transitioning to the Section YPs! Brainchild of Emma Martin (Vice Chair), the YP Wednesdays speaker or panel topics include career development, water quality, data analysis and visualization, women in water, engineering or source water protection projects, regulatory compliance, and capital improvement projects. This shift to the section level will broaden the focus of speakers and topics from predominantly Oregon-focused work to that of the PNW region, allowing YPs throughout the section to hear about work potentially impacting their local area. Meetings are held virtually on the first Wednesday of every month at 4 pm (PST). Join the YP Mailing List to receive invites for upcoming meetings!

Please reach out to Emma Martin (emma.martin@hillsboro-oregon.gov)

if you would like to be involved in YP Wednesdays planning or presenting.

Wednesday Conference Meet & Greet

The YP Committee will be hosting a meet and greet the evening of May 7 at the Section Conference in Boise, ID for first time attendees and YPs – but everyone is welcome! The event will follow the competitions and events held at the event center. Location will be The Mode Lounge (800 W Idaho Street, Boise, ID 83702) from 7 pm–10 pm.

2025 AWWA YP Summit

Several young professionals from the Pacific Northwest joined more than 300 peers at the 2025 AWWA/WEFYP Summit in Dallas, TX. The summit brings together new professionals across the water industry to hear from peers and seasoned individuals for personal and professional development in leadership-oriented training. The PNWSYP Committee was able to sponsor two individuals to attend this year and hope to sponsor others next year.

The YP Summit creates an opportunity for professionals to engage in new and interesting activities while hearing from honored guests such as Cheryl Porter, the AWWA President, about overcoming hurdles through their professional careers. This event helps foster and create new relationships, as we all grow into leadership roles and find important relationships in this industry. Looking forward to having a large contingent at next year's event!



YP Liaisons – Help Spread the Word!

The YP Committee is composed of young professionals across the PNWS.

Subsection liaisons connect their local AWWA communities with the section-wide YP Committee.

We are seeking YP Liaisons for the following subsections:

- Northwest Washington
- Central Washington
- Blue Mountain
- Cascade to Coast
- Eastern Oregon
- Lower Columbia

If you are interested in representing your subsection, supporting/hosting local events, and fostering YP outreach and involvement, please reach out.

Need Funding Support?

The YP Committee's 2025 budget was designed and approved to assist the PNWSYP Community in:

- *Hosting YP Events* – Want to host an event? The YP Committee can provide funding to purchase food, reserve an event space, purchase prizes and other necessities, and more!
- *Awarding Scholarships* – Want to get ahead? Funding is available for leadership or training events/programs, conference attendance, etc.

Complete and submit a Funds Request Form on the YP Committee webpage for consideration. This can be found here for anyone reading online: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xMQSa1faGV4zm_52jeYFJowC81ZMgOdG/view.

Reach Out!

The YP Committee meets virtually every fourth Wednesday of the month. Make it your new year's resolution to stop in and see what we're up to. Please email Cole Benak, YP Chair, or Emma Martin, YP Vice-Chair, if you have questions or are interested in joining the YP Committee in any capacity. Have an event that you want to advertise to young professionals? Reach out to Claire Litsky, our Communications Coordinator, to have us help with outreach! 📧

Cole Benak, cbenak@carollo.com

Emma Martin,

emma.martin@hillsboro-oregon.gov

Claire Litsky, clitsky@cityoftacoma.org

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Water Conservation Committee

The Water Conservation Committee held our winter meeting on Tuesday, January 28. The focus of this meeting was on *Water Loss*, an increasingly important topic in Water Conservation. Attendees heard from Michael Thomas (Portland Water Bureau) on his work in water loss, including satellite leak detection for the City of Portland. Drew Blackwell (Cavanaugh) spoke about water loss as a consultant and the AWWA Water Loss Tool. Finally, we heard from Amy Meaut (City of Hillsboro), who presented on her water loss communication document, a two-page document using data visuals to give an overview of water loss.

We had a large turnout of conservation professionals at this meeting, with many valuable questions for each presentation.

The Water Conservation Committee selected abstracts for the Conservation track for the 2025 PNWS Conference in Boise this May 7–9. We are pleased to announce that there will be a half-day track in Boise, Thursday May 8, dedicated to work in conservation! If you are planning to be at the conference, Melissa Fatland will be planning a meet up for conservation professionals – stay tuned for more information.

We are additionally looking to schedule our summer tour/meeting,

usually taking place in August. Please reach out to Melissa Fatland to be added to our email distribution list and stay tuned for more information on upcoming meetings. For more information about the PNWS Conservation Committee, please contact Melissa Fatland at mfatland@bendoregon.gov. 

Brittany Contreras, Chair
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Danlyn Brennan, Vice Chair
danlyn.brennan@hdrinc.com
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Utility Management Committee

Utility Management Committee's Recruit, Train, Retain Draws Diverse Interest Across Water Utilities

Fifty water and wastewater utility staff from WA and OR attended the January 15, 2025 winter training session hosted by the Utility Management Committee (UMC) at Vancouver Water Resources Education Center in Vancouver, WA. Staff from all areas of water and wastewater utility operations attended including field staff, accounting, HR, engineers and GMs. Speakers included staff from a local middle school, high school, and college admissions staff, including a

current college student who spoke about how students cultivate an interest in STEM and how we in the water and wastewater markets can encourage that interest.

Other speakers were from the **Vancouver Water Resources Education Center, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, Tualatin Water District, Parametrix, Harris & Associates, Brown & Caldwell, Portland Water Bureau, Clark County PUD, Sunrise Water Authority and Consor.**

CEUs were awarded for both water and wastewater attendees in OR and WA. Topics focused on recruiting, training and retaining water and wastewater staff.

Thank you to the energetic and dedicated UMC members who organized this event including **Diane Pottinger, Joe Miller, Theresa Jurotich, Kimberly Kelsey, Erin McLachlan Sanchez and Emily Murphy.** Based on the results of a



post-event survey and other feedback, attendees overwhelmingly enjoyed the speakers and the session topics. The UMC will be discussing a future training event at our upcoming meetings. If you are interested in helping out, please join us on the third Thursday morning of each month at 9:00 am. Please reach out to the Committee Chair, **Ann Hajnosz** at ann.hajnosz@weareharris.com to receive the Teams link or to find out more about the UMC.



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Engineering Committee Presenting Excellence in Engineering

Let's remember to celebrate the great things being accomplished in our industry! The winner for this year's Excellence in Engineering awards for large, small, and planning categories will be announced at the upcoming Spring Conference in Boise. Each year the Engineering Committee solicits nominations for projects that represent Excellence in Engineering. These projects demonstrate innovation, highlight sustainability, overcome unique challenges, and exemplify Excellence in Engineering. We received multiple submissions for outstanding projects and look forward to celebrating the winners in Boise!

Engineers Week

During Engineers Week, celebrated February 16–22, the Engineering Committee contributed to inspiring the next generation of water engineers by engaging with students in the Portland community, led by Taylor Stockton.

Engineers Week originated in 1951 as an initiative by the engineering community, established by the National Society of Professional Engineers. The date of Engineers Week was chosen as the third week of February to coincide with the birthdate of George Washington, who is considered by many to be our nation's first engineer. George Washington's engineering accomplishments included surveying, redesigning

a plow, building construction, and canal construction.

Engineers Week is a great opportunity to engage the next generation of water engineers by offering students an understanding of how water engineering not only addresses current environmental and infrastructure challenges but also paves the way for innovative solutions to future problems. This exposure helps cultivate a passion for STEM fields, especially water engineering.

Committee Meeting Activities

Engineering Committee meetings are held from 12 pm–1 pm (PT) the first Wednesday of each month. If you'd like to join the committee, please reach out to Evelyn Choudhary at choudharye@bv.com. 

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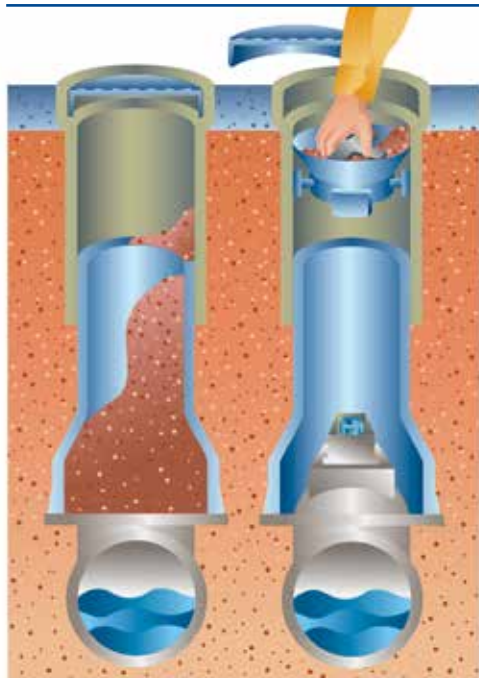


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Innovations in Well Design and Maintenance: Key Takeaways from a Busy Year of Well Installations

Population growth, aging infrastructure, and water supply reliability are driving many municipalities to expand their use of groundwater – leading to a staggering number of water well projects that has nearly outpaced well driller availability.

In 2024 alone, hydrogeologists from GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI), designed and oversaw the construction of 15 municipal supply wells in the Pacific Northwest, with 16 more planned in 2025. As GSI's President Matt Kohlbecker notes, "Our team is basically getting a career's worth of well construction projects under our belts in just two years."

The historic number of water well projects has posed challenges for municipalities in finding qualified drillers, leading to impacts on schedule and budget. But by applying advances in well design and maintenance approaches, water providers can increase the probability of developing a high-performing well that meets their expectations for cost and schedule. Matt shared some of the creative approaches that GSI's hydrogeologists have successfully used with many of these well projects:

- **Geophysics to measure subsurface properties.** Measuring aquifer properties using borehole geophysics is common practice in states like California but rare in Oregon and Washington. GSI has applied borehole geophysics in small-diameter pilot holes to establish a higher degree of confidence in aquifer productivity and well design. Depending on the proposed well depth and diameter, using borehole geophysics to inform well design is generally not a significant cost to the overall project. GSI has built a database that correlates geophysical properties to aquifer yield for deep aquifers that can be used as a point of reference when evaluating aquifer permeability (like the Sand and Gravel Aquifer underlying the Portland metro area) and well design considerations.
- **Design innovations.** Experience with so many well projects has provided GSI with the opportunity for innovations in practical well design, including options

that are proving useful for wells in the region.

Examples include gravel fill ports, bypass ports that allow for video surveying of the condition of a well or performing well rehabilitation without an expensive and time-consuming pump removal, and casing materials best-suited for a particular aquifer geochemical environment (low-carbon steel, high-strength low alloy, or stainless-steel casing).

- **High confidence in cost.** Having received and reviewed more than 30 separate drilling bids in the last year alone, GSI has developed an extensive database of recent bid data to draw upon for developing reliable fee estimates for capital improvement planning and bid support needs. This helps municipalities select options for wells with a thorough understanding of cost implications.
- **Mitigating biofouling.** Newly constructed wells may become biofouled when they sit idle after drilling ends, before the permanent pumping system is installed and the well is permitted and online. To minimize the potential for biofouling during this period, GSI has developed approaches for temporary passive and active chlorination recirculation systems and refined well testing and sampling programs to monitor for potential declines in well performance.

One of GSI's main takeaways is that there is no one-size-fits-all approach when it comes to planning and designing a municipal supply well. "One of my favorite things about this job is learning about each municipality's unique challenges and tailoring a well design that helps them address those challenges," Matt says. "Our experience with all these wells has given us an extensive toolbox to help our clients meet their water supply objectives."

GSI is an employee-owned water resources and environmental consulting firm based in the Pacific Northwest. The firm's hydrogeologists and water resources consultants specialize in groundwater development, aquifer storage and recovery, water rights, and water resources planning. Learn more at www.gsiws.com.

Northwest Washington Subsection



Control Valve workshop at NUD in the Fall of 2024

Hello and happy spring! The Northwest Washington (NWWA) Subsection has a great line-up of upcoming workshops to help meet your training and CEU needs. Please check out the list below and continue to check the PNWS training calendar for details.

Training

Recap

The NWWA Subsection has hosted three workshops so far in 2025:

- The first was the Emergency Preparedness Workshop held virtually on February 12, which covered the basics of emergency preparedness and the necessity for planning and

practicing emergency response for a variety of situations that can affect water and wastewater utilities.

- The second workshop, co-sponsored with the King County Subsection, was the Control Valve Workshop on February 25 at Northshore Utility District in Kenmore, and covered the function, operation, maintenance, troubleshooting, and management of different types of control valves.
- The third workshop was the Pump Station Operations & Maintenance Workshop held virtually on February 27, which covered many aspects of facility O&M, including pump station design and pump curves, vibration

analysis, pump seals, standby power alternatives, generators, control and telemetry, and pump station inspection. All three workshops were a success with amazing speakers and great turnouts!

Upcoming

We have a full slate of training opportunities already planned or in development for the remainder of 2025, including:

- Math for Operators and Reading P&ID – Late March, 2025 (online)
- Water Treatment – April 23, 2025, at Skagit PUD (in-person)
- Basic Waterworks – Early April 2025 (online)

The NWWA Subsection holds monthly virtual meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 1pm, and we would love to “see” you there!

- Control Valves – May 20, 2025 (in-person)
- Western Washington Short School & Trade Show – June 3–4, 2025, at Tulalip Resort (in-person and online)
- Hydrant Maintenance – Fall 2025 (in-person)
- Water Storage Basics – Fall 2025 (online)
- Water Distribution – Fall 2025 (in-person)
- Backflow Prevention – Fall 2025 (in-person)
- Basic Waterworks for Water Board Officers and Managers – Fall 2025

The NWWA Subsection is committed to bringing you high-quality, affordable training. The complete training schedule will be posted to the PNWS Section website at www.pnws-awwa.org/training/training-opportunities and shared via Constant Contact. For training related questions, please contact our Program Co-Chairs: Jeff Lundt and Eric Schey at jalundt53@gmail.com and eschey@kingcounty.gov.

Events

Recap

Earlier in March, the NWWA Subsection hosted our annual AWWA Water Olympics at Farmstrong Brewing

in Mount Vernon. A more detailed recap with the results will follow in the Summer issue of Water Matters!

Upcoming

The NWWA Subsection is pleased to announce that we are planning our third annual “Waves for Water” fundraiser for later this summer – date TBD and an official announcement will be sent out and more details to be included in the Summer issue. We hope you can join us for breathtaking views of the Swinomish Channel and Deception Pass aboard the M/V Rosario, along with a delicious, freshly prepared cracked crab and roast chicken dinner and a selection of Northwest beer, wine, and spirits. Registration will open in late spring/early summer. Space is limited so register early!

Please continue to check our website for details: www.pnws-awwa.org/member-groups/subsections/northwest-washington-subsection. For event related questions, please contact our Subsection Secretary, Bridget August at baugust@geoengineers.com.

New Members


If you are a new member to the NWWA Subsection, we would love

to connect with you! Please reach out to our President and New Member Chair, Nick Leininger at nrleininger@cob.org.

In addition to Nick, we encourage new and existing members to contact any of our subsection officers if you want to learn more about the subsection and get involved. We would love to have you join us. Our current Board is:

- Nick Leininger, City of Bellingham, President and New Member Chair
- Kenneth Packard, HDR, Vice President
- Mark Semrau, Skagit PUD, Treasurer
- Bridget August, GeoEngineers, Secretary and PAC Liaison
- Don Ranger, Alderwood Water & Wastewater District, Director
- Bob Hubbert, Seattle Public Utilities, Director
- Culley Leman, Cascadia Water, Director
- Dave Price, Carollo, Past President
- Jeff Lundt, King County Wastewater Treatment Division, Program Co-Chair
- Eric Schey, King County Wastewater Treatment Division, Program Co-Chair

Monthly Meetings

The NWWA Subsection holds monthly virtual meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 1pm, and we would love to “see” you there! To be added to the monthly meeting invite, please contact our Subsection Secretary, Bridget August at baugust@geoengineers.com. 



Oregon Water Utility Council

Mike Buettner, OWUC Secretary Treasurer

The Oregon Water Utility Council continues to meet monthly on the third Thursday of each month (10 am–1 pm) to monitor legislative efforts, public policies, and regulations on behalf of Oregon water utilities. Each month OWUC member utilities engage with one another, hear from League of Oregon Cities and Special Districts Association of Oregon, and receive updates from state agency representatives from Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD). Please reach out to Rebecca Geisen, Chair, at rebecca.geisen@portlandoregon.gov if you'd like to learn more about OWUC or to get involved.

2025 Legislative Session

Currently, OWUC is focused on the Oregon legislative session that kicked off on January 21. A record number of proposed bills are up for consideration, many of which have the potential to impact Oregon water utilities. As of January 31, 2025, over 2,500 House and Senate bills had already been introduced with another 1,500 projected still to come. OWUC works closely with League of Oregon Cities, Special Districts Association of Oregon, Oregon Association of Water Utilities, and others to track and possibly provide testimony in support of, or opposition to, specific bills.

There are several items that OWUC is currently focusing on related to the legislative session:

2025 Water Package

The Water Package was developed by Representatives Ken Helm and Mark Owens who together co-chair Oregon's House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water. The Water Package includes five *Themes* that address various aspects of water. Each *Theme* includes multiple legislative bills that are under consideration.

The five themes are:


- Safe and Reliable Drinking Water
- Efficient and Equitable Processes
- Informed Water Management
- Better Sharing of Scarce Resources
- Infrastructure and Strategic Investments

Learn more about the 2025 Water Package introduced by Reps. Helm and Owens and how it may relate to your specific utility or legislative agenda here: www.oregonlegislature.gov/helm/pages/water-caucus.aspx.

Water Day at the Capitol on March 20, 2025 (Salem, OR)

OWUC member representatives plan to attend the 2025 Water Day at the Capitol. This event, organized by the Oregon Water Caucus, promises to be a day of learning and community building to elevate water as a priority for Oregon. Participants are encouraged to wear blue!

National Water Policy Fly-In on April 8–9, 2025 (Washington, DC)

Members from OWUC and other PNWS-AWWA members will make their way to Washington, DC in early April to engage directly with federal officials to advocate for the ongoing need for access to safe, affordable, and reliable drinking water. The National Water Policy Fly-In is the cornerstone event of Water Week 2025 and is supported by AWWA, AMWA, NACWA, WRF, WEF, and WaterReuse Association. Learn more about Water Week 2025 here: www.waterweek.us/#about-water-week. 



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Washington Water Utility Council

The Washington Water Utility Council (WWUC) is a member organization and subcommittee of the National Water Utility Council affiliated with the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association. Our mission is to “further the knowledge of the operation and management of water utilities and to promote public policies, legislation, and regulations which ensure an adequate quantity of high-quality potable water at the lowest economic and environmental cost.” Our officers, committee chairs, and members are all volunteers. There are four sub-committees within the WWUC: the executive committee made up of the officers and committee chairs, the Issues and Priorities Committee, the Legislative Committee, and the Water Rights Committee.

The WWUC holds monthly membership meetings that cover current and emerging topics of interest, allow members to ask questions, and provide an informational forum of drinking water related interests across the state and country. Within WWUC's general membership and within each committee, we collaborate with additional stakeholders such as the Association of Washington Cities (AWC), Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts (WASWD), the Regional Water Cooperative of Pierce County, and the Washington Public Utility Districts Association (WPUDA) to coordinate and increase our impact for a better future for people, environment, and fish in Washington State.

Recent Past Efforts:

- Two different comment letters on Ecology's Draft Policy 2030
- Burbank-Pasco Amicus Brief to the Courts
- National and statewide court case tracking efforts
- Legislation progress and Fly-In events
 - Low Income Assistance Program Outcome: Washington Congresswoman Kim Schrier joined Representatives Lori Chavez-DeRemer (OR-05),

The WWUC holds monthly membership meetings that cover current and emerging topics of interest, allow members to ask questions, and provide an informational forum of drinking water related interests across the state and country.

Eric Sorensen (IL-17), and Jennifer González-Colón (PR-AL) introduced the bipartisan LIHWAP Act.

- PFAS Liability Outcome: Washington Representative Marie Gluesenkamp-Perez's cosponsored H.R. 7944 with Reps. John Curtis (R-UT), a companion to the Senate bill. One week later, Representative Gluesenkamp-Perez visited the PFAS pilot study site located in the City of Vancouver, WA.
- Tracking hundreds of Bills
- Building Relationships with Your Legislators document

Short-Term Future Planning:

- Continued focus on municipal water rights
- Tracking implementation of Ecology's Climate Resilience Strategy
- Water Use Efficiency program study – engagement with the William D. Ruckelshaus Center

- Continued tracking of regulations and government agency actions

Executive Committee: Members are Beryl Fredrickson, City of Spokane – Chair of WWUC; John Roth, Clark Public Utilities – Vice Chair; Judi Gladstone, Association of Sewer and Water Districts – Immediate Past Chair; Mike Pleasants, Silverdale Water District – Secretary/Treasurer; Stefany Zelepuzza, Washington Public Utility Districts Association – Issues and Priorities Committee Chair; Susan Saffery, Seattle Public Utilities – Legislative Committee Chair; and John Weidenfeller, Thurston Public Utility District – Water Rights Committee Chair. The Executive committee is responsible for providing direction on bringing issues and emerging information to members, organizing meetings, inviting speakers, budgeting and administrative work of the WWUC.



- Water System Planning/Design/Construction
- Hydraulic Modeling
- Regulatory Compliance
- Electrical/SCADA/Security
- Structural/Seismic Compliance
- GIS/Database Management

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Legislative Committee: This group meets virtually on a monthly schedule except during the Legislative Session when they meet weekly. All WWUC members are welcome to attend. The Legislative Committee monitors and facilitates member engagement on state and federal legislation that might impact water utilities and their customers. Hundreds of drafted bills are tracked each state legislative session. This committee just completed a guidance document to help water purveyors approach legislators and advocate for water purveyors' issues. The document is called "Building Relationships with your Legislators" and is posted on the WWUC's website.

In addition to the state legislative session the committee also coordinates participation in the Annual AWWA DC Fly-In. This includes recruitment of WWUC members to attend the Fly-In and meet with members of Congress and their staff, scheduling and coordinating those meetings, drafting and vetting position papers. This past year eight representatives from WWUC visited 11 of our 12-member state delegation in Congress. Shortly after our visit, Congresswoman Kim Schrier and others introduced the bipartisan Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) Establishment Act in the House, to lower the cost of water and wastewater utility bills for millions of households. Additionally, Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez co-sponsored H.R. 7944 that would limit Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and

Liability Act (CERCLA) for water and wastewater utilities as passive receivers of PFAS and PFOA. We appreciate their support of our issues.

Water Rights Committee: This group meets as needed, generally once a month. All WWUC members are welcome to attend these meetings. Maintaining the Washington's Municipal Water Law of 2003 (MWL) where "Certainty and Flexibility" is fundamental to a water utilities ability to provide safe and reliable drinking water is the focus within this committee. The Water Rights Committee has been working over the past year to draft a cohesive and inclusive Municipal Water Law strategy that members can utilize to maintain clarity, flexibility, and certainty of access to water through water rights as was intended by the MWL. The Water Rights Committee is on the front lines providing current analysis and feedback for WWUC members and directly to the Department of Ecology's continued policy updates including Policy 2030, Policy 1010 and Ecology's and Department of Health's Memorandum of Understanding. The committee tracks current court case law that may affect utilities and their access or ability to serve water. The Water Rights Committee also has recently focused on helping provide an amicus brief for the Burbank Irrigation District #4 v. Department of Ecology (2023) case in the form of a letter to the courts.

Issues and Priorities Committee: This committee meets virtually on a monthly schedule; all WWUC members are welcome to attend.

Under new leadership, the committee has collaboratively prioritized several issues so that the group's effort is organized and focused on what is of most interest to members. The group maintains a list and the current top five issue topics are:

1. Water Use Efficiency – Ruckelshaus/DOH/ECY study
2. Water Use Efficiency – Data compiling, relevant, historical, performance
3. State agency rulemakings
4. PFAS: State and federal regulatory requirements
5. Utility relocation funding for transportation projects including fish culvert repairs

The WWUC is a volunteer-led member organization that seeks to educate and support our members while promoting good water policy. We have members from across the state of Washington representing a diverse membership that all share at least one commonality: providing safe, reliable, and affordable water for our customers. The WWUC has fostered collaboration and credibility with our regulatory agencies. We have developed many resources and informational white papers and account for some of the most respected technical experts in the water utility business. We utilize specialized consultants including attorneys to help us review and provide analysis of rulemaking, policy, and relevant court cases. Consultants also help us with legislative affairs reviewing proposed legislation, meeting with representatives, and communicating and advocating for water utility interests. The annual budget for WWUC is \$180,000; with very little overhead all of those dollars are put to the benefit of the membership. The WWUC has something for everyone if you work with or within water utilities. Please reach out if you are interested in listening to or attending any of our meetings or committee meetings. You can find more information online at www.pnws-awwa.org/member-groups/committees/washington-water-utilities-council.

If you know of any person or utility that isn't currently aware of what the WWUC offers its members or isn't currently a member and may be interested in these topics, please share this with them – thank you! 📢

John Roth, WWUC
jroth@clarkpud.com



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Subsection Advisory Council

The Subsection Advisory Council (SAC) has been busy gearing up for the Spring Conference in Boise. Our focus is on Awards, Competitions, and Subsection Engagement. As each Subsection position term ends, the potential turnover can help us develop personal and professional growth, often bringing in new talent and fostering strong relationships with those who choose to move on. PNWS offers unique opportunities for camaraderie and networking that encourage open discussions, shared knowledge and creative ideas. Whether you are a new or seasoned volunteer, you are part of the community and PNWS appreciates all you do!

Subsection Activity Awards

The SAC is looking forward to recognizing volunteers who have contributed exceptional effort in promoting and participating in their subsections. With 12 Subsections, this can be a tough call to make. Three possible awards will be presented for the following areas: Western Washington, Oregon, and Idaho/ Eastern Washington. Last year, Laura Oxsen from NW Oregon Subsection, Eric Delbo from Inland Empire Subsection, and Caren Sleeth from King County Subsection each won awards for their outstanding service. Thanks to our former winners and we look forward to honoring this year's contributing members during the Friday awards luncheon.

Competitions

By the time you read this, most Subsections have held preliminary event competitions. Wednesday evening in Boise promises lively participation with the "best of the best," competing in Tapping, Hydrant Hysteria, Meter Challenge, and Best Tasting Water (hosted by our Water Quality Committee). Make sure to stick around Friday after the closing of PAC's Silent Auction for Top Ops and Gimmicks & Gadgets competitions. Come by and see who this year's shining stars will be.



PNWS Competition Coordinator Contacts

Hydrant Hysteria – Pat Everham,
teverham@ci.richland.wa.us

Meter Challenge – Chris Hicks,
chicks@cityoftacoma.org

Pipe Tapping – Loren Searl,
lsearl@spokanecity.org

Top Ops – Bill Reynolds (Tacoma Water),
breyolds@cityoftacoma.org

Best Tasting Water – Mia Vijanderan,
mvijanderan@brwnacald.com


Gimmicks & Gadgets – Ryan Murphy,
rdmurphy@cityoftacoma.org

Subsection Updates

The SAC is beginning to draft "Subsection Board Roles and Responsibilities" documents to streamline functions performed. Estimated completion of this project will be late 2025 to early 2026. A sampling

focus group will be consulted for each role (President/Chair, Vice President/ Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) to ensure basic items are covered, then edited by each Subsection to fit their individual needs. These documents will ultimately be used as a recruiting tool to backfill open positions. Subsections often have vacancies and we're always looking for volunteers. If you are interested, check out your Subsection boundary and contact their board today to see if you can jump in.

Opportunities to Participate

Want to attend SAC meetings? Interested in joining SAC? Feel free to reach out at amerika.stodola@covingtonwater.com. For more information, please visit www.pnws-awwa.org/member-groups/committees/Subsection-advisory-council. 

Welcome to the PNWS-AWWA's Annual Conference

May 7-9, 2029 | Boise, ID

Boise 2025

Veolia and the City of Boise are excited to be your host for the 2025 Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association Conference, May 7–9, 2025. Boise and the Treasure Valley are fortunate to have easy access to the Boise River, which serves as one of our drinking water sources. Veolia's Idaho Operation has always provided drinking water for the City of Boise; we were founded in 1890, the same year Idaho was granted statehood. And while our service area has grown, our unwavering commitment to our customers remains true to our roots. We're proud to host PNWS-AWWA members this year to enjoy all our city has to offer – today and for decades to come.

This year the Section conference will take place in the heart of downtown at the Boise Centre, just steps away from the natural beauty of the mountains and the Boise River.

Beyond the hundreds of hiking trails, don't miss the Boise River Greenbelt, one of Boise's most beloved parks minutes away from the Boise Centre. This 25-mile tree-lined pathway follows the Boise River, providing pedestrians with scenic views of Idaho's natural wildlife. The Greenbelt gives walkers access to many of Boise's riverside parks, all of which are named after female civic leaders in the city's history.

For indoor enthusiasts, consider exploring Idaho's State Capitol building – self-guided tour booklets can be found on the Capitol's Garden Level at the visitor information desk. Our Basque Block is devoted to retaining and celebrating Basque culture, featuring the only Basque Museum in the United States. Our many unique shops and restaurants offer different opportunities to explore all that Boise has to offer.



Delivering Resilient Water Solutions for Future Generations

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let's create tomorrow, *together*

As our communities grow and environmental challenges intensify, the need for robust, sustainable water management solutions becomes increasingly critical. At Parametrix, we are dedicated to pioneering strategies that facilitate water resilience for future generations. At this year's conference in Boise, we look forward to sharing our insights and advancements in comprehensive water system planning during our presentation.

Comprehensive Services in the Water Sector

At Parametrix, we offer a full spectrum of services across the water sector. Our expertise spans from initial assessments and design to implementation and ongoing management, ensuring that every project meets our industry's high standards of quality and sustainability.

Our 2025 Focus: Enhancing Risk and Resilience

In response to **America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA)** of 2018, Parametrix collaborated with multiple municipalities to develop and implement Risk and Resilience Assessments (RRAs). As the deadline approaches for renewal and recertification, Parametrix is ready to support you through this critical process.

For the current cycle, our focus shifts beyond compliance, using RRAs as a strategic planning tool. Rather than developing RRAs to merely fulfill regulatory requirements,

we leverage them as powerful tools for strategic and long-term planning. By supporting our clients in integrating RRAs into a broader comprehensive planning strategy, we help our clients enhance resilience, optimize resources, and strengthen sustainability within their water system. This approach allows your RRA to not only meet compliance but acts as a critical tool for proactive and informed decision-making.

Join Us at the Conference

Our team is eager to engage with peers, share knowledge, and learn from one another. We invite you to join us at this year's conference, where Mari Orama will be presenting *'Shared Leadership, Resilient Communities: Lessons from Leadership Tomorrow's Flagship Program to Empower Water Professionals'* during **the D&I Committee track on Friday morning**. This presentation will explore how shared leadership models can significantly enhance community resilience in the water industry.

For more information about Parametrix and our services, visit our website or contact our team directly. We are here to assist you in building a more sustainable and secure water future.

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Conference Highlights

Technical Program

Consider attending Wednesday's full day of pre-conference programming. This year's program consists of three all-day sessions – two classroom and one off-site tour: Improving Utility Operations using Excel; Water Storage Basics; and tour of the City of Boise's Water Renewal (wastewater) Facility and Veolia's Columbia and Marden (drinking water) Treatment Plants. The off-site tour track includes lunch and transportation.

Make sure to register early for these pre-conference sessions, as space is limited. Not going to make it for Wednesday's tracks? Don't worry – Thursday and Friday hold many opportunities for CEUs, across a wide variety of topics to choose from.

Golf Tournament

Warm Springs Golf Course, located in southeast Boise, is the location for this year's conference golf tournament on Wednesday morning. This course offers terrific views of our foothills and engaging play for golfers at every skill level. Check-in will begin at 7:00 am with a shotgun start at 8:00 am. The tournament entry fee of \$110 per person includes golf, cart, and a great awards luncheon.



Activities and Competitions

Join us for another exciting Wednesday afternoon with Pipe Tapping, Hydrant Hysteria, and Meter Madness competitions. While the high activity of these events are going on, we will determine who earns the bragging rights for this year's Best Tasting Water. The Excellence in Engineering awards will also be announced Wednesday afternoon.

Thursday afternoon features the Young Professionals' annual Scavenger Hunt, beginning at 6:00 pm. And be sure to check out Friday afternoon's Gimmicks and Gadgets for new ideas, and test your knowledge against some of the Section's top competitors at the Top Ops competition.

Awards Luncheon

Join us Friday afternoon following the closing of the silent auction for the

awards luncheon. The Section will award the highest honors to individuals who have dedicated countless volunteer hours to support the water industry. The luncheon will end with the passing of the gavel from Section Chair Nick Belmont to Incoming Chair Joel Cary.

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction is a great way to give back, as all the proceeds benefit the PNWS-AWWA's philanthropic efforts: Water For People, The Water Equation, and the Education & Training Fund. Make sure you get your bids in and pay attention, as the auction will end at 11:00 am on Friday.

2025's PNWS AWWA Conference has so much to offer – in both CEUs and in exploring downtown Boise. See you there.

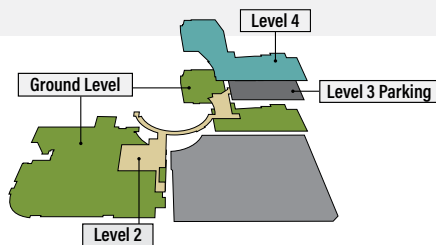
BOISE CENTRE FACILITY MAP

Boise Centre West and Boise Centre East are connected with a concourse to provide seamless access for guests.



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Color Key

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 - 100 Grand Ballroom / 24,426 sq. ft.
 - 400 Ballroom / 13,675 sq. ft.
 - 130 Junior Ballroom / 4,060 sq. ft.
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2025 Conference Networking Schedule

Tuesday, May 6

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Conference Registration Self Check-In – Convention Center

5:00 pm: Room Assistant Training for Wednesday – Convention Center

Wednesday, May 7

7:00 am – 5:30 pm:
Conference Registration Self Check-In Open

Pre-Conference Sessions

(Additional cost. Not included in full registration fee.)

7:00 am – 8:30 am: Breakfast – Room 120

8:00 am: Golf Tournament Shotgun Start – Warm Springs Golf Course

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm: Lunch – Room 120

12:00 pm: Philanthropic Silent Auction Opens

4:00 pm: Room Assistant Training for Thursday and Friday Sessions

5:00 pm: Conference Kick-Off and Competition Night *(Everyone Invited)* – Outside Boise Convention Center

- Tapping, Meter Madness, and Hydrant Hysteria Finals
- Best Tasting Water Contest and Excellence In Engineering Awards

Thursday, May 8

6:00 am – 5:00 pm:
Conference Registration Self Check-In Open

6:00 am – 8:00 am: Breakfast – Vendor Hall

7:00 am: First Time Attendees Breakfast

Vendor Hall Open All Day

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm: Lunch – Vendor Hall

4:00 pm: Room Assistant Training for Friday Sessions

5:00 pm: Division/Committee Meetings

6:00 pm: Young Professional Scavenger Hunt – Convention Center Lobby

Friday, May 9

6:00 am – 8:00 am: Breakfast

7:00 am – 5:30 pm:
Conference Registration Self Check-In Open

9:30 am – 11:30 am: Board of Trustees Meeting

11:00 am: Philanthropic Silent Auction Closes – Convention Center Lobby

12:00 pm: PNWS Awards Luncheon *(Everyone Invited)*

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Incoming Chair Reception for Joel Cary

Thinking of water
in new ways

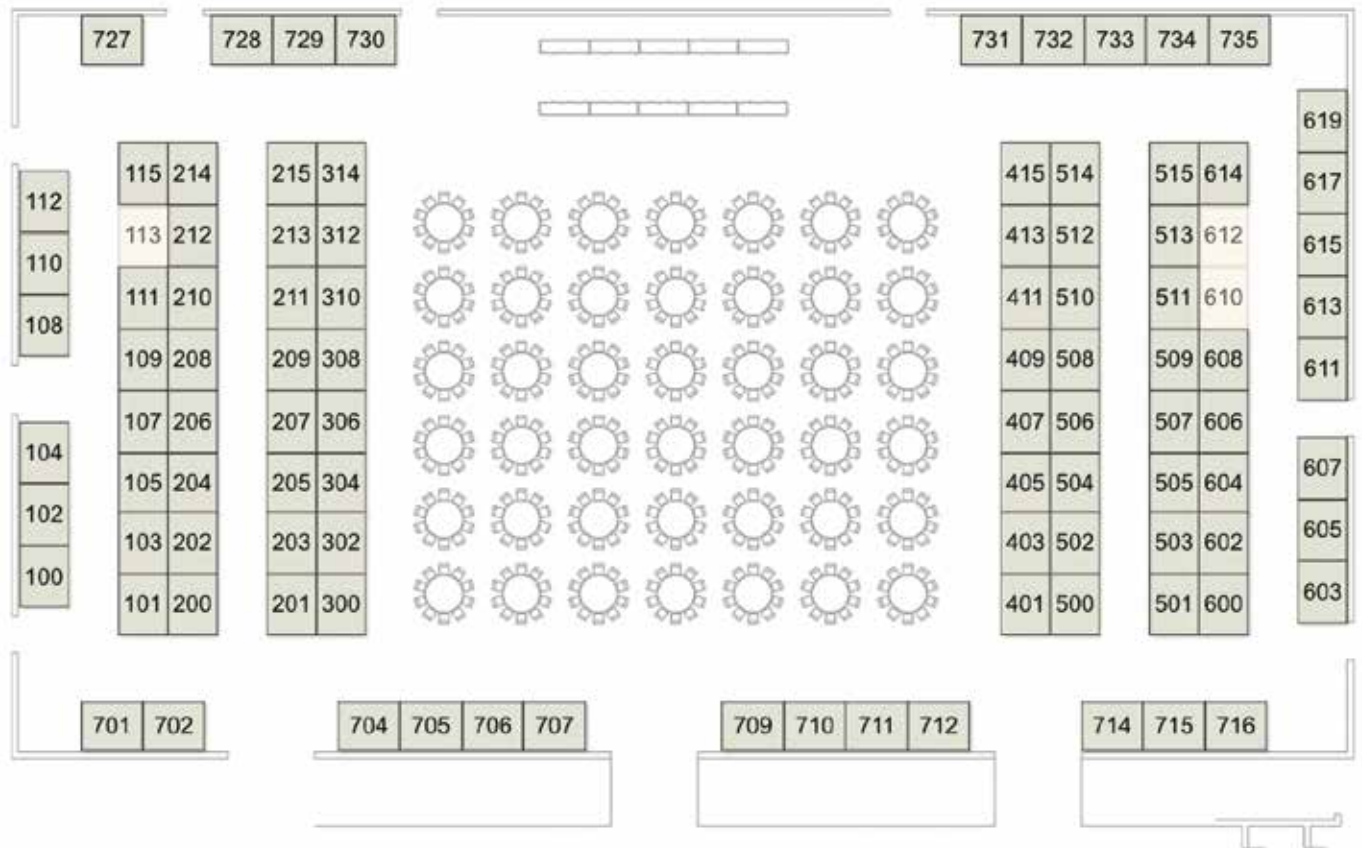
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Exhibitor Floor Plan

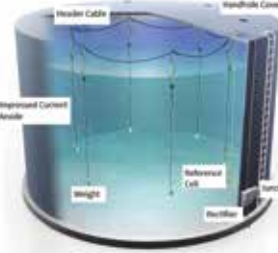


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2025 Exhibitor/Booth List

Exhibitors	Booth #	Exhibitors	Booth #	Exhibitors	Booth #
A and A Drilling Service Inc.	505	Furrow Pump	312	Pure Technologies, a Xylem brand	716
American Cast Iron Pipe Company	310	General Pacific	731	Reiner Pump Systems	615, 613
AMERICAN Flow Control	204	Goble Sampson	109	RH2 Engineering, Inc.	611
AqueoUS Vets	614	HD Fowler Company	701, 702	Rosemount	709
AY McDonald, Inc.	603	Horrocks	205	SAF-T-FLO	211
Baker Silo, LLC.	714	Hubbell Utility Solutions – Waterworks	727	SCIEX	510
Beaver Equipment	110, 108	Hydra-Stop	604	Sensus a Xylem brand	715
Calgon Carbon Corporation	308	HydroCorp	207	Sherwin Williams	602
Cimco-GC Systems	306	Independent Rep Service	608	Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	200
Cleanwater1	507	Inland Environmental Resources	710	SubSurface Instruments	514
Clow Valve Company	409	Integrity Pump Solutions	508	SWS Equipment	503
Consolidated Supply Company	302	JCM Industries	501	SYBIS/CyberLock	730
Conсор	500	John	413	Tap Master Inc.	215
Core	212	Keller Associates, Inc.	729	Thompson McLean Associates	213
Core and Main	214	Kennedy and M	101	TMG Services, Inc.	728
Correct Equipment Inc.	407, 506, 405, 504, 403, 502, 401	KenWave Solutions Inc.	733	Trenton Corp	617
Custom Pipe	107	Kubota	712	TT Technologies, Inc.	300
DFW Plastics Inc.	304	Landmark Structures	202	Tyler Union	103
DN Tanks	314	Mueller Water Products	706, 707	Underground Solutions, Inc.	512
Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association	515	Neptune Technology Group	210	US EPA Water Infrastructure and Cybersecurity Resilience Division (WICRD)	704
Farwest Corrosion Control Company	606	Northwest Pipe Company	415	USALCO	734
Ferguson Waterworks	607, 605	Norton Corrosion Limited	411	VEGA Americas	705
Ford Meter Box Company	112	Oldcastle Infrastructure	600	Whitney Equipment Co.	104, 102, 100
Fracta	115	Owens Pump	732	Wm. H. Reilly	711
Frank J. Martin	208, 206	Phoenix Contact USA, Inc.	105	WSP	619
		PumpTech LLC	203, 201		

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Maximum CEUs Possible – Idaho – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – Oregon – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – 2.0 WDOH

Morning Pre-Conference Seminars

Room	Off-Site (Meet in Lobby)	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A	120 B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Water Treatment	Water Information Tech	Distribution						
Seminar	West Boise Water Renewal Facility Tour	Utilizing Excel to Improve Utility Operations	Water Storage Basics						
8:30 AM	Tour of West Boise Water Renewal Facility (w/ww)	Section 1 – Excel Basics for Performing Operator Math <i>Jason Van Glider</i> (w/ww)	Section 1 – Water Storage Basics Section 2 – Soils & Seismic Considerations for Water Storage Siting & Design (w)						
9:00 AM	Tour of West Boise Water Renewal Facility (w/ww)								
9:30 – 9:45 AM Break									
9:45 AM	Tour of West Boise Water Renewal Facility (w/ww)	Section 2 – Using Excel to Keep Track of Stuff (Project Management) <i>Jason Van Glider</i> (w/ww)	Section 3 – Structural Considerations for Design Section 4 – Piping Connections (w)						
10:15 AM	Tour of West Boise Water Renewal Facility (w/ww)								
10:45 – 11:00 AM Break									
11:00 AM	Tour of West Boise Water Renewal Facility (w/ww)	Section 3 – Creating Template Worksheets for Repeatable Calculations <i>Jason Van Glider</i> (w/ww)	Section 5 – Corrosion Control Methods for Water Storage Tanks (w)						
11:30 AM	Tour of West Boise Water Renewal Facility (w/ww)								

Afternoon Pre-Conference Seminars

Room	Off-Site (Meet in Lobby)	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A	120 B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Water Quality	Water Information Tech	Distribution						
Seminar	Veolia Treatment \Plant Tours	Utilizing Excel to Improve Utility Operations	Water Storage Basics						
1:00 PM	Tour of Veolia’s Columbia Water Treatment Plant (w)	Section 4 – Visualizing Your Data <i>Jason Van Glider</i> (w/ww)	Section 6 – Sanitary Surveys of Finished Water Storage and Section 7 – Pressure Water Storage (w)						
1:30 PM	Tour of Veolia’s Columbia Water Treatment Plant (w)								
2:00 – 2:15 PM Break									
2:15 PM	Tour of Veolia’s Columbia Water Treatment Plant (w)	Section 5 – Checking Your Work and Finding Errors <i>Jason Van Glider</i> (w/ww)	Section 8 – Tank Materials Section 9 – Large Reservoirs and Section 10 – Reservoir Water Quality (w)						
2:45 PM	Tour of Veolia’s Marden Water Treatment Plant (w)								
3:15 – 3:30 PM Break									
3:30 PM		Section 7 – Cool Tools – Solver and Regression Analysis and Section 8 – Conclusion <i>Jason Van Glider</i> (w/ww)	Section 11 – Inspection of Water Storage Facilities and Section 12 – Post Seismic Event Surveys (w)						
4:00 PM									

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Morning Early Bird Sessions

Maximum CEUs Possible – Idaho – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – Oregon – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – 2.0 WDOH

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A	120 B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering		Water Treatment	Public Information	Utility Management	Water Quality	Research		
7:00 AM	I Love It When a Plan Comes Together! PDB Delivery for Tigard's Reservoir 18 and Pump Station <i>Matt Hickey (w)</i>		Strategic Consumer Messaging for Microplastics in Drinking Water – <i>Brent Alsopach (w)</i>	Elevating the Customer Experience – How Tacoma Water Implemented Electronic Notifications for Events Impacting Water Supply <i>Tyler Cummings (w)</i>	Preparing your Utility for Major Infrastructure Improvements <i>Kenneth Kvasnicka and Keith Ward (w/www)</i>	PFAS – The Drinking Water Rule <i>Cassandra Lemmons (w)</i>	Building Treatment Resilience to Wildfires through Conventional Filtration Piloting <i>Mac Gifford (w)</i>		
7:30 AM	WWSP Res. 1.0: Lessons in Seismic Design and Alternative Project Delivery <i>Kenton Alldritt (w)</i>		What Can UCMR5 Tell Us About the Future of PFAS Compliance? <i>Kyle Thompson (w)</i>	Stakeholder & Customer Education Through StoryMaps <i>Madeline Wyatt (w/www)</i>	Sanitary Surveys – a Regional Engineer's Perspective – <i>Laura McLaughlin (w)</i>				

Morning Technical Sessions

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A	120 B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering	Distribution	Water Treatment	Public Information	Utility Management	Water Quality	Research	Water Information Tech	Water Resources
8:30 AM	Ship in a Bottle: In-Situ Repairs of a Critical Reservoir to Prevent Impending Failure <i>Nicholas Welling (w/www)</i>	The Future of Pipe Replacement <i>Craig Christensen (w)</i>	Zero To Mach 2.5 in 13 Months: Design Build for the Mountain Home Air Force Base Water Treatment Plant <i>Enoch Nicholson (w)</i>	Wastewater Treatment for Watershed Protection – Technical and Regulatory Challenges Post Maui <i>Chris Einmo (w/www)</i>	DWSRF Funding and Technical Assistance in Washington State <i>Christopher Pettit (w)</i>	LCRR Implementation in Idaho and LCRI Updates <i>Cassandra Lemmons (w)</i>	Biological Treatment for Drinking Water <i>Kelly Evans (w)</i>	Aggressive Planning for a Resilient Water System: The SCADA Roadmap <i>Kelly Kimball (w/www)</i>	Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative <i>Dan Kegley (w)</i>
9:00 AM	Building for Tomorrow: Replacement of 100-Year-Old Reservoir <i>Kali Lee (w)</i>		Virtual Vision: Enhancing Water Plant with Digital Simulation and Machine Learning <i>Qianru Deng (w)</i>		Emerging Funding Trends: How to Optimize Funding Sources for Your Water and Wastewater Utility <i>Kristina Gillespie-Jaques (w/www)</i>		Studying Mitigation of DBP Problems for Amador Water Agency with a Total Capacity of 10.6 MGD <i>Bryan Phinney (w)</i>	Unlocking OT Data: A Playbook for Managing Operational Technology Securely for Enterprise Optimization <i>Klint Fletcher (w/www)</i>	
9:30 – 9:45 AM Break									
9:45 AM	Rehabilitating a Century Old Transmission Main – Balancing Competing Priorities in a 30-year Capital Improvements Plan <i>David McBride (w)</i>	Proactive Pipeline Management: Gresham's Innovative Approach to Watermain Assessment Using Non-linear Vibroacoustic. <i>Wendy Andaya (w)</i>	Take it to the Limit! Startup and Commissioning of 12 gpm/sf Deep Bed Filters at the Medford Water Robert A. Duff WTP <i>Joshua Kennedy (w)</i>	Developing a PFAS Response Roadmap to Maintain Public Trust: Salem's Case Study <i>Tyler Kane (w/www)</i>	The Yellow Brick Road to PFAS Compliance <i>Mehrin Selimgir (w)</i>	Finding and Fixing: Piloting Distribution and Site Assessment Procedures for LCRI Compliance <i>Joel Cary (w)</i>	Conquering Stubborn Disinfection By-Product Precursors <i>Greg Dye (w)</i>	Bridging the Gap Between Data to Decisions – Streamlined Processing, Review, and Presentation <i>Ryan Jones (w)</i>	Groundwater Management in California: State of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation <i>Gus Tolley (w)</i>
10:15 AM	Dog River Pipeline Replacement: Replacing 100 Year Wooden Pipeline to Secure a Resilient Water Future Part 2 – Post Construction Report <i>Brady Fuller (w/www)</i>	Eyes and Ears on Your Water System <i>Ray Velasquez (w)</i>	The Facts about GAC/IX Pressure Vessel Design <i>Ben Goecke (w)</i>	Maximizing Outreach Success Through WAVE: Willingness, Accountability, Visibility, and Empathy <i>Marlys Ryan (w/www)</i>	Sustaining our Resilient Water Workforce <i>Kimberly Kelsey (w/www)</i>			Life Happens when You're Busy Planning – Leveraging Decision-Making Tools to Implement Dynamic Planning <i>Matt Huang (w/www)</i>	Successful management of the Bull Mountain-Cooper Mountain Critical Groundwater Area Through Implementation of ASR <i>Jason Melady (w)</i>
10:45 – 11:00 AM Break									

PNWS-AWWA's Annual Conference

May 7-9, 2025 | Boise, ID

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Maximum CEUs Possible – Idaho – 2.0 DW

Maximum CEUs Possible – Oregon – 2.0 DW

Maximum CEUs Possible – 2.0 WDOH

Morning Technical Sessions (continued)

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A	120 B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering	Distribution	Water Treatment	Public Information	Utility Management	Water Quality	Research	Water Information Tech	Water Resources
11:00 AM	What Lives Below a Historic 100-Year Old Reservoir? <i>Matt Perkins (w)</i>	Proactive Leak Detection and Condition Assessment for Critical Pipeline Assets <i>Doug McClintic (w/ww)</i>	Navigating Water Treatment Challenges in the Desert: Building a Sustainable Treatment Plant for the Community of LeChee <i>Jake Himebaugh and Joanie Stulz (w)</i>	Volunteers, Citizen Scientists, and Natural Resource Professionals... the Role of Non-Profits in the Protection of Idaho Rivers <i>Robert Tiedemann (w/ww)</i>	Unconventional Pathways – How Skills from Other Fields Enhance Water Industry Careers <i>Julia Cummings (w/ww)</i>	USEPA Cybersecurity Guidance for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems <i>Karen Edwards-Lindsey (w/ww)</i>	Low Wavelength UV Water Treatment of Cyanotoxins <i>Natalie Hull (w)</i>	Revolutionizing Water Infrastructure by AI-Powered Risk Mitigation Planning <i>Bridget Garlinghouse (w/ww)</i>	We Have Changed the Trajectory of the ESPA <i>David Hoekema (w)</i>
11:30 AM	Replacing an Icon: Planning, Design, and Construction of a New Elevated Water Tower in the City of Idaho Falls <i>Dennis Galinato (w)</i>	Listen Up: Reverse Water Loss and Improve Operational Efficiency with Embedded Acoustic Leak Detection <i>Jake W. (w)</i>	Beaches and Backwash Management: Implementing Groundwater Treatment on Orcas Island <i>Kenny Packard (w)</i>	The Benefits of Banter, Small Talk, Informal Interviews, and Getting to Know You <i>Joe Miller (w/ww)</i>	Advantages of Collaboration Among Water Purveyors – Lessons From the Formation of the Treasure Valley Domestic Water Purveyors Group <i>Jason VanGilder (w/ww)</i>		Scenarios for PFAS Destruction at Municipal Scale Water Treatment Facilities <i>Brent Alspach (w)</i>	Empowering Staff and Enhancing Retention Through Data <i>Dilip Kumar (w/ww)</i>	Leveraging Groundwater to Support a Long-Term Basin-Scale Water Management and Habitat Improvement Plan <i>Jeff Dermond (w)</i>
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Vendor Lunch					Setup for Top Ops		Setup for Top Ops	

Afternoon Technical Sessions

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A	120 B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering	Distribution	Water Treatment	Conservation	Utility Management	Water Quality	Research	Water Information Tech	Water Resources
1:30 PM	Between Design and Construction, There is Permitting! <i>Benedicte Diakubama (w)</i>	Transmission Main 101 – Considerations with Examples from the Cascade Groundwater Alliance Pipeline Project <i>Scott Duren (w)</i>	Out with the Old and in with the New! Replacement of Diatomaceous Earth Filtration <i>Amy Gao (w)</i>	Utilizing AWWA Management Standards for Water Conservation and Efficiency <i>Mike Buettner (w)</i>	Applying the New Effective Utility Management Framework to Your Utility <i>Michael Grimm (w)</i>	Dialing in on Disinfection – Evaluation of Alternatives for PUD No. 1 of Skagit County, Part I <i>Virpi Salo-Zieman, Mellinda Friedman, Gary Tollefson (w)</i>	From Crisis to Long-term Resilience: Reflections on the Events Following 2018 Algal Toxin Event in Salem, OR <i>Jude Grounds (w)</i>	Is It a Model or Is It a Digital Twin? Results of the 2024 AWWA Survey on Water Distribution Technology <i>Matt Huang (w)</i>	North Santiam Watershed Drought Contingency Planning <i>Leah Cogan (w)</i>
2:00 PM	Instrumentation & Controls (I&C) 101 <i>Stephanie McGregor (w/ww)</i>	Pipe Bursting Water Mains – Process, Design, Construction, and Model for Success <i>George Mallakis (w)</i>	Utilizing Plate Settler Technology to increase Production Capacity and Water Quality at the Jordan Valley Water Treatment Plant <i>Jake Himebaugh (w)</i>	Hillsboro's Approach to Water Conservation: Education, Efficiency, and Stewardship <i>Amy Meaut (w)</i>	Back to the Future: Ideas for Planning for the Future of Water and Climate Change <i>John Phillips (w)</i>	Dialing in on Disinfection – Evaluation of Alternatives for PUD No. 1 of Skagit County, Part II <i>Julia Cummings (w)</i>		Being Prepared! Adaptive Planning for an Uncertain World <i>Sarah Dominick (w/ww)</i>	Wildfires and Extreme Weather Events: Preparing for the Future <i>William Becker (w)</i>
2:30 – 2:45 PM Break									

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Afternoon Technical Sessions (continued)

Maximum CEUs Possible – Idaho – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – Oregon – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – 2.0 WDOH

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A	120 B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering	Distribution	Water Treatment	Conservation	Utility Management	Water Quality	Research	Water Information Tech	Water Resources
2:45 PM	Under Pressure: Delivering a new 4 MGD WTP, a 2 MG Reservoir, and PS Upgrades on a Small Footprint and Critical Schedule for the Cascade Groundwater Alliance <i>Pat Van Duser (w)</i>	Shutoff Valves: A Look Into the Differences between Resilient Wedge Gate Valves and Butterfly Valves <i>Matt McQuillan (w)</i>	"Shut it Down!" – Activating an Emergency Intertie for Six Weeks of Planned Treatment Plant Improvements <i>Adam Bjornstedt (w)</i>	Reducing Water Loss – Stories from the Pacific Northwest <i>Mike Uthe (w)</i>	Note Taker to Decision Maker? Navigating the Transition Beyond Just a YP <i>Connor Mancosky (w/ww)</i>	Snake River WTP: Idaho's Newest Surface Water Treatment Plant <i>Pierre Kwan (w)</i>	Innovative Natural Treatment Solutions to Protect Streams from Contaminants of Emerging Concern <i>Tom Points (w/ww)</i>	EPA Cybersecurity Guidance for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems <i>Karen Edwards-Lindsey (w/ww)</i>	Using Water Quality Modeling to Improve Wildfire Resiliency <i>Libby McKenna (w)</i>
3:15 PM	Innovative Solutions for Modernizing the City Creek Water Treatment Plant: Overcoming Project Restraints and Challenges <i>Jake Himebaugh (w)</i>		Ketchikan Public Utilities' Path to Becoming the Second Limited Alternative to Filtration Water System in the US <i>Enoch Nicholson (w)</i>		Entering the Twilight Zone, a Place Between Reality and Fantasy, a Place Where O&M and Engineering Staff Work Well Together <i>Laura Farthing (w/ww)</i>	Developing a Nimble Treatability Investigation Program from the Ground Up <i>Erin Mackey (w/ww)</i>			Surpassing Standards: Elevating Source Water Protection <i>Elizabeth Crafton (w)</i>
3:45 – 4:00 PM Break									
4:00 PM	New 30 MGD Groundwater Treatment Planning, Design, and Construction – Cascade Groundwater Alliance <i>Jeffrey Fuchs (w)</i>	Fire Hydrants Past, Present and Future <i>Vaughn Barber (w)</i>	Arlington's Water Legacy: A Two-Phase WTP Expansion for Present and Future Generations <i>Kevin Garcia (w)</i>	One Water Program Management – A Knowledge Base and Guidance Manual (WRF 5196) <i>Karen Pappas (w/ww)</i>	Hazard Mitigation Planning for Water/Wastewater Districts <i>Robert Flaner (w/ww)</i>	Formation of Disinfection Byproducts During Aquifer Storage and Recovery in Basalt <i>Brad Bessinger (w)</i>	Thermal Loading Regulation and Mitigation for Water Utilities <i>Rob Annear (w/ww)</i>	Drone LiDAR and Imaging System for Utilities <i>Michael Ostergaard (w)</i>	Prepare, Prevent, and Post-solve: Navigating the 2024 Alberta Drought Emergency with Modeling Exercises <i>Michael Sheer (w)</i>
4:30 PM	Even Greenfields Get the Blues: Site Layout Challenges for the Bull Run Filtration Facility <i>Jude Grounds, Mark Graham, Lyda Hakes (w/ww)</i>			Converting a Splash Pad to a Recycle System – Middleton Idaho's Water Saving Adventure <i>Jason Van Gilder (w/ww)</i>	Are We Getting the Most Out of Our Energy Efficiency Programs? <i>Robert Barrett, Timothy Parker (w/ww)</i>	Rise above! Ozone Design for a Changing Surface Water at the Green River Filter Facility <i>Tessora Young (w)</i>		Optimization of a Water Network – Veolia Water Idaho's path to Efficiency & Savings <i>Michael Espejo (w)</i>	Utilization of Advanced Organics Characterization Methods to Understand Treatability to Wildfire Events <i>Lynn Stephens (w)</i>

Friday, May 9, 2025

Maximum CEUs Possible – Idaho – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – Oregon – 2.0 DW
Maximum CEUs Possible – 2.0 WDOH

Morning Early Bird Sessions

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A/B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering		Water Treatment			Research		
7:00 AM	Modeling and Analysis Approaches for Pipelines Subject to Large Deformations <i>Alyssa Herperger (w/ww)</i>		Don't be Baffled by CT: Optimizing Disinfection Through Design and Tracer Studies <i>Todd Reynolds (w)</i>			Adapting to Change: PFAS Treatment Residuals Management <i>Liz Garvey (w)</i>		
7:30 AM	Planning for Resiliency and Expansion of a 75 Year Old Water Supply System <i>Lee Odell (w)</i>		Safe Operation with Ozone Systems <i>Tessora Young (w)</i>			Lessons Learned in Full-Scale PFAS Residuals Disposal <i>Pierre Kwan (w)</i>		

Morning Technical Sessions

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A/B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering	Distribution	Water Treatment	Water Resources	D&I	Water Quality		
8:30 AM	Project Communication and Management in Water Infrastructure Projects Bill Reynolds (w/ww)	Hydraulic Control Valve Basics: Function and Application Ray Velasquez (w)	Laying the Foundation: Treatment Selection and Design of the City of Vancouver's First PFAS Treatment System Lynn Stephens (w)	Upper Deschutes Basin Groundwater Mitigation Program: Lessons and Future Opportunities Owen McMurtrey (w)	Engaging Diverse Voices: Shaping Rate Structures with Community Advisory Panels Tracy Steele (w)	Utility Success in Overcoming Legionella with Treatment and Operations Improvements Alex Mofidi (w)		
9:00 AM	Navigating Project Communications for Emerging Young Professionals Mitchell Boyd (w/ww)		An Improved Approach in Using Pilot/Lab Data to Predict PFAS Removal Adam Redding (w)	Balancing a High Profile Multifaceted Fixed Price Design-Build Project Nick Smith (w)	Understanding Strategies for Securing Federal and State Funding Opportunities for Water Projects Seema Chavan (w/ww)	Presence and Treatment of Potential Opportunistic Pathogens That Can Vary Across Groundwater Geology Natalie Hull (w)		
9:30 – 9:45 AM Break								
9:45 AM	Crafting a Project Management Plan to Effectively Coordinate Project Team Daniel Shafar (w/ww)	Decoding Combination Control Valves Ray Velasquez (w)	Under Pressure – Design Considerations for PFAS Pressure Vessel and Media Andrew Nishihara (w/ww)	Municipal Water Rights and Development, Lower Clackamas River Litigation Case Rob Annear (w)	King County's Operator-In-Training Program, Creating a Sustainable Workforce Robert Tovar (w/ww)	Can NOM Removal Accelerate Passivation of Copper Piping? Damon Roth (w)		
10:15 AM	Building Teams over Teams and Overcoming Other Collaboration Challenges Mark Graham (w/ww)		Developing an Implementation Plan for PFAS Treatment in Tacoma Water's Back-up Supply Joanie Stultz (w)		Shared Leadership, Resilient Communities: Lessons from Leadership Tomorrow's Flagship Program to Empower Water Professionals Mari Orama (w/ww)	Corrective Actions: Identifying, Investigating, and Resolving Field Sampling Nonconformities Thomas Krause (w)		
10:45 – 11:00 AM Break								

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Morning Technical Sessions (continued)

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A/B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering	Distribution	Water Treatment	Water Resources	D&I	Water Quality		
11:00 AM	How the Calleguas Municipal Water District Used Value Engineering to Mitigate Risk <i>Rachel Bernhard (w/ww)</i>	Understanding Air Valve and Check Valve Applications <i>Ray Velasquez (w/ww)</i>	Complexities of PFAS Treatment in Surface Water – A Pilot-Scale Assessment <i>Charlie Liu (w)</i>	Water Supply Mitigation Strategies in WA, ID, and OR <i>Tyson Carlson (w)</i>	What I Wish I Knew Earlier: Leveraging Career Reflections to Be a Better Mentor <i>Henry Ricca (w/ww)</i>	Microbial & Disinfection Byproduct Rules: EPA's Journey to Revise: Process, Dreams & Potential Futures <i>Chris McMeen (w)</i>		
11:30 AM	Project Management and Leadership Development Tools for Engineers <i>Greg Loscher (w)</i>		The Next Chapter of PFAS: PFAS Treatment Design and PFAS Impacted Residuals Disposal <i>Conner Murray (w)</i>		TWWD's DEI Journey, Updates and Lessons Learned <i>Kylie Bayer (w/ww)</i>			
12:00 – 1:30 PM Awards Lunch								

Afternoon Technical Sessions

Room	100 D	100 E	110 A	110 B	110 C	110 D	120 A/B	120 C
Hosting Committee	Engineering	Distribution	Water Treatment					
1:30 PM	Utilizing GIS to Make Efficient Daily Operation Decisions <i>Carlito Tolentino (w)</i>	Pipeline Contingency Planning and Selection of Mechanical Repair Fittings <i>Mike Scholz (w/ww)</i>	More With Less: Veolia's Columbia Water Treatment Plant Expanded Without Expanding <i>Roger Greaves (w/ww)</i>				Top Ops Competition	
2:00 PM	Integrated Operations: Incorporating Hydraulic Modeling into Daily and Seasonal Operations and Maintenance <i>LaDonne Harris (w)</i>		Columbia River WTP Capacity and Maintenance Upgrades <i>Nathan Kutil (w)</i>					
2:30 – 2:45 PM Break								
2:45 PM	Rebuilding Tacoma Water's Hydraulic Model to Embrace SmartWater <i>Doug Lane (w)</i>	New 2 MG Tank installation replacing 15,000 gallons of Storage – and How This has Change the Operation of the System to Date – <i>Jessica Waller (w)</i>	Excess Recirculation – A Membrane System's Best Friend <i>Sean Thomson (w)</i>				Gimmicks and Gadgets	
3:15 PM	A Hole in One: A Well Transitions from Golf Course Irrigation to Municipal Production <i>Zachary Miles (w)</i>	Bainbridge Island 2.0 MG Elevated Storage Tank and PRVs – Reconfiguring the City's Largest Pressure Zone <i>Justin Ford (w)</i>	Desalination North of the Arctic Circle: Reverse Osmosis System in Remote Alaska <i>Sanyukta Gokhale (w)</i>					
3:45 – 4:00 PM Break								
4:00 PM	Parallels Across Hemispheres: How Lessons Learned in Rural Guatemala Apply to Challenges in the US <i>Alyssa Bailey and Hadley Habeck (w)</i>	Mitigating Risk: Emergency Planning for Potential Petroleum Pipeline Breaks to Protect Public Health in Spokane <i>Elisheva Walters (w)</i>	Procurement Strategies for Membrane Filtration Systems <i>Timothy English (w/ww)</i>					
4:30 PM	Water from Nothing? Facility Potable Water Treatment and Management Design without a Predictable Supply <i>Heather Burns (w)</i>		Remote Location Pilot Testing of Small-Scale Cartridge-Filtration <i>Eric Molten (w)</i>					

PNWS-AWWA's Annual Conference

May 7-9, 2025 | Boise, ID

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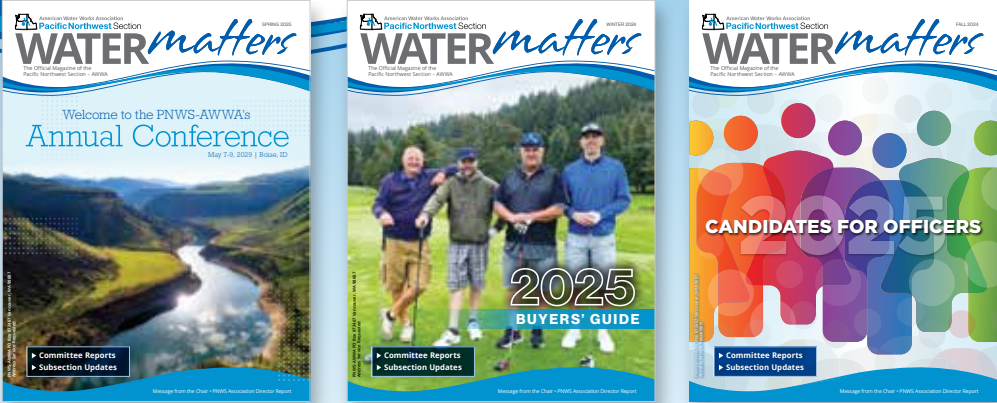
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