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The Magazine of the CT Section American Water Works and the Connecticut Water Works Associations Spring 2023

Celebrating 50 Years of the Joint Annual Conference



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A Season of **Beginnings**

The rain has fallen, the sun is shining, and the flowers are blooming. Spring is here and represents a celebrated transition between the winter and summer seasons. While Connecticut may have received below average snowfall amounts and experienced milder temperatures over this past winter season, the gray dreary days seemed to go on forever.

Just like the temperatures outside, this legislative session heated up as well. Since the last publication of this magazine, the Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA) has submitted testimony on key legislation affecting the water industry, has met with Department of Public Health (DPH) Liaisons regarding various revisions to the Public Health Statutes



(HB-6733), met with Environment Committee Chairs regarding a bill affecting water diversions, and conducted three legislative committee meetings with its members. CWWA is also working collaboratively with the Connecticut Section of AWWA's Regulation and Research Committee drafting comments on the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for six PFAS – including PFOA and PFOS as individual contaminants, and PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, and HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as



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"With many thanks to all that have made my time with CWWA so rewarding, it's time to say goodbye. I am forever grateful and honored to have had the opportunity to serve as president of this great organization."

GenX Chemicals) as a PFAS mixture. If adopted as proposed, these new MCLs will undoubtedly require water systems to make significant capital improvements in order to comply with this new regulation.

As my term as president nears the end, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our CWWA Executive Director, Betsy Gara, for all her hard work and dedication to this organization and commitment to our members. I also would like to thank our CWWA Board members for their support and continued efforts promoting sound, common sense policies that assure reliable high-quality public water supplies to protect public health. With that said, I would be remiss if I didn't recognize and thank our Utility members and Associate Members. You are truly the vehicles that steer this organization in developing sound positions on proposed policies and legislation. None of what we do, could be done without this collaborative relationship.

If your utility is not a member of CWWA and you'd like to learn more about the benefits of becoming a member, I urge you to reach out to Betsy Gara at *gara@gmlobbying.com* for more information. If your utility is currently a member and you'd like to get involved at the committee or board level, don't hesitate to contact me at *rbaral@themdc.com*. The water industry faces many challenges that are becoming more complex, so there's no better time than today to become a volunteer. Take the leap and I promise you'll never regret it!

With many thanks to all that have made my time with CWWA so rewarding, it's time to say goodbye. I am forever grateful and honored to have had the opportunity to serve as president of this great organization.

Ray Baral
President, CWWA



Ingrid Jacobs



Reflections

It has been an honor and a pleasure serving as Chair this term and I want to thank an exceptional board and the many volunteers in our section for all your contributions to another successful year. It seems like only yesterday that I was standing before many of you accepting the gavel and becoming the new Chair of the section.

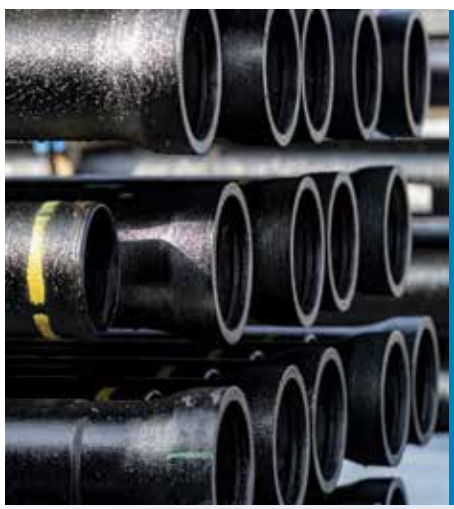
Since this is my last Chair Message, I would like to reflect on some of the events and opportunities that occurred during my time as Chair. In the fall we hosted a very successful Regional Meeting of Section Officers (RMSO) for Region 1. Representatives from as far north of Ontario, Canada, and as far south as Maryland joined us in New Haven to share ideas and learn about AWWA programs and initiatives. Comments about the conference showed that, although our section is small, we provided an extraordinary experience that will be "extremely difficult to beat." We followed the RMSO, with an excellent technical program at the Water Quality Symposium in November. In February we had another well attended and very educational Annual Conference and Vendor Expo (ATCAVE) at the Aqua Turf. Even an ill-timed snowstorm couldn't keep folks away. We sent three representatives the Fly-In in Washington DC and our section will be represented by Bristol Water Department (Hydrant Hysteria Competition), Danbury Water Department (Best Drinking Water Taste Test Competition), and Heather Doolittle of Tighe & Bond (Fresh Ideas-Young Professional Competition) at AWWA Annual Conference Exposition (ACE) in June this year in Toronto. Lastly, we have made great progress on updating our strategic plan. A big thank you to my CWWA counterpart, Ray Baral, for facilitating our workshops and being instrumental in our update of the strategic plan!

The 50th CTAWWA/CWWA Annual Conference took place at Ocean Edge Resort in Brewster, MA, on May 24 to 26, 2023. I'd like to thank the volunteers from CTAWWA, CWWA, the Education and Program Committee, and the Associates Committee who designed a comprehensive technical program and organized opportunities to network and have fun.

"It has been an honor and a pleasure serving as Chair this term and I want to thank an exceptional board and the many volunteers in our section for all your contributions to another successful year."

For many more opportunities to learn, grow, and stay connected, please visit the Section's website at *www.ctawwa.org*. Thank you all for the excellent work that you do for the water industry and best wishes for continued success and growth.

Please join me in wishing Alex Cosentino good luck in his term as Chair, which will begin at the annual conference. Alex's knowledge of the industry and passion to serve has shown through his many years volunteering with the Philanthropic Committee and the Board. Alex always provides thoughtful and insightful input and I'm confident the section will be in good hands with Alex in the lead.



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Your Opinion is **Important**

As I'm sure everyone is very well-aware, there has been a flurry of regulatory activity of USEPA recently (LCR revisions, a proposed regulation of PFAS, revisions to the CCR to name the major ones) with additional initiatives on the way. Despite the frequency of these regulatory efforts, it remains very important that we all contribute our thoughts, opinions, and anticipated impacts on all these proposals. The section has many active committees working to develop and contribute feedback and it is important that we ensure that our responses represent the various perspectives of all members – regardless of system size, organizational configuration, or role in the industry. While regulations may apply to us all, they may impact us very differently and we, as a section, need to represent all members. I ask if you have something to contribute, please connect with a committee member or reach out to Romana for a point of contact. The section is your advocate, and your opinion is important.

The 2023 Fly-In was very successful again this year; John Herlihy, Yesher Larsen, and I visited all seven Connecticut Congressional Offices to discuss the four identified topics of concern to the industry – cybersecurity, a CERCLA exemption for PFAS residuals and biosolids, appropriation of monies in support of SRF and WIFIA financing tools, and reauthorization of the Farm Bill with specific interest in the source protection components. The congressional staffs afforded us ample time for our discussions, were knowledgeable and supportive of AWWA's positions.

Connecticut was one of four states selected by USEPA to pilot the Lead Accelerator program, an effort to kick-start and assist water systems to comply with all aspects of the Lead and Copper Rule revisions. USEPA is hopeful that this program will identify processes that water systems can use to successfully meet the challenges of LCRR compliance and communicate those lessons to all. I am thankful Connecticut was selected to participate in this pilot and look forward to the assistance and guidance the USEPA will provide to Connecticut's water industry.

"While regulations may apply to us all, they may impact us very differently and we, as a section, need to represent all members."

Finally, the fourth of five Water 2050 think tank reports, Governance, has been released and is available for download from the AWWA. I encourage everyone to read each of the reports as they provide insight into our industry from the perspective of not only water professionals, but also from those that depend on us to support them.

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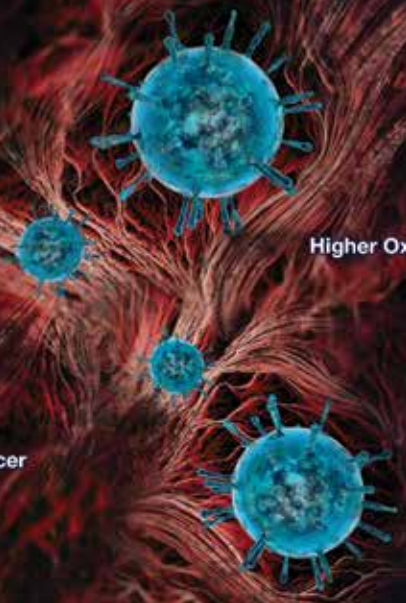
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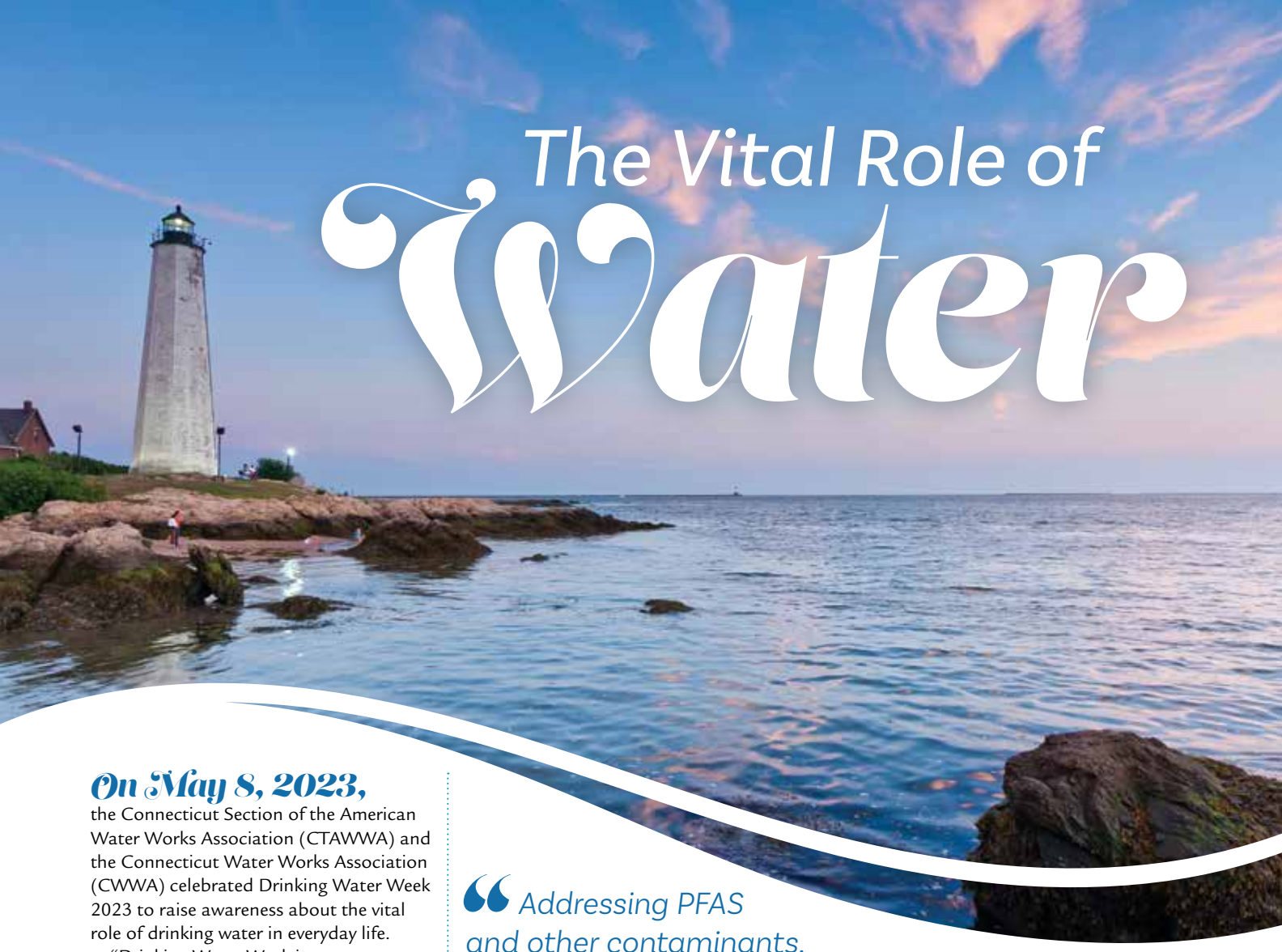
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The Vital Role of Water

On May 8, 2023, the Connecticut Section of the American Water Works Association (CTAWWA) and the Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA) celebrated Drinking Water Week 2023 to raise awareness about the vital role of drinking water in everyday life.

"Drinking Water Week is an opportunity to recognize the vital role that water plays in our daily lives," said Romana Longo, Executive Director, CTAWWA. "Many of us take safe, clean drinking water for granted and don't understand the tremendous amount of work that goes into delivering water to meet the needs of residents and businesses. Getting water from the source to the tap depends on a wide range of professionals who work tirelessly to provide customers with safe, reliable water at a reasonable cost."

Longo added: "Water keeps us clean and healthy, fights fires, and sustains our environment. Water is also essential in supporting a wide range of businesses, including manufacturing, hospitals and healthcare institutions, and restaurants."

"Connecticut's water utilities are committed to providing safe, reliable drinking water to meet the state's public health, safety, agricultural, and economic development needs," said CWWA Executive Director Elizabeth Gara.

> *"Addressing PFAS and other contaminants, replacing lead service lines, and upgrading aging infrastructure to improve efficiency and resiliency are critical to providing the public with safe, high quality drinking water."*

"However, water utilities are facing considerable challenges in replacing aging infrastructure and upgrading treatment and distribution systems to meet state and federal regulatory requirements," Gara explained. "Addressing PFAS and other contaminants, replacing lead service lines, and upgrading aging infrastructure to improve efficiency and resiliency are critical to providing the public with safe, high quality drinking water."

Although Connecticut is receiving federal funding to assist water utilities in meeting these regulatory challenges, ongoing capital investment is needed to ensure the continued availability of safe, high quality drinking water in our communities.

"Given the significant costs associated with upgrading treatment and distribution systems and the tremendous benefit to public health, the environment and our state and local economies, water infrastructure investment must continue to be a top priority," Gara said.

CTAWWA is dedicated to the promotion of the state's public health and welfare by assuring drinking water of unquestionable quality and sufficient quantity.

CWWA promotes public policies that ensure the availability of reliable, high quality public water supplies to meet the state's public health, safety, agricultural, and economic development needs.

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EPA RULE ON Cybersecurity RAISES CONCERNS

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released a memorandum aimed at addressing cybersecurity challenges facing water and wastewater utilities. The memorandum calls for states to include cybersecurity assessments when conducting sanitary surveys and outlines various approaches to assist states in fulfilling this responsibility.

Three states – Missouri, Arkansas, and Iowa – filed a petition in the US Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit challenging EPA's rule, raising concerns regarding the potential disclosure of sensitive information collected through sanitary surveys. If information is not protected from disclosure under the *Freedom of Information Act*, it could leave a water utility vulnerable to cybersecurity incidents.

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) issued a statement indicating that it agrees with the petition filed by the states. It read: "AWWA strongly supports efforts to strengthen cybersecurity in the water sector. In fact, AWWA is advocating for a regulatory model similar to that of the energy sector, with oversight from EPA. The Sanitary Survey Program, however, is not the right tool for the job. Many state primacy agencies lack both the resources and technical expertise to evaluate and address cybersecurity issues. Further, state laws do not protect sensitive information collected through sanitary surveys, and if publicly shared, that information could expose water system vulnerabilities."

CONNECTICUT PUBLIC UTILITY CYBERSECURITY REPORT

The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) recently released its 2022 Connecticut Public Utility Annual Cybersecurity Report. The report notes that "cybersecurity threats facing Connecticut's public utilities are ever present and continue to grow in number and sophistication." In response to growing cybersecurity challenges, PURA initiated an annual cybersecurity review process. The report concludes that "the level of commitment to cybersecurity is evidenced across all levels of decision-makers and employees. Nevertheless, continued improvement, particularly in the area of cross-sector coordination, is necessary to face challenges that only continue to grow."

STATE SENATE ADOPTS BILL CREATING A CYBERSECURITY TASK FORCE

The Connecticut General Assembly is also focusing on cybersecurity issues. SB-933 creates a cybersecurity task force to develop a strategic plan to improve the oversight and coordination of efforts to address cybersecurity challenges. SB-933, which was unanimously adopted by the Senate, calls for the task force to finalize its recommendations by January 1, 2024.

"Many state primacy agencies lack both the resources and technical expertise to evaluate and address cybersecurity issues."

CWWA testified in support of the bill, indicating that the US Department of Homeland Security has identified water utilities as a critical infrastructure sector that needs to be prepared to address cybersecurity challenges. The bill heads to the House for further action.



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Celebrating 50 Years
of the Joint Annual Conference

Connecticut's water professionals came together for the Joint Annual Conference of the Connecticut Section AWWA (CTAWWA) and Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA) at Ocean Edge Resort from May 24-26, 2023. This marked the 50th year for this event, which has provided a long legacy of education and training, professional development, and networking for those in the water industry. The organizations and the annual event are built on the contributions of its volunteer members who have an interest in water and a willingness to share their time and knowledge to help their colleagues meet the challenges faced by water providers.

CTAWWA Chair Ingrid Jacobs and CWWA President Ray Baral welcomed participants and set the stage for updates on AWWA National news, Water Equation programs, and CWWA legislative activity.

The conference included an impressive collection of presenters who shared their knowledge on key topics in the industry. They addressed broad issues such as climate change and cybersecurity and offered insights and case studies in specific technical and engineering areas.

The keynote speaker, Maria Paris from Pittman Consulting Group/Yum! spoke to "Diversity of Thought." She explained that too many times, diversity efforts in organizations focus on fairness and steering clear of HR laws. Advances in neurological research and the need for future thinking and agile solutions to unprecedented problems in organizations have built a powerful case for creating an environment that not only welcomes but operationalizes diversity of thought and experience and allows us to harness human potential. It's time to elevate the conversation around diversity to create new insights and drive innovation.

A highlight of the annual conference is always the awards ceremony, which recognizes individuals and organizations for their service. Congratulations to all the deserving recipients this year! (See additional information in the article on page 20.)

On Thursday night the new leaders and board members were named with Alex Cosentino taking on the role of Chair of CTAWWA and Dan Lawrence named President of CWWA. We thank the outgoing chairs and look forward to the good work of the associations continuing under the new leadership.

Thank you
to our presenters

- Sally U. Mills-Wright, *AWWA Standards Council*
- Michelle Hector, *AWWA Water Equation*
- Betsy Gara, *CWWA*
- John Hudak, *Source and Sky Water Planning LLC*
- Steven Nebiker, *Hazen and Sawyer*
- Themba Chirambo, *Aquarion Water Company*
- Tom Touchet, *AECOM*
- Brad Whitaker, *Kennedy Valve*
- Karen Sie, *iHydrant*
- Mark Mortin, *Hazen and Sawyer*
- Fred Haines, *Harper Haines*
- Jim Roberts, *H2M Architects & Engineers*
- Kristen Ryan, *Kleinfelder*
- YP Panel:
  - Nick Rossi, *CDM Smith*
  - Lindsay Birchall, *MDC*
  - Dan Bolduc, *Bristol Water & Sewer*
  - Dana Dessereaux, *South Norwalk Electric & Water*
  - Matt Garneau, *East Lyme Water & Sewer*



Conference attendees spending time by the bonfire.



Chi Ho Sham, AWWA Immediate Past-President and Sally Mills-Wright, Chair of the AWWA Standards Council attended the conference.



Attendees listen to a presentation at the conference.

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George Warren Fuller Award
Steve Melanson
The AWWA Fuller Award is presented to a section member each year for their distinguished service to the water supply field in commemoration of the sound engineering skill, the brilliant diplomatic talent, and the constructive leadership which characterized George Warren Fuller.

John Lechner Award of Excellence
Mark Anderson
The John Lechner Award of Excellence is an individual award of excellence that recognizes a Section Service Provider Member (SVP) who has demonstrated exemplary service to the drinking water community and to AWWA's Mission and goals.

CTAWWA Diversity and Inclusion Award
Weston and Samson
The Diversity and Member Inclusion Section award recognizes efforts of local members, companies, or utilities that have strong diversity programs or encourage work environments that welcome employees of all backgrounds and abilities.

CTAWWA Young Professional of the Year Award
Steve Vitko
The Young Professional of the Year Award is designed to recognize and honor a Young Professional (YP) member who has demonstrated outstanding service to the Section through leadership and active participation in CTAWWA YP programs.


The CTAWWA Board pose for a photo.


Attendees enjoying their meals on the networking cruise.


Attendees play the SMARTS game.

2022 AWWA Life Member Awards
Presented to those members who have obtained 30 years of cumulative membership in support of AWWA and have reached the age of 65.

Stanley Cop
Ted Lund
Richard Meskill
Paul Morosky
Janine Witko

2022 AWWA Silver Water Drop Award
Recognizes the commitment of members who have shown their long-time commitment to the Association, but who are not yet eligible for Life Membership status. The Silver Water Drop Award is awarded based on a 25-year cumulative membership in the Association.

Frederick Haines
Thomas Keuhnel
Stanley Mierzejewski
Susan Negrelli
Jennifer Ottalagana
John Schultz
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Individual Award Winners of 2023



Steve Melanson

STEVE MELANSON

George Warren Fuller Award Winner

After serving four years in the Navy as a Seabee, Steve began his water career at Connecticut Water Company (CWC) in 1982 and in 2016 joined Snyder Civil Engineering where he currently serves as Director of Operations. While at CWC Steve was responsible for the acquisition, operation and upgrade of numerous small systems and developer lead system expansion. Following Super Storm Sandy in 2011 Steve spent countless hours re-establishing power and treatment at more than 30 water systems throughout the State.

Steve has also demonstrated dedication, passion, and commitment to the Connecticut Water Industry through his involvement in CTAWWA. He is a past co-chair of the Education Committee, Education & Public Affairs Council Chair, and member of the Section's Board of Directors, culminating as Section Chair in 2013-2014. Steve has also received the Operator's Meritorious Service Award and the National Association of Water Companies' (NAWC's) prestigious Living Water Award. Through all of these accomplishments, Steve may best be known for his enthusiasm and dedication to the Water For People organization. As Co-chair of the Water For People Golf Tournament, he helped raise more than $300,000 over 20 years and, in 2001, won the Water For People's Kenneth J. Miller Founders Award.

Steve received the award from AWWA Standards Chair Sally Mills-Wright at the 50th Anniversary CTAWWA/CWWA Annual Conference at the Ocean Edge Resort on Cape Cod. He was accompanied at the conference by his wife, Lori, and surprised during the ceremony by his two daughters, Loren and Leigh Ann. "Mel" has been a true leader and mentor at CTAWWA and in the CT water industry.



Mark Anderson

MARK ANDERSON

John Lechner Award of Excellence Recipient

Mark has dedicated his professional career to the support of the water industry. He joined the CTAWWA section in 1985. Throughout the many years of his service to the Section, he was the charter member of the Associates Committee, charter member of the Scholarship Committee, Associates Committee Secretary for 20 years, and a Council Chair on the CTAWWA Board for the last 15 years.



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CTAWWA Diversity and Inclusion Award Recipient

Weston & Sampson is an East Coast firm that creates multidisciplinary solutions for the natural and built environment, while offering satisfying careers to its employees, maintaining private ownership, and yielding a fair return on the value it delivers. Weston & Sampson's mission is to protect, improve, and sustain the natural and built environment to enhance the quality of life. The firm was recognised with the 2023 Diversity and Inclusion Award due to the significant strides that the firm has made over the past few years at ensuring an inclusive, diverse, and welcoming environment for its employees and clients. (Award accepted by Jack Jolls.)



Steve Vitko

STEVE VITKO

CTAWWA Young Professional of the Year Award

After unanimous nomination, Steve Vitko of Regional Water Authority became the recipient of the CTAWWA Young Professional of the Year Award. Steve is one of the most active members of CTAWWA. He has led the source water protection committee for a number of years, which is one of our most active committees. Committee survey feedback praised the performance of this member indicating he is a very active and attentive council chair, regularly checking in and reporting on all his committees' activities and providing guidance when needed. This member has demonstrated excellent leadership in ensuring the committee is focused on all items relevant to source water protection. This member attends many events, very active in YP events including the Student Outreach Program, volunteers in their community, willing to encourage young people seeking career guidance into the industry and is very welcoming to a large number of CTAWWA members.

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

for Solar at Connecticut Water

Connecticut Water recently broken ground on its largest solar project, a solar array with the capacity to generate 275 kilowatts of power. The array will be on the company's Clinton campus and will generate enough juice to completely offset the energy needs of Connecticut Water's corporate office and southern region work center, and provide clean power for two high-capacity electric vehicle charging stations.

The project is the result of close collaboration between the company's corporate responsibility committee and its engineering and service delivery teams to build sustainable drinking water infrastructure.

Connecticut Water President Craig Patla stated, "We recognize our opportunity, and our responsibility, to serve customers, communities, employees, and the environment by reducing our own impact on climate change with carbon-free energy sources a part of that solution. This project and two previous completed projects are critical to meeting our goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% from 2019 levels by 2030."

The GHG reduction goal, announced in 2021, aligns with the Paris Agreement goals to limit total global warming to 1.5° Celsius.

Using solar power helps protect Connecticut Water and its customers from increases in power generation and delivery costs from traditional sources. The new solar array, which will be located on open land next to the company's corporate office, is expected to be completed in late summer. The company previously completed solar installations at the Stewart Water Treatment Plant in Naugatuck, generating 25% of the power needed for that facility, and an array in Colchester at the Westchester Village system, which provides a near 100% offset for power used in that system.

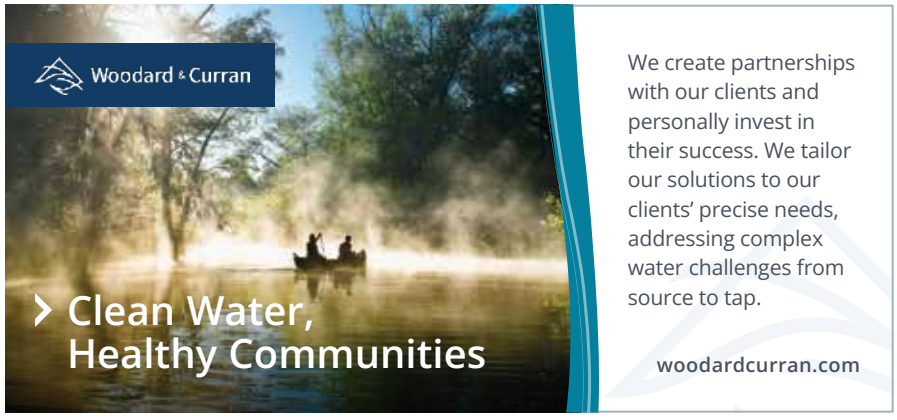
This project follows several measures to reduce energy consumption at the Clinton location including lighting changes, natural gas conversion and the replacement of parts of the heating and cooling system with energy efficient heat pumps.



An aerial photo of solar array on a clear well at Stewart surface WTP in Naugatuck.



The Westchester Village water system solar installation in Colchester.



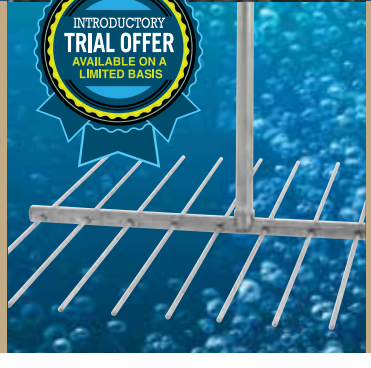


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CT INFLOW-LINE'S 2023 BUYERS' GUIDE

Welcome to CT InFlow-Line's 2023 Buyers' Guide. The Buyers' Guide can help you find information that will help you meet your purchasing requirements throughout the year ahead.

When making purchasing decisions about products and services in the water industry throughout Connecticut and beyond, please support the companies whose advertising makes *InFlow-Line* possible.

The Buyers' Guide consists of two sections:

- A categorical listing of products and services and a list of companies that provide them.
- An alphabetical listing of companies appearing in the first section. This includes name, contact info, website, and more.

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WATER CAREERS PODCAST REACHES 54 EPISODES

Since launching The Future of the Water & Wastewater and the *Careers You Didn't Know About* podcast over a year ago, Dave Kuzminski has now interviewed 54 water professionals, both working and retired.
The premise behind the Podcast is to make High School Seniors and College students aware of the potential career opportunities available within the water industry. It is well-documented that many utilities nationwide are contending with the so-called silver tsunami, a rising tidal wave of retirements exacerbated by a shrinking labor pool of qualified replacement operators in the state. Each segment is approximately 15 to 30 minutes and gives listeners a sense of what water professionals do in their day-to-day jobs. At the Annual Conference in Cape Cod, Dave recorded 10 new episodes with various utilities ranging from management to consultants, engineers, and operators.

Check out the episodes at https://bit.ly/3NfTi85.

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CWWA Legislative Update

Bill Subjects Interconnections to Greater Regulatory Oversight

CWWA is opposing a measure that would subject certain water diversions to greater regulatory oversight, which would increase costs and delay efforts to address water supply needs.

SB-1147, a bill aimed at strengthening the state's Environmental Justice laws, includes provisions affecting certain water diversions. Under the bill, which was approved by the legislature's Environment Committee, water diversions of two million gallons per day will be considered "affected facilities" unless the water diversion is for public water supply purposes within a water company's exclusive service area.

This means that certain interconnections will face greater oversight by the state Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP), which will be authorized to deny permits and impose certain conditions, such as measuring and identifying "adverse environmental or public health stressors that cannot be avoided if the permit is granted" as well as other environmental and health stressors the community already experiences. In addition, the applicant will be required to hold public participation sessions and enter into a community benefits agreement with the host community, which may require certain community improvements such as pollution reduction initiatives or projects like bike trails.

Given DEEP's broad authority under existing law to regulate diversion permits, the bill is unnecessary. In addition, the provisions may undermine efforts to ensure that certain areas of the state receive adequate drinking water supplies.

Fortunately, key lawmakers recognize these concerns and are expected to strip the provisions from the bill.

Bill Calls for Changes to Ratemaking

The Connecticut General Assembly is expected to approve a sweeping measure affecting rate-making policies affecting utilities. Although the bill is largely aimed at addressing issues with respect to electric companies, many provisions affect investor-owned water utilities regulated by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), including:

1) Prohibiting PURA-regulated utility companies from recovering through their rates their costs for contested PURA proceedings, membership dues for business or trade associations, lobbying, and advertising.
2) Requiring large PURA regulated water utilities to file a rate case every four years.
3) Setting conditions for PURA to approve a settlement in a rate amendment proceeding and limiting the term of any provision in the settlement to three years.
4) Requiring PURA to consider certain broad economic factors when determining a PURA-regulated utility's reasonable rate of return.
5) Requiring certain PURA-regulated water companies to have a complete management audit at least once every six years and making certain costs related to the audits non-recoverable in rates.

Discarded Tires a Growing Problem

Connecticut's water companies are committed to implementing source water protection programs to protect the purity and adequacy of Connecticut's approximately 4,000 surface and groundwater drinking water supply sources. In addition, water companies perform regular surveys of watershed lands to identify and mitigate risks that threaten water quality. These efforts also help protect ecological habitats and other environmental resources.

Unfortunately, water companies are finding abandoned tires dumped on watershed lands, in reservoirs, and in other areas where they pose a problem. Discarded tires can impair source waters, interfere with distribution systems, negatively affecting water quality and reliability. Discarded tires can also invite mosquito and other insect infestations, creating public health issues.

A bill under consideration by the Connecticut General Assembly would help address this problem.

HB-6486 establishes a statewide Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program for tires. This will help ensure that tires are resold or recycled and not dumped along roadways or on property. Under the bill, tire producers must create or join a stewardship organization by January 1, 2025. The stewardship organization must develop a plan to implement the program and submit it to DEEP for approval.

The proposal mirrors other EPR programs that have proven successful in ensuring that products like mattresses, electronics, and paint are disposed of properly. Action on the bill is expected before the legislature adjourns on June 7.

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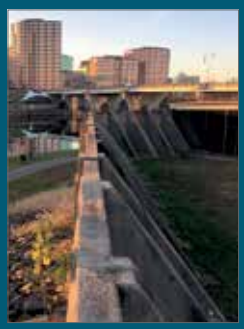






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Surface Water Supply | Stephan Roy, P.G. stephan.roy@gza.com

Water Resource Committee: The CT Section AWWA Reconvenes Water Resources Committee and is Looking for Volunteers

The Committee's stated purpose is to provide technical advice on matters relating to water resources. The Committee focuses on legislative and regulatory issues of a water resource nature and functions in a technical advisory capacity primarily to the Connecticut Water Works Association. Our plan is to start off on the same topic that we left off with – working cooperatively with DPH to define available water for the purpose of calculating margins-of safety for various demand scenarios.

The Water Resources Committee had its first meeting on May 12, 2023, to reintroduce members to its focus and members plan to meet monthly. If you are interested in joining, please email Peter Galant at *pbgalant@tighebond.com.*

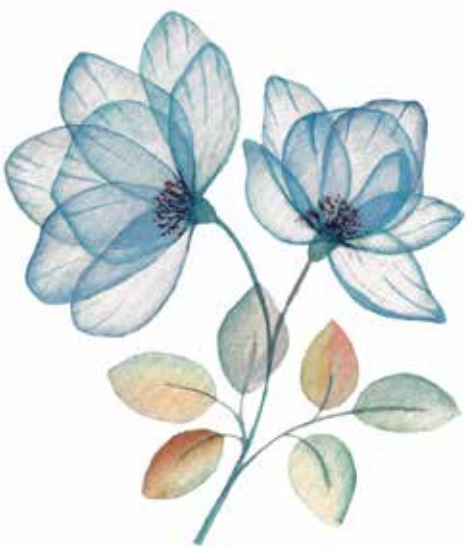
BioSafe Systems Celebrates 25 Years of Positive Change

For 25 years, BioSafe Systems' mission has been to manufacture effective chemistry that protects crops, people, and the planet. Our brand is built on a creative and collaborative effort to change mindsets about sustainable chemistry's successful work in the field. Even with a strong business model and an action plan, the longevity of a progressive company is dependent on the intersection of a strong purpose and a proactive, collaborative team.

Our relationships with customers have contributed to our growth with their business, their support, their open communication with us about their pain points and success stories. Our progress as a company is based on knowledge gained from a nationwide network of representatives that creates a bridge of communication between headquarters and customers. We proudly celebrate being an influential presence in the sustainable chemistry industry and leader in peroxyacetic acid (PAA) use for the protection of plants, water, people, and the planet.

"It has been a unique privilege to watch BioSafe Systems develop from our humble beginnings in my dad's basement to the company we are today," said Lauren Crane, President and CEO of BioSafe. "We strive to develop sustainable products that have a positive impact on the earth and benefit future generations. It may not always be the easy way, but it's the right way. We continue building relationships and helping people when they need it, including our customers, partners, and employees. I am grateful for all we've accomplished in the past 25 years; I'm honored to lead the company and excited for the next 25 years."

BioSafe Systems, LLC is a company leading innovations since 1998 for environmentally sustainable practices and products that protect crops, water, and people. Our success hinges on a commitment to customer service, quality research, regulatory compliance, and the willingness to adapt. BioSafe Systems is a family-owned and operated company certified by NQA to ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015, and 45001:2018, and our products are manufactured proudly in the United States. For more information contact BioSafe Systems at 888-273-3088 or visit *www.biosafesystems.com.*



In Memoriam – Charles A. Kindya

Charles A. Kindya, 76, of Bethel passed away suddenly on Thursday, February 23, in Bethel. Born October 22, 1946, he was the husband of Marianne (Dunne) Kindya for 45 years. He is survived by his children Kimberly, Christian, and Kristina Kindya. Charles is also survived by a grandson, Nicholas Kindya; his brothers, Ron and Ken; and their families. He was predeceased by his son, Craig.

Charles was born in Brooklyn, NY, the son of the late Charles Sr. and Ann (Derevjanik) Kindya. He graduated from Brooklyn Technical High School and Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. He also received an MBA from PACE University. At the time of his passing, Charles held the position of Administrative Manager for the City of Danbury Public Works, a position he held for many years.

The family of Charles Kindya are grateful for the prayers and support of so many relatives and friends.

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CT Department of Public Health Water Treatment and Distribution System Operator Certification/Public Utility Management A.S. Degree Courses

FALL 2023

Course	Name	Location	Day	Time	Credits
BMGT 2421	Customer Relations	Online with Web Ex (Live, Interactive Streaming Video)	Wednesday	5:30-8:00 pm	3
ENV 1120	Environmental and Energy Laws and Regulations* (HYBRID)	Online with Web Ex (Live, Interactive Streaming Video)	Monday	5:30-6:45 pm	3
WMTR 1001	Water Treatment and Distribution	Online with Web Ex (Live, Interactive Streaming Video)	Tuesday, Thursday	5:30-8:20 pm	6

** Replaces ENV 1100 (formerly ENV 110) Environmental Regulations*

The Fall 2023 Semester starts on August 29, 2023, and ends on December 18, 2023.

All courses can also be used to meet CT DPH Continuing Education CEU requirements for already-licensed water treatment and distribution system operators.

New students can receive admissions and registration materials by contacting the Admissions Office at *admissions@gwcc.commnet.edu*. Continuing students, already admitted to the college, can receive registration materials by contacting the Registrar's Office at *gw-recordsstaff@gwcc.commnet.edu*.

Continuing students may also register online at *www.gatewayct.edu*.

Please contact Professor Wesley L. Winterbottom, PE at *wwinterbottom@gwcc.commnet.edu* with questions about these courses or the Water Management Certificate of Achievement Program and the Public Utility Management A.S. Degree Program.



Welcome New Members

Michael Archer,
Snyder Civil Engineering, LLC

Lindsay Bollenbach,
Connecticut Water Co.

Jesse Burns, *Norwich Public Utilities*

James Camara, *Meriden Water Division*

Stephen Charton,
Snyder Civil Engineering, LLC

Jim Dabbo,
Snyder Civil Engineering, LLC

Brent Domkowski,
Regional Water Authority

Victor Dubourg, *Town of Winchester*

Stephen Echaria

Patricia Esposito,
Aquarion Water Co. of Connecticut

Jason Hofmann, *Fuss & O'Neill*

Nicholas Lachance,
Aquarion Water Co. of Connecticut

Rich Ministro

Cameron Oden,
University of New Haven

Cesar Osuba, *Groton Utilities*

Ashley Peck, *WSP*

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Daniel Spicer, *Light Sources Inc.*

Mark Sweeney

Sadie Uhlan, *Student*



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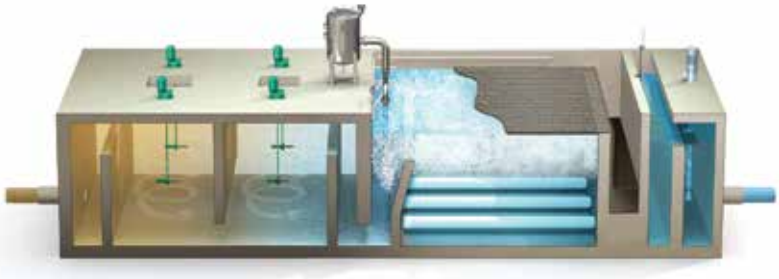
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Ryan C. Fleming, PE Joins Tighe & Bond as Principal Engineer



On March 16, 2023, Tighe & Bond announced that Ryan C. Fleming, PE has joined the company as a Principal Engineer and Technical Director in the Water Business Line. In his new role, Fleming will work from the Middletown, CT office assisting public water systems across the Northeast with complex water quality and treatment issues.

Fleming has worked in both consulting and directly for water suppliers. For the last several years, he served as a senior engineering manager at a private consulting firm, leading interdisciplinary teams in the planning, design, and construction of water treatment and distribution system infrastructure projects along the eastern seaboard. His most recent experience includes piloting and design of PFAS treatment, pre-oxidation of surface water using hydrogen peroxide, multiple greensand filtration facility designs, and water softening using ion exchange.

Prior to that, he served as Director of Water Quality for Connecticut Water Company, where he was responsible for *Safe Drinking Water Act* compliance at more than 65 public water systems and worked with operators to optimize water treatment processes. Earlier, he worked at the New York City Department of Environmental Protection in their Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations, where he was responsible for hydrologic/hydraulic modeling; analysis and design of water distribution and sewer systems; overseeing water quality planning/policy development; and integrating GIS and asset management databases for capital improvement planning.

"Ryan's experience leading water quality, treatment, and asset management projects will be a great asset to our team and our clients," said Tiffany Labrie, PE, Tighe & Bond Water Business Line Leader. "His strong technical expertise will be an excellent complement to our project delivery teams. We are thrilled to have him join Tighe & Bond."

Fleming has a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from Colorado State University and a Master of Science in water resources systems engineering from Cornell University. He has published articles and given numerous presentations for industry associations and is actively involved on several committees with the AWWA Connecticut Section.

Tighe & Bond is an employee-owned, regional consulting firm in the Northeast, specializing in water and wastewater, transportation, and building services engineering; site planning and design; landscape architecture; and environmental science. By focusing on bright ideas, green strategies and clear solutions, the Tighe & Bond team develops creative, collaborative solutions to complex challenges.





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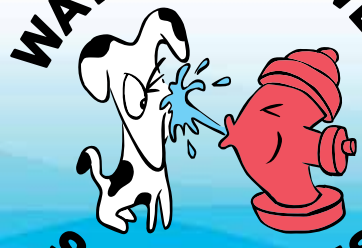
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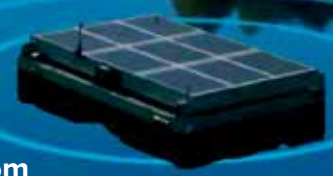


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