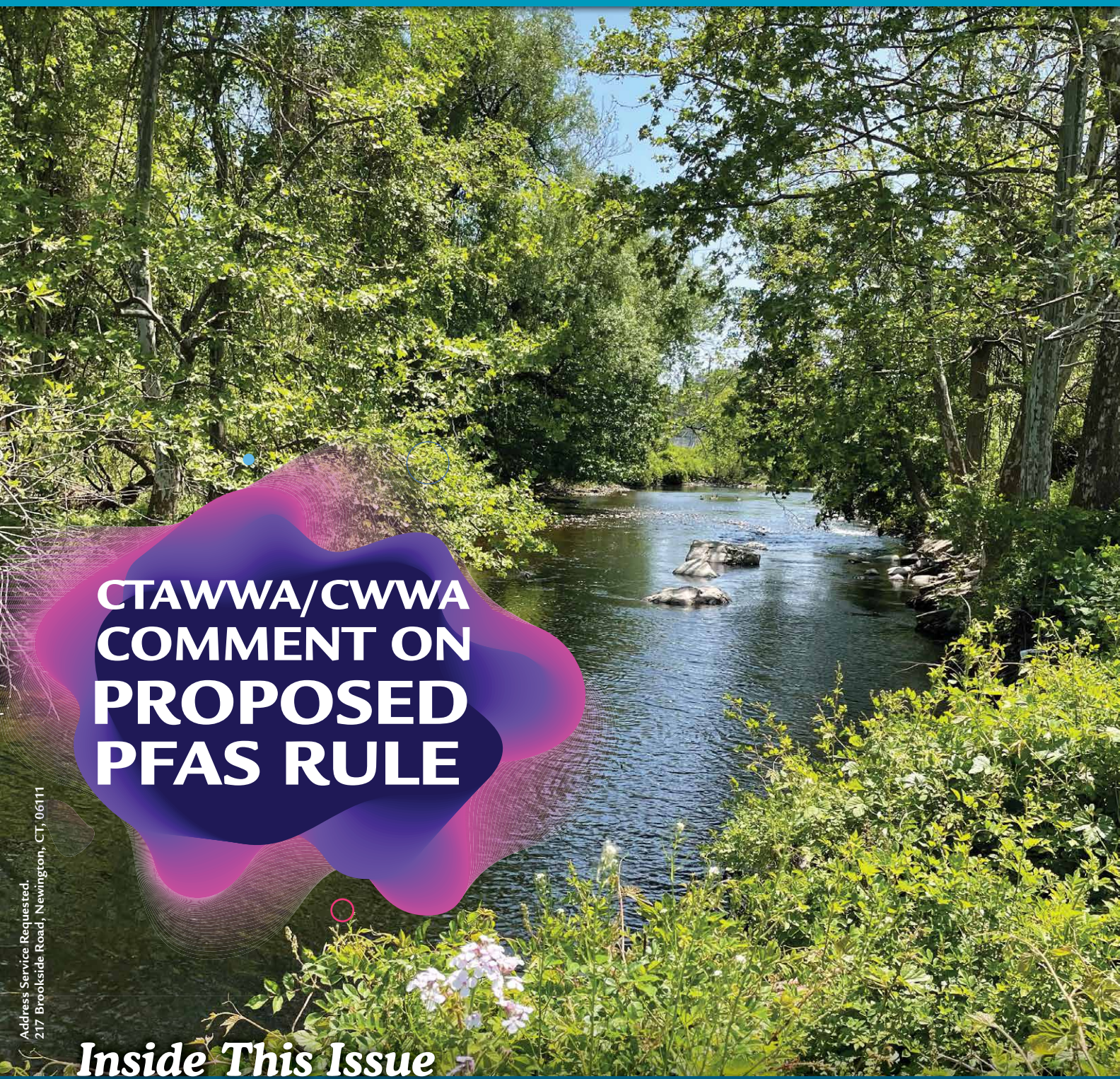
InFlow-Line

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



CTAWWA/CWWA COMMENT ON PROPOSED PFAS RULE

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Alex Cosentino



Our Role as **Educators of Water**

Over the past several months, the CTAWWA has been working to update our Strategic Plan, which will guide the Section over the next several years. Throughout multiple sessions, a central theme began to emerge as the Section defined its goals and objectives, including:

- Being the trusted and authoritative resource on water in the State.
- Being recognized in Connecticut as the valued and credible voice for water.
- Increasing public awareness about the value of water.
- Enhancing the Section's credibility with decision-makers.

To me, all of these items boil down to one core principle: education.

- Educating the public about water-related issues.
- Educating the younger generation and recent graduates about careers in water.
- Educating people in the industry, from existing operators to water company executives, about the value of AWWA.

As I begin my year as Chair of this organization, I see the opportunities that will allow the Section to work towards these goals: the current environment surrounding water. Water issues are constantly in the news these days – be it national issues like PFAS or lead pipes, or local issues like water rates or the oversight of regional and municipal water boards. It often seems like water is under attack.

While these issues may seem like hindrances or impediments to our goals, we should see them as opportunities to educate. We can educate the public about why it is worth investing in water. We can educate the industry about what the AWWA can provide to help meet these challenges.

To achieve this objective of education, the Section will need to draw upon our greatest asset and resource: our members. After 15 years in the Section, I continue to be amazed by the collective knowledge, – and really – greatness, that surrounds us at industry events. This greatness stems from the dedication of each and every one of you to our profession of delivering safe drinking water.

As we embark on this collective mission of education, we will need everyone to contribute their knowledge to achieve our goals. Water is too important to fall victim to the current trends of misinformation, attention-grabbing sound bites, and armchair quarterbacks who do not participate in our industry or organization, yet still make judgments that greatly affect us every day.

Before I end, I would like to thank our Past Chair, Ingrid Jacobs, and our outgoing Section Officers – Scott Bonnet and Mark Anderson. Ingrid, Scott, and Mark are all consummate professionals whose presence on the Board provided steadying hands. Ingrid's introspective and thoughtful nature provided a calming presence to the Board during her tenure as Chair. Scott fostered a culture of collaboration and inclusivity, where every voice is valued, and every contribution is recognized. Finally, Mark's nearly 40 years of experience in the industry shined through each time he offered his sage wisdom and advice. Thank you, Ingrid, Scott and Mark, for your many years of dedicated service to the Section and the water industry.



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Eyes on the **Horizon**

As of writing this, I have just returned from a week off over the 4th of July, where I had the opportunity to walk, swim, kayak, and enjoy my family. I hope you rested and spent some time with family and friends this summer.

As I was driving back from New Hampshire, I started to think about what challenges 2024 will bring to the water industry. How do we prepare for these challenges? Are we looking far enough ahead to predict the challenges to come? As I pondered, I realized we can easily get stuck on the here and now, with so many things to do, and forget to pick up our eyes and look forward.

This year, CWWA's Board is working on a strategic plan with four main goals to help address some immediate needs and prepare us to help members understand regulations, provide training, and address proposed legislation.

These four goals include:

- Ensuring that CWWA's Board and organization structure is positioned to fulfill the mission of the Board.
- Engaging with members and non-members in core mission activities through communication, connections, and facilitated events.
- Enhancing CWWA's advocacy, visibility, and communication efforts to exemplify the interests of the water industry.
- Ensuring affordable and sustainable membership fees.

Planning is critical to our current and future success. These are critical times, as we face issues related to enhanced lead testing and inventory of possible lead service lines and school testing, PFSAs, climate change, changing regulations, and changing customer expectations. We need to work together to help legislators, regulators, and customers understand the implications of changing regulations, why infrastructure improvements are needed, and where additional funding is needed.

The Board, Legislative Committee and our Executive Director, Betsy Gara, are working on your behalf. I urge you to join us. When we work together, we have a stronger voice and can make waves.

CWWA exists to advocate for the water industry and represent our members' concerns to lawmakers. Join us at Legislative Committee meetings and make sure your water system's customers get the representation they deserve. Reach out to Betsy Gara (*gara@gmlobbying.com*/ 860-841-7350). We look forward to hearing from you, and I am looking forward to a great year.



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Optimism and **Encouragement**

At the recent ACE23 meeting in Toronto, AWWA seated their 142nd President, Patrick Kerr of the Baton Rouge Water Works Company, Baton Rouge, LA. One of Pat's goals as AWWA President is to expand AWWA's influence in the water sector by encouraging members to share their personal experiences with their colleagues of AWWA membership benefits.

He said: "We owe it to the water community to expand our reach and increase the capacity of water utilities to provide safe drinking for their customers."

I would encourage all Connecticut Section members to embrace Pat's request and reach out to co-workers within your organizations to encourage them to join AWWA and fully utilize all the benefits of Association membership.

In the interest of a time check, we are collectively rapidly approaching the 12-month mark in the time remaining to meet the established LCRR compliance deadline. I hope all are engaged in the various facets of the service line inventory development. While questions remain and the identification of complex issues seems to only generate additional questions, I am optimistic that Connecticut's inclusion in the Lead Accelerator Program will help in resolving some of the confusion and ultimately assist all of us as we strive to meet our responsibilities under the rule. For those that may not be aware, Connecticut was one of four states selected by EPA to participate in the Lead Accelerator Program pilot (NJ, PA, and WI were the others). Within each state, the respective primacy agency was to select up to 10 participating water systems. By the time of publication of the summer edition of *InFlow-Line*, CTDPH will likely have announced their selections. By design, the Lead Accelerator Program is intended to assist water systems via the utilization of a primary consultant in the areas of inventory development, lead service line replacement plans, community outreach initiatives and advice on to utilize existing financial opportunities. Through lessons learned and information gathered from the participating water systems in the four states, EPA and water managers will be better able to approach this compliance challenge more effectively and efficiently for all water systems.



I hope everyone will be able to enjoy what is left of our summer and looking forward to some time off to enjoy our New England fall season.



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More than 60 CTAWWA members Attend ACE23







On June 11-14, an estimated 10,000 water professionals from around the world gathered in Toronto, Ontario, Canada for at ACE23, the American Water Works Association's Annual Conference and Exposition to discuss the future of water – particularly on how to create a resilient and sustainable water system for generations to come.

The CTAWWA was proud to have more than 60 of its members represent Connecticut at the event. These members had a lot to see, as ACE23 featured 20 professional learning tracks and 126 sessions, as well as an exposition with more than 450 water technology providers and innovators in more than 900 booths. The packed opening general session featured a presentation by best-selling author Shawn Kanungo, who spoke about creating the future together by integrating concepts from AWWA's Water 2050 initiative to explore how organizations and individuals can become more adaptable, experimental, and collaborative in navigating the future.

The YP Poster Competition

The AWWA's "Fresh Ideas" Poster Contest debuted at ACE more than a decade ago as part of its students and YP programming. The contest provides participants the opportunity to share their insight and experience and to exchange ideas with a wide range of water professionals. This year, the CTAWWA was represented by Heather Doolittle, PE, of Tighe & Bond, who was the winner of the CT poster competition. Thank you, Heather, for working so hard to represent the CTAWWA so well.

Hydrant Hysteria Heroes

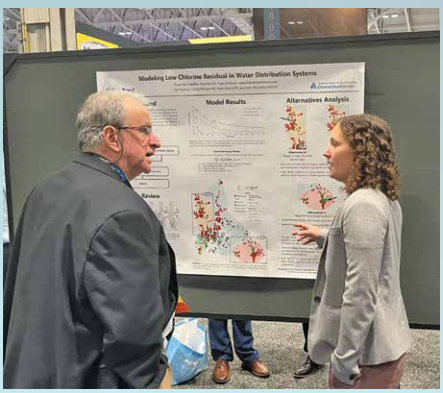
This year's Hydrant Hysteria Competition saw 26 men's teams and 18 women's teams from across the US and Canada competed for the coveted championship trophy. Connecticut team members Chris Gallant and Jacob Godbout, along with alternate team coach Dan Bolduc, qualified with a penalty-free, personal-best time, turning the heads of fellow competitors and fans alike.

Unfortunately, at the end, their personal best of 1:19:65 was .19 of a second short, ultimately finishing their 2023 season in 7th place. However, they performed like champs, cheered for competitors, and exemplified how great the CTAWWA team from Bristol Water and Sewer Department truly is. The competition was tough and exciting to watch. We are excited to see all the teams compete next year at ACE24 in Anaheim, CA.

The Best of the Best Water Taste Test

An exciting and vital part of ACE is the Best of the Best Water Taste Test, a competition in which regional tap water taste champions compete for the best tasting water in North America. The events, which were sponsored by Brown and Caldwell, included regional winners from water tasting competitions. This year, Danbury Water represented the CTAWWA with their water sample! It was truly exciting to see DWD competing with the best of the best – thanks, Danbury, for representing the hard work we do to provide great-tasting drinking water.

Thanks to all members who attended. We hope you had a great time and that you returned home with new excitement, knowledge, inspiration, and hope for the future and the AWWA's mission to improve public health, protect the environment, strengthen the economy, and enhance our quality of life.











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2023 Water Matters! Fly-In

By Yesher Larsen, Director of Water Quality at Aquarion Water Company

In March 2023, I had the privilege to participate in the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Water Matters! Fly-In in Washington, DC. This three-day event consisted of meetings with US Senators and Representatives to build relationships, provide the water industry's perspective on important issues, and build awareness of the AWWA and each respective Section. This annual event began in 2002, following the success of meetings that coincided with the 2001 Annual Conference and Exhibition in Washington, DC. In 2021 and 2022 the Fly-In events were held virtually due to COVID-19. However, in 2023 the event was once again held in Washington, DC, with more than 140 AWWA members participating from 40 states.

I was afforded the opportunity to participate in 2023 as a recipient of an AWWA's Water Equation scholarship. AWWA's Water Equation was founded in 2015 to promote and facilitate education for water professionals. This year, for the first time, the AWWA's Water Equation provided financial support to three young professionals (YPs), 35 and under, so they could participate in the Fly-In. Water Equation established the new inaugural scholarship to enable YPs to come together with industry leaders and peers to interface with their respective legislators. In addition, it also provided the opportunity for the YPs to network with water professionals from across the US and share ideas.

Representing the Connecticut Section, Tom Barger of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, John Herlihy of Herlihy Environmental Consulting, and I attended the event. During the Fly-In we were able to successfully meet with legislative staffers of the two US Senators and five US Representatives from CT. The AWWA



The CTAWWA YPs take on DC

selected four legislative priorities that each group was asked to focus on during their 15-to-30-minute meetings. These included:

- *The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act* (WIFIA) and the State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs.
- Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and the *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act* (CERCLA).
- The Farm Bill.
- Cybersecurity.

The meetings also provided the opportunity to listen to the questions and concerns of legislative staffers, share information on water topics such as PFAS and lead contamination, and establish points of contact for future communication. Meeting agendas were also customized to focus on topics that were pertinent to committees on which legislators served. Although most of the legislative staffers we met with were young (around 25-30 years old), they were already very knowledgeable, asked excellent questions, and were cognizant of the major role that drinking water plays in public health.

Ultimately, the AWWA Fly-In was a fantastic experience and I am very appreciative of the AWWA's Water Equation financial support, as well as Tom and John for their guidance. Although I participated in the 2021 and 2022 Fly-In, the virtual format of these events detracted from our ability to connect effectively with legislative staffers and convey our message. In contrast, 2023 led to seven engaging meetings and being well-received by staffers, who shared sincere appreciation for the efforts of the CT water industry.

Yesher Larsen is the Director of Water Quality at Aquarion Water Company, Monroe, CT, as well as Vice Chair of the AWWA's Coagulation and Filtration Committee and Chair of the Connecticut AWWA's Regulations and Research Committee. You can contact them at *ylarsen@aquarionwater.com*.

YP Tour & Pours See Success

Recently, the CTAWWA Young Professional committee had several opportunities to meet and connect with water sector professionals during the YP Tour & Pours in March, May, and June. Thank you to Burt Process Equipment, Windham Water Works and RWA Whitney Treatment Plant for opening your doors and hosting. Thank you to Burt Process Equipment, Carlson Systems, Mechanical Solutions, Hymax, and the CTAWWA YP Committee for sponsoring the Pour portion of the events.

Here are highlights of the events in photos. Thanks to all who attended!

Burt Process Equipment











Windham Water Works











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RWA Whitney Treatment Plant













Don't Miss Out!

Join us for the upcoming YP events. Anyone is welcome, you do not have to be a young professional.

September 16, 2023: Running for Water For Africa 5K/1M Walk
September 23, 2023: The CTAWWA/CTWEA Source Water Clean Up and Greet-Harbor Park, Middletown

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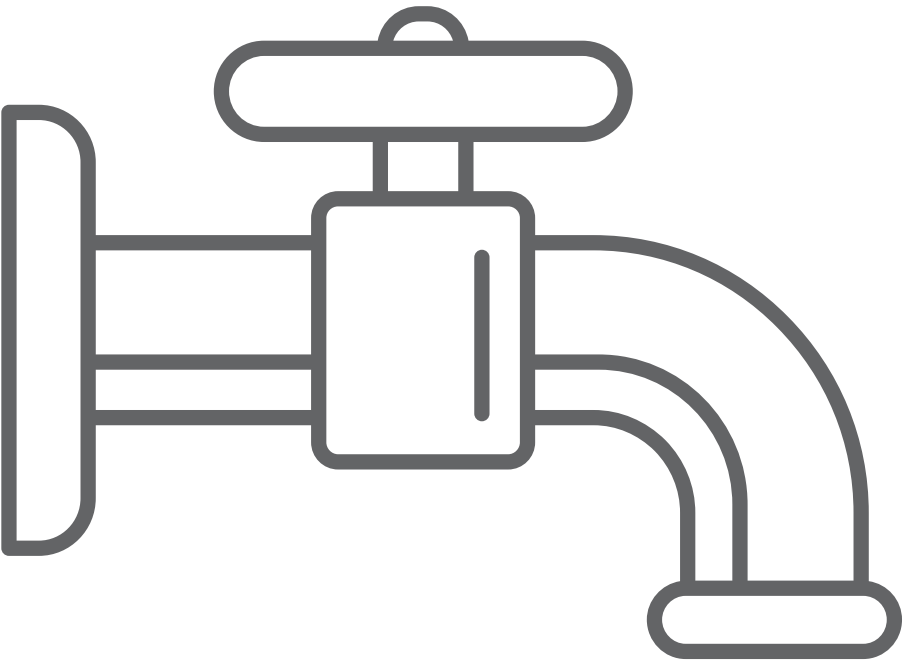
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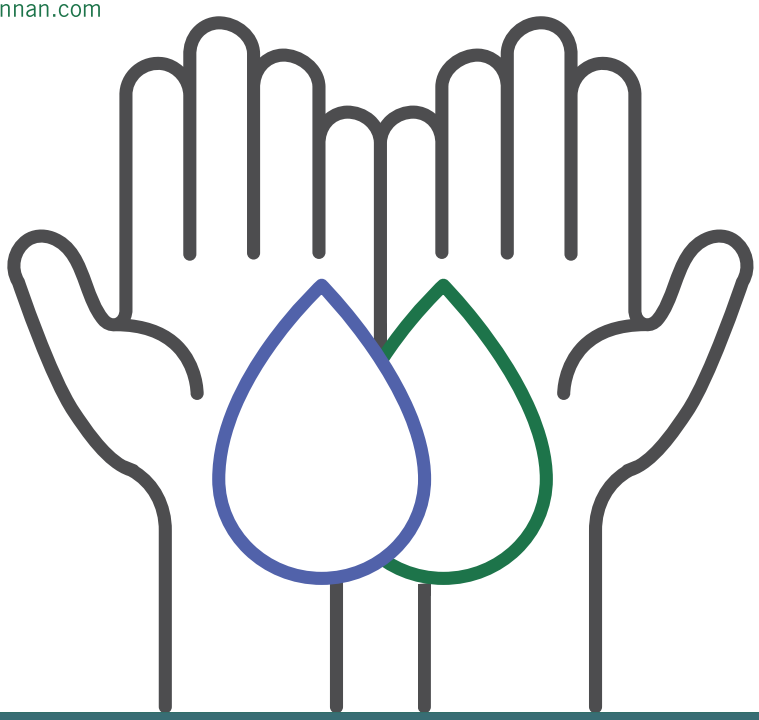


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Breach Ready:

Steps Water Utilities Should Take Now to Reduce Risk and Be Prepared

Data privacy, cybersecurity, and steps utilities can take before a breach to both reduce the likelihood of a breach occurring and ensure that a utility is "breach ready" when an incident eventually happens, was the focus of a presentation at a recent workshop held by the Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA) in June.

Attorney William Roberts, Day Pitney's co-chair of the firm's Data Privacy, Protection and Litigation practice group, indicated that breaches have become a reality for all companies and organizations in all economic sectors. Referencing a 2021 White House memorandum on cybersecurity, Roberts noted that "the cybersecurity threats posed to the systems that control and operate the critical infrastructure on which we all depend are among the most significant facing our Nation."

Roberts cautioned that cyber-protection efforts will not prevent all breaches from occurring, however, such protections will 1) decrease the likelihood of a breach occurring; 2) minimize the scope of a breach; 3) minimize/reduce damage and harm from a breach; and 4) minimize legal, forensic, information technology (IT), public relations, and other recovery costs.

Being "Breach-Ready"

Roberts noted that while an organization cannot be "breach-proof," all organizations can be "breach-ready." Roberts recommended that companies:

- Understand the cyber-threats that exist.
- Take steps to fortify and protect information systems.
- Adopt and implement cybersecurity policies and programs for workforce members.
- Adopt and implement an **Incident Response Plan**.
- Implement a **Vendor Data Breach Strategy**.

Incident Response Plan (IRP)

The purpose of a cyber incident response plan is to provide a structured and systematic incident response process for all information security incidents that affect an organization's information technology systems, network, or data. Roberts recommended that an IRP address certain goals, including:

1. Defining the cyber incident response process and provide guidelines for establishing a timely, consistent, and repeatable incident response process.
2. Assisting the organization to quickly and efficiently respond to and recover from incidents.
3. Mitigating the effects of an incident on the organization and its customers and employees.
4. Helping the organization consistently document the actions it takes in response to incidents.
5. Reducing the overall risk exposure.

Vendor Data Breach Strategy

Roberts indicated that according to Black Kite's 2022 Third Party Breach Report, ransomware is the most common attack method with more than half of vendors hit by at least one ransomware in the past 12 months.

"Every vendor will suffer a data breach at some point and therefore it is critical to set forth in agreements precisely what you expect from your vendors," said Roberts. For example, the data privacy/cybersecurity portion of an agreement should include a section outlining the parties' obligations regarding the reporting of cybersecurity and other incidents involving the inappropriate access to, or use or disclosure of, individually identifiable data or proprietary systems.

Mitigation Efforts

The vendor agreement should also set forth who must take what steps to reduce or prevent harm to individuals, organizations, data, and electronic systems arising or resulting from a cybersecurity incident. The agreement should be clear on what needs to be mitigated as well as the degree of effort a party must undertake during mitigation.

Reimbursement for Costs

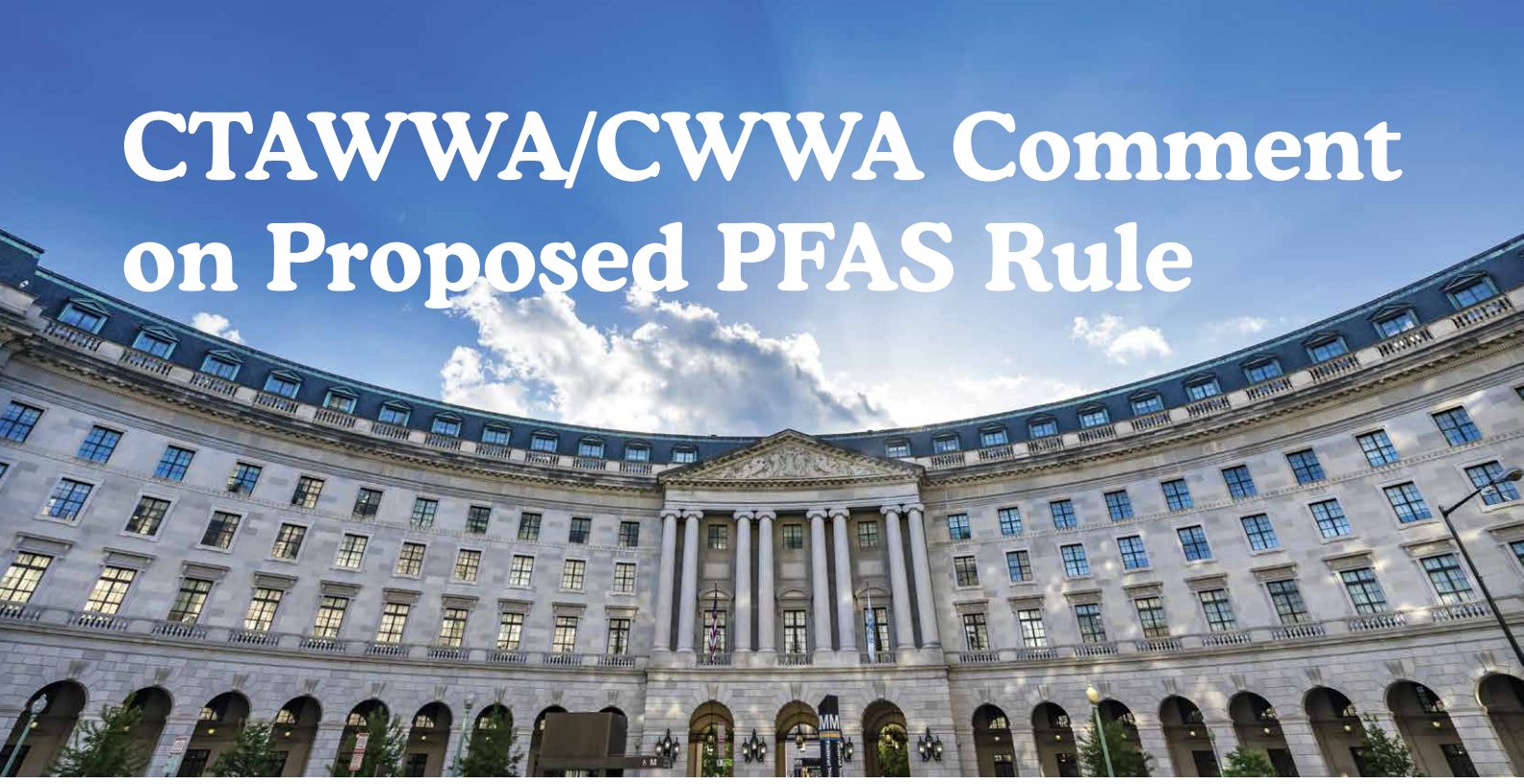
The agreement should include provisions identifying which party is responsible for paying certain (often routine) costs that may be incurred as a result of an incident. These costs may include investigations costs, e.g., attorneys' fees, forensics, IT support, recovery costs, media/PR support and costs associated with notification, e.g., communications to individuals, credit monitoring, identity theft services, dark web monitoring, mail house, call center, and notification of media and government agencies.

Other costs that may be incurred are fines and penalties, costs arising from a governmental investigation, and costs associated with project interruption.

Roberts provided attendees with helpful checklists to assist them in developing and implementing plans to be "breach ready" to reduce risk and be prepared.

For more information, contact William J. Roberts by phone (860-275-0184), cell (860-380-0405), email (*wroberts@daypitney.com*) or by visiting *www.daypitney.com/professionals/r/roberts-william-j*.

CTAWWA/CWWA Comment on Proposed PFAS Rule



The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) to establish legally enforceable levels – Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) – for six PFAS in drinking water: PFOA and PFOS as individual contaminants, and PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, and HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as GenX Chemicals) as a PFAS mixture.

The EPA also proposed health-based, non-enforceable Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) for these six PFAS. MCLGs are the maximum level of a contaminant in drinking water where there are no known or anticipated negative health effects allowing for a margin of safety.

Under the proposed rule, public water systems would be required to:

- Monitor for these PFAS.
- Notify the public regarding levels of these PFAS.
- Reduce the levels of these PFAS in drinking water if they exceed the proposed standards.
- Adhere to a three-year compliance timeline.

The EPA also requested comment on its preliminary determinations to regulate PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, GenX Chemicals, as well as mixtures of these four PFAS.

The CT Section AWWA and CWWA, in addition to a number of other organizations and water utilities, submitted comments to the EPA outlining certain concerns with the EPA's proposed rule.

Need for Accurate Compliance Cost Projections

The EPA projects that there are approximately 66,000 water systems that will be subject to the rule, and approximately 3,400-6,300 water systems are expected to exceed one or more MCL. In addition, EPA projects that public water systems will incur between $772 million to $1.2 billion per year in compliance costs associated with monitoring and treatment in addition to $30 to $61 million for PFAS disposal as hazardous waste.

However, according to AWWA data, the EPA has significantly underestimated the cost of compliance with the proposed standards and the number of systems that will exceed the proposed MCLs.

Cost models prepared for AWWA by the consulting engineering firm Black & Veatch (WITAF 56 Technical Memorandum – PFAS National Cost Model Report), as well as the experience of CTAWWA/CWWA member utilities in Connecticut, differ significantly from EPA's model.

CTAWWA and CWWA's comments emphasize the importance of accurately evaluating costs associated with implementing the rule to ensure that regulators can make a sound decision regarding the appropriateness of the rule requirements.

Extend Compliance Timelines

In addition to accurately projecting compliance costs, water utilities will need sufficient time to consider treatment alternatives or alternative sources.

EPA-Proposed Hazard Index Steps

Step 1: Divide the measured concentration of GenX by the health-based value of 10 ppt.
Step 2: Divide the measured concentration of PFBS by the health-based value of 2000 ppt.
Step 3: Divide the measured concentration of PFNA by the health-based value of 10 ppt.
Step 4: Divide the measured concentration of PFHxS by the health-based value of 9.0 ppt.
Step 5: Add the ratios from steps 1, 2, 3, and 4 together.
Step 6: To determine HI compliance, repeat steps 1-5 for each sample collected in the past year and calculate the average HI for all the samples taken in the past year.
Step 7: If the running annual average HI greater than 1.0, it is a violation of the proposed HI MCL.

Moving forward with project design, permitting, bidding, funding, and execution phases are lengthy processes, likely to exceed the proposed three-year implementation timeline.

The compliance timeframes may be compounded by existing and anticipated supply chain delays for critical materials.

The CTAWWA/CWWA comments recommend that EPA adopt a staggered compliance timeline based on multiple tiers of PFAS concentration, with the compliance deadline occurring first for systems that have the highest PFAS concentrations. The remaining systems would have compliance deadlines in subsequent years based on their respective PFAS concentrations.

In addition, the comments point out that there is promising, ongoing research regarding destructive treatment technologies as an alternative to the traditional PFAS treatment methods such as granular activated carbon, reverse osmosis, and ion exchange. EPA should invest in accelerating research on destructive treatment technologies, which may provide a superior and less costly option.

In addition, extending the compliance timeline will give public water systems the opportunity to utilize state and federal funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which is being made available over a five-year period.

CTAWWA/CWWA also recommended that the EPA review and incorporate into the PFAS Rule findings from the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) monitoring period, specifically on the 29 PFAS compounds, to ensure that it adequately limits risk.

Hazard Index

As proposed, the EPA's Hazard Index will be difficult to communicate to customers and the public. Unlike a traditional MCL, the Hazard Index is a calculation that has proved challenging to explain and understand since the proposed PFAS Rule was released.

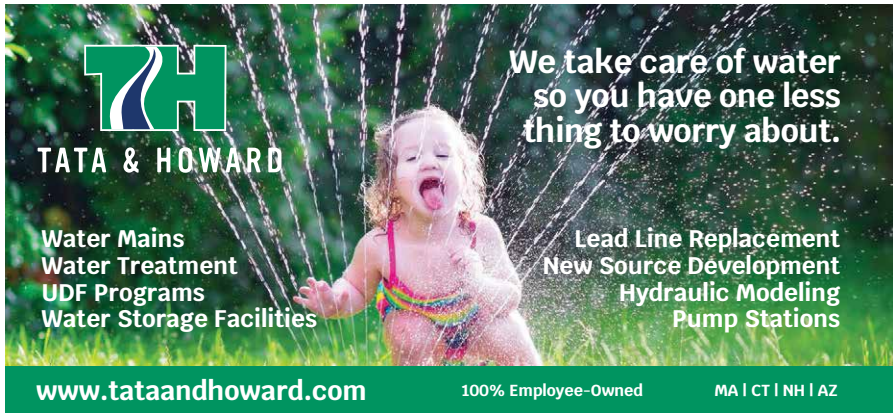
Instead, the CTAWWA/CWWA comments encourage EPA to consider traditional MCLs, which would enable utilities and other drinking water professionals, including regulators, to effectively explain the PFAS Rule to customers and the public.

Attorney Generals Push for Rule Adoption

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong, as part of a 17-state coalition, filed comments with EPA supporting the agency's proposal to set enforceable drinking water standards for six PFAS substances. The comments urge the EPA to:

1. Make technical and engineering resources available to public water systems so that the financial burden of testing and treating PFAS does not fall unfairly on ratepayers and customers.
2. Finalize the drinking water standards quickly; and
3. Consider drinking water standards for other PFAS after finalizing the rule.

The EPA has indicated the rule is expected to be finalized by the end of 2023.





Connecticut Businesses Receive Professional Awards

Tighe & Bond Named Employer of the Year by SMPS Boston



Tighe & Bond, a Northeast leader in engineering, design, and environmental consulting, received the 2023 Employer of the Year Award from the Boston Chapter of the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS Boston). The award honors an organization within the field of architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) for creating a supportive and engaging company culture and prioritizing the well-being of its employees.

The award specifically recognizes:

- Commitment to inclusion and diversity in the workplace.
- Initiatives/programs supporting the organization's culture and community.
- Outreach efforts to support the local communities, such as volunteering or fundraising activities.
- Support of marketing, business development, and communications staff.

Tighe & Bond's robust, sustainable growth has been aided by a firmwide focus on investing in people. Prioritizing mental and physical wellness led to the creation of the firm's Wellness Incentive Program, which offers staff the chance to participate in firm-organized activities. The firm encourages employees to further their education through incentives like student loan repayment and tuition reimbursement.

Tighe & Bond values the contributions of a diverse workforce, which enables the company to succeed and grow. The firm's Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Plan outlines goals, strategies to achieve those goals, and a plan for action through the DE&I Committee. Some of the actions already taken include establishing college scholarships with the National Society of Black Engineers and volunteering in STEM programs for area grade schools to foster the next generation of designers, engineers, and environmental scientists.

The Make a Difference program is Tighe & Bond's approach to employee community service recognition that encourages employees to volunteer their time and talents for the benefit of local communities. Since its inception in 2017, Tighe & Bond employees have logged more than 15,000 volunteer hours.

"We could not be prouder to have SMPS Boston shine a light on the employee-focused nature of Tighe & Bond," said Bob Belitz, President and CEO. "This recognition would not be possible without the work and dedication of our firm's leadership and staff members, who prioritize making our communities a better place both inside and outside the office."

Keri Drake, CPSM, Vice President for Marketing and Communications, added: "SMPS Boston is critical in advancing the marketing profession in the AEC industry, offering members opportunities to share ideas, advice, and business opportunities. We are grateful for this acknowledgment of our firm's commitment to our staff and the marketing discipline."

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. For more information, visit *www.tighebond.com*.



Snyder Civil Engineering Wins 2023 Small Business of the Year Award

Snyder Civil Engineering, LLC, a consulting Civil Engineering Firm located in Portland, CT, was awarded the 2023 Small Business of the Year Award in the category of more than 31+ employees by the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce.

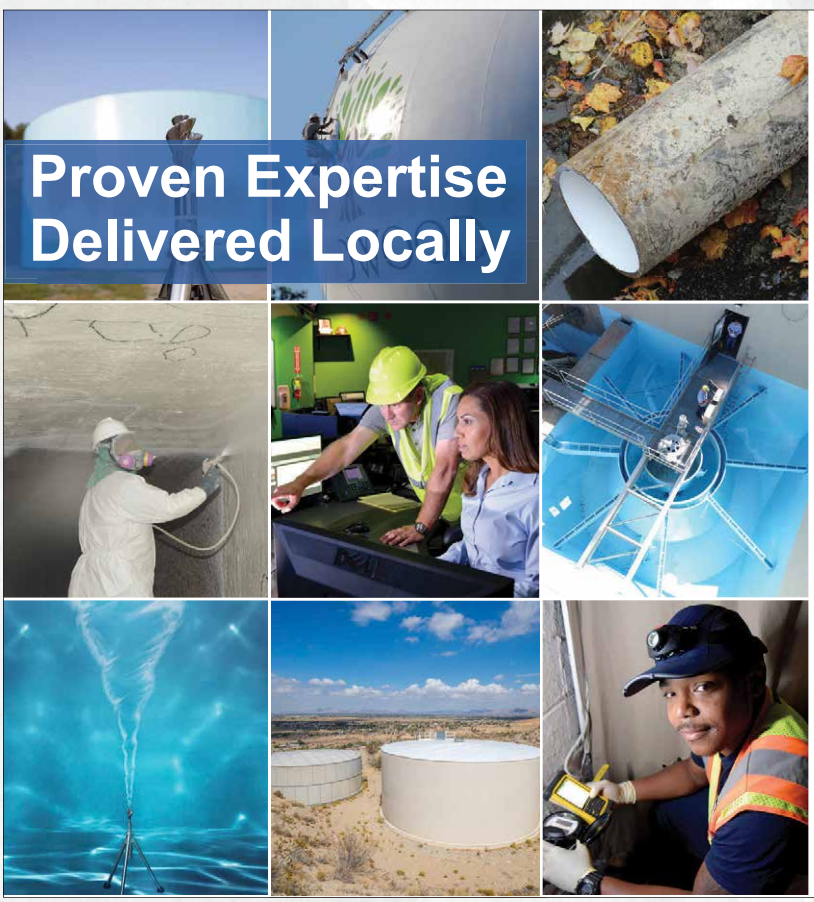
In 2011, Snyder Civil Engineering, LLC was launched as a single-member professional engineering firm. Under the leadership of Donald R. Snyder, Jr., P.E., Snyder Civil Engineering has a record of success overseeing all phases of Professional Civil Engineering and Construction including projects for municipal, government and water utility clients. Snyder Civil engineers have valuable backgrounds and experience in Water Supply, Water Distribution Systems, Water Mains, Water Storage Tanks, Pump Stations, Water Treatment and Operations Assistance.

Today, Snyder Civil Engineering personnel are committed to offering professional services including land surveying and construction professionals to meet water utility needs. Our experienced professional staff are OSHA Certified and we take great pride in ensuring that all projects are completed on schedule and within budget.

With clients ranging from the smallest private water systems to some of the largest water systems with hundreds of thousands of customers, Snyder Civil has engineered its design-build practice and reputation on strong relationships with clients who are excellent stewards of the environment.



The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic business organization with over 1,900 members that employ over 50,000 people. They strive to be the voice of business in Middlesex County and the surrounding area.



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CWWA Legislative Update

CWWA 2023 Legislative Wrap-Up

Before the Connecticut General Assembly adjourned on June 7, dozens of bills were adopted, including a "big energy bill" that includes several provisions affecting investor-owned water utility ratemaking.

Utility Ratemaking

Public Act 23-102 (SB-7), as amended by HB-6941, the budget implementer, includes the following changes:

1. For investor-owned utilities serving more than 75,000 customers, the bill increases the length of time that the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) can take to render a decision in a water utility rate case from 200 to 270 days.
2. For any rate proceeding initiated on or after January 1, 2024 by a PURA-regulated electric, gas, or water utility serving more than 75,000 customers, the bill prohibits the recovery of costs in rates of fees for attorneys, expert witnesses, consultants, and the portion of employee salaries associated with attending, participating, preparing, or appealing rate cases despite a US Supreme Court decision that such costs are considered prudent expenses recoverable in rates.
3. Effective upon passage, for all PURA-regulated electric, gas, and water utilities, the bill prohibits the recovery of costs in rates associated with membership dues for business or trade associations, lobbying, advertising, entertainment and gifts, and certain other expenses for company officers.
4. The bill requires PURA-regulated water utilities serving more than 75,000 customers to file for a rate case every four years and undergo a comprehensive audit every six years.
5. The bill requires PURA to consider broad economic factors in determining an investor-owned water utility's reasonable rate of return, such as macroeconomic conditions.
6. The bill sets procedures and conditions for PURA to approve a settlement in a rate amendment proceeding, allows PURA to reject or modify a settlement provision that extends longer than an approved rate amendment, and limits the extent to which a settlement may be used to satisfy the law's requirement for companies to have a rate case at least once every four years.

The bill was signed into law by Governor Lamont.

Environmental Justice Bill

CWWA was successful in stripping provisions from SB-1147, a bill aimed at strengthening the state's environmental justice law, which would have subjected certain water diversions to extensive, duplicative regulatory oversight.

As proposed, the bill would have given the state Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) broad authority to deny or impose conditions on certain water utility interconnections. Given DEEP's broad authority under existing law to regulate diversion permits, CWWA opposed the provisions, which would have increased costs and delayed or halted projects needed to ensure the continued availability of safe, adequate drinking water in certain areas of the state.

DPH Revisions Bill

CWWA was successful in stripping provisions from HB-6733 which would have allowed the state Department of Public Health (DPH) to bypass the *Uniform Administrative Procedures Act* (UAPA) and enforce proposed regulations without benefit of notice, public comment, or review by the Attorney General's Office or legislature's Regulations Review Committee. CWWA raised concerns that broadly authorizing a state agency to implement proposed regulations sets a difficult precedent, subjecting water companies to proposed regulations that have not been properly vetted.

Public Act 23-31 (HB-6733) also includes language clarifying that in addition to having jurisdiction over the purity and adequacy of all public water supply sources used by municipalities, public institutions, or water companies, DPH has jurisdiction over public water supply sources held for future or emergency use beginning July 1, 2024. The bill was signed into law by Governor Lamont.

Unpaid Sewer Bills

CWWA opposed SB-916, which would have prohibited the foreclosure and assignment of unpaid sewer assessments of less than $4,000 or until five years after a lien is filed and remains unpaid.

"CWWA was successful in stripping provisions from SB-1147, a bill aimed at strengthening the state's environmental justice law, which would have subjected certain water diversions to extensive, duplicative regulatory oversight. "

"For more information on these issues, please contact CWWA's Executive Director Betsy Gara at 860-841-7350 "

This undermines efforts to collect unpaid sewer bills that are relied upon to fund WPCA operations. Although the bill won passage in the Senate, the bill died in the House due to opposition from CWWA and other advocacy organizations.

Stewardship Program for Tires

Public Act 23-62 (HB-6486) establishes a statewide Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program for tires to help ensure that tires are resold or recycled instead of abandoned along roadways, or in fields and streams. Under the act, tire producers must create or join a stewardship organization by January 1, 2025.

CWWA and a broad coalition of environmental and municipal organizations supported passage of the bill due to growing concerns regarding the number of discarded tires throughout the state. Discarded tires can impair source waters, interfere with distribution systems, and invite mosquito and other insect infestations, creating public health issues.

Trespass on Watershed Lands

The legislature adopted SB-994, Section 509, which includes provisions establishing a separate, specific violation for simple trespass of public water supply watershed land that is owned, controlled, or managed by a water company. Under the bill, a person is guilty of this violation when, knowing that he or she is not authorized to, enters or remains on the land without lawful authority or the water company's consent. Violators commit an infraction and are subject to a $90 fine.

CWWA's complete Summary of New Laws will be made available to members in September. For more information on these issues, please contact CWWA's Executive Director Betsy Gara at 860-841-7350.

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SAVE THE DATE!

CWWA & CT Section AWWA Fall Conference 2023

OCTOBER 26, 2023, 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
AQUA TURF, PLANTSVILLE, CT

SPONSORSHIPS & EXHIBITOR SPACE AVAILABLE!

Don't miss the CWWA/CTAWWA Fall Conference on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at the beautiful Aqua Turf Club, Southington, CT. We expect record attendance this year as we gather to hear from state regulators, lawmakers, and our colleagues in the water industry about challenges facing water utilities. Last year, more than 200 water industry professionals attended the event!

SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsors receive the following benefits:

- Company name/logo on conference agenda, registration materials, and event signage.
- Company name/logo on power point slide featured during registration and lunch.
- Space for handouts on conference registration tables.
- Acknowledgement from the podium during welcoming remarks.
- Company name/logo featured on CWWA's website.
- One complimentary registration, which includes a buffet lunch and continental breakfast.

SPONSORSHIPS:

CWWA & CTAWWA Members - $425

EXHIBITOR SPACE

Showcase your company's products and services directly to key decision-makers in the water industry by reserving your tabletop space today! Exhibitors receive the following benefits:

- 8-ft. skirted table and chairs located in the main conference room.
- Networking opportunities with water industry professionals.
- Company name/logo on signage and featured on power point slide during registration and lunch.
- Company name/logo featured on CWWA's website.
- Two complimentary registrations, which includes a buffet lunch and continental breakfast.
- A list of attendees and their contact information to make it easy for you to follow up with key contacts.

EXHIBITOR SPACE:

CWWA & CTAWWA Members - $575
Non-Members - $675

SPECIAL OFFER – Sponsorship & Exhibitor Space Package! CWWA & CTAWWA members may reserve sponsorship and exhibitor space at the discounted rate of $850.

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION:

CWWA/CWWA Members: $125 per person
Non-Members: $150 per person



Register today at *https://bit.ly/3rzLJ3z*.

Questions? Contact CWWA's Betsy Gara, *gara@gmlobbying.com* or 860-841-7350.

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American Water Works Association
ConnecticutSection

28th Annual Fall Golf Classic and Outing
September 12, 2023



TO BENEFIT:

CTAWWA
Philanthropic Committee

AT THE:

Tunxis Plantation

Golf Course & Banquet Facilities
87 Town Farm Road, Farmington, CT
Make sure to consider rush hour traffic for traveling!

Golf Tournament:	8:00 am to 9:30 am	Registration
	10:00 am	Four person teams, scramble format, shotgun start Team and individual prizes awarded
Non-Golfer Outing:	2:00 pm	Cash bar, bocce, and horseshoes available
Event Schedule:	10:30 am to 1:30 pm	Golf course snack bar cookout (Includes hamburgers, hotdogs, and sausage)
	3:00 pm to 6:00 pm	Hors d'oeuvres and carving stations in pavilion
	4:00 pm	Raffles and awards

$160 per person includes:
golf, food, poker game, raffle tickets

Contact committee with any questions:
Alex Cosentino, 860-539-5685, *acosentino@themdc.com*

The CTAWWA Philanthropic Committee supports philanthropic interests on behalf of the Connecticut Section of AWWA. In Cooperation with AWWA, the two main organizations the Philanthropic Committee supports are Water For People and Water Equation. Water For People and Water Equation are both registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.



American Water Works Association
ConnecticutSection

Registration and Sponsor Opportunities

Use the form below or register online: *www.ctawwa.org*
Golf Registration (All-Inclusive – $160 per person)
Please submit registration by September 1, 2023

Company Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Name: _____ Contact Email: _____

PARTICIPANT NAME:	Email:	Amount	✓
		$160	☐
		$160	☐
		$160	☐
		$160	☐

Non-golfer outing Only	Name:	$45	☐

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Hors D'oeuvre Sponsorship Company name on sign at pavilion and in program One tournament foursome included		$3,000	☐
Cookout Sponsorship Company name at cookout area and in program One tournament foursome included		$2,500	☐
Coffee, Donuts, and Danish – Morning Registration Sponsorship Company name on sign at breakfast area and in program		$500	☐
Driving Range Sponsorship Company name on sign at driving range and in program		$500	☐
Hole Sponsorship Company name on sign at tee box and in program		$150	☐
Raffle Prize Donations Company name in program and announced with item giveaway	Item(s):		

TOTAL: ☐

PAYMENT: Please make checks payable to CTAWWA – Philanthropic Committee and mail with completed form to Romana Longo, CTAWWA, PO Box 330472, West Hartford, CT 06133
or register online at *www.ctawwa.org* (golf is listed under events).

QUESTIONS? Email *acosentino@themdc.com* or phone 860-539-5685.

Golf registration fee covers cost of goods and services provided. No portion is to be considered as a donation to Water For People or Water Equation. Benefits for Water For People or Water Equation are achieved from sponsorship and raffle ticket sales.

10th Annual Kevin T. Walsh Memorial Golf Tournament



September 15th, 2023

AT THE

Lyman Orchards Jones Course

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TO BENEFIT

American Water Works Association
ConnecticutSection

THE ASSOCIATES COMMITTEE
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF KEVIN T. WALSH

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$150 Per Golfer

Includes Golf, Breakfast & Lunch

GOLF TOURNAMENT EVENT SCHEDULE:

7:30 AM	REGISTRATION & DRIVING RANGE OPENS
8:00 AM	HOT BREAKFAST IN THE GRILL ROOM
9:00 AM	FOUR PERSON TEAMS, SCRAMBLE FORMAT, SHOTGUN START
2:00 PM	LUNCH BANQUET IN THE TENT, RAFFLES, AWARDS, LIVE MUSIC (CASH BAR)

CONTACT TOURNAMENT CHAIR WITH ANY QUESTIONS:
LAUREN SCHWARMANN/ 860-510-9512 / LAUREN.SCHWARMANN@YAHOO.COM

REGISTRATION & SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

GOLF REGISTRATION ($150 PER PERSON)

REGISTRATION DUE - FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

PAYMENT:

GOLFERS AND SPONSORS CAN REGISTER & PAY ONLINE USING A CREDIT CARD
HTTP://CTAWWA.ORG/
(KTW IS LISTED UNDER THE "EVENTS" TAB)

IF SPONSORS NEED TO PAY BY CHECK
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "THE CT SECTION AWWA– SCHOLARSHIP FUND"

MAIL TO:

LAUREN SCHWARMANN
72 CONRAD ROAD
NEW CANAAN, CT 06840
LAUREN.SCHWARMANN@YAHOO.COM
860-510-9512

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

LUNCH SPONSORS COMPANY NAME ON A SIGN IN LUNCH AREA ONE TOURNAMENT FOURSOME INCLUDED		**$1000**	☐
DRIVING RANGE OR PUTTING GREEN SPONSORS COMPANY NAME ON SIGHT AT DRIVING RANGE OR PUTTING GREEN		**$250**	☐
LONGEST DRIVE OR CLOSEST TO PIN SPONSORS COMPANY NAME ON THE CONTEST HOLE		**$150**	☐
HOLE SPONSORS COMPANY NAME ON A REGULAR HOLE		**$100**	☐
RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS COMPANY NAME SHOWN & ANNOUNCED WITH ITEM GIVEAWAY	**ITEMS:**		☐

The funds from The KTW Memorial Golf Tournament go into the Associates Committee Scholarship fund.
The CT Section Associates scholarship committee administers and chooses awardees for the KTW scholarship from Water Management course study students from both Gateway Community College in New Haven, and Goodwin College in Hartford.

GOLF REGISTRATION FEE IS TO COVER THE COST OF GOODS & SERVICES PROVIDED. NO PORTION IS TO BE CONSIDERED AS A DONATION TO CT-AWWA.
BENEFITS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND ARE ACHIEVED FROM SPONSORSHIPS, DONATIONS & RAFFLE TICKET SALES.

Connecticut Water Clean-Up

We know that clean water starts at the source. As stewards of the environment and our local water sources, Connecticut Water regularly hosts watershed clean ups where employee volunteers pick up litter in the roadside areas of watersheds.

In celebration of Drinking Water Week, Connecticut Water employees teamed up with Garbo Grabber, LLC to clean up the roadsides in the Killingworth Reservoir watershed.



Welcome New Members

- Mikayla Billiter, Arcadis
- Casey Brennan, Connecticut Professional Water Services
- Dan Dressel, Greenblu
- Renee Driscol, Veolia North America
- Daniel Goodrich, Connecticut Water Co.
- Benjamin Levin, Hazen and Sawyer
- Jack Murawski, GHD

2023 CWWA and CTAWWA Scholarship Awards

The Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA) and the CT Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) recently awarded scholarships to three high school graduates in recognition of their outstanding academic achievement and interest in pursuing careers relating to the environment, public health, and water resources.



Nora Amsellem, a 2023 graduate of the Academy of Information Technology & Engineering in Stamford, plans to pursue a degree in Public/Global Health & Environmental Science. "As someone who has always appreciated the vastness and beauty of nature, making environmentally responsible choices is one of my priorities," Nora mentioned in her scholarship application. This passion inspired her to fundraise for *charity:water*, a non-profit organization that supplies clean drinking water to people in less-developed countries.



Molly Szczesniak, a 2023 graduate of Berlin High School in Berlin, CT, plans to pursue a career in chemical engineering. Noting that contaminated water is linked to various water-borne illnesses, Molly stated in her scholarship application: "By pursuing a career in chemical engineering, I can focus my research on ways to provide access to safe and clean water in some of the world's most impoverished areas."

Andrew Wright, a 2023 graduate of Lewis S. Mills High School in Harwinton, CT, plans to pursue a dual major in environmental and civil engineering. "Both of these degrees would allow me the opportunity to improve the environment and public health," stated Wright in his scholarship application. Wright also noted that one of his most valuable work opportunities was interning with an environmental consulting firm where he conducted soil and groundwater sampling, analysis, and risk-based assessment.



"As stewards of the state's water resources, we are honored to award scholarships to these outstanding students who have demonstrated an appreciation for the importance of providing people with safe, high quality drinking water," said Daniel Lawrence, Aquarion Water Company, and President of CWWA.

Lawrence added: "There are many rewarding careers in water and environmental related professions which serve a vital role in protecting the state's water resources and meeting the public health and safety needs of our communities."

US Senator Richard Blumenthal Visits RWA Facility in Seymour; Touts Approval of $3.4 Million To Support Clean, Reliable Water Service

Larry L. Bingaman, President and CEO of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (RWA), issued the following statement regarding US Senator Richard Blumenthal's visit to RWA's Seymour Well Field on Monday, June 5:

The Regional Water Authority was thrilled to welcome US Senator Richard Blumenthal to our Seymour Well Field today. Sen. Blumenthal and U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy were able to secure nearly $3.4 million in federal funding for two of the RWA's most critical infrastructure projects: HVAC and electrical improvements at Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant in North Branford, and replacement of a generator at an RWA well treatment facility in Seymour. This funding, part of the Omnibus Appropriations bill signed into law last year, will help to ensure that RWA customers can continue to enjoy clean, reliable water service without bearing the full burden of maintaining and upgrading the water infrastructure. We thank Senator Blumenthal and Senator Murphy for their support.



RWA President and CEO Larry L. Bingaman, left, joined US Senator Richard Blumenthal and Seymour First Selectwoman Annmarie Drugonis on Monday to highlight how nearly $3.4 million in federal funding will support clean, reliable water service for RWA customers.

PFAS Report: Water Pollution Control Facilities

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) contracted with Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc. to perform a study assessing the potential presence of PFAS in various environmental media at select water pollution control facilities (WPCFs) within Connecticut, as well as in their receiving waters and in downstream aquatic species in such waters. 35 WPCFs were selected for participation by DEEP to provide geographic coverage of the state and cover a range of differing community sizes, inputs, and treatment processes.

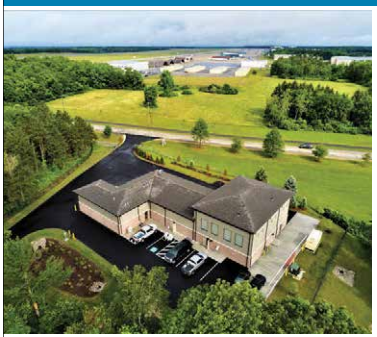
Environmental media tested for PFAS included:

- Influent, effluent, and sewage sludge from 35 WPCFs, sampled in summer 2021 and winter 2022.
- Composite sewage sludge and incinerator scrubber water from four WPCFs that incinerate sewage sludge, sampled in summer 2021 and winter 2022.
- Fish tissue and surface water (upstream and downstream) near 10 WPCF outfalls, sampled in Fall 2021 only.

For more information, including a copy of the report, please visit *www.portal.ct.gov/deep/municipal-wastewater/municipal-pfas*.

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WATER TREATMENT EXPERTS



- PFOS/PFOA
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  - *treatment design*
  - *design/build*
  - *operations*
- resiliency
- treatment
- distribution, pumping & storage
- pipe lines
- booster stations
- asset management
- planning & permitting
- design & construction
- meter programs
- 24/7 repair & maintenance
- cross connection
- well cleaning & maintenance

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Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program Accepting Applications

DEEP is now accepting applications for the 26th competitive grant round of the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program (OSWA). The program provides grants to water companies to acquire land to be classified and protected as Class I or Class II water supply watershed lands. The program also assists municipalities and nonprofit land conservation organizations in acquiring land for open space protection.

Awards are granted to projects that offer the highest conservation and recreational value and that leverage the greatest percentage of private and municipal funding.

Application materials must be submitted to DEEP no later than October 2, 2023. Yellow Book appraisals and appraisal reviews can be submitted by no later than November 2, 2023.

For more information, including applications, visit *https://bit.ly/3DkRQvn*.



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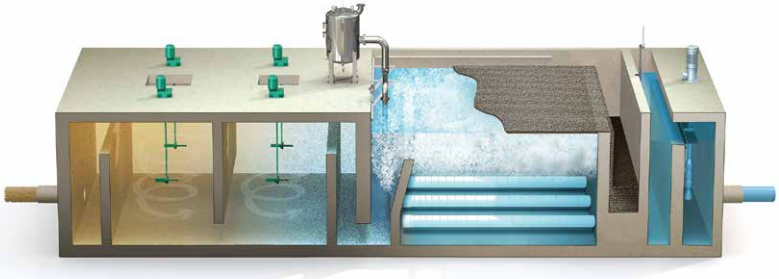
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