



JERSEY WATERWORKS 2025 **CONFERENCE**

DECEMBER 11 | THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY, EWING



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Smart infrastructure. Strong communities.

Jersey Water Works is a cross-sector collaborative working to transform New Jersey's water infrastructure through sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide communities with clean water and waterways; healthier, safer neighborhoods; local jobs; flood and climate resilience; and economic growth.

The success of Jersey Water Works is a testament to the dedication of its members. United, we strive to uncover innovative solutions that elevate our water infrastructure and inspire lasting change.



Among the photos featured in this year's program book are contributions from members and staff.

A special thank you to:

Saraly Gonzalez, *Environmental Education Program Director, Paddle with UrbanPromise!*

Tyrese Gould Jacinto, *President and CEO, Native American Advancement Corporation*

Alesha Vega, *Program Coordinator, New Jersey Future*

Paula Figueroa-Vega, *Director of Jersey Water Works Collaborative and Organizational Development, New Jersey Future*

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WELCOME

Welcome to the eleventh annual Jersey Water Works Conference!

This year, under the theme **Our Commitment to Future Generations**, we gather with a shared understanding—the choices we make today will shape the future our children inherit.

Water connects us all. It runs beneath our streets, through our homes, and across every community in New Jersey. It sustains our lives and our landscapes, and it asks something of us in return—stewardship, care, and the courage to plan for a future we may never see.

In 2025, our collaboration showed what dedication can achieve. Together, we strengthened lead protections, elevated urgent conversations around PFAS, and championed a One Water vision that recognizes our drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems as one interconnected whole. These milestones were possible because of your expertise, your passion, and your belief in a healthier New Jersey.

This year also tested us. When core funding disappeared, our members stepped forward without hesitation—investing, donating, and refusing to let this work fade. That response was more than generosity; it was a promise to the next generation.

As we look toward 2026, we face a simple but profound question: **What legacy will we leave?**

Will future generations inherit systems that protect them, nourish them, and withstand the challenges ahead?

The answer begins here, with each of us.

Let today inspire your next step—whether joining a committee, lending your voice, sharing your knowledge, or supporting the collaborative’s mission. Because the future is shaped by those who act.

Thank you for being here, and for all you do to ensure that New Jersey’s water remains clean, resilient, and life-giving for generations to come.



ANDY KRICUN

*Moonshot Missions
Co-Chair, Jersey Water Works*

NICOLE MILLER

*MnM Consulting
Co-Chair, Jersey Water Works*

ABOUT JERSEY WATER WORKS

Jersey Water Works (JWW) serves as an organized network that addresses emerging issues in water infrastructure. Together, members see the gaps in a holistic approach to water issues and move to fill them, driving real impact for nature and communities. Jersey Water Works seeks equitable, just outcomes as it works collectively to transform water systems for everyone.

Our vision for the future includes:



EFFECTIVE AND FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS

Communities maintain and improve drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure systems to deliver quality water services that meet community needs. Adequate operating budgets and capital investment result in systems that operate efficiently and are in good repair.



EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Well-informed decision makers, community partners, residents, and ratepayers participate actively and influence the planning and management of their water infrastructure. They fully understand the importance of maintaining water infrastructure, including the costs of inaction.



SUCCESSFUL AND BENEFICIAL GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Communities employ green infrastructure to maximize community benefits, including reduced flooding, improved water quality, increased local jobs, enriched community health, and strengthened long-term resilience.



SMART COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW CONTROL PLANS

Municipalities and utilities implement innovative CSO Long Term Control Plans (LTCs) with cost-effective solutions that meet or exceed permit requirements and provide multiple community benefits.



DRINKING WATER FREE FROM LEAD

Every person in New Jersey has access to a safe, healthy environment that nurtures their full potential, including drinking water free from lead.



TRANSPARENCY TO MONITOR WATER

Jersey WaterCheck data dashboard features data on water infrastructure from multiple sources in one location. This helps to capture New Jersey's water and sewer systems metrics and provide transparency to monitor water quality across the state.



A VIABLE AND DIVERSE WORKFORCE

Municipalities, utilities, and contractors increase the diversity of community members who participate and succeed in the water workforce sector. They invest in the next generation of water leaders and support the goal of retaining diverse talent in the water sector.

ABOUT JERSEY WATER WORKS

THANK YOU MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

Together, we transform New Jersey's water infrastructure by educating, advocating, and investing in sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide communities with clean water and waterways; healthier, safer neighborhoods; local jobs; flood and climate resilience; and economic growth.

SHARED LEADERSHIP

A steering committee leads Jersey Water Works. Its 600+ members advance the organization's shared goals through their work, collaboration, and participation on various JWW committees. New Jersey Future supports Jersey Water Works as its "backbone" organization.

SUSTAINING MEMBERS CIRCLE

This year, due to change in our funding, we launched a Sustaining Members Circles and invited members to contribute to the collaborative. Thank you to every Sustaining Member, who are also this year's conference sponsors!

THANK YOU SUPPORTERS

Collaborative members advance solutions in lead service lines, water workforce, combined sewer overflows, and stormwater within committees and with the support of governmental and private philanthropic organizations, including but not limited to The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, The Fund for New Jersey, The Kresge Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Spring Point Partners, and the Partners for Places Jobs and Inclusive Infrastructure Initiative, a project of The Funders Network.

visit **jerseywaterworks.org** to
learn more about Jersey Water Works and its
full set of goals or to join the collaborative.

AGENDA

Thursday, December 11, 2025

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	DOORS OPEN, REGISTRATION, NETWORKING, and EXHIBITOR'S TABLE	BSC 100
9:00 - 9:45 a.m.	WELCOME and KEYNOTE ADDRESS • Welcome Remarks • Our Commitment to Future Generations Mini Keynotes • Title Sponsor Remarks: NJ American Water	BSC 100
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.	BREAK	
10:00 - 11:15 a.m.	BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1 1. Authority Governance Explained 2. Building Holistic Pathways for Resilient Municipal Stormwater Management 3. Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) in New Jersey Part 1: <i>Leveraging SRF for Lead Service Line Replacement</i> 4. Connecting the Dots: Organizing Our Approach to PFAS Challenges Part 1: <i>Mapping Existing Efforts</i>	BSC 224 BSC 225E BSC 225W BSC 100
11:15 - 11:30 a.m.	BREAK	
11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2 1. Addressing Combined Sewer Overflows: <i>Navigating Challenges and Solutions</i> 2. Debt as a Tool, Not a Burden: <i>Smart Financing for Stronger Water Systems</i> 3. Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) in New Jersey Part 2: <i>Non-SRF Approaches To Lead Service Line Replacement</i> 4. Connecting the Dots: Organizing Our Approach to PFAS Challenges Part 2: <i>Collaboration Opportunities</i>	BSC 224 BSC 225E BSC 225W BSC 100

AGENDA

Thursday, December 11, 2025

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
12:30 - 1:40 p.m.	LUNCH and AFTERNOON KICK OFF THIS MOMENT: <i>THE STATE OF WATER</i> <i>AND OUR COLLECTIVE VOICE</i> • Nicole Miller, <i>Jersey Water Works</i> • Commissioner Shawn LaTourette, <i>New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection</i> • Veolia, <i>Community Builder Sponsor</i>	BSC 100
1:45 - 2:45 p.m.	BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3 1. Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) in New Jersey Part 3: <i>Optimizing Contracting and Consultant Collaboration for LSLR Efficiency</i> 2. Water Affordability: An Action Agenda for a Permanent Low-Income Water Affordability Program in New Jersey 3. Rethinking Economies of Scale: <i>Regionalization, Shared Services, and the Spectrum of Opportunities Part 1</i> 4. Leaders in Green Infrastructure: <i>Overcoming Local Challenges</i>	BSC 225W BSC 224 BSC 100 BSC 225E
2:45 - 3:00 p.m.	BREAK	
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	BREAKOUT SESSIONS 4 1. Rethinking Economies of Scale: <i>Regionalization, Shared Services, and the Spectrum of Opportunities Part 2</i> 2. NJDEP Operator's License Updates and Inspiring Journeys from Emerging Water Leaders 3. Protecting Future Generations: <i>Policy Solutions that Protect Health and Addresses Lead in Water</i>	BSC 100 BSC 224 BSC 225W
4:00 p.m.	CONFERENCE ADJOURNS	

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

The Eleventh Annual Jersey Water Works Conference offers the following professional continuing education units. Note that some credit-approved sessions may run concurrently during the Conference. Please review the schedule in advance as you plan your sessions. If you have any questions, contact Sara Barreiros at sbarreiros@njfuture.org.

CERTIFIED PLANNERS (AICP CM)

- These credits are self-reported through [planning.org](https://www.planning.org). You can find our event on APA's website: <https://www.planning.org/events/eventmulti/9301050/>.
- The following session has been approved for 1.25 AICP CMs:
 - Building Holistic Pathways for Resilient Municipal Stormwater Management
- The following sessions have been approved for 1.0 AICP CMs:
 - Leaders in Green Infrastructure: Overcoming Local Challenges
 - NJDEP Operator's License Updates and Inspiring Journeys from Emerging Water Leaders

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS (PE CPC)

- Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) credits are available for 9 sessions.
- To earn CPC credits for each approved session:
 - Must attend the entire session and sign in and sign out on the attendance form in the back of the room.
 - ▶ These forms will be reviewed by the Conference Committee and a proof of attendance certificate will be provided within 7-10 days after the Conference. Please be sure to print legibly and provide your email address as that is how you will receive your certificate of attendance.
- The following sessions have been approved for 1.3 CPC credits each by the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors:
 - Building Holistic Pathways for Resilient Municipal Stormwater Management
 - Connecting the Dots: Organizing Our Approach to PFAS Challenges Part 1: Mapping Existing Efforts
- The following sessions have been approved for 1.0 CPC credits each by the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors:
 - Addressing Combined Sewer Overflows: Navigating Challenges and Solutions
 - Debt as a Tool, Not a Burden: Smart Financing for Stronger Water Systems
 - Connecting the Dots: Organizing Our Approach to PFAS Challenges Part 2: Collaboration Opportunities
 - Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) in New Jersey Part 3
 - Leaders in Green Infrastructure: Overcoming Local Challenges
 - Rethinking Economies of Scale: Regionalization, Shared Services, and the Spectrum of Opportunities Part 1
 - Rethinking Economies of Scale: Regionalization, Shared Services, and the Spectrum of Opportunities Part 2

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS (CFM CEC)

- A total of 5 CECs for CFMs by the Association of State Floodplain Managers have been approved for the Eleventh Annual Jersey Water Works Conference. All sessions qualify for CEC credits. Floodplain Managers should request a proof of attendance certificate from the Conference Committee to self-report.

DRINKING WATER UTILITY TRACK

TCH# 04-112501-10 and CPWM# DLGS-NJWA-301 Credits, provided by NJ Water Association, are available for NJ-Licensed Water Operators and NJ-Certified Public Works Managers.

- 3.5 TCH for NJ-Licensed Water Operators. **TCH# 04-112501-10**
- 3.5 Credits for NJ-Certified Public Works Managers (1.0 Technical, 2.5 Management)

CPWM# DLGS-NJWA-301

- ▶ To earn credit:
 - Please plan to arrive at 8:00 a.m. for registration
 - Attend all three sessions in the Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement Learning Lab/Utility Track:
 - Leveraging SRF for Lead Service Line Replacement
 - Non-SRF Approaches to Lead Service Line Replacement
 - Optimizing Contracting and Consultant Collaboration for LSLR Efficiency



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SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

MORNING GENERAL SESSION

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m

WELCOME AND KICKOFF Our Commitment to Future Generations

BSC 100

Systemic changes are possible when we harness our collective action to create meaningful change. With a new governor set to take office in 2026, we invite you to join our morning session to hear from thought leaders dedicated to understanding the impact of our one water work on future generations. These experts are involved in large-scale associations and coalitions throughout the state. The decisions we make today will influence future generations; let's ensure that these decisions are well-informed and thoughtfully considered.

SPEAKERS

- **Brian J. Brach, P.E.**, *Executive Director, Manasquan River Regional Sewerage Authority (MRRSA), Association of Environmental Authorities of NJ (AEA NJ)*
- **Jennifer Coffey**, *Executive Director, Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) Representative*
- **Andy Kricun, P.E.**, *Managing Director, Moonshot Missions, Jersey Water Works Steering Committee Co-Chair*
- **Chelsea Kulp**, *Director of Communications and External Affairs, NJ American Water, NJ American Water Works Association (AWWA)*
- **Paula Figueroa-Vega**, *Director, Jersey Water Works Collaborative*

TITLE SPONSOR REMARKS

- **Mark McDonough**, *New Jersey American Water*



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 1

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE EXPLAINED

BSC 224

Many New Jerseyans receive their water, sewer, and solid waste services via authorities. This session delves into types of authorities, their purpose and powers, their governance and funding structure. Participants will gain insight into how an authority board of commissioners sets policies and works with the authority executive director and staff. They will learn how the professionals at effective authorities carry out their mission to protect the environment and public health.

SPEAKERS

- **Diane Alexander**, *Partner, Maraziti Falcon, LLP*
- **Peggy Gallos**, *Executive Director, Association of Environmental Authorities*
- **Patricia Lindsay-Harvey**, *Commissioner, Willingboro Municipal Utility Authority*
- **Emmanuel Stuppard**, *Executive Director, Willingboro Municipal Utility Authority*

BUILDING HOLISTIC PATHWAYS FOR RESILIENT MUNICIPAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

BSC 225E

Adopting a holistic approach to stormwater management involves integrating program planning, evaluating funding options, and engaging with stakeholders. This presentation will cover planning that incorporates MS4 requirements, hazard mitigation, and resilience. Attendees will explore various funding strategies, including user fees, leveraging available grants, loan opportunities, and other alternatives. Additionally, individuals from Raritan Township will share their firsthand experiences in implementing a stormwater utility. Participants will gain practical insights and tools to develop resilient, well-funded stormwater programs that meet regulatory requirements and support long-term environmental and community needs.

SPEAKERS

- **Christopher Huch Jr.**, *Senior Resilience Planner, Black & Veatch Corporation*
- **Prabha Kumar**, *Managing Director, Black & Veatch Corporation*
- **John P. Tully**, *Supervisor of Engineering & IT, Supervisor of Stormwater Utility, Township of Raritan*
- **Dana Patterson Grear**, *Director of Marketing & Communications, Princeton Hydro (moderator)*

SCAN HERE



**MEET ALL OF TODAY'S
INSPIRING SPEAKERS
ON OUR WEBSITE!**

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 1

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

LEVERAGING SRF FOR LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

BSC 225W

Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement Learning Lab (Part 1)

Are you looking for effective funding strategies to replace lead service lines? This session focuses on the use of the State Revolving Fund (SRF) as a financial mechanism for replacing lead service lines, highlighting various funding strategies. Attendees will learn how to access SRF resources, navigate the application process, and maximize funding to expedite lead service line replacement (LSLR) efforts. Case studies will showcase successful projects funded by the SRF, providing practical insights for water utilities and municipalities.

SPEAKERS

- **Anthony Coppola**, *New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*
- **Mike Curley**, *Section Chief, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Quality, Municipal Finance and Construction Element, Bureau of Environmental, Engineering and Permitting, Engineering Review Section*
- **Noemí de la Puente**, *Principal Engineer, Trenton Water Works*
- **Fabiane Faria**, *Dewcon Contracting*
- **Patricia Forgang**, *Associate and Subject Matter Expert, CDM Smith*
- **Brian Lubenow**, *Senior Project Manager, CDM Smith*
- **Kristin Epstein, P.E.**, *Project Manager, Northeastern U.S. LCR Compliance Coordinator, CDM Smith (moderator)*

MAPPING EXISTING EFFORTS

BSC 100

Connecting The Dots: Organizing Our Approach To PFAS Challenges Learning Lab (Part 1)

Numerous significant developments are occurring across the state concerning PFAS, making it essential for us to remain well-informed as we navigate these complex challenges. This session is a two-part session. In Part 1, we'll map out the current landscape, discussing the latest developments and challenges related to PFAS. Part 2 will shift our focus to collaboration, exploring the creation of a committee or task force designed to enhance our messaging and collective efforts. Attendees will have the opportunity to share insights, learn from one another, and develop a unified strategy to address PFAS concerns effectively. Join the conversation as we collaborate to create a meaningful impact.

SPEAKERS

- **Patricia Gardner**, *Assistant Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*
- **Amy Goldsmith**, *New Jersey State Director, Clean Water Action*
- **Ali Pajooman, P.E.**, *Program Manager, Veolia North America*
- **Donald C. Shields, P.E.**, *Vice President and Director of Engineering, New Jersey American Water*
- **Andy Kricun, P.E.**, *Managing Director, Moonshot Missions, Jersey Water Works Steering Committee Co-Chair (moderator)*

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 2

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

NON-SRF APPROACHES TO LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

BSC 225W

Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement Learning Lab (Part 2)

Communities with limited funding are still expected to comply with the Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) requirements. This session will cover alternative financing strategies, including private funding, grants, and innovative local models, for LSLR when State Revolving Fund (SRF) options are unavailable. Attendees will explore practical solutions to overcome financial barriers and ensure equitable LSLR programs for all communities.

SPEAKERS

- **Eric Kroger**, *General Superintendent, Dewcon Contracting*
- **Yolanda McCollom**, *Environmental Engineer, Ridgewood Water*
- **Hetal Mistry, P.E., MBA, PMP**, *Manager Engineer Lead Program, Veolia Water New Jersey*
- **Daniel Radici, CEO**, *Brute Contracting*
- **Noemí de la Puente**, *Principal Engineer, Trenton Water Works* (moderator)

EXPLORING COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES

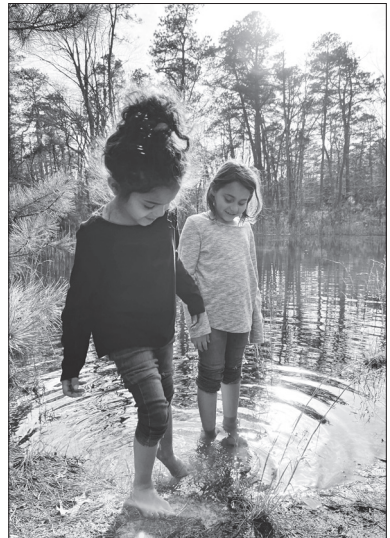
BSC 100

Connecting The Dots: Organizing Our Approach To PFAS Challenges Learning Lab (Part 2)

Numerous significant developments are occurring across the state concerning PFAS, making it essential for us to remain well-informed as we navigate these complex challenges. This session is a two-part session. In Part 1, we'll map out the current landscape, discussing the latest developments and challenges related to PFAS. Part 2 will shift our focus to collaboration, exploring the creation of a committee or task force designed to enhance our messaging and collective efforts. Attendees will have the opportunity to share insights, learn from one another, and develop a unified strategy to address PFAS concerns effectively. Join the conversation as we collaborate to create a meaningful impact.

FACILITATOR

- **Nicole Miller**, *MnM Consulting, Jersey Water Works Steering Committee Co-Chair*



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 2

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

ADDRESSING COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOWS: NAVIGATING CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

BSC 224

There are several critical issues related to combined sewer overflows (CSOs), and many dedicated individuals are actively working behind the scenes to develop solutions. In this discussion, we will examine recent updates and the challenges that utilities face as they obtain permits and implement their Long-Term Control Plans. We will place particular emphasis on concerns regarding affordability and access to funding, as well as the need for a greater understanding of regional approaches and the shared responsibility of all communities in finding and funding solutions.

SPEAKERS

- **Josie Castaldo**, *Environmental Specialist, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Water Quality*
- **Joe Mannick**, *Section Chief, Bureau of Surface Water and Pretreatment Permitting, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*
- **Susan Rosenwinkel**, *New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Water Quality, Director of Division of Water Quality*
- **Scott Schreiber**, *Executive Director, Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (CCMUA)*
- **Maura Jarvis**, *Program Manager, US Water Alliance (moderator)*

DEBT AS A TOOL, NOT A BURDEN: SMART FINANCING FOR STRONGER WATER SYSTEM

BSC 225E

Debt doesn't have to be a burden, it can be a powerful tool for maintaining and upgrading water infrastructure. This session will reframe how utilities, engineers, and local leaders approach borrowing, demonstrating how debt can save money in the long term by preventing costly emergencies and supporting proper maintenance. Speakers will highlight the advantages of low-interest State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans for clean water and drinking water projects, and why SRF often outperforms the bond market. Participants will gain practical strategies to navigate application challenges and messaging tools to show how proactive borrowing safeguards systems, reduces costs, and strengthens community health and stability.

SPEAKERS

- **Thomas Horn, P.E.**, *Executive Director Lambertville Municipal Utilities Authority*
- **Jennifer Harris, P.E.**, *CME, Partner and Principal Engineer, Environmental Resolutions*
- **Christina Patagma**, *Mid-Atlantic Funding Navigator Manager, EPIC*

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

AFTERNOON KICK OFF AND KEYNOTE

12:30 p.m. to 1:40 p.m.

**THIS MOMENT:
THE STATE OF WATER AND OUR COLLECTIVE VOICE**

BSC 100

- **Nicole Miller**, *Jersey Water Works Steering Committee Co-Chair*
- **Commissioner Shawn LaTourette**, *New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*
- **Community Builder Sponsor: Kendra Morris, Veolia**



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 3

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

OPTIMIZING CONTRACTING AND CONSULTANT COLLABORATION FOR LSLR EFFICIENCY

BSC 225W

Advancing Lead Service Line Replacement Learning Lab (Part 3)

In today's fast-paced project environments, optimizing contracting processes and fostering collaboration with consultants is crucial for successful lead service line replacement (LSLR) initiatives. This session explores strategies to streamline contracting and enhancing partnerships with consultants to improve operational efficiency in LSLR projects. Attendees will learn promising practices for contract management, effective consultant engagement, and leveraging specialized expertise to meet project timelines and budgets. Join us to discover various approaches that drive successful outcomes in lead service line replacement.

SPEAKERS

- **Dan Krause**, *Senior Director of Sales and Marketing, Hopeworks*
- **Brian Lubenow**, *Senior Project Manager, CDM Smith*
- **Sean Moore**, *Senior Construction Representative, CDM Smith*
- **Harold Sofield**, *Project Director, American Water*
- **Michael T. Wolan**, *Director, Engineering Project Delivery, New Jersey American Water Company*

WATER AFFORDABILITY: AN ACTION AGENDA FOR A PERMANENT LOW-INCOME AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM IN NEW JERSEY

BSC 224

A Low-Income Household Water Affordability Program would not only protect low-income households from unaffordable rates but also would result in additional revenue for water utilities, which can help them close their resource and funding gaps. Is it possible for New Jersey to create a permanent NJ water assistance program? Join us to discuss strategies for building support through an educational campaign that highlights the urgent need for such a program. Learn from advocates about the challenges faced by residents struggling with water bills, utility-level challenges and solutions, and preliminary data findings on shut-off notices and overdue payments. Discover how advocacy efforts in Michigan provide a successful model for statewide water affordability legislation that prioritizes public health and infrastructure sustainability.

SPEAKERS

- **Anthony Diaz**, *Co-Founder and Executive Director, Newark Water Coalition*
- **Larry Levine**, *Director of Urban Water Infrastructure & Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)*
- **Kimberly Schalek Downes**, *VP, Business Development, Government & External Affairs, New Jersey American Water*
- **Alex Wells, P.E.**, *Supervising Engineer, Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC)*
- **Rachel Dawn Davis**, *Public Policy & Justice Organizer, Waterspirit (moderator)*

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 3

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

LEADERS IN GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: OVERCOMING LOCAL CHALLENGES

BSC 225E

Underinvestment in green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) practices has burdened New Jersey communities with frequent flooding and impaired water quality. Municipalities struggle to overcome funding barriers and specialized maintenance requirements to build long-lasting GSI projects. Hear from a panel of local leaders sharing success stories and lessons learned in GSI implementation, maintenance, and workforce development to help advance GSI in your own community.

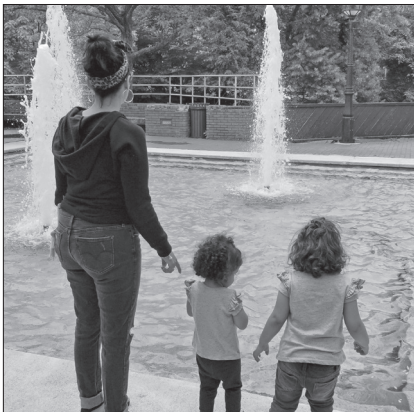
SPEAKERS

- **Thomas C. Flynn, M.P.A.**, *CFM in the Woodbridge Township Division of Engineering*
- **David Kois, PP, AICP**, *Planning Director / Deputy Zoning Official Hillsborough Township*
- **Molly Riley**, *Project Manager, Climate Adaptation, New Jersey Future*
- **Leo Vazquez, AICP**, *Executive Director Northern NJ Community Foundation*
- **Chris Sotiro**, *Policy and Program Coordinator, New Jersey Future* (moderator)

RETHINKING ECONOMIES OF SCALE: REGIONALIZATION, SHARED SERVICES, AND THE SPECTRUM OF OPPORTUNITIES PART 1 AND PART 2

BSC 100

More than 1,000 drinking water and wastewater systems in New Jersey are under mounting pressure from aging infrastructure, rising costs, climate change, evolving regulations, and issues with public trust. These challenges are compounded by underinvestment, limited workforce capacity, and affordability concerns for customers. Increasingly, state and federal policies are incentivizing cooperation, regionalization, and other partnerships to address these issues. This session will explore policies and practices supporting partnerships and various partnership structures.



SPEAKERS

- **Ellen Kohler**, *Director of Applied Research and Policy, Water Center at Penn*
- **Andy Kricun, P.E.**, *Managing Director, Moonshot Missions, Jersey Water Works Steering Committee Co-Chair*
- **Olga Morales Pate, CEO**, *Rural Community Assistance Partnership Incorporated (RCAP)*
- **David Zimmer**, *Executive Director, New Jersey Infrastructure Bank*
- **Diane Schrauth**, *Policy Director, New Jersey Future* (moderator)

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 4

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

PROTECTING FUTURE GENERATIONS: POLICY SOLUTIONS THAT PROTECT HEALTH AND ADDRESS LEAD IN WATER

BSC 225W

Policy plays a crucial role in shaping the frameworks within which society operates, guiding decision-making processes, and establishing standards that promote fairness, efficiency, and social welfare. Through thoughtfully designed policies, governments and organizations can address complex issues, ensure accountability, and drive positive change in communities. This session examines policy solutions to safeguard public health by addressing lead in drinking water. Attendees will explore legislative and regulatory approaches, community engagement strategies, and equitable policies to eliminate lead exposure. The session will also highlight successful policy frameworks and outline actionable steps that can be taken.

World Cafe Style Discussions with facilitators:

- **Enrique Landa**, *Community Organizer, East Trenton Collaborative* (moderator)
- **Eve Butterworth**, *PhD Candidate, Rutgers University*
- **Rachel Dawn Davis**, *Public Policy & Justice Organizer, Waterspirit*
- **Yvette Jordan**, *Advocacy Committee Chair of Lead-Free NJ and Chair Emeritus, Newark Education Workers Caucus*
- **Alix Fellman**, *Director of Community Development, Trenton Health Team*
- **Amy Goldsmith**, *New Jersey State Director, Clean Water Action*
- **JoLynn Moloughney**, *Municipal Policy Specialist at The Watershed Institute*
- **Jim Nelson**, *Leader, Jersey City Together*
- **Elyse Pivnick**, *Senior Advisor, Environmental Health, Isles*
- **Siddhartha Roy, Ph.D.**, *Assistant Professor, Rutgers University*



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, December 11, 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS BLOCK 4

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

NJDEP OPERATOR'S LICENSE UPDATES AND INSPIRING JOURNEYS FROM EMERGING WATER LEADERS

BSC 224

The future of the water workforce relies on dedicated individuals across various experience levels and skill sets. This session will highlight the latest updates from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Operator Licensing process. Then we'll hear from emerging professionals in the field who participated in the Emerging Water Leaders of Color Leadership Circle. We will emphasize the critical role of mentorship and how connections with seasoned professionals offer valuable guidance. Attendees will discover strategies for overcoming challenges, expanding their skills, and building professional networks. This discussion will underscore the importance of mentorship and cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset as essential drivers of career growth in the water sector. Everyone is welcome to join!

SPEAKERS

- **Christian Haviland**, *Division of Water Supply & Geoscience, Bureau of Water System Engineering – LO Unit, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*
- **Marina Shenoda**, *Newark Water and Sewer, Principal Engineer*
- **Charles Walker**, *NJ American Water, Senior Quality Assurance Analyst*
- **Maggie Rwakazina**, *AICP, Ripples to Rise (moderator)*

RETHINKING ECONOMIES OF SCALE: REGIONALIZATION, SHARED SERVICES, AND THE SPECTRUM OF OPPORTUNITIES PART 2

BSC 100

More than 1,000 drinking water and wastewater systems in New Jersey are under mounting pressure from aging infrastructure, rising costs, climate change, evolving regulations, and issues with public trust. These challenges are compounded by underinvestment, limited workforce capacity, and affordability concerns for customers. Increasingly, state and federal policies are incentivizing cooperation, regionalization, and other partnerships to address these issues. This session will explore policies and practices supporting partnerships and various partnership structures.

Small Roundtable Discussions led by Speakers:

- **Diane Schrauth**, *Policy Director, New Jersey Future (moderator)*

Emerging Issues: Ellen Kohler, *Director of Applied Research and Policy, Water Center at Penn*

Utility Perspectives: Andy Kricun, P.E., *Managing Director, Moonshot Missions, Jersey Water Works Steering Committee Co-Chair*

Community Perspectives: Olga Morales Pate, CEO, *Rural Community Assistance Partnership Incorporated (RCAP)*

Funding and Financing: David Zimmer, *Executive Director, New Jersey Infrastructure Bank*



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2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ASSET MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. **Co-hosted three educational webinars** on debt, shared services, collaboration, climate resilience, and State Revolving Funds (SRF) funding, reaching over 120 participants with New Jersey Future's Funding Navigator program, the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center, and other partners.
 2. **Reviewed and submitted comments** on the FFY 2025/SFY 2026 Intended Use Plans.
- **Stormwater Utility Subcommittee**
- a. **Promoted stormwater utilities and resources to municipalities.** This year, New Jersey established its fourth stormwater utility.
 - b. **Hosted a meeting** to learn about two state-funded stormwater utility projects with WSP.
 - c. **With ANJEC, organized a webinar** featuring the Maplewood mayor and Stormwater Utility Manager to showcase the town's Stormwater Utility implementation, with 63 attendees.
 - d. **Created a scorecard** to review SWU progress.
- **Water Affordability Subcommittee**
- e. **Secured funding** from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation to work on water affordability.
 - f. **Helped advance water affordability goals** by convening partners from Trenton, Newark, Paterson, Atlantic City, and Camden, and working closely with NRDC and New Jersey Future.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (GI) COMMITTEE

1. **Organized an in-person tour** of The Watershed Institute's green infrastructure projects and discussed regional watershed planning in the Stony Brook Watershed.
2. **Promoted** the new resource *Enhanced Stormwater Management Plan for Municipalities* to strengthen local green infrastructure implementation.
3. **Submitted comments** to the *New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on the NJ Protecting Against Climate Threats (PACT) Resilient Environments and Landscapes (REAL) Rules Notice of Substantial Change* and elevated supportive resolutions to municipal partners.
4. **Submitted recommendations and feedback** to national partners through the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange on its "*Framework of GSI Practice*" resource.
5. **Elevated local educational and volunteer opportunities** for GI implementation, and created a space for questions and peer support.

2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SMART COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW (CSO) COMMITTEE

1. **Submitted comments** to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Draft Combined Sewer Overflow Permits for Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC), City of Bayonne, Borough of East Newark, Town of Harrison, Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority, Town of Kearny, City of Newark, North Bergen Municipal Utilities Authority, and City of Paterson.
2. **Co-hosted a public engagement workshop** on providing input for NJDEP's strategies to reduce flooding and sewage overflows in the PVSC service region. Collaborated with Sewage Free Streets and River, Hackensack River Keeper, Keep America Beautiful Newark, Newark DIG, NJ/NY Baykeeper, Southward Environmental Alliance, Sustain Work, Wade Trim, and New Jersey Future for the workshop.
3. **Convened a meeting with Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission** to learn about their work and explore future collaboration (21 attendees).

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. **Published two blogs:** *Lead service line replacement outreach*, and *The Importance of "Filter First": A Preventive Approach to Reduce Lead Contamination in Drinking Water*.
2. **Provided training** on *Lessons Learned: Two Years of Accelerating Lead Service Line Replacement in New Jersey Communities* in partnership with New Jersey Water Association (offered utility credits).
3. **Hosted LSLR Office Hours Session** in partnership with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and New Jersey Infrastructure Bank.
4. **Partnered with Lead-Free NJ's Advocacy Committee** to advocate for extending grant deadlines, *Supporting Clean Drinking Water: Ensuring safe water in schools and childcare facilities*, and elevating recommendations from the childcare report.
5. **Published a Lead Data Report** in partnership with Jersey WaterCheck.
6. **Achieved two key legislative initiatives:** the disclosure of lead in drinking water at rental properties and filters for schools.

2025 JERSEY WATERCHECK (JWC)

1. **Released the sixth update**
2. **Released a Lead Data report** *Early Trends in Lead Service Line Inventories*.

2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WATER WORKFORCE TASK FORCE

1. **Continued to increase awareness about careers** in the water sector via communications strategies, presentations, and connecting with partners at the One Water Table.
2. **Elevated the Emerging Water Leaders of Color Leadership Circle model** and raised awareness about water sector careers. Published a blog and produced a video highlighting three emerging leaders.
3. **Coordinated the Spring Point Partners' Delta Partners Peer Leadership Exchange** at the 2025 One Water Summit in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Coordinated the session with ten national Delta partners, creating a collaborative peer learning space with 80 participants.
4. **Collaborated to secure funding** to advance workforce initiatives with New Jersey Future, Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA), and Atlantic County Municipal Utilities Authority (ACMUA), via the Funder's Network Partner for Place program, focusing on upskilling the existing workforce.

2025 STEERING COMMITTEE

1. **Monitored strategy and policy implementation progress.**
2. **Welcomed three new steering committee members** (Nicole Brown, Kyle England, Jennifer Harris).
3. **Explored ways to fund and sustain** the collaborative and launched a Sustainable Members Circle initiative.
4. **Published *One Water Approach Recommendations: A Letter to the Candidates for Governor of New Jersey*.**



NEW!

The formation of a committee for PFAS and emerging contaminants is under consideration for approval in 2026.

Visit NJWaterCheck.com

Knowledge to Transform Water Infrastructure

Jersey WaterCheck is an online dashboard that combines data from public sources and information from utilities. The dashboard is in its Year 6 update.

JWW Shared Goals



Learn about JWW shared goals

Benchmark Hub



Find data

System Finder



Find water and wastewater
systems

Lead Resources



Find lead service line resources

The dashboard includes every drinking water and wastewater system in the state.

Explore data about the state's drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater.

Jersey WaterCheck is for You

- Utilities can demonstrate progress, showcase public health commitment to their communities, and facilitate learning best practices with peers.
- Consumers will better understand local water and sewer systems, the role they play in community public health, and ways to become a water advocate.
- Jersey WaterCheck's Lead Resources page is the one-stop shop for municipal officials, utility leaders, and water consumers looking to learn more about lead service line resources.
- Newly released report examines quantitative data on lead service line (LSL) replacements and contextualizes it through case studies of five NJ water systems.

Collaboration

Jersey WaterCheck was created by a collaborative process that included input from a data advisory committee, a utility coalition, utility associations, consumer focus group, and Jersey Water Works committee members.

Award-Winning

Winner of the
2021 Water Data
Prize Equity
Awards.



Visit NJWaterCheck.com

Jersey WaterCheck is part of Jersey Water Works—a collaborative that works to strengthen our state's water infrastructure.



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New Jersey Water Risk and Equity Map

Visit NJWaterEquity.Rutgers.edu

This tool shows the overlay of water risks and demographic factors in New Jersey, and can highlight inequities in water risk exposure.

Map Uses

- Identify risks and prioritize solutions
- Advance local advocacy work
- Engage community members in community planning
- Inform researchers and educators

Water Risk and Equity Data

- "Water Risk Data" shows areas at risk of flooding, lead service lines, impaired water quality, and other issues.
- "Demographic Information" shows the location of overburdened communities as defined by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.
- "Areas of Interest" show additional information, such as watershed boundaries.

Environmental Justice Hotspots



Flooding Environmental Justice Hotspots



Water Infrastructure Environmental Justice Hotspots

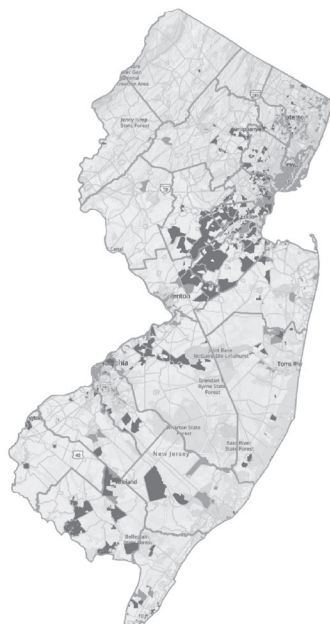


Both Flooding and Water Infrastructure Environmental Justice Hotspots

Learn more at



NJWaterEquity.Rutgers.edu



The Water Risk and Equity Map was selected for the 2021 Water Data Prize in the Equity Category. The map is a collaboration between Rutgers, Jersey Water Works, and New Jersey Future.

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At CDM Smith, we're shaping the future of water systems with solutions that safeguard public health and natural resources. From replacing lead service lines to advancing PFAS remediation and enhancing stormwater resilience, we share Jersey Water Works' commitment to solving today's most complex challenges and building a better world for future generations.

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New Jersey Future

NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program

Northern New Jersey Community Foundation

Princeton Hydro

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The Watershed Institute





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Collaborative*

NEW JERSEY'S WATER CHALLENGES

A water infrastructure crisis is brewing across the country and in New Jersey, with billions of dollars needed to address aging systems, lead contamination, and the increasing threat of climate-related flooding. These issues pose significant risks to public health. It is crucial for stakeholders to come together and prioritize investment in clean, safe, and affordable water for all residents.

Collaboration and action are critical to build a resilient water system that meets the needs of every community in New Jersey.

WHAT WE DO



Infrastructure Solutions

Policy recommendations, white papers, fact sheets, reports, and pilot programs.



Communications

Resources for communicating the value of upgrading our water infrastructure, including funding stormwater management.



Community Engagement

Breaking down silos and convening stakeholders to promote equitable water infrastructure solutions.

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Smart infrastructure. Strong communities.

Jersey Water Works brings people together to find solutions focused on clean water and waterways, healthier and safer neighborhoods, local jobs, flood and climate resilience, and economic growth. **Your support and engagement helps advance the mission of Jersey Water Works.**

Jersey Water Works is a **collective impact** collaborative dedicated to improving water infrastructure and ensuring access to clean and affordable water for all New Jersey residents. JWW unites over 600 members from various sectors: community advocates, public health officials, engineers, policymakers, and more. Together, we can effectively address the emerging water challenges facing our state.

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Chair: Christine Ballard, CDM Smith

Stormwater Utilities Subcommittee: Dana Patterson Grear, Princeton Hydro;

Micah Shapiro, School District of Philadelphia

Water Affordability Subcommittee: Larry Levine, Natural Resources Defense Council

COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW COMMITTEE

Andy Kricun, Moonshot Missions; Michele Langa, Hackensack Riverkeeper and NY-NJ Baykeeper

DATA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair: Dan Van Abs, Ph.D., PP/FAICP, Professor of Professional Practice in Water, Society and Environment (Retired), Rutgers University

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Christopher Obropta, Ph.D., P.E., Rutgers Water Resources Program;

Rosana Pedra Nobre, New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program;

Lucia Middleton, The Watershed Institute

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER TASK FORCE

Chair: Amy Goldsmith, Clean Water Action

LEAD SERVICE LINE IMPLEMENTATION WORKGROUP

Co-chairs: Noemi de la Puente, Trenton Water Works; Yolanda McCollom, Ridgewood Water

WATER WORKFORCE TASK FORCE

Andy Kricun, Moonshot Missions

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NEW JERSEY FUTURE BACKBONE ORGANIZATION WATER POLICY

Diane Schrauth, Policy Director – dschrauth@njfuture.org



A special thanks to the New Jersey Future Backbone Organization and the communications team for all their support.

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