

March 19, 2018 Clean Water Exchange

Key Topics

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Your Voice Needed in Washington for Water Week 2018



As the Trump Administration advances its infrastructure priorities, water issues have emerged as an important focal point among a crowded field of legislative priorities. To keep the momentum building, water advocates need the support and participation of the entire water sector during [Water Week 2018](#), one of the clean water sector's premiere advocacy outreach events.

With policymakers in Washington, DC now firmly focused on infrastructure investment, it's more critical than ever that YOU make plans to attend and support the [National Water Policy Fly-](#)

[In](#) (April 17 – 18), the anchor event of [Water Week 2018](#).

We also encourage you to participate by serving as a Water Week Supporting Organization. Drawing from a diverse group of interests, the Supporting Organizations represent the vast spectrum of issues impacting the water sector. There is no cost involved in becoming a Supporting Organization, and your agency's logo will be displayed with other supporters on the [Water Week 2018 website](#).

If you are interested in participating, contact [Oliver Hamilton](#) NACWA's Manager, Government Affairs, for more information. This promises to be the largest and most important *Water Week* yet – don't miss it!

Engage with Your Members of Congress on the Administration and Congressional Infrastructure Packages



The White House released its long-awaited infrastructure [proposal](#) Feb. 12 outlining the Trump Administration's framework for rebuilding infrastructure in America, including water, wastewater and stormwater. NACWA is pleased that, after the past year of strong advocacy and discussions by the Association and its members with the Administration, clean water was included as a key component of the infrastructure proposal. However, NACWA has concerns regarding other guiding principles and provisions contained – or not included - in the infrastructure proposal.

The White House has indicated that it is open to working with Congress to draft an ultimate package which may or may not include all of the ideas in the Administration's plan. Given that development of an infrastructure package will ultimately be up to Congress through a deliberative process, it is critical the water sector plays an active role in the upcoming legislative discussions – including highlighting those elements of the White House plan that we like and challenging those elements that we don't.

Senate Democrats released their \$1 trillion [plan](#) for rebuilding America's infrastructure last week, on the heels of the White House's infrastructure [proposal](#) that was released last month and as Congress begins crafting comprehensive infrastructure legislation. NACWA is pleased to have had the opportunity to work with Senate Environment & Public Works Committee Democrats over the past year to ensure that their plan included clean water as a key component. Specifically, the plan would provide \$115 Billion in federal investment over 10 years (or an average of \$11.5 billion per year) for water infrastructure, divided equally between water and wastewater. The House continued laying the groundwork for infrastructure legislation as well as the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee's Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee held a hearing with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on building America's 21st Century infrastructure. The subcommittee is expected to conduct further hearings in the coming weeks on additional water infrastructure needs.

NACWA will continue working with Congress to ensure clean water priorities are included in any infrastructure package, as well voice our support and concerns with provisions included in the Administration's proposal. Now is the time to engage your members of Congress, and ask your members to do the same, to ensure that funding for water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure, including the Administration's promise of tripling the SRFs, remain a priority in the ultimate infrastructure package.

Contact your Members of Congress to Weigh in on FY18 & FY19 EPA Appropriations



NACWA has sent letters to Congressional Appropriators reiterating several important funding asks, as the March 23 deadline approaches for Congress to pass a Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 appropriations measure based on a framework prescribed by the recently passed, bipartisan [budget deal](#). Both letters, one to the [full committee](#) and one to the [subcommittees](#), reflect the requests that NACWA and the water sector have been advocating throughout the past year.

With the recent budget agreement providing increased spending levels of \$63 billion for FY18 non-defense discretionary funding, and a commitment to dedicate \$20 billion of overall funding to infrastructure, NACWA is urging Congressional Appropriators to provide the strongest funding possible for clean water infrastructure, specifically the Clean and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs) and the Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (WIFIA). NACWA also is requesting robust funding for EPA's geographic watershed programs to help protect water quality, EPA's Water Security Division (WSD) to help prepare for natural and man-made disasters, and federal water research and technology investments to help drive innovation and address emerging water treatment challenges.

Additionally, as Congress prepares to begin its work on the FY19 appropriations bills, Reps. John Katko (R-NY) and Louise Slaughter (D-NY) have drafted a bi-partisan letter to the House

Interior & Environment Appropriations Subcommittee requesting a doubling of the SRFs relative to currently enacted levels. This request has strong support from NACWA and other water sector organizations. A doubling would equal \$2.8 billion in federal appropriations for the Clean Water SRF and \$1.8 billion for the Drinking Water SRF, helping states better advance the infrastructure needs of local communities. NACWA is urging all of its members and state & regional water sector groups to contact their Congressional Representative to request that they sign onto this letter currently being circulated to all Members of Congress.

NACWA Releases MS4 Stormwater Permitting Guide



NACWA is pleased to release the long-awaited [MS4 Stormwater Permitting Guide](#) that will help municipal stormwater managers across the country navigate MS4 permits that seem to become more complex with each permit iteration. The *MS4 Stormwater Permitting Guide* is intended for both novice stormwater managers looking at permit renewals for the first time and for the expert stormwater manager that is searching to answer more advanced MS4 related questions.

The [MS4 Stormwater Permitting Guide](#) contains nine comprehensive chapters on a wide variety of timely and relevant stormwater issues. Whether you are searching for advice on water quality trading, post-construction needs, concerns over the maximum extent practical standard and water quality standards—the *MS4 Stormwater Permitting Guide* provides practical information and helpful advice for small Phase II MS4s and medium and large Phase I MS4s. The *MS4 Stormwater Permitting Guide* includes a hot topics section that dives into emerging contaminants, the jurisdictional quagmire of waters of the United States, and climate resiliency and more!

The *MS4 Permitting Guide* is a digital document that is easy to navigate and share with your stormwater colleagues. It contains quick reference "call-out" boxes as well as citations and resources to key regulatory and legal sources. Download NACWA's new [MS4 Stormwater Permitting Guide](#) today!