

NACWA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE TO THE  
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY  
COMMITTEE (CBPC)

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Agencies (NACWA)  
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# WHO WE ARE

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National trade association  
for public wastewater &  
stormwater utilities

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NACWA represents over  
320 public utilities of all  
sizes from around the  
country

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We are the recognized  
national leader in  
legislative, regulatory and  
legal advocacy on the full  
spectrum of clean water  
issues

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# America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) – WRDA 2018

- WRDA ++: 30+ new programs: 9 on clean water, the rest are drinking water
  - Creates a task force to study and develop recommendations on funding stormwater infrastructure
    - EPA determining how to populate group
  - Water workforce competitive grant program
    - EPA will need to stand up program; NACWA will be advocating for Appropriations
  - CSO/Stormwater/Reuse Grants
    - Reauthorized and expanded eligibility; direct to States or utilities; NACWA will be advocating for Appropriations
  - Lots of other grant and technical assistance programs
  - DWSRF – increased authorization, streamlining
  - WIFIA – Reauthorized; Pilot status removed

# Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (H.R. 7279)

**Goal:** Legislation approved by Congress & signed by President by end of year

- Signed into law 1/14/19!
- Passed House 351-10; Senate on Unanimous Consent in last week of 115<sup>th</sup>

Provides crucial legislative certainty to communities seeking to develop an Integrated Plan to manage costs and prioritize their clean water investments.

- Makes clear via statute that not only can a local government pursue IP approaches via a permit or within the enforcement context, but the language also expands the ability of a utility to prioritize and sequence wastewater and stormwater compliance obligations – as well as water reuse, water recycling, green infrastructure and other innovative projects – over more than one permit term.
- Additionally, directs EPA to support the use of green infrastructure in permits, consent decrees and settlement agreements.
- Also establishes, for the first time, a Municipal Ombudsman office within EPA to act as a liaison between EPA and the municipal regulated community
- NACWA will be engaging with EPA as implemented, and Congress (hearing/potential \$)

# Opportunities for Appropriations Advocacy and Pursuing Local Funding

- Federal Budget/Funding
  - FY18 omnibus - increased SRFs (Clean Water & Drinking Water) by \$300M each - 21% increase for Clean Water SRF
  - Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (WIFIA) funded at \$63M
  - FY19: likely result is maintained strong SRF funding levels (\$1.69B for CW, \$1.164B for DW; \$63M for WIFIA)
  - For FY20, also advocating for new Appropriations for new WRDA programs
- CWSRF Reauthorization – Committee priority for 116<sup>th</sup>!
- Federal Infrastructure Package – need to keep water in the discussion as scope is discussed – may also be revisiting tax issues
- Affordability – guidance update; Congressional attention
- Source water protection and Farm Bill; EPA/USDA focus on market-based solutions for nutrients (12/4/18 joint letter to states)

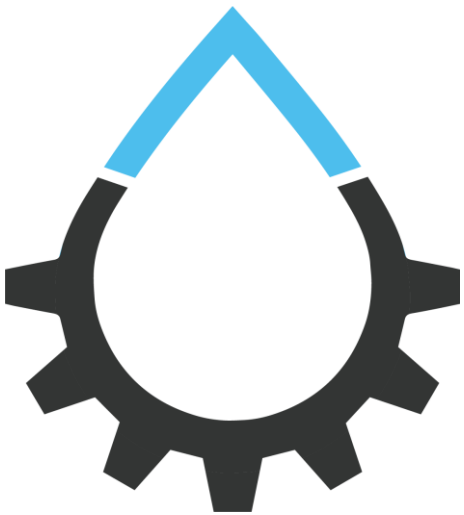


## UPCOMING EVENTS

💧 **NACWA WINTER CONFERENCE –  
The CWA/SDWA Nexus**  
Albuquerque, NM | Feb.5-8, 2019

💧 **WATER WEEK 2019**  
Washington, DC | March 31 – April 4,  
2019

💧 **NATIONAL PRETREATMET  
& POLLUTION PREVENTION  
WORKSHOP AND TRAINING**  
Tacoma, WA | May 14-17, 2019





**NACWA**



**The Voice of Clean Water Agencies**