

# InFlow-Line

The Magazine of the CT Section American Water Works and the Connecticut Water Works Associations Summer 2022

## The CTAWWA and CWWA 49th Annual Joint Conference Recap

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### ***Inside This Issue***

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Reservoir in Wilton, CT.  
Photo by Kathy Fortin.



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# Bright Future Ahead

**A**fter a two-year hiatus we were able to join with colleagues at our 49th Annual Joint CTAWWA/CWWA Conference in Newport, RI.

The conference was a resounding success and it was wonderful to reconnect with friends, meet new friends and to attend exceptional technical sessions. Thanks to all those who attended, and I look forward to the next year serving as chair of the best little section in AWWA!

I am honored to be our Chair for the 2022-2023 term. Although we are currently facing many challenges, inclusive of a shrinking workforce, supply chain shortages, climate change, regulatory changes, etc., we have a bright future ahead of us and two more notable milestone events to look forward to.

This year the CT Section will host the Region I Regional Meeting of Section Officers (RMSO), where AWWA leaders meet with section leaders to present information on AWWA programs and initiatives. Sessions are designed to share experiences and lessons learned.

Next May will be our 50th Annual Joint Conference and we hope this special milestone will be another extraordinary success that we will remember for years to come.

These are only a few of many events, educational opportunities, and networking opportunities that the Section offers throughout the year. To find out more or to stay up to date, visit our website ([www.ctawwa.org](http://www.ctawwa.org)) or reach out to our board members.

Our section continues to gain national recognition with our very own Romana Longo winning the Jack W. Hoffbuhr Award for outstanding performance, the Bristol Water Department's Hydrant Hysteria Team placing in the top 10 at their first appearance at ACE and our Section receiving the Club 7 Award for membership growth. Our success and

national recognition are in large part due to your dedication and participation in the section and industry. Thank you for all that you do for the industry, the section, and our communities. I hope you will encourage new folks to participate in committees, take on leadership roles and continue to grow this amazing and vital industry.

Finally, I would like to thank Gerry McDermott, Scott Bonnet, Romana Longo, and the entire Governing Board for your guidance and dedication through an exceedingly challenging time. I will strive to follow in the footsteps of those before me and continue our tradition of excellence. 💧

***“Thank you for all that you do for the industry, the section, and our communities. I hope you will encourage new folks to participate in committees, take on leadership roles and continue to grow this amazing and vital industry.”***



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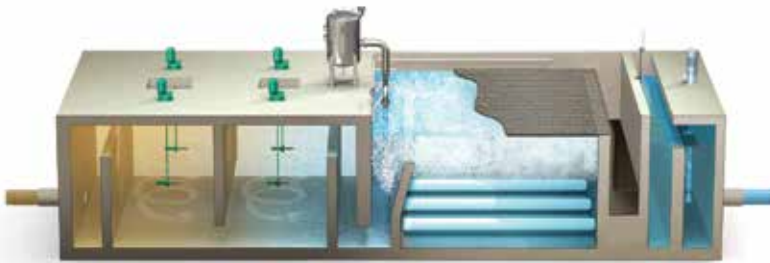
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# Drinking Water Action Levels and Board Changes

In case you missed it, on June 15, 2022, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CTDPH) announced through their Circular Letter #2022-29 that they've updated the drinking water action levels for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The previous action levels were set at 70 parts-per-trillion (ppt) for PFOA and PFOS individually and for the sum of the two. These have been replaced with a chemical specific approach based off of scientific studies and research gained over the past several years. See the table to the right.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also issued a press release on June 15, 2022, announcing new drinking water lifetime health advisories for four PFAS. Of the four, two compounds were

established as interim health advisories: PFOS set at 0.02 ppt and PFOA set at 0.004 ppt. Both health advisories set well below the CTDPH's Action Levels for these two specific compounds created some confusion and concern among water providers across the state.

At the CWWA Compliance Workshop held on June 21, 2022, CTDPH's Public Health Branch Chief Lori Mathieu,

provided an overview of how the science has evolved leading to the chemical specific action level revisions.

One of the concerns expressed from those in attendance was regarding customer messaging: "How does a utility effectively communicate the CTDPH Action Levels vs. EPA's Health Advisories with their customers if each individual utility is crafting a different message?"

Analyte	CT Drinking Water Action Level (parts per trillion, ppt)
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	10
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	12
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	16
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	49



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Ms. Mathieu understood the concern and stated her department will work to build off of EPA's informational templates already available and customize the messaging that can aid in utilities delivering a unified message to their customers.

Another question of great interest to attendees was, "What action will be required of a utility should a water

source exceed one of the action levels?" Whereas Ms. Mathieu provided four recommendations that can be used to either reduce the concentrations below the action level or completely remove PFAS compounds in its entirety. Those recommendations include taking the source with PFAS offline; identifying alternative sources; blending sources if feasible; or lastly, installing

treatment. While these are all sound recommendations, any one of them can significantly impact a utility from a financial and operational prospective.

Combine PFAS concerns with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) inventory requirement deadline and the loss of skilled water professionals exiting the workforce, to say utilities currently face some of the greatest challenges in decades, is an understatement.

On a lighter note, at the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual CTAWWA/CWWA Joint Conference in Newport, RI, on May 26, 2022, we said goodbye to Board of Director members Craig Patla (Connecticut Water Company), David Banker (The Metropolitan District), Rick Stevens (Groton Utilities), John Hudak (Regional Water Authority), and Brendan Avery (now with Eversource Energy). I want to personally thank all of them for their tireless efforts and dedication throughout the past year. I also want to recognize Dan Lawrence (Aquarion Water Company) for demonstrating tremendous leadership during his tenure as CWWA President. Thankfully, Dan will remain on the Board serving as Past-President, so I'll look to Dan for guidance for what is shaping up to be a very, very, busy year.

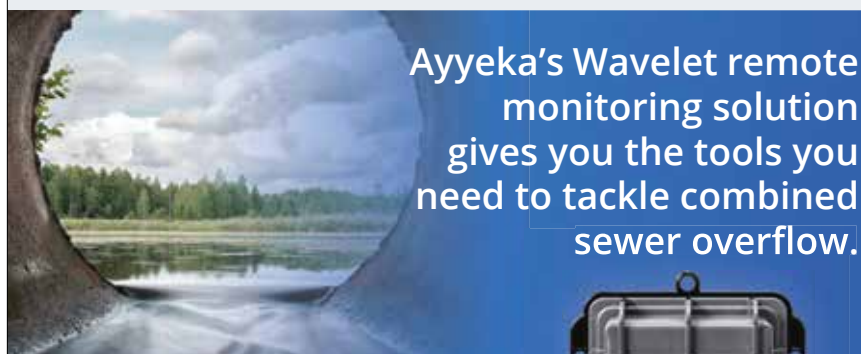
I'd also like to recognize our new Board Members: Neil Amwake (Wallingford Water) serving as Treasurer; Elizabeth Burns (South Norwalk Electric & Water) serving as Secretary; Sunny Lakshminarayanan (Regional Water Authority) serving as Director 2; Richard Meskill (Meriden Public Utilities) and Rich Hanratty (Connecticut Water Company), both serving as Director 3. To our existing Board Members, Legislative Tri-Chairs, new Board Members, and our amazing Executive Director Betsy Gara, I'm looking forward to serving our members as CWWA President over the next year and am extremely grateful to have the opportunity to work with such a very talented group of people. 💧

Ray Baral  
President, CWWA



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# Initiatives to Look Forward To

It was great to see everyone at a very successful Annual Conference in Newport. As I write this message, it's mid-July and I'm already wondering where the summer's gone. I hope everyone is making every effort to enjoy the summer season with friends and family.

There are two important initiatives I want to bring to your attention from AWWA National.

First, AWWA is kicking off the Transformative Water Leadership Academy ([www.awwa.org/twla](http://www.awwa.org/twla)) in 2022. AWWA has partnered with the WaterNow Alliance to develop a 10-month leadership training program that will "emphasize innovative, sustainable community leadership concepts, and techniques to enable the participants consider and balance social, environmental, equity, and financial concerns as they become next generation leaders." Individuals in the program will incorporate a combination of in-person sessions (2), small group discussions and a mandatory capstone project as learning strategies to accomplish the program goals. A total of 50 participants will be accepted into this program initially at no cost thanks to an EPA grant that has been awarded to AWWA. This is an outstanding opportunity for you or someone you may know and/or supervise to improve their leadership skills, expand your or their network and increase resiliency and sustainability within our industry.

The second initiative is Water 2050, a major AWWA effort to establish a long-term vision of what our industry may look like in the year 2050. While there is no crystal ball to spell out the details of the drinking water industry almost 30 years into our future any more than there was in 1992 that could have predicted where we'd be today, this is an effort to begin looking down the road and to begin planning based on indicators available to us today. AWWA has identified the following five drivers as guideposts to influence progress and

*"I encourage everyone to read more about Water 2050, as the concept promises to be a very important component of AWWA's future planning efforts for years to come."*

shape future work supported by this initiative; Sustainability, Technology, Economics, Governance and Social/Demographics. Within each of these five drivers, AWWA seeks to identify and engage with leaders from other sector leaders, to enlist strategic partners to foster collaboration, better understand, and utilize intergenerational perspectives

and to capture information collected in many areas (recommend to identify some areas for which information is to be collected from) to further support the water community. I encourage everyone to read more about Water 2050, as the concept promises to be a very important component of AWWA's future planning efforts for years to come. 💧



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# The CTAWWA and CWWA 49th Annual Joint Conference Recap

The 49th Annual Joint Conference at the Viking Hotel in Newport at the end of May was a huge success. After a two-year COVID-19 hiatus the conference brought together over 100 attendees. Congratulations to AECOM – 2021 CTAWWA Diversity & Inclusion Award Winner and

Nicholas Rossi – 2021 CTAWWA Young Professional of the Year Winner and 2022 Fuller Awardee Raymond Baral.

Many thanks go out to those involved in planning the event, as well as the speakers, volunteers, sponsors, and all our attendees.



Scott Bonett, outgoing CTAWWA Chair, performs the passing of the gavel to Ingrid Jacobs, incoming CTAWWA Chair.



Ray Baral and Dan Lawrence, incoming and outgoing CWWA Presidents.



AWWA Past President Chi Ho Sham and AWWA's Colin Chung with Romana Longo.



CWWA Past Presidents.

American Water Works Association  
**Connecticut**Section

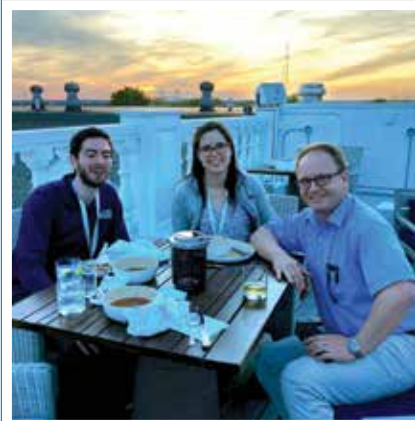


The CTAWWA Board with Past AWWA President Mellissa Elliott, and AWWA's Colin Chung.



Trudy Cox, CEO & Executive Director at Preservation Society of Newport County.

## WEDNESDAY RECEPTION





## AWARDS



AECOM 2021 Diversity Award Winner.



Nick Rossi receives the Young Professional Award.



Tom Barger receives the Past Chair Award for 2020-2021.

Ray Baral receives the AWWA Fuller Award. Ray has worked in the water industry for over 33 years, including over 19 years as a MDC employee. He is currently the Metropolitan District's Assistant Manager of Water Treatment, and has served in multiple leadership roles with the AWWA both in Connecticut and nationally and continues to serve on various committees that support public health and safe drinking water.



Attendees enjoying the Networking Cruise.



Past recipients of the AWWA Fuller Award welcome 2022 awardee Ray Baral.





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# Connecticut Water Re-Opens Killingworth Hiking Trail

## Repairs to 2018 Flooding Damage are Complete, Trail is Free and Open to the Public

Connecticut Water's Killingworth Reservoir Hiking Trail has been re-opened for public use. The trail, which is just under two miles out and back from its trailhead off Roast Meat Hill Road to its ending point at Reservoir Road, had been closed since 2018 when severe flooding washed out a foot bridge over the Menunketesuck River.

"We are happy that residents can once again enjoy this beautiful hiking trail, just in time for summer," said Maureen Westbrook, President of Connecticut Water. "We're very passionate about being good stewards, not only of our precious water resources, but of the land as well. This includes making open space available for recreation and providing the proper environment for local flora and fauna while still protecting the public water supply."

The trail is part of an approved Connecticut Department of Public Health recreation program for the watershed area, which allows for public access within a designated area of a public drinking water supply watershed when it can be demonstrated that the activities will still maintain the purity and adequacy of the water supply area. This specific watershed provides water to Connecticut Water's Killingworth and Kelseytown reservoirs, which is a source of water for customers in the shoreline area servicing the towns of Guilford, Madison, Clinton, Westbrook, and Old Saybrook.

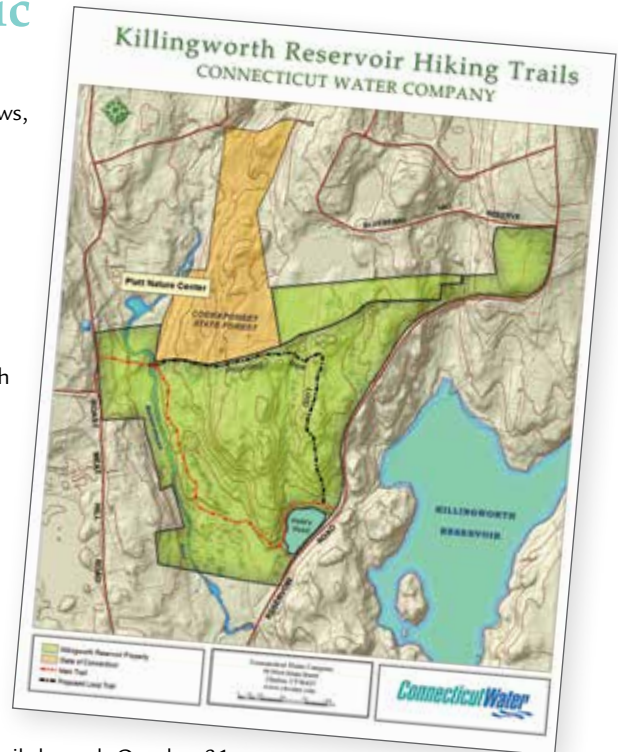


"The trail offers views of meadows, ponds, the Menunketesuck River and shady wooded areas," said Eric Hammerling, Director of the Connecticut Forest and Park Association. "Hikers are likely to spot blue birds, black-capped chickadees, monarch butterflies, wood ducks, beavers, frogs, and turtles. The trail is an easy hike with a small incline in one section."

In addition to the installation of the new 30-foot long foot bridge, Connecticut Water employee volunteers have installed nesting boxes for native birds to support the local ecosystem and offer educational opportunities for hikers.

The trailhead is located off Roast Meat Hill Road, just south of the Platt Nature Center and is open from the third Saturday in April through October 31.

No bikes and/or off road vehicles are permitted on the trail. Connecticut Water relies on hikers to adhere to carry in/carry out practices and to leave the nature area as they found it for the good of the environment and the quality of the public water supply watershed. 💧





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# What's All the Buzz About?

## South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Foray into the World of Pollinator Gardens

By Amy Velasquez and Ron Walters, Regional Water Authority

Pollinators are a necessity for the reproduction of numerous plants, including crops grown throughout the US. Unfortunately, pollinators are in decline due to pesticide use and habitat fragmentation. The Pollinator Pathway movement began in Seattle in 2008 and started in Connecticut in 2017. Since the first pollinator garden was installed in the Town of Wilton in 2017, numerous other Connecticut municipalities have joined the effort and created gardens. Following the lead of its member municipalities, the Regional Water Authority (RWA) initiated their own pollinator garden program beginning in 2021.

Employees brought their ideas for pollinator gardens to the RWA Sustainability Committee, which supported this endeavor. With the help of our facilities and real estate departments, four pollinator gardens were established. Three gardens were started from seed;

one was an existing half-acre mowed meadow that contained some wildflowers but mostly tall grasses.

Having little experience in this type of endeavor, we decided to plant a pollinator garden at our headquarters in the most inhospitable location we could find. This is a small strip of land between our visitor's parking lot and our neighbor Assa Abloy's service road. The soil is approximately 10 inches deep, underlain by asphalt and bordered by pavement on both sides with full sun all day. The hell strip of all hell strips! Mugwort and other weeds were constantly being weed-wacked and sprayed with Roundup only to repeatedly reappear. With a bit of skepticism from our facilities department, the Sustainability Committee met the challenge. After a failed attempt with seeding, we learned about using cardboard as a weed barrier.

The hellstrip was covered with cardboard and overlaid with a layer of

wood chips. Drought tolerant plants, donated by employees, were used as a test case. Coneflower, day lily, lavender, butterfly weed, yarrow, sedums, and milkweed were planted in the hell strip. We had a lucky break with a summer that provided sufficient rainfall for the plants. The pollinator garden was an overwhelming success! As we moved into the garden's second year, we added pussy willows, viburnum, columbine, little blue stem, coryopsis, penstemon, sundrops, black-eyed susans, and prairie dropseed. This summer, we received a sign that our efforts were attracting wildlife. A killdeer mating pair has made a nest in the pollinator garden!

The push for pollinator gardens was initially to show community support for this endeavor, but it evolved into an educational opportunity. Replacing lawn areas with native plants reduces the application of fertilizers and pesticides






including in our drinking water source watersheds. Also, planting native plants provides food for plant-eating insects like caterpillars and thus food for the birds and other animals that eat the insects. Native insects will only eat plants they have evolved with (i.e., natives) and will not eat most non-native species. Some pollinators also need natives as host plants to reproduce (for example the monarch butterfly only lays its eggs on milkweed varieties).

Removing non-native invasive species, like Japanese barberry, multiflora rose, and Asiatic bittersweet will allow native plants to move in and flourish. Be wary of invasive ornamentals sold at your local nursery. Avoid planting autumn olive, burning bush, and Norway maple. Instead, consider planting native species such as winterberry, high bush blueberry, native dogwoods, or sycamore.

Remembering the 3 P's (Planning, Patience and Prayer) will go a long way toward success. Start small and plan

your garden three seasons in advance. Design your garden in the winter. Prepare your planting bed in the spring and plant in early fall. Native plants are expensive and are not always available. One way to obtain plants is to winter seed. This is a cost-effective and easy way to acquire plants, while providing an interesting hobby over the winter that helps one look forward to spring.

As we continue this journey, our focus has transitioned to native plant landscapes rather than pollinator gardens. Trees, shrubs, grasses, and perennials all play a role in biodiversity. Providing pollen and nectar without host plants for caterpillars or nesting habitats is a puzzle with several pieces missing. We have seen a trend in neighborhoods where one lawn is converted into a garden, and a year or two later, more gardens pop up, and lawns begin to shrink – a win for water quality and water conservation. Consider joining the movement and adding native plants to your yard. 

Our Waite Street Pollinator Garden grown from seed. Black-eyed susans dominated the first season.



Success in our first year: a monarch butterfly egg.



RWC Headquarters Hellstrip



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# New Painting Regulations for Potable Tanks

By Erin Schmitt, Media Director and Technical Writer for Pittsburg Tank & Tower Group

**Interior coating systems** for potable tanks are set to change very soon. In January, new regulations will take effect for potable tanks that are either new or are being repainted.

The US and Canada adhere to the NSF/ANSI/CAN 600 standard for drinking water system components. That includes water storage tanks, pumps, valves, pipes, fittings, and mechanical devices. The changes are to further protect the integrity of drinking water since the allowable limits of solvents are decreasing.

The EPA and Health Canada follow NSF/ANSI/CAN 600, formerly known as Annex A of NSF/ANSI/CAN 61. This regulation requires that the two countries follow criteria based on new Health Canada maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) values for toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene. Essentially, it has lowered the allowable leaching levels for the solvents, which are frequently used in coatings for drinking water system components, according to [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org).

Making drinking water safer is the goal. The allowable amount of such solvents as toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene is decreasing significantly. These solvents are used commonly for lining potable tanks and for touch-ups, so reducing the allowable amounts will have a huge impact.

Since this was such a big switch, there's been an implementation period to give manufacturers and customers time to transition to compliant products. As of January 1, 2023, the new regulations take effect limiting the allowable limits of these compounds. For the water storage tank industry, this means that all tanks used for potable water, including dual-purpose tanks, will need to follow the new regulations.

Drinking water has always had stricter standards due to it being for human consumption. As of now, the new regulations don't address fire protection or process tanks.

Coating manufacturers must either replace or create new formulas that meet the criteria. These changes will mean that some paints will no longer be viable options as of 2023. Many cost-effective paint systems will no longer be allowed, though some existing higher-end paint systems will continue to be used and there will be new paint systems created to address the new requirements.

In some instances, the cost of painting projects will likely increase quite a bit. Aside from purchasing new paint systems, some contractors will have to upgrade equipment to apply the paint systems.

Paint manufacturers are producing new paints that will adhere to the regulations. The approved interior paint systems are already being applied to newly built tanks. The new regulations apply to the maintenance of existing potable water tanks. Basically, if a potable tank's interior is repainted, the existing paint will need to be stripped, and the newly approved coating will need to be applied.

If a potable tank owner chose to have their tank painted before the deadline – they would not have to adhere to the new regulations.

Should you be in the market for a paint job, it would be wise to consider these changes. It might be more cost-effective to get your tank painted before the end of 2022, if possible. If that's not feasible, be aware that your paint budget will likely increase. 💧





# Water Professional

# Inspiration

By Ada Liz Gabancho-Soto

*M*y name is Ada Liz Gabancho-Soto. I am from a small town called Uchiza located in the Peruvian Amazon. At night the sky is so clear. It almost feels as if you can reach out with your hands and touch each star. The sounds of many different kinds of animals can be heard throughout the day and night. Uchiza is a year-round tropical paradise, and while it may be hot, the breeze that rustles through the trees in the shade is simply heavenly. As a child, I remember playing in the orange groves at my parents' farm. I can still smell the fresh oranges and I remember the times when my sister and I were playing and jumping into massive piles of oranges. I was always in contact with nature. It was there that I planted my first tree; a Caoba tree. I felt very accomplished in my contribution to my environment.

The 1980s in Peru were times rife with terrorism. When violence invaded my town, my good memories start to disappear. Many people were senselessly murdered by terrorism. I remember as a child, waking up very early because I heard an explosive noise like fireworks. It was gunfire! I huddled under the bed with my sister and my mother. We prayed and asked God to protect us. I was so scared. After the gunfire, we went outside, and I will never forget the sight

of the dead bodies littered on the ground and holes in the walls from the bullets. Even the town's church had a hole in the walls. I was in shock looking at the church that was destroyed and all the dead bodies. I have very sad memories of that time. Uchiza had changed, and it was now too dangerous to stay.

As a result, my family and others moved to the capitol city, Lima where people hoped to have a better and safer life with their families. The population in Lima began to grow very quickly, and soon there was not enough room for everyone, and lacking good sanitary conditions such as running water, proper sewage management and other, basic services.

While I was living in Lima, I observed how the people were living with a lack of basic water services, bad water quality, and bad treatment of residual water. I saw the reality of how people suffered. The poor had to pay more money for their water. They have to pay for the transportation to distribute the water to their houses which was far from everything. Trucks would be used to transport water. They need roads, pipes, treatment plants, and wells to bring clean water to them. They did not have the money to supplement with all this equipment. People collected water in containers for later use. These conditions

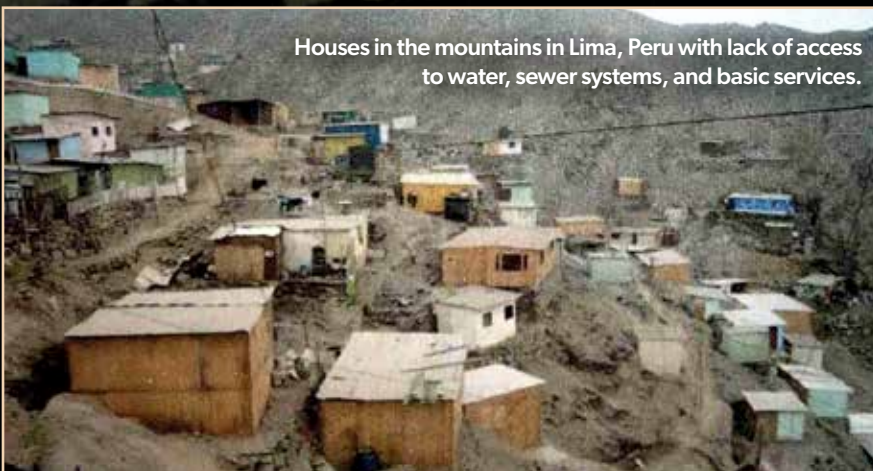


Ada Liz in her parents' orange groves.

did not meet sanitary standards to avoid an outbreak of waterborne diseases. This became a huge health problem for the communities.

With my parents' support, I attended the university and institute to learn English in Lima. My passion to improve my English gave me the opportunity to apply to a program that would allow me to study in the US, and work in my vocation while I was in school. In the beginning, I was very shy when speaking to people because of my English. I thought that people wouldn't understand me or they would make fun of me. However, I have improved my English, having learned from my mistakes and with correction from others. Now I speak three languages: Spanish, English, and French.

Since I have moved to the US, I have worked in many different jobs. One of my first jobs in Connecticut was shoveling snow in a huge place with a lot of buildings. It was the first time that I had seen snow. I never saw snow in my life because where I come from is always tropical weather. Those buildings were all covered with snow and looked so beautiful, the shine reflecting from the ice on the trees and buildings. After a couple of years, I enrolled at the University of Connecticut (UConn) and I was walking on the



Houses in the mountains in Lima, Peru with lack of access to water, sewer systems, and basic services.



campus one day and thought to myself, wait a minute. I realized this was the place where I shoveled snow for hours in the cold. It was my university. I graduated as an Environment Engineering specialist in water in the spring of 2014. I could not believe that I started from so low, and I was able to reach so high. Before that day, studying at a prestigious university in the US was only a dream. I finally completed my goal to graduate as an Engineer after tremendous effort from myself and my family. I am a very passionate professional about water research.

As a witness to all the problems with drinking water in Peru, I told myself that I would help to solve these problems. This is how my vocation for water studies was born. Later, I decided to become an Environment Engineer with a major in water research. Now I am the chair of the Connecticut American Water Work Association (CTAWWA) Philanthropic Committee, which provides events to collect donation for Water for People and other water organizations. Water For People helps provide drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene projects needed in developing countries. I am working in a prestigious water company, the Connecticut Water Company. All the goals that I had set for myself at the time I accomplished. I cannot believe it, but I did it!

I learned that everything that you want in your life is reachable. Run full force at the challenges and obstacles that you will encounter throughout your life. Be positive and dedicated to your hopes and dreams. Challenges in your life sometimes make you stronger for the future. People make mistakes; however, they can learn from their mistakes and be a better individual in all aspects of their life. People take water for granted when people always have water available. We must consider where our water comes from and value our water. One day all the people around the world should have drinking water available. Please do not waste it when it is not necessary. We must take care of our water. 💧

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# CWWA Legislative Update

## CWWA Legislative Wrap-Up

The legislature adjourned on May 4, 2022, in a short but busy legislative session. Committee meetings and public hearings were largely conducted remotely with limited access to the Legislative Office Building and State Capitol beginning in late March. Fortunately, CWWA was well-positioned to represent the water industry on issues affecting public water supplies, relying on Zoom meetings, texting, phone calls, and emails to communicate with key legislators.

### Fire Service Charges Bill

One of the biggest challenges CWWA faced was a bill that would have prohibited water companies from assessing municipalities for certain service lines and fire hydrants. SB-325, which was approved by the Senate in a 32-3 vote, died in the House. The House did not take up the bill before adjournment, thanks to the lobbying efforts of our members.

### Sales Tax Exemption Restored

In another big win, legislation was adopted restoring the sales tax exemption for goods and services purchased by private water companies to maintain, operate, manage, or control a pond, lake, reservoir, stream, well, or distributing plant or system that supplies water to at least 50 customers. CWWA supported the legislation to help address cost disparities between private water companies and municipal and regional water companies that are not subject to sales taxes.

### Legionella Working Group

CWWA was active on a bill aimed at addressing concerns regarding Legionella. *Public Act 22-58, Sec. 62*, directs the Department of Public Health (DPH) to convene a working group of representatives of hospitals, nursing homes and water companies to identify issues, evaluate data, determine appropriate action timelines and develop solutions

regarding the prevention and mitigation of legionella in hospitals, nursing homes and other health care facilities. Several CWWA and CTAWWA representatives have been appointed to the working group.

### Office of Aquatic Invasive Species


Recognizing growing concerns regarding aquatic invasive species, the legislature adopted PA 22-118, Sec. 68, which establishes the Office of Aquatic Invasive Species within the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Among other things, the office is responsible for coordinating research efforts for aquatic invasive species control and eradication in the state and advising municipalities on aquatic invasive species management. The revised state budget includes \$300,000 for three positions to support this new office.

### Energy Advisory Board

CWWA supported legislation to add two representatives of water companies to the Energy Advisory Board, which oversees energy assistance programs, including the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program. Richard Hanratty of Connecticut Water Company and April O'Neil of Manchester Water & Sewer have agreed to serve on the board as CWWA's representatives.

### Advance Notice of Road Projects

CWWA is awaiting further direction from the Office of Policy & Management (OPM) on a new law which requires municipalities to provide information to OPM indicating whether the municipality: 1) provides advanced notice to gas, water, or other utility companies of any impending road project involving paving, repaving, or grading of a street or road that include any utility infrastructure, such as maintenance hole covers, sewer grates, and utility service grates, that could impede the safe operation of vehicles; and 2) performs a final inspection and approval of the project. The new law also requires each utility company whose infrastructure is situated so that it may be impacted by road paving, repaving, or grading to submit a description of the company's experience with advance project notice municipalities to OPM by December 31, 2022.

*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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Dave Kuzminski

## Past CTAWWA Chair Launches Podcast

Dave Kuzminski has launched a new podcast: ***Careers You Didn't Know About: The Future of the Water & Waste Industry.*** Kuzminski is a Past Chair of the CT Section of AWWA and has been working for the Town of Portland, CT for 48 years. He's been passionate about introducing younger students to the water industry since his creation of the Water & People Course which debuted at Portland High School in 2009 and later at Bloomfield High.



Dave interviews Patricia Kelliher, Hazen & Sawyer



Dave interviews Jamie Harlow, MDC HR department.

Faced with the looming prospect of hundreds of employees eligible for retirement, Kuzminski developed the course to introduce high school seniors to potential careers within the industry.

Once the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Kuzminski had to pivot from in-person teaching and switched gears to a podcast model. *Careers You Didn't Know About* interviews various people within the water and wastewater field about their day-to-day jobs and responsibilities. There have been 24 episodes that have aired featuring interviews with regulators, engineers, treatment operators, billing clerks, and even HR personnel. It gives students as well as other professionals looking for a career change an overview of the employment options in the water and wastewater world.

Kuzminski has been featured in *Building a Younger Workforce* published by *Municipal Sewer & Water Magazine* ([www.mswmag.com/editorial/2019/08/building-a-younger-workforce](http://www.mswmag.com/editorial/2019/08/building-a-younger-workforce)). He has also spoken at many work force succession conferences including The National Governors Association Conference in Washington and the Minnesota Water-Energy Nexus Retreat. 💧



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## Welcome New Members

**Brennan Cummings**, *Environmental Partners*

**Anna Feldman**, *Student*

**Roland Garvins**, *Student*

**Carolyn Lowe**, *Tighe & Bond*

**Kyle Riley**, *Bristol Water Department*







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 Total Piping Solutions Inc.  
 Tyler Union  
 US Pipe  
 Water & Sewer Specialties  
 Wedge Manufacturing  
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 Wright-Pierce  
 WSP USA

## New PFAS Health Advisories and State Action Levels

On June 15, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced new drinking water lifetime health advisories for four compounds in the PFAS family. EPA health advisories provide information on contaminants that can cause human health effects and are known or anticipated to occur in drinking water.


EPA's health advisories provide technical information to state agencies and other public health officials but are not enforceable. Two of the EPA Health Advisories are interim Health Advisories which are subject to further peer review before being finalized.

On the same day, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) announced updated drinking water action levels for per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) as follows:

- 10 parts-per-trillion (PPT; ng/L) for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)
- 12 PPT; ng/L for perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)

- 16 PPT; ng/L for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)
- 49 PPT; ng/L for perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)

According to DPH's press release, "In light of these updated Connecticut Drinking Water Action Levels, DPH has renewed its recommendation to all public water systems to test the water delivered to their customers for PFAS and to report the results. It is DPH's expectation that public water systems with PFAS in the water distributed to customers will inform their customers and evaluate actions the water systems can take to reduce exposures, such as taking a source of supply off-line, if possible, blend with other sources or turn to an alternative source of drinking water while the system works with DPH on possible treatment or source replacement."

DPH also issued Circular Letter 22-30 to provide public water suppliers with updated information regarding PFAS and drinking water. 



## CT Department of Public Health Water Treatment and Distribution System Operator Certification/Public Utility Management AS Degree Courses

### FALL 2022

Course	Name	Location	Day	Time	Cr
BMG 221	Customer Relations	Online with Web Ex*	Wednesday	5:00 – 7:50 PM	3
ENV 110	Environmental Regulations (HYBRID)	Online with Web Ex*	Monday	5:00 – 6:25 PM	3
WM1 101	Water Treatment and Distribution	Online with Web Ex*	Tuesday, Thursday	5:30 – 8:20 PM	6

\* Live Interactive Streaming Video

The fall 2022 semester starts on August 29, 2022 and ends on December 18, 2022.

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

New students can receive admissions and registration materials by contacting the Admissions Office at [admissions@gwcc.commnet.edu](mailto:admissions@gwcc.commnet.edu). Continuing students, already admitted to

the college, can receive registration materials by contacting the Registrar's Office at [gw-recordsstaff@gwcc.commnet.edu](mailto:gw-recordsstaff@gwcc.commnet.edu).

Continuing students may also register on-line at the following address: [www.gatewayct.edu](http://www.gatewayct.edu)

Please contact Professor Wesley L. Winterbottom, PE at [wwinterbottom@gwcc.commnet.edu](mailto:wwinterbottom@gwcc.commnet.edu) with questions about these courses or the Water Management and Public Utility Management programs.

## CTAWWA Customer Service Heroes Award Nomination Form

**Purpose:** to acknowledge the superior performance of a water utility worker over the past year.

**Criteria:** Employee must exhibit outstanding performance and dedication to excellent customer service within the last year (September 2021-September 2022). This behavior should prevent or reduce problems from occurring, enhance or restore customer satisfaction, or exceed typical customer service expectations.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for the award, the nominee must be employed by a water utility company in Connecticut.

**Nomination Process:** Nominations must be received by 9/1/2022.

Nominations can be submitted by coworkers, supervisors, or individuals. This form must be filled out completely and submitted to: [shannon.miles@ctwater.com](mailto:shannon.miles@ctwater.com) or Attn: Shannon Miles, 93 W. Main St. Clinton, CT 06413

**Selection Process:** Nominations will be reviewed and winner will be selected by CTAWWA Customer Service Committee. Award winner will be announced during Customer Service Week in October 2022.

**Contact:** For any questions on the award or nomination, please reach out to Louise ([ldamico@rwater.com](mailto:ldamico@rwater.com)) or Shannon ([shannon.miles@ctwater.com](mailto:shannon.miles@ctwater.com)).

### Person Submitting Nomination:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominee:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for Nomination\*** (Please provide specific examples that meet the criteria listed above)

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\*Supporting documentation, photos, or attachments may be submitted with this form





# 2022



American Water Works Association  
**Connecticut**Section

## 27th Annual Fall Golf Classic and Outing September 13, 2022



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87 Town Farm Road, Farmington, CT

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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](mailto: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  
**Connecticut**Section

# Registration and Sponsor Opportunities

Use the form below or register online: [www.ctawwa.org](http://www.ctawwa.org)

Golf Registration (All-Inclusive – \$160 per person)

Please submit registration by September 2, 2022

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PARTICIPANT NAME:

Email:

Amount



		\$160	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$160	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$160	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$160	<input type="checkbox"/>

Non-golfer outing Only	Name:	\$45	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

<b>Hors D'oeuvre Sponsorship</b> Company name on sign at pavilion and in program One tournament foursome included		\$3,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Cookout Sponsorship</b> Company name at cookout area and in program One tournament foursome included		\$2,500	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Coffee, Donuts, and Danish – Morning Registration Sponsorship</b> Company name on sign at breakfast area and in program		\$500	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Driving Range Sponsorship</b> Company name on sign at driving range and in program		\$500	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Hole Sponsorship</b> Company name on sign at tee box and in program		\$150	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Raffle Prize Donations</b> 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](http://www.ctawwa.org) (golf is listed under events).

**QUESTIONS?** Email [acosentino@themdc.com](mailto: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.







# 9th Annual Kevin T. Walsh Memorial Golf Tournament

September 16, 2022

AT THE:

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## Golf Tournament Event Schedule:

7:30 am	Registration and driving range opens
8:00 am	Hot breakfast in 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)



**\$140 per person includes: golf, breakfast, lunch, drink, and raffle tickets**

Contact tournament chair with any questions: Lauren Schwarmann, 860-510-9512, [lauren.schwarmann@yahoo.com](mailto:lauren.schwarmann@yahoo.com)

## Registration and Sponsor Opportunities

Golf Registration (All-Inclusive – \$160 per person)

Please **register online** under the 'Events' tab on [www.ctawwa.org](http://www.ctawwa.org).  
Or use the form below. **Registration due by September 2, 2022**

Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Name:	Email:	Amount
		\$140
		\$140
		\$140
		\$140

## Sponsorship Opportunities:

<b>Lunch Sponsorship</b> Company name on sign in Lunch area, One tournament foursome included		\$1,000
<b>Driving Range or Putting Green Sponsorship</b> Company name on sign at driving range or putting green		\$250
<b>Longest Drive or Closest to Pin Sponsorship</b> Company name on the contest hole		\$150
<b>Hole Sponsorship</b> Company name on a regular hole		\$100
<b>Raffle Prize Donations</b> Company name in program and announced with item giveaway	Item(s):	
TOTAL:		

**Payment:** To use a credit card, please register online at [www.ctawwa.org](http://www.ctawwa.org) (KTW is listed under 'Events' tab. To pay by checks, make checks payable to "The CT Section AWWA – Scholarship Fund" and mail with completed form to: Lauren Schwarmann  
72 Conrad Road, New Canaan, CT 06840 | [lauren.schwarmann@yahoo.com](mailto:lauren.schwarmann@yahoo.com) | 860-510-9512

*Golf registration fee covers cost of goods and services provided. No portion is to be considered as a donation to CTAWWA.  
Benefits for the scholarship are achieved from sponsorship and raffle ticket sales.*

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## In Memoriam

### JOHN E. GAUDET

September 5, 1939-July 8, 2022

AWWA Fuller Award 1996

CTAWWA Board Treasurer 1984-1994

CTAWWA Administrative & Policy Council Chair 1994-2001

**J**ean (John) Gaudet passed away on Friday, July 8 at Mary Wade Home in New Haven, CT at the age of 82. He leaves his wife, Lydia, of over 61 years, four children, Jacqueline Gaudet Whelan (Curtis Whelan) of Plymouth, MN; Jeanne Gaudet Singer (Neil Singer) of Canton, Georgia; Michael Gaudet, (Dr. Alison Derow Gaudet) of Wallingford, PA; and John Gaudet Jr. (Erin Kerr Gaudet) of Clinton, CT; his three sisters, Jeannette Gaudet, Denise Daly, and Bernice Daly; and 10 grandchildren, who were the light of his life. He also leaves many wonderful nieces, nephews, cousins, and so many friends. He was predeceased by his younger brother, Allan Gaudet.

John was born in Nova Scotia, Canada on September 5, 1939, and moved with his parents to the US in 1957. He attended West Haven High School and the University of New Haven. He worked for the Regional Water Authority for 40 years and loved his work and his co-workers. He also served in the Connecticut National Guard.

He was a hockey player while in high school. He loved the game of golf as he got older and was a member at Clinton

Country Club for many years. He raised his family in Clinton, CT for 39 years. He retired to Richmond, VA, where he lived for 11 years. He became a member of Stonehenge Golf and Country Club in Richmond, VA. He and Lydia missed the shoreline, family, and friends and moved back to Connecticut settling in Madison, CT. He would walk about five miles every day in his lovely Madison neighborhood and made friends with everyone who is a “walker” there. They all knew his name!

He was a kind, loving, gentle man who so adored his family. He loved to entertain them, particularly at an annual Christmas party where everyone including his parents, all his children and grandchildren, his brother and sisters, and all their children, nieces, nephews, and extended family members would attend. He also held his country of birth, Canada, close to his heart and visited often. He loved traveling during his retirement. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to Connecticut Hospice, 100 Double Beach Road, Branford, CT 06405 in his name. 💧



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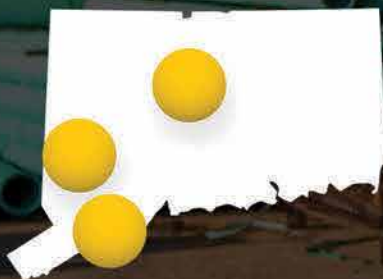
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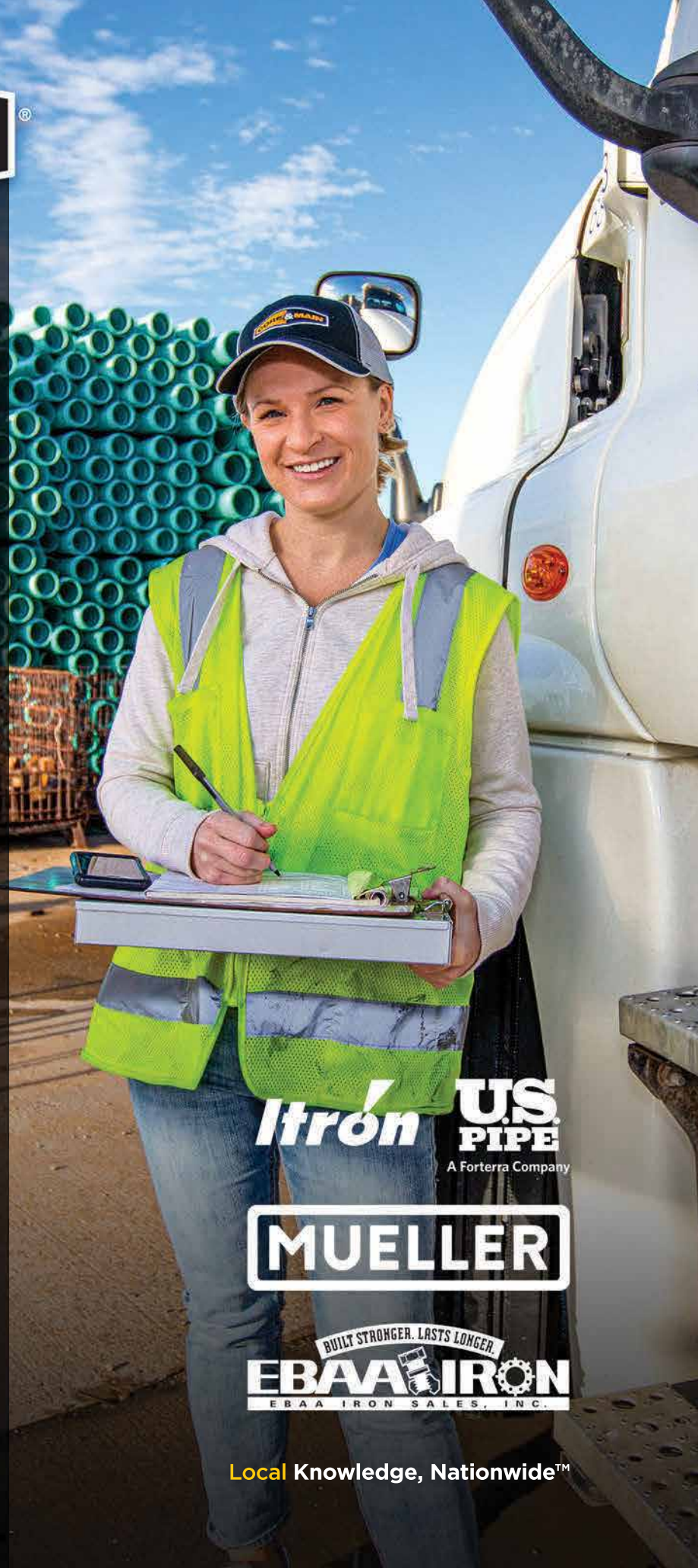
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