

52nd Annual Joint Conference

Saratoga Hilton

May 21 – 23, 2025

Conference Agenda

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

- 11:00 AM **Registration -Saratoga Spring Center**
- 11:30 AM **Luncheon –Saratoga Spring Center**
- 12:00 PM **Opening Remarks**
Alan Wells, Associates Committee Chair
- Luncheon Speaker**
Charles Kuenzel, The Saratoga Springs History Museum
- Welcoming Remarks**
- National Update**
Cheryl Porter, AWWA President
- CWWA Legislative Update**
Betsy Gara, CWWA Executive Director
- Regional Water Authority -Aquarion Water Company Transaction Update**
Sunny Lakshminarayanan, Regional Water Authority
- 2:30 PM **Break**

Saratoga Springs Center

3:00-5:00 PM.

Engaging Youth in Water Career Pathways

Scott Beeney, Veolia

Engaging Youth into the Water Workforce through Internships

The water industry faces a critical need for workforce renewal due to the “Silver Tsunami.” Veolia has prioritized workforce development through a pilot internship program launched in 2023 in partnership with Connecticut Tech High Schools. Five high school students began year-long internships to prepare for careers in wastewater. Three have since been hired as full time operators, with one passing the state wastewater exam already. The program has expanded to Rhode Island and Massachusetts with 13 interns and we introduced a wastewater course at Seymour High School, inspiring broader initiatives.

Industry Happenings

Cheryl Porter, AWWA President, COO of Water & Field Services, Great Lakes Water Authority

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Public COMMS in 2025 for Water Utilities

Mike McGill, Water PIO

We live in not only The Instant Information Age, but The Instant Disinformation Age. A utility's customers are receiving information - and disinformation - that they believe is important without having to ask for it. That makes the information more likely to be accepted, even if it's easily disproven.

As a result, expectations have risen with service providers - people they pay for clean water - to communicate with them about how they are ensuring their quality of life. When water quality concerns arise, especially those involving PFAS, lead, or now, fluoride, a utility must quickly communicate to assure the public that they are on top of the issues or else it could suffer long-term damage to its reputation.

Mike McGill, has helped dozens of utilities deal with public information on sensitive issues like PFAS, lead, and now fluoride, since 2007. This presentation will run down common themes from our case studies to provide a clear public communications path for utilities to take to get through current, and likely future, chaos. The talk will also prep utilities about how to handle the public communications if the current regulations and guidance are changed by the Trump Administration, Congress, or the courts.”

6:30-9:30 PM

Welcome Reception & Section Awards

408 Event & Occasion Club

408 Broadway, 2nd Floor, Saratoga Springs

Thursday, May 22, 2025

7:00 AM CTAWWA/CWWA 5K Fun Run/Walk- In Support of Water Equation

Start Finish at the High Rock Park Spring House (Separate Registration Required)

7:00-9:30 AM Breakfast- Travers/Alabama

Technical Program

Broadway Ballroom

9:15 AM – 12:00 PM

NYCDEP History/Update

Paul Rush, Deputy Commissioner, New York City Department of Environmental Protection

This presentation will provide an overview of the New York City Water Supply System, which serves more than 9.8 million people and includes a watershed of approximately 2,000 square miles. The history of the system will be covered, including the system's origins in the early 1600's and the major expansions throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Current water system operations will be reviewed, including ongoing major projects and planning for future challenges.

Vac'ing Up Unknowns

Courtney Schaumberg, CDM Smith

Tom Barger, RWA

Regional Water Authority, CDM Smith, McVac Environmental, and B&B Engineering collaborated on a tremendous effort to reduce the number of unknown material service lines prior to the October 2024 LCRR inventory deadline. The team utilized as many as six crews a day to complete field investigations over the course of five months across RWA's 15-town service area. The team completed close to 5,000 investigations that were

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used to build and calibrate a machine learning model. The machine learning model was able to significantly reduce RWA's unknown service lines

Somers – Stafford Water System Interconnection

Zhijian Tang, P.E., PH.D., Tighe & Bond

Justin Parlapiano, CT Water Company

Alan Wells, Tighe & Bond

Connecticut Water Company (CWC) owns both the Somers and Stafford water systems, which are located next to each other. CWC desired an interconnection between these two systems, with the goal of supplying water from Somers to Stafford. This presentation describes the evaluation, design and construction of the infrastructure required to connect the Somers and Stafford water systems including a packaged booster pumping station (1 MGD), three pressure zones, a 250,000-gallon elevated water storage tank and interconnecting water main.

Optimization of Sludge Management Through Effective Operation Methods and Engineering Design

Veronica Llaneza, P.E., Jacobs Engineering Inc.

Steve Giordano, Jacobs Engineering Inc.

Many utilities nationwide encounter the challenge of managing and disposing of large volumes of sludge produced, as a byproduct of water treatment plants. The City of Waterbury water treatment plant located in Connecticut has taken the initiative to address and reduce sludge handling and disposal. This work highlights the various proactive steps the City is taking through proper operations methods, pilot testing and engineering design to improve sludge management, production, handling, and disposal while maintaining effective operations and high-water quality standards.

The Road to Electrification: Fleet Conversion

Melissa Jourdain, H2M architects + engineers

Transitioning local municipal fleets to zero-emission vehicles can be particularly challenging. With new initiatives pushing for transportation decarbonization, understanding the transition process including coordination with local utilities, essential infrastructure procurement, and use of available incentives can be overwhelming. This presentation will describe the process and how to overcome these challenges in greater detail providing an overview of the fleet transition process. The presentation will include examples of potential zero-emission alternatives, transition scenario modelling, and the benefit of working with partners who can successfully navigate the transition process allowing fleets to benefit from cleaner air for their teams and the community

1:00 PM – Networking Tour Includes Lunch (separate registration required)

Join your friends and colleagues for a tour of the famed Saratoga Springs mineral waters in Saratoga Spa State Park! The tour will be led by local guide Trent Millet, who will share the history of the springs and how each mineral water has its own taste and unique health benefits. CTAWWA will provide cups for those who would like to sample the mineral waters. Networking Event includes a box lunch, 1 hour tour, and refreshments at Baileys afterwards. The park is a 10 minute drive from the hotel and carpooling is encouraged.

After the tour, come relax, network and make new connections during a post tour happy hour. Transportation by participant, car-pooling encouraged.

6:30 PM Cocktail Reception—Saratoga Ballroom Garden and Foyer

7:30 PM Award Banquet Dinner– Saratoga Ballroom

Friday, May 23, 2025

7:00 - 9:00 AM Breakfast- Hilton Hotel Restaurant

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8:30 - 9:00 AM

Joint CWWA/CTAWWA Breakfast Board Meeting – Travers/Alabama

Technical Program

Broadway Ballroom

9:15 AM

Connecticut Water Industry Town Hall

Moderators: Alex Cosentino & Ray Baral, MDC

Join the Connecticut Section AWWA and Connecticut Water Work Association Boards of Directors, along with our AWWA National Visiting Officer, AWWA President, Cheryl Porter, to discuss the most-pressing topics effecting our industry today and how we as local industry groups can work together to address them. We want to hear from you, our section members and supporters, to help our organizations tailor our regulatory, legislative, and workforce development initiatives. Participation encouraged for those wishing to have a voice in the future of the water industry in Connecticut!

A vote of the general CTAWWA membership will be held related to the Bylaws and incorporation of the Connecticut Section.

WFP Smarts Game- Who Will Bring the Trophy Home? CWWA or CTAWWA

Closing Remarks

Thank You, Sponsors!



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Full Conference Registration Form

Includes Technical Sessions

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone #: _____

CONFERENCE FEES INCLUDE DINNER WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, LUNCH WEDNESDAY, BREAKFAST THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

CONFERENCE FEES (Per person): Circle choices

Registration (Before May 9, 2025)..... \$790

Thursday Awards Dinner Meal Choice: (circle one) Chicken Ribeye Sea Bass Vegetarian

Registration Spouse/Guest \$490

Thursday Awards Dinner Meal Choice: (circle one) Chicken Ribeye Sea Bass Vegetarian

Young Professional or Retiree Registration (must be a CTAWWA or CWWA member).....\$690

Thursday Awards Dinner Meal Choice: (circle one) Chicken Ribeye Sea Bass Vegetarian

Speaker Conference Registration.....\$690

Thursday Awards Dinner Meal Choice: (circle one) Chicken Ribeye Sea Bass Vegetarian

\$50 Late fee will be applied to registrations made after May 9, 2025

CTAWWA/CWWA 5K Fun Run/Walk- In Support of Water Equation Thursday 7:00 am

Member/Guest per personShirt Size_____ \$25

Networking Event with Lunch-Thursday 1:00 pm

Member/Guest per person \$50

Philanthropic Committee/Scholarship Raffle Item Donation.....

Total Off All Circled Items:.....\$_____

Credit Card Information

Name on Credit Card: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp Date: _____ CV Code: _____

On Line Registration Available at ctawwa.org

Or email form to longoctawwa@gmail.com

Checks payable to CTAWWA & mail to CTAWWA, P.O. Box 330472, West Hartford, CT 06133

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Sponsorship Opportunities

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone #: _____

We wish to be a sponsor for the following Annual Conference events: Circle Choices

Social Hours: \$650

Break Stations: \$450

Audio & Visual: \$450

Networking Event:..... \$200

5K Fun Run/Walk Event:..... \$200

Philanthropic Committee/Scholarship Raffle Item Donation _____

TOTAL OF ALL CIRCLED ITEMS\$ _____

Credit Card Information

Name on Credit Card: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

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