

Reclaiming The High Ground For Clean Water

President's Note


I'm honored to serve as NACWA's President and to be serving all of you who work tirelessly to ensure your communities have safe, clean and affordable water services.

Our goal this year will be to advance our shared advocacy and peer-to-peer initiatives to ensure that our message resonates throughout the sector, in Congress, at EPA, with all key policymakers, and in all our communities.

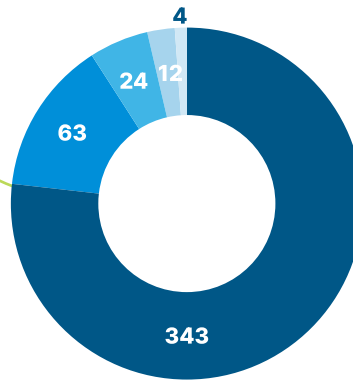
Oluwole 'OJ' McFoy

General Manager
Buffalo Sewer Authority
Buffalo, NY



 Read the full President's Message at nacwa.org/annualreport23

Our Membership Year in Review



446 Members

- 343 Public Agencies
- 63 Corporate Affiliates
- 24 Legal Affiliates
- 12 Supporting Affiliates
- 4 Public Utility Affiliates

Recognizing Clean Water Excellence

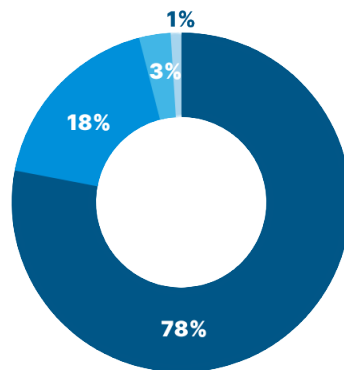
NACWA Awards Programs recognize Member Agency innovation, excellence in management, and commitment to peak performance of their treatment facilities.

This year we recognized:

- **520** Member Agency Treatment Facilities with Peak Performance Awards
- **5** Utilities with Excellence in Management Recognition; and
- **26** Member Agencies in 9 categories with National Environmental Achievement Awards

Fostering Connection and Collaboration

NACWA's meetings both virtual and in-person foster unmatched peer-to-peer connection and collaboration within the clean water sector.



2,394 Meeting Attendees

- 78% Utility Executives
- 18% Affiliates
- 3% Government Officials
- 1% Other

In addition to NACWA's seven in-person conferences, workshops, and seminars, the Association held:

- **Sixteen** virtual Committee and Workgroup meetings
- **Six** Regional Utility Executive Dialogues
- **Five** National Webinars on clean water sector hot topics; and
- **Three** collaborative water sector events

NACWA's Public Agency Members represent communities as large as 7.5 million to communities as small as 5,000 residents. With 35% of our Public Agency Members serving communities under 75,000, NACWA is committed to advocating for and representing the diverse needs of all clean water utilities nationwide.

- **6,900+ Clean Water Professionals**
At Member Organizations receiving NACWA communications, accessing resources on the website and engaging in our peer-to-peer network.
- **129 Million+ People**
Served 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week/ 365 days a year by NACWA Public Agency Members – TRUE CLEAN WATER HEREOS!
- **25 New Members**
94% Membership Retention Rate

Advocacy Highlights

NACWA is on the frontlines working to ensure that your voice is heard in Congress, at EPA and other federal agencies, in the courtrooms across the country, and in the media.



Read more about NACWA's advocacy work over the last year, at nacwa.org/annualreport23.



Addressing PFAS Concerns

- Advocated with policymakers regarding the preservation of all biosolids management approaches.
- Elevated concerns about utilities and their customers bearing the costs of PFAS remediation.
- Developed a “polluter pays” legislative proposal.

Clean Water Funding

Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

- Pushed aggressively for additional LIHWAP funding and establishing a permanent low-income water assistance program.
- Led water sector effort to publish comprehensive report and recommendations on establishing a permanent federal low-income assistance program.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

- Supported clean water utilities’ access to additional funding opportunities through the IRA.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Funding

- Testified before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee voicing the clean water sector’s experience with BIL implementation and the necessity of speedy and efficient distribution.

Workforce

- Launched an *Engage* network community focused on critical workforce and HR issues.
- Worked to expand existing federal funding for water workforce-related initiatives through advocacy with EPA and the Department of Labor.

Regulatory Flexibility & Key Advocacy Focus Areas

- Played a key role in discussions for potential Clean Water Act (CWA) modernizations.
- Convened a symposium to explore watershed-based approaches to reduce nutrient impairment and improve water quality.
- Engaged with EPA on combined sewer overflows (CSOs) to ensure that post-long-term control plan (LTCP) CWA permits appropriately reflect the significant investments communities have made to improve water quality.

Clean Water Act 50th Anniversary Celebrations

NACWA marked the Clean Water Act’s 50th Anniversary with members nationwide, highlighting the sector’s environmental advancements and testifying at the congressional hearing, *The Clean Water Act at Fifty: Highlights and Lessons Learned from a Half Century of Transformative Legislation*.



The work you do is vital to your community, public health and the environment. To reclaim the high ground of public trust, your story must be told. NACWA makes this vision a reality and remains dedicated to amplifying your voice and guiding you through these complex times.

Read the full Report at nacwa.org/annualreport23.