A Message from NACWA’s President & Executive Director

This past year has been marked by significant challenges and political change, including economic turmoil that continues to impact all levels of government and a shift in Congress to a more conservative approach to many issues — including the environment. Amidst these trends, NACWA has sought to come out in front and position the organization and its members to maximize the Association’s effectiveness.

This is perhaps best exemplified through NACWA’s advocacy in the context of the Many Nations: Stronger Together for Clean Water Clean Water Act campaign. Through its Many Masters’ Task Force, NACWA has been the leading voice for critical regulatory and policy reform under the Clean Water Act (CWA), seeking to stretch every taxpayer dollar as far as possible to maximize water quality benefits. As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to ramp up its regulatory and enforcement agenda, this initiative offers an approach to fully comply with the CWA while bringing relief to those who are framing the bill — clean water agency taxpayers.

And while the Many Masters’ campaign articulates the Association’s vison for a much-needed fresh look at how the objectives of the CWA can and should be prioritized, it also exemplifies the need to be even more aggressive when weighing in on the many legislative, regulatory, and legal issues that are far too numerous to mention in this message. These issues are described throughout NACWA’s Year at a Glance and in more detail in our publication, the Year in Review.

It is clear that NACWA’s regulatory, legislative, and advocacy efforts are increasingly interrelated. While the Association continues to work with EPA toward a sound national stormwater rule, NACWA also successfully secured the passage of legislation requiring federal agencies to pay their fair share of municipal stormwater fees, resulting in millions of dollars in previously unrealized revenues for municipalities. Similarly, our work in the many areas has included NACWA hosted forums and resulting issue papers; organization of a working group and collaboration with a broad network of stakeholders; and addressing the role of states, tribes, and local governments in the regulatory and enforcement agenda, and a number of other initiatives.

The regulatory climate is very dynamic and NACWA is the best organization to keep us on top of what’s happening.
NACWA is my resource for information and advocacy.
NACWA represents us nationally in areas of critical importance that require all of us to engage in.

Together we will continue to put the right advocacy strategies in place to ensure our interests, your ratepayers’ interests, the environment, and public health are protected.

In the national policy arena it is often difficult to quickly assess the impact of an association’s advocacy efforts. The previously mentioned efforts and others described in this Year-in-Review demonstrate that membership in NACWA is an investment that pays great dividends. Together we will continue to put the right advocacy strategies in place to ensure our interests, your ratepayers’ interests, the environment, and public health are protected.

Jeff Thiemann
NACWA President 2010-2011
Executive Director, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Mo.

Ken Kirk
Executive Director

Jeff Thiemann
Ken Kirk
Affordability, Regulatory Prioritization & Infrastructure Funding

With Congress and the Administration focused on deficit spending cuts, NACWA has taken a strong position on ensuring funding for infrastructure projects. NACWA convened a Money Matters Network in Washington, D.C., to promote efforts to fund innovative approaches to improving infrastructure. The Network is focused on advocating for the importance of investing in infrastructure projects that will create jobs and improve public health and safety.

NACWA’s Money Matters Network includes leading water and wastewater utilities, environmental groups, and local and state government representatives. The Network meets regularly to discuss the importance of investing in infrastructure projects that will create jobs and improve public health and safety.

Building on the Money Matters Network, NACWA has been working with Congress to develop a comprehensive infrastructure funding plan. The plan includes a mix of public and private funding sources, as well as innovative financing tools that can help utilities finance their infrastructure needs. NACWA has also been working with the Administration to ensure that the funding plan is consistent with the Administration’s priorities.

NACWA’s Money Matters Network has been instrumental in shaping the Administration’s infrastructure funding plan. The Network has provided valuable input on the importance of investing in infrastructure projects that will create jobs and improve public health and safety. NACWA will continue to work with Congress and the Administration to ensure that the funding plan is consistent with the Administration’s priorities and the needs of America’s utilities.
NACWA Members

Stormwater & Wet Weather Issues

PUBLIC UTILITY MEMBERS

ALABAMA
Jefferson County Commission
Mobile Area Water & Sewer System
Montgomery Water Works
& Sanitary Sewer Board

ARIZONA
City of Chandler Utilities Department
City of Phoenix Water Services Department
Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department

ARKANSAS
City of Little Rock
Wastewater Utility
Howell Wastewater Utility

CALIFORNIA
Central Coast Water Sanitation District
City of Oakland Public Utilities
City of San Francisco Water Utility

COLORADO
Boulder Sanitation District
City of Aurora Water Department
City of Fort Collins Utilities

CONNECTICUT
Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC Water

FLORIDA
Brevard County Water & Wastewater Services
City of Boca Raton Utility Services Department

GEORGIA
City of Atlanta Department of Water Resources
City of Augusta Utilities Department
City of Cumming
City of Columbus

HAWAII
City & County of Honolulu

IDAHO
City of Boise

ILLINOIS
American Municipalities Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility

MARYLAND
Marine County Utilities

MASSACHUSETTS
City of Northampton

MICHIGAN
City of Battle Creek

MINNESOTA
City of Minneapolis

MISSOURI
City of Independence

MONTANA
City of Missoula

NEVADA
City of Las Vegas

NEW MEXICO
City of Albuquerque

NEW YORK
City of New York

RHODE ISLAND
City of Providence

RHODE ISLAND
City of Warwick

SOUTH CAROLINA
City of Charleston

TENNESSEE
City of Anna Maria

TEXAS
City of Dallas

UTAH
City of Salt Lake City

VERMONT
City of Burlington

WASHINGTON
City of Seattle

WISCONSIN
City of Milwaukee

WISCONSIN
City of Madison

WYOMING
City of Casper

NACWA continued its aggressive expansion into the stormwater area, securing passage of a significant piece of legislation that increased federal payment of municipal stormwater fees, potentially generating amounts approaching $10 million annually to previously unclaimed revenue for communities across the country.

NACWA provided a key municipal perspective to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the Agency’s new stormwater rule, emphasizing the support of the MS4 community for innovative approaches to better control urban wet weather flows, along with the critical importance that the rule account for the significant regulatory and economic stresses that municipalities face all across the country.

NACWA filed an amicus curiae brief supporting Association member, the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MS4), in appealing a Missouri state court decision that invalidated the utility’s stormwater fee program. The legal and policy issues involved in this case have significant implications for stormwater utilities across the nation.
Watershed Management, Nutrients & Nonpoint Source Control

NACWA built support for its vision of a holistic watershed approach—that prioritizes and addresses the most significant water impacts in the ways that are most cost-effective and environmentally beneficial—when the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the Association of State & Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators (ASWPCA), the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC), the National WWTF Federation (NWF), and the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) endorsed the principle for a Water Stewardship Approach. Based on the recommendations of the Association’s Strategic Watershed Task Force, NACWA moved to define a holistic watershed approach: protect municipal regulatory and economic interests; and, ensure that all dischargers in a watershed are required to do their fair share for water quality improvements when it is needed by a challenge-by-agricultural groups to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) final Chesapeake Bay total maximum daily load (TMDL).

Member Agency & Association Achievements

- NACWA convened a Vision Summit of clean water community representatives to discuss new and innovative approaches to addressing nutrient-related water quality impacts. The issue paper that resulted from the Summit discussions is now serving as the foundation for NACWA’s advocacy efforts.

- NACWA formed a task force to focus specifically on EPA’s work to develop new recreational water quality criteria. NACWA and the task force provided comments to the Agency regarding its path forward and participated in a key stakeholder meeting to discuss the issue.

- NACWA provided an early and ongoing voice from the clean water community on EPA’s efforts to develop a national mercury control rule for coal-fired power plants.

- NACWA’s Targeted Action Fund (TAF) supported 23 key Association initiatives and programs—immeasurably increasing the effectiveness of the Association’s advocacy agenda.

- NACWA brought the Association to its members through engagement in an unprecedented number of state and regional meetings and enhanced outreach through its Clean Water Exchange.

- NACWA recognized 51 member agency facilities with Gold Awards for maintaining perfect compliance for a full calendar year and 111 member agency facilities with Silver Awards for no more than five permit violations in 2010.

- NACWA honored 16 individuals and 16 member agencies for their outstanding contributions to environmental protection and the clean water community with 2011 National Environmental Achievement Awards while also presenting the Association’s Excellence in Management awards to five member agencies for implementing and sustaining successful programs that address the range of management challenges faced by public clean water utilities.

- NACWA’s National Office took its environmental edict to a new level this year, installing new energy-saving windows, sustainable biomass heating and environmentally-friendly carpeting in the Association’s 150-year-old headquarters building. The Association extended this environmental ethic beyond its offices to its meetings and conferences with an array of green practices.
Expansion of Judicial Advocacy

NACWA expanded its judicial advocacy efforts, increasing its litigation portfolio and heightening its presence in the nation’s courtrooms to protect its members’ interests.

NACWA engaged as the lead party in challenging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) final sewage sludge incineration (SSI) regulations, demonstrating the Association’s ability to take the legal fight to EPA in matters that will have significant legal and economic impacts on Association members.

NACWA displayed a willingness to fight agricultural and nonpoint source interests in the courtroom by intervening in a lawsuit over EPA’s total maximum daily load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay, seeking to prevent big agriculture from abandoning the TMDL process and leaking municipal wastewater and storm-water dischargers on the hook for costly water-quality improvements.

Nutrients took a leading role in the Association’s legal efforts, with NACWA participating in litigation in both Florida and Massachusetts to push back against the imposition of illegal and scientifically flawed nutrient regulations on the municipal clean water community.

NACWA made strong legal arguments against EPA’s efforts to include numeric effluent limits in municipal stormwater permits, as well as explored potential litigation avenues to ensure that stormwater utility charges are treated as valid fees for service and not illegal taxes.

NACWA continued to engage in regional and state-level effluent toxicity (WET) issues, including ongoing issues with chronic toxicity testing in Texas and the proposal of a new WET policy in California that would employ a controversial approach to interpreting WET test results.

NACWA crafted a coalition letter on numeric nutrient criteria urging EPA to avoid a “one-size-fits-all” approach and better acknowledge the innovative approaches many states are developing to address nutrients.

NACWA filed a brief in Florida Wildlife Federation v. EPA, supporting the Association’s Florida members in their challenge to EPA’s proposed nutrient criteria for the state and arguing that EPA’s decision to federalize nutrient criteria in Florida oversteps the Agency’s legal authority, setting a negative precedent for the rest of the nation.

NACWA named a broad stakeholder alliance called the Healthy Waters Coalition to urge Congress to address nutrient runoff from agricultural lands in the upcoming Farm Bill reauthorization efforts. The Coalition sent a letter to Congress, supported by over 120 organizations nationwide, urging Congress to strengthen links between agricultural policy and water quality.

The Turner Foundation awarded NACWA a $50,000 grant to support its efforts to address nutrient runoff from agricultural lands in the upcoming Farm Bill negotiations.

NACWA joined litigation involving a permit appeal for Association member agency the Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement District in Massachusetts, supporting the safety in its challenge of scientifically flawed nutrient limits and arguing that controls on nutrients in discharge permits must be based both on sound science and appropriate regulatory prioritization.

What is needed now is a broader holistic approach that will prioritize and address the most significant current impacts on water quality in the most effective and responsible way.
Biosolids Management, Energy Recovery & Air Emissions

- NACWA's comments on the proposed sewage sludge incineration (SSI) rule, and the supporting comments from its members, were successful in convincing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that a "beyond the maximum achievable control technology (MACT) floor" level of control for mercury was not justified, resulting in avoided costs of more than $1 billion for clean water agencies operating SSI.

- NACWA petitioned EPA to reconsider and stay its proposed SSI rule, citing EPA's lack of legal authority, its failure to collect sufficient information to develop lawful MACT standards, and its failure to consider the variability of pollutant concentrations in sewage sludge fed to SSI, among other issues.

- NACWA formed its Sewage Sludge Incineration Advocacy Coalition (SSIAC) to support the Association's efforts in challenging EPA's final SSI rule and definition of solid waste rule. Over 40 utilities from around the nation that operate SSI joined the coalition, including a number of utilities that were not NACWA members.

- NACWA filed a legal petition for a review of EPA's final SSI rule, initiating NACWA v. EPA, and challenging EPA's legal and scientific basis for promulgating the SSI rule. The litigation marks one of NACWA's most significant legal advocacy efforts ever and demonstrates the Association's commitment to protecting the ability of clean water agencies to pursue appropriate local biosolids management options free from unnecessary regulatory and economic burdens.

- NACWA filed a legal challenge to EPA's final definition of solid waste rule, attacking a critical regulatory foundation for the Agency's SSI rule and protecting Association members from potential unenforceable regulatory and economic consequences as a result of EPA's solid waste determination involving biosolids that are incinerated.

- NACWA prepared a legal request that the federal courts issue a judicial stay of the final SSI rule, placing implementation of the rule on hold and protecting NACWA SSI members from making unnecessary capital expenditures to modify their SSI units pending the outcome of the Association's lawsuit challenging the rule.

- NACWA engaged key EPA staff, including the Assistant Administrator for the Agency's Office of Water and the White House Office of Management and Budget, to influence the direction and contents of the proposed Clean Air Act (CAA) standards for SSI.

- NACWA requested and participated in a public hearing on the proposed CAA amendments for SSI to underscore the flaws in the proposal and to urge EPA to pursue regulation pursuant to a different section of the CAA that allows for additional flexibility when setting control standards.

- NACWA's aggressive advocacy on biosolids incineration benefited utilities significantly by reducing the amount of emissions that are counted towards the permitting thresholds under EPA's Final Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Tailoring Rule. Through specific exceptions for carbon dioxide emissions from wastewater treatment processes, as well as the combination of biosolids and biosolids, NACWA's actions make it unlikely that wastewater utilities will be subject to permitting requirements for GHGs during the next three years saving utilities potentially significant costs.

- NACWA continued its collaboration with the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA), American Rivers and other associations and NGOs to urge Congress to address climate adaptation issues facing wastewater, drinking water and stormwater agencies.

- NACWA submitted comments to the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee outlining the issues that should be addressed if and when legislation is drafted to establish a Clean Energy Standard (CES) and urged the Committee to ensure that biosolids and solids generated at municipal wastewater treatment plants are included in a CES.
Biosolids Management, Energy Recovery & Air Emissions

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- NACWA filed a legal Petition for Re-examination of EPA’s proposed SSI rule, initiating NACWA v. EPA, and challenging EPA’s legal and scientific basis for promulgating the SSI rule. The Petition was one of NACWA’s most significant legal advocacy efforts ever and demonstrates the Association’s commitment to protecting the ability of clean water agencies to pursue appropriate local biosolids management options free from unnecessary regulatory and economic burden.

- NACWA filed a legal challenge to EPA’s final definition of solid waste rule, attacking a critical regulatory cornerstone for the Agency’s SSI rule and protecting Association members from potential uneconomic regulatory and economic consequences as a result of EPA’s solid waste determinations involving biosolids that are incinerated.

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- NACWA’s aggressive advocacy on biogenic emissions benefited utilities significantly by reducing the amount of emissions that are counted towards the permitting thresholds under EPA’s Reclaimed Water Rule (RWR) Tailing Rule. Through specific deferrals for carbon dioxide emissions from wastewater treatment processes, as well as the combination of biogas and biosolids, NACWA’s actions make it unlikely that wastewater utilities will be subject to permitting requirements for GHGs during the next three years saving utilities potentially significant costs.

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Expansion of Judicial Advocacy

- NACWA expanded its judicial advocacy efforts, increasing its litigation portfolio and heightening its presence in the nation’s courtrooms to protect its members’ interests.

- NACWA engaged as the lead party in challenging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) final sewage sludge concentration (SSC) regulations, demonstrating the Association’s ability to take the legal fight to EPA on matters that will have significant legal and economic impacts on Association members.

- NACWA displayed a willingness to fight agricultural and nonpoint source interests in the courtroom by intervening in a lawsuit over EPA’s total maximum daily load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay, seeking to prevent big agriculture from abandoning the TMDL process and leaving municipal wastewater and stormwater dischargers on the hook for costly water quality improvements.

- Nutrients took a leading role in the Association’s legal efforts, with NACWA participating in litigation in both Florida and Massachusetts to push back against the imposition of illegal and scientifically flawed nutrient regulations on the municipal clean water community.

- NACWA made strong legal arguments against EPA’s efforts to include numeric effluent limits in municipal stormwater permits, as well as explored potential litigation efforts to ensure that stormwater utility charges are treated as valid fees for service and not illegal taxes.

- NACWA continued to engage in regional and state-scale nutrient toxicity (WET) issues, including ongoing issues with chronic toxicity testing in Texas and the proposal of a new WET policy in California that would employ a controversial approach to interpreting WET test results.

- NACWA drafted a coalition letter on numeric nutrient criteria arguing EPA to avoid a “one-size-fits-all” approach and better acknowledge the innovative approaches many states are developing to address nutrient issues.

- NACWA filed a brief in Florida’s historic Celebration efficacy challenge (CEP) supporting the Association’s Florida members in their challenge to EPA’s proposed nutrient criteria for the state and arguing that EPA’s decision to failed nutrient criteria in Florida overrode the Agency’s legal authority, setting a negative precedent for the rest of the nation.

- NACWA consumed a broad stakeholder alliance called the Healthy Waters Coalition to urge Congress to address nutrient runoff from agricultural lands in the upcoming Farm Bill reauthorization efforts. The Coalition sent a letter to Congress, supported by over 50 organizations nationwide, urging Congress to strengthen links between agricultural policy and water quality.

- The Turner Foundation awarded NACWA a $50,000 grant to support its efforts to address nutrient runoff from agricultural lands in the upcoming Farm Bill negotiations.

- NACWA joined litigation involving a permit appeal for Association member agency the Upper Blackstone Watershed Protection Association (UPPA), in Massachusetts, supporting the Agency’s challenge of scientifically flawed nutrient limits and arguing that controls on nutrients in discharge permits must be based on sound science and appropriate regulatory prioritization.
Watershed Management, Nutrients & Nonpoint Source Control

- NACWA built support for its vision of a holistic watershed approach—
  that prioritizes and addresses the more significant water impacts in the ways that are most cost-effective and environmentally beneficial—
  when the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the Association of State & Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators (ASWPCA),
  the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC), the National
  WWTP Operators Federation (NWWO), and the American Water Resources Association (AWRA)
  endorsed the principles of the 2005 Watershed Approach; based on the recommendations of the Association's Strategic Watershed Task Force.

- NACWA moved to defend a holistic watershed approach; protect
  municipal regulatory and economic interests; and, ensure that all dischargers in a watershed are required to do their fair share for water
  quality improvement when it intervened in a challenge by agricultural groups to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) final
  Chesapeake Bay total maximum daily load (TMDL).

- NACWA convened a Water Quality
  of clean water community representatives
to discuss new and innovative approaches to addressing nutrient-related water quality impacts.
The issue paper that resulted from the latest discussions is now serving as the
  foundation for NACWA's advocacy efforts.

- NACWA formed a task force to focus
  specifically on EPA's work to develop
  new nonpoint source water quality criteria. NACWA
  and the task group provided unprecedented
  comments to the Agency regarding its path forward and participated in a
  key stakeholder meeting to discuss the form and content of the new criteria.

- NACWA provided an early and
  ongoing voice from the clean water community on EPA's efforts
to develop a national memory controls rule for dental clinics.

Member Agency & Association Achievements

- NACWA's Targeted Action Fund (TAF) supported 23 key Association
  initiatives and programs—which
  measurably increased the effectiveness of the Association's advocacy agenda.

- NACWA brought the Association to its
  members through engagement in an unprecedented number of state
  and regional meetings and enhanced
  outreach through its Clean Water Exchange Award.

- NACWA awarded a total of 441
  member agency facilities with Peak Performance Awards,
  recognizing 134 treatment facilities with Plant of the Year:
  Performance Awards signifying their 100% compliance for five or more years. Twenty-seven facilities earned this elite Platinum status, while the remaining 107 recipients achieved the remarkable accomplishment of maintaining perfect compliance for a time period ranging from six to 24 years.

- NACWA recognized 196 member
  agency facilities with Gold Awards
  for maintaining perfect compliance for a full calendar year and
  111 member agency facilities with Silver Award
  for no more than five permit violations in 2010.

- NACWA honored 16 individuals
  and 14 member agencies for their
  outstanding contributions to environmental protection and the clean water community with 2011 National Environmental Achievement Awards while also presenting the Association's Excellence in Management awards to five member agencies for implementing and sustaining successful programs that address the range of management challenges faced by public clean water utilities.

- NACWA's National Office took
  its environmental efforts to a new level this year, installing new energy-saving windows, sustainable hvac heating
  and air conditioning in the Association's 100-year-old headquarters building. The
  Association extended this environmental ethic beyond its offices to its meetings and conferences with an array of green practices.
NACWA Members

PUBLIC UNIVERSITY MEMBERS

ALABAMA
Jefferson County Commission
Mobile Area Water & Sewer System
Montgomery Water Works & Sanitary Sewer Board

ARIZONA
City of Glendale Utilities Department
City of Phoenix Water Services Department
Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department

ARKANSAS
City of Little Rock Wastewater Utility
New River Wastewater Utility

CALIFORNIA
Central Coast Contra Costa Sanitary District
Central Santa Maria Sanitation Agency
City & County of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
City of Fresno Department of Public Utilities
City of Fullerton
City of Los Angeles
City of Palo Alto Regional Wastewater District
City of Redwood City
City of Sacramento
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
City of San Diego Public Utilities
City of San Jose Environmental Services Department
City of Santa Barbara
City of Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility
City of Sunol Water Pollution Control Plant
City of Thousand Oaks Public Works Department

CITY OF VACA
Delta Diablo Sanitation District
East Bay Municipal Utility District
San Joaquin Valley Water Agency
San Francisco Bay Area Water 
Fairfield-Suisun-Solano District
North Tahoe Public Utility District
Orange County Sanitation District
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Union Sanitary District
Yolo Sanitation & Flood Control District
West County Wastewater Districts

COLORADO
Boulder Sanitation District
City of Aurora Water Department
City of Fort Collins Utilities
City of Greeley Water and Sewer Department
City of Fruita Wastewater Department
City of Rifle
Colorado Springs Utilities Environmental Services
La Plata County Wastewater Treatment Plant
Metro Wastewater Reclamation District
Platte County Sanitation District

CONNECTICUT
Greater New Haven Water Pollution Control Authority
The Metropolitan District
The Town of Greenwich Water Pollution Control Authority for the City of Norwalk

DELWARE
City of Wilmington Department of Public Works

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC Water

FLORIDA
Broward County Water and Waste Water Services
City of Boca Raton River Services Department
City of Clearwater
City of Hollywood
City of Jacksonville Water Utility
City of South Florida Water Management District

GEORGIA
City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management
City of Augusta Utilities Department
City of Cumming
Columbus Water Works
Dalton City Public Works Department
Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources
Macon Water Authority

HAWAII
City & County of Honolulu Department of Environmental Services

IDAHO
City of Boise
City of Pocatello Water Pollution Control Department

ILLINOIS
American Water Resources Wastewater Treatment Facility
Bootheel & Normal Water Reclamation District
City of Chicago
DeKalb Sanitary Districts
Downers Grove Sanitary District

INDIANA
City of Evansville Wastewater Reclamation District
City of Fort Wayne Wastewater Reclamation District

IOWA
City of Council Bluffs

KANSAS
City of Kansas City

KENTUCKY
City of Louisville

LOUISIANA
City of Shreveport

MARYLAND
City of Annapolis
City of Baltimore Department of Public Works
City of College Park
City of Frederick
City of Hagerstown
City of Hunt Valley
City of Laurel
City of Silver Spring
City of Towson

MICHIGAN
Ann Arbor
City of Bay City
City of Battle Creek
City of Dearborn
City of Detroit
City of Flint
City of Grand Rapids
City of Livonia
City of Sterling Heights

MINNESOTA
Anoka County Metropolitan Council
City of St. Paul

MISSOURI
City of Columbia
City of Kansas City
City of Springfield
City of St. Louis
City of St. Joseph

MONTANA
City of Billings
City of Helena
City of Missoula

NEBRASKA
City of Grand Island
City of Lincoln

NEVADA
City of Las Vegas
City of Reno

NEW JERSEY
City of Newark
City of New Brunswick
City of New Jersey Water Resources Commission
City of Asbury Park
City of Atlantic City
City of Camden
City of Parsippany
City of Passaic
City of Trenton
City of Union

NEW MEXICO
City of Albuquerque

NEW YORK
City of Buffalo
City of Syracuse
City of Utica
City of Watertown

OHIO
City of Cleveland
City of Columbus
City of Cincinnati
City of Dayton
City of Columbus
City of Columbus
City of Dayton
City of Columbus

OKLAHOMA
City of Oklahoma City
City of Tulsa

OREGON
City of Portland

PENNSYLVANIA
City of Philadelphia

RHODE ISLAND
City of Providence

SOUTH CAROLINA
City of Charleston

SOUTH DAKOTA
City of Sioux Falls

TENNESSEE
City of Knoxville

TEXAS
City of Austin
City of Dallas
City of Fort Worth
City of Houston
City of McAllen
City of San Antonio
City of San Antonio
City of San Antonio

UTAH
City of Salt Lake City

VIRGINIA
City of Virginia Beach
City of Virginia Beach
City of Williamsburg
City of Williamsburg

WASHINGTON
City of Seattle
City of Spokane

WEST VIRGINIA
City of Charleston
City of Morgantown

WISCONSIN
City of Madison
City of Milwaukee

WYOMING
City of Casper
City of Cheyenne
City of Riverton

AMERICA'S WATER RESOURCES
American Water Resources

STORMWATER & WET WEATHER ISSUES

> NACWA continued its aggressive expansion into the stormwater arena, securing passage of a significant piece of legislation guaranteeing federal payment of municipal stormwater fees, potentially generating amounts approaching $10 million annually in previously unrealized revenue for communities across the country.

> NACWA provided a key municipal perspective to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) last week, emphasizing the support of the MS4 community for innovative approaches to better control urban wet-weather flows, along with the critical importance that the rule account for the significant regulatory and economic pressures that municipalities face all across the country.

> NACWA led an amicus brief supporting Association member, the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MST), in appealing an Missouri state court decision that invalidated the utility’s stormwater fee program. The legal and policy issues involved in this case have significant implications for stormwater utilities across the nation.

> NACWA has been instrumental in EPA’s decision to accept public comment on a controversial memo calling for the inclusion of numeric limits on municipal stormwater permits.
Affordability, Regulatory Prioritization & Infrastructure Funding

NACWA identifies national issues early and mechanisms for providing a unified voice to speak for wastewater.

With Congress and the Administration focused on deficit spending cuts, NACWA has taken a strong position on infrastructure funding as a job creator and through its Money Matters campaign that Congress and the Administration cannot have both ways — adding new and costly regulations under the Clean Water Act (CWA) while proposing cuts to funding to implement these regulations. At press time, these efforts are poised to ramp up dramatically.

NACWA’s Money Matters campaign provided a viable option for public agencies as CWA regulations and enforcement costs to expand, making the case for a new approach that lets municipalities act as the drivers for prioritizing compliance with existing and new CWA regulations.

NACWA released several key documents outlining the goals and objectives of the Money Matters campaign, "The Solution is a Water Road... We Address the Clean and the Safe..." and "Money Matters... Smarter Investment to Advance Clean Water". These documents serve as a roadmap for agencies and utilities to navigate the complex landscape of infrastructure funding and regulatory compliance.

Building on the Money Matters momentum, NACWA convened a Money Matters Summit in Washington, D.C., with participants taking the campaign’s message to Capitol Hill and buying the groundwork for regulatory prioritization legislation.

NACWA, via its Money Matters Task Force, crafted legislation to ensure that municipal flexibility is maximized and affordability and financial capability concerns are addressed based on complex and often fleeting community conditions — while also fully accounting for a process to allow municipalities to seek compliance schedule alterations under a menu of key charged economic, demographic, and other circumstances.

NACWA sought support for its Money Matters approach in comments on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) agency-wide regulatory review effort requested via Presidential Executive Order.

NACWA continued to build on its leadership role in bringing together key groups through the Water Infrastructure Network, the Clean Water Exchange network, and municipal and state organization coalitions, to show one voice in the need to preserve annual appropriations for the State Revolving Fund (SRF) and limit internal debt funding via a trust fund.

NACWA held a Congressional Briefing and conducted individual outreach meetings with new Members of Congress focusing on the Clean Water Act, the services NACWA members provide to their constituents, and the importance of continued federal investment in clean water infrastructure.
NACWA is my resource for information and advocacy. NACWA represents us nationally in areas of critical importance that require all of us to engage in.

Together we will continue to put the right advocacy strategies in place to ensure our interests, your ratepayers' interests, the environment, and public health are protected.

In the national policy arena it is often difficult to quantify the impact of an association's advocacy efforts. The previously described efforts and others described in this Year-in-Review demonstrate that membership in NACWA is an investment that pays great dividends. Together we will continue to put the right advocacy strategies in place to ensure our interests, your ratepayers' interests, the environment, and public health are protected.

Jeff Sierman
President 2010-2011
Executive Director, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Mo.

Ken Kirk
Executive Director

Orondaga County Department of Water Environmental Protection
Rockland County Sewer District #1
Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Town of Tenafly Water & Sewer
Village of Northport

North Carolina Metropolitan Sewerage District of Buncombe County
Orange Water & Sewer Authority
Town of Monetae
Water and Sewer Authority of Cabarrus County

Ohio

Mapleton Public Utilities Board
City of Columbus Division of Sewerage & Drainage
City of Dayton Department of Water
City of Lebanon City of Lima Utilities Department
City of Niles

Oregon

City of Albany
City of Portland
City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
City of Salem
City of Vladivostok

Pennsylvania

Allegheny County
Sanitary Authority
City of Lancaster
Delaware County Regional Water Quality Control Authority
Derry Township

Rhode Island

Management Buy Agency

South Carolina

Beaufort Jasper Water & Sewer Authority
Charleston Water System
Greenville Metropolitan District
Greer

Tennessee

City of Chattanooga

Texas

Austin Water Utility
Bedford Water and Sewer Authority
City of Amarillo
City of Corpus Christi
Wastewater Department
City of Garland

Utah

Central Davis County

Virginia

Alexandria Sanitation Authority
Chesterfield County

NACWA

Executive Director, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Mo.
A Message from NACWA’s President & Executive Director

This past year has been marked by significant challenges and political change, including economic turmoil that continues to impact all levels of government and a shift in Congress to a more conservative approach to many issues — including, the environment. Anticipating these trends, NACWA has sought to get out in front and position the organization and its members to maximize the Association’s effectiveness.

This is perhaps best exemplified through NACWA’s advocacy in the context of the Maysa Matters... Smarter Investment for All water/wastewater campaign. Through its Maysa Matters Task Force NACWA has been the leading voice for critical regulatory policy reform under the Clean Water Act (CWA), seeking to stretch every taxpayer dollar as far as possible to maximize water quality benefits. As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to ramp up its regulatory and enforcement agenda, this initiative offers an approach to fully comply with the CWA while bringing relief to those who are finding the bill — clean water agency nonprofits.

And while the Maysa Matters... campaign articulates the Association’s vision for a much-needed fresh look at how the objectives of the CWA can and should be prioritized, it also exemplifies the need to be even more aggressive when weighing in on the many legislative, regulatory, and legal issues that are far too numerous to mention in this message. These issues are described throughout NACWA’s Year at A Glance and in more detail in our online publication, The in Review.

It is clear that NACWA’s regulatory, legislative, and legal advocacy efforts are increasingly intertwined. While the Association continues to work with EPA toward a sound national stormwater rule, NACWA also successfully secured the passage of legislation requiring federal entities to pay their fair share of municipal stormwater fees, resulting in millions of dollars in previously unrealized revenues for municipalities. Similarly, our work in the mining arena has included a NACWA-hosted Tailings and resulting issues paper; organization of a working group and coalition to advocate for best of a Farm bill that addresses agriculture’s role in the water quality equation; receipts of a letter from the Senate Finance to craft an outreach and advocacy strategy to ensure nonpoint source are brought to the table; participation in key legislation on the Chemical & Biotech; and Florida’s ominous climate crisis; development of nonpoint source management, and Treasury in a joint House of Representatives hearing on the need for state flexibility in developing climate action. On the issue of sewage sludge incineration (SSI), only not did NACWA secure substantial changes in the final SSI rule — removing many member utilities from significant expenditures — but the Association also ensured that Members of Congress weighed in on the EPA’s rollback of the Clean Water Act. Of greatest significance, the Association became the primary proponent against EPA in an effort to ensure the SSI regulation was fit for clear statutory intent and the principles of sound science.

The SSI issue marks the first time that NACWA has been lodged and

Harlow County Department of Public Utilities
Hopewell Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility
Lowndes Water
Pike County Wastewater Authority
Upper Mississippi Service Authority
Washington, D.C. Water Authority
WASHINGTON
City of Everett Public Works Department
City of Lynnwood
City of Tacoma Public Works Department
City of Vancouver
Kings County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Lake Tahoe Unit Conduit District
وفقية Clean Water Alliance
Passaic County, Passaic Valley Water Management Authority
Southeast Public Utilities
WEST VIRGINIA
Jefferson County Public Service District
Morgantown Utility Board
WISCONSIN
City of Fond du Lac
City of Superior, Environmental Services Division
Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District
Heart of the Valley Metropolitan Sewerage District
Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
Racine Wastewater Utility
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American Cleaning Institute
New England Intermunicipal Water Pollution Control Commission
CORPORATE AFFILIATES
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Ashby & Company, Inc.
Black & Veatch Corporation
Browns & Eisch	Engineering, Inc.
Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc.
Caribou Engineers, P.C.
CERNEC
CJECMILL
Cromwell Boer & Associates Infrastructure & Engineering
Doherty & Associates, Inc.
Durango & Barnes
Engineering Design
EMC, Inc.
Envitech
Environmetals, Inc.
Fresco & Nichols, Inc.
Gannett Fleming, Inc.
Geological Consultants
Greely and Hanover, LLC
Hastings Macdonald
Hedrick & Associates
Henderson, Scott & Associates
Holland & Knight, LLP
Husky & Wilson, LLP
Kiley & Weiser, P.C.
Klein & Associates
Knutson & Associates
Lawrence Technologies, Inc.
Lincoln, NE
Mallinckrodt, Inc.
Majestic, Inc.
Majestic, Inc., The Water Division of ARLAND
Midwest Environmental Systems, Inc.
MWA, Inc.
Olin, Feldman & Feldman
P & B/Technologies
Pavement Engineering
RCBS Water & Environment
Redfin Group
Savvy Chemicals
Strand Associates, Inc.
Swarms Technologies, Inc.
TenTech, Inc.
United Water
URS Corporation
USA Business
Varian Water America, LLC
Visteon Associates, Inc.
Wiegman Engineering, Inc.
Woodruff, LLC
LEGAL AFFILIATES
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Aguilar & Associates
Barnes & Thornburg
Beavertail & Diamond
Eagles, L. & O'Dwyer, LLP
Foster & Lanyon LLP
Foster & Pepper PLLC
Frost Brown Todd LLP
Gallagher & Kennedy, PA
Hoff & Associates
Huntington Hills, PLLC
Maxwell & Lupin
Holland & Knight, LLP
Hussey & Williams, LLP
Kiley & Weiser, P.C.
Knutson & Associates
Lawrence Technologies, Inc.
Lincoln, NE
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Majestic, Inc., The Water Division of ARLAND
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Strand Associates, Inc.
Swarms Technologies, Inc.
TenTech, Inc.
United Water
URS Corporation
USA Business
Varian Water America, LLC
Visteon Associates, Inc.
Wiegman Engineering, Inc.
Woodruff, LLC

The regulatory climate is very dynamic and NACWA is the best organization to keep us on top of what’s happening.