A photograph of a river at sunset. In the background, several tall industrial smokestacks are visible against a sky with soft orange and yellow clouds. The smokestacks and the sky are reflected in the calm water of the river. The water is dark blue with some floating debris. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and industrial presence.

# **The National Pretreatment Program: A view from EPA's Office of Wastewater Management**

*A Core Program within the NPDES Program*

May 14, 2014  
NACWA Pretreatment Conference

Marcus Zobrist  
Chief, Industrial Branch  
Water Permits Division





# EPA Presentations Overview

- Office of Wastewater Management Priorities
- National Pretreatment Program Update
- Effluent Guidelines Program Update
- Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance' efforts to strengthen pretreatment program
- eReporting Rule and other e-tools

# Objectives of the Pretreatment Program

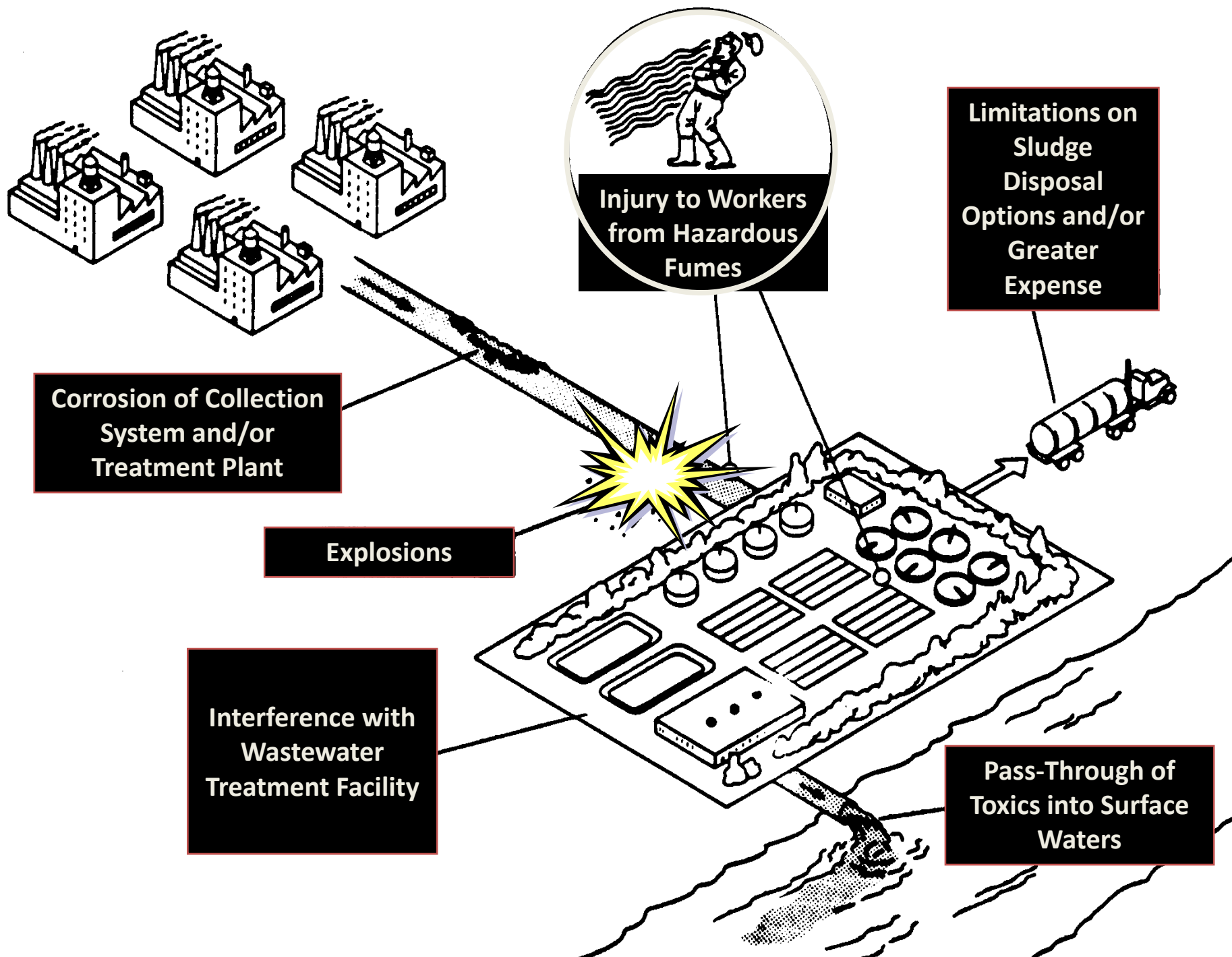
## 40 CFR 403.2

- To prevent the introduction of pollutants into POTWs which will:
  - interfere,
  - pass through, and/or
  - be incompatible
- To improve opportunities to recycle and reclaim wastewaters and sludges

## 40 CFR 403.5

- To protect the POTW infrastructure
- To protect POTW workers





# Key Pretreatment Regulation Sections

403.1	Purpose and Applicability
403.2	Objectives of General Pretreatment Regulations
403.3	Definitions
403.4	State or local law
403.5	National Pretreatment Standards: Prohibited discharges
403.6	National Pretreatment Standards: Categorical standards
403.7	Removal Credits
403.8	Pretreatment Program Requirements: Development and Implementation by POTWs
403.9	POTW pretreatment programs and/or authorization to revise pretreatment standards: Submission for approval
403.10	Development and submission of NPDES State pretreatment programs
403.11	Approval procedures for POTW pretreatment programs & POTW granting of removal credits
403.12	Variances from categorical pretreatment standards for fundamentally different factors
403.14	Confidentiality
403.15	Net/Gross calculation
403.16	Upset provision
403.17	Bypass
403.18	Modification of POTW pretreatment programs
403.19	Provisions of specific applicability to the Owatonna Waste Water Treatment Facility
403.20	Pretreatment Program Reinvention Pilot Projects Under Project XL



# What are the Key Components of a Pretreatment Program?

## 40 CFR 403.8

- Legal authority
- Local limits
- Procedures
- List of Industrial Users
- Enforcement (Enforcement Response Plan)
- Funding

# 2013 Office of Wastewater Management Focus Areas & Objectives



## Plan

Green Infrastructure Practices  
Integrated Wet Weather Planning  
Establishment of Guiding Principles

Identify pathways to strengthen sustainable practices



## Program

Stormwater Rule  
Energy Sector  
Combined Animal Feeding Operations  
Pretreatment

Protect vital resources  
Enhance energy relationships



## Produce

Sustainability Handbook  
Technology Innovation  
Partnerships

Innovate for smart, sustainable growth



Integrated efforts resulting in effective collaboration with government and private industry



# Global Water Crisis

## The Problem

Infrastructure

Demand

1.7T gallons wasted

\$2.6B

Scarcity

Suitability

Sustainability

## Unseen crisis: Failing Infrastructure

Efficient water use depends on working, modern infrastructure, but leaking water collection and distribution systems and inadequate wastewater treatment continue to plague municipalities. Modern, efficient water infrastructure is crucial to meet the needs of expanding populations.

100 YEARS  
THE AGE OF SOME  
U.S. WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

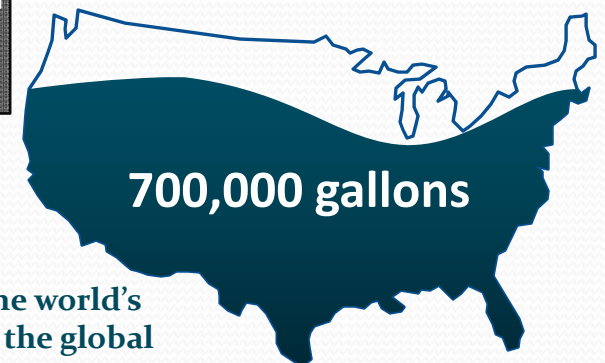
## Growing Problem: Water Scarcity

Safe drinking water is a precious asset. Although 70% of the world's surface is covered by water, only one percent of the total water resource on earth are available for human use. Today, that one percent is under threat as a result of population growth, urbanization, and crumbling infrastructure.

\$2.6 BILLION  
AND 1.7 TRILLION GALLONS  
LOST EVERY YEAR FROM  
BROKEN AND LEAKING PIPES

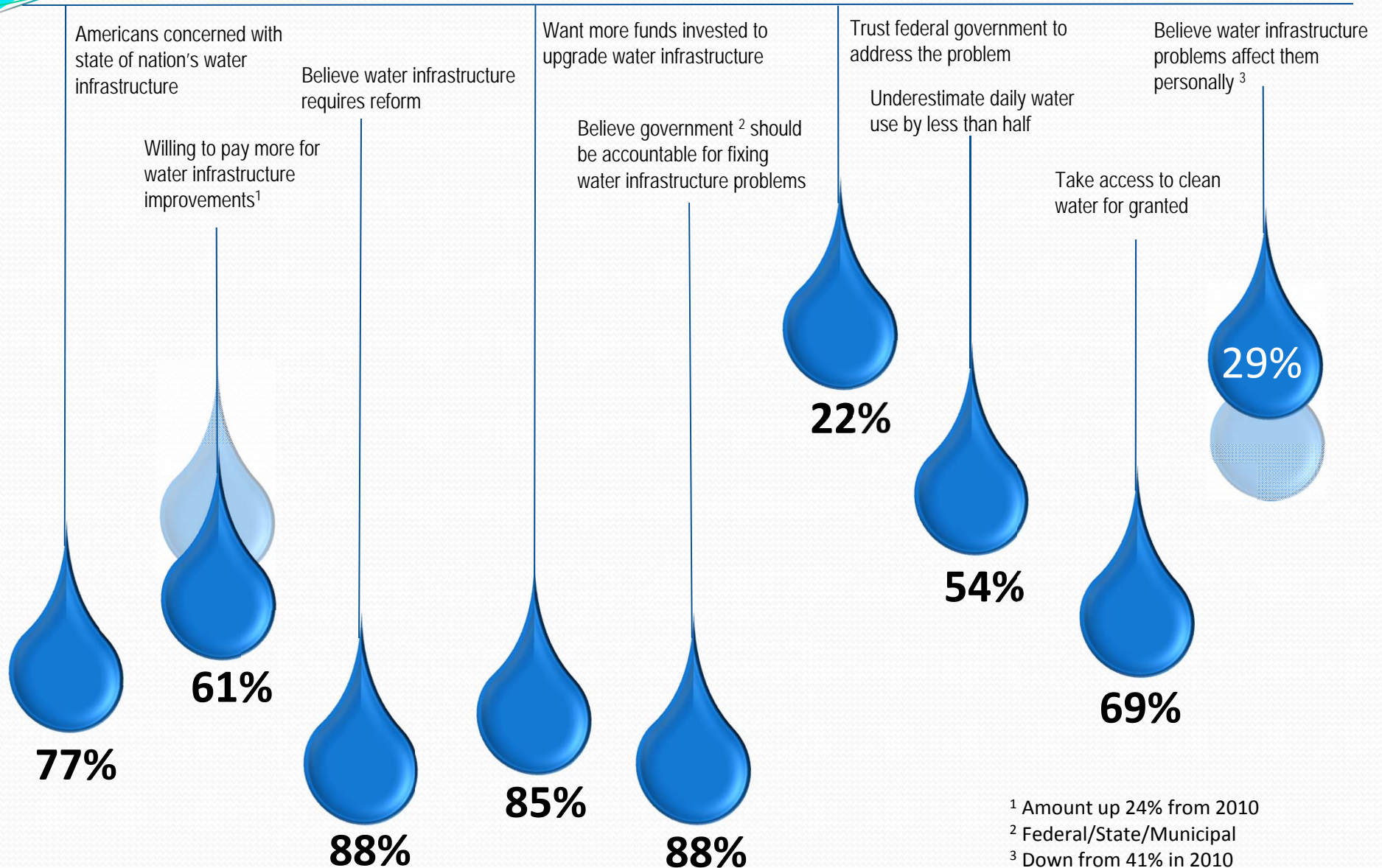
700,000 gallons

U.S. water footprint is among the world's highest, and more than double the global average.





# Recognition, Perception, and Disconnects



<sup>1</sup> Amount up 24% from 2010

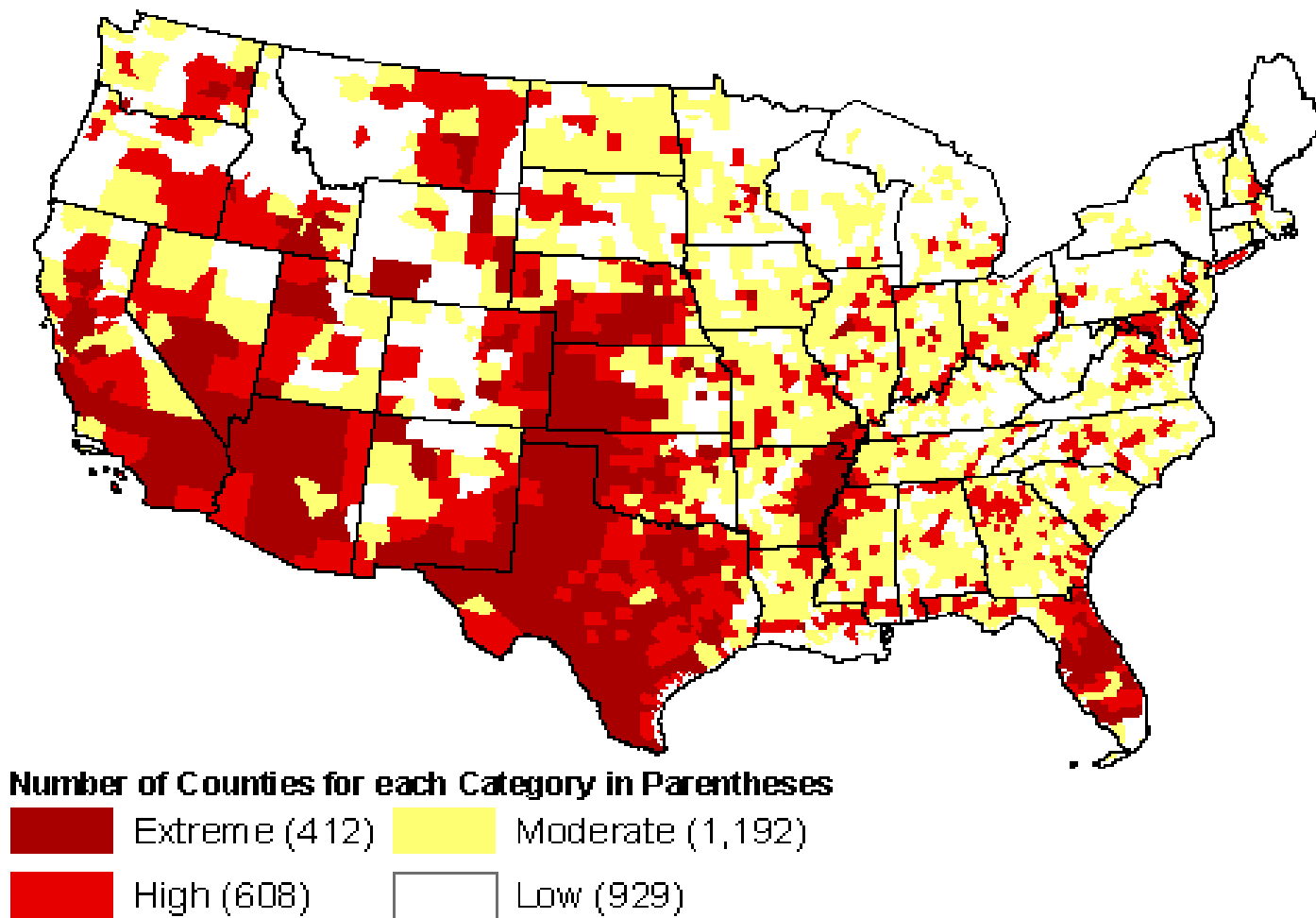
<sup>2</sup> Federal/State/Municipal

<sup>3</sup> Down from 41% in 2010

Sources: USGS, EPA, and Xylem Inc

## Water Supply and Demand in a Changing Climate

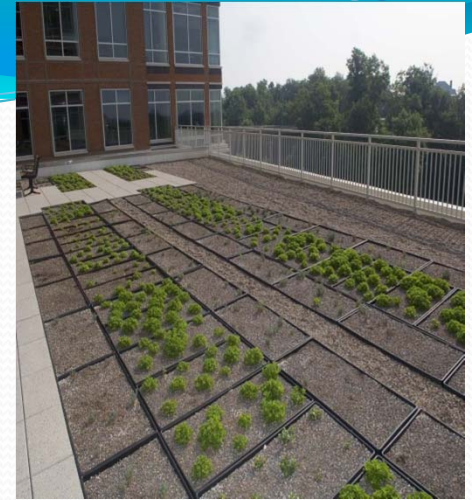
### Water Supply Sustainability Index (2050) With Climate Change Impacts





# Green Infrastructure

## Initiatives & Partnerships



- EPA has several initiatives to help municipalities implement green infrastructure approaches
  - Green Infrastructure Partner Community effort established partnerships with 25 communities and provides technical support to 19
  - EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) Pilot Community effort provides technical support to 5 municipalities and \$6M to green infrastructure research in 2012
- Recently, EPA, DC Water and the District signed green infrastructure partnership agreement
  - joint commitment to green infrastructure and path forward to consider possible green infrastructure amendments to their consent decree
- Philadelphia requested federal partnership in their state negotiated, green infrastructure approach
  - EPA signed partnership agreement and administrative order with Philadelphia to bring all parties into united effort for the most ambitious green infrastructure effort in the country



# Integrated Wet Weather Planning



- October 27, 2011 memo expresses EPA commitment/support for integrated approaches to municipal stormwater and wastewater management
- Integrated planning approaches help municipalities meet their CWA obligations by fostering:
  - Sequencing of projects in a way that starts highest priority projects first; and
  - innovative solutions, (e.g., green infrastructure)

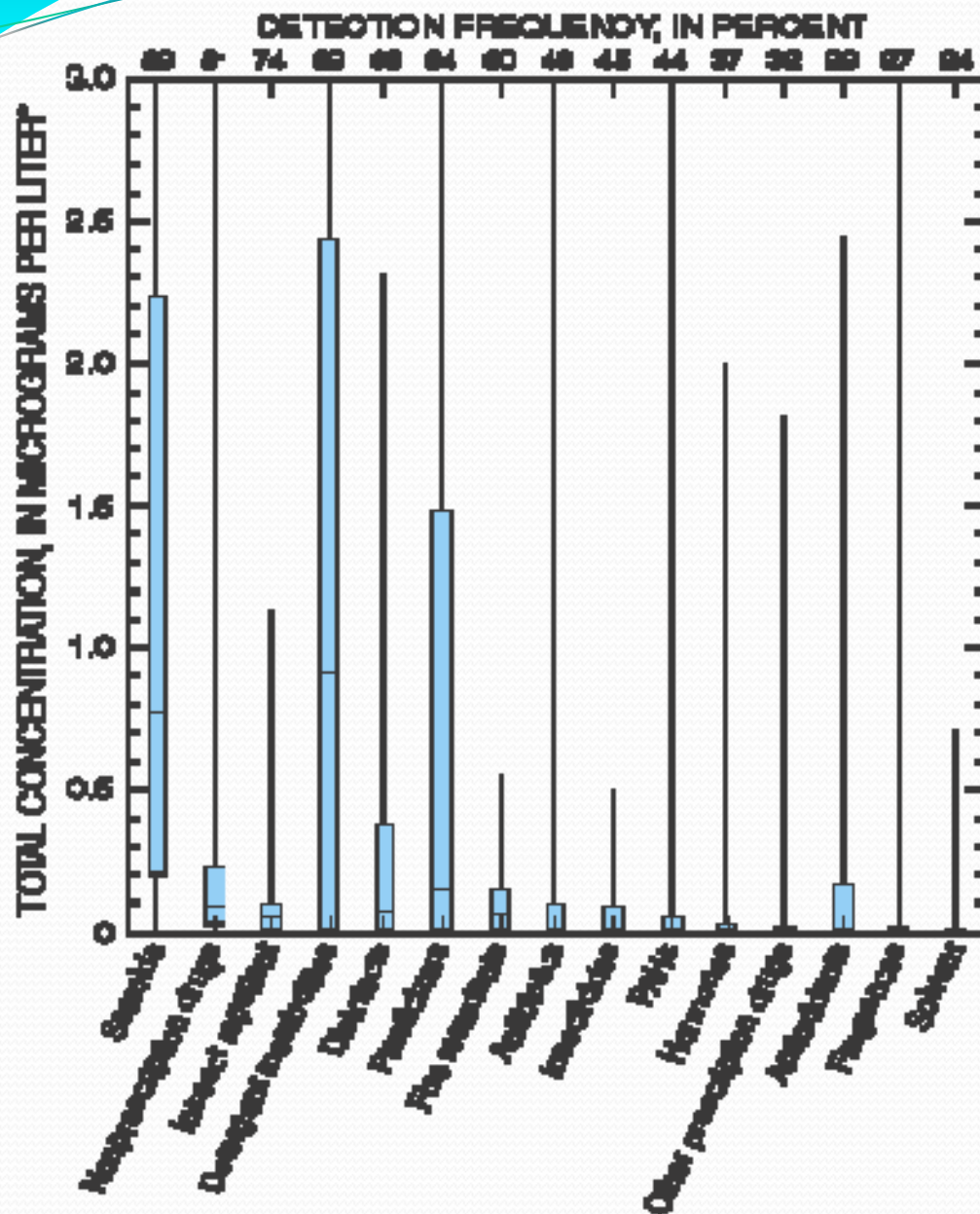


# Sustainability Handbook

- EPA's goal is to ensure sustainable management of water infrastructure and utilities operations based on our Sustainability Policy
- Based on EPA's Policy, *"Planning for Sustainability: A Handbook for Water and Wastewater Utilities"* released in February, 2012
- Significant input from leading utilities throughout its development
- Designed to help utilities select projects that:
  - Protect human health and water quality while supporting other relevant community goals
  - Reflect full lifecycle costs and are based on analysis of alternatives, including conservation or "green" approaches
  - Webinar series now underway—supplemental guidelines on alternatives analysis expected in 2013



# Pharmaceuticals, Hormones, and Other Organic Wastewater Contaminants in U.S. Streams – 1999 to 2000.



Steroids, nonprescription drugs, and an insect repellent were the three chemical groups most commonly detected in susceptible streams. Detergent metabolites, steroids, and plasticizers generally were found at the highest concentrations.

EXPLANATION	
Maximum value	2.2 micrograms per liter
75th percentile	0.8
Median	0.2
25th percentile	0.1
Minimum value	0.0
<b>Summary statistics:</b> Steroids: 143 Nonprescription drugs: 17.4 Detergent metabolites: 65.6 Plasticizers: 17.4 Antibiotics: 3.8 Pesticides: 4.3	

USGS Fact Sheet FS-027-02, 2002



# NPDES and Pretreatment Program Challenges

- NPDES & pretreatment programs are highly decentralized
- Vast and increasingly complex NPDES and pretreatment programs
- Shrinking budgets, workforces and experience drain
- Important for addressing potential WQ, sludge and Human health impacts



# Questions?

