

Opportunities for Collaboration with NACWA on Today's Clean Water Challenges

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Today's Presentation

Discuss our major
clean water
challenges

- Nutrients
- Stormwater
- Wet weather
- Aging infrastructure

Identify
opportunities to
work together

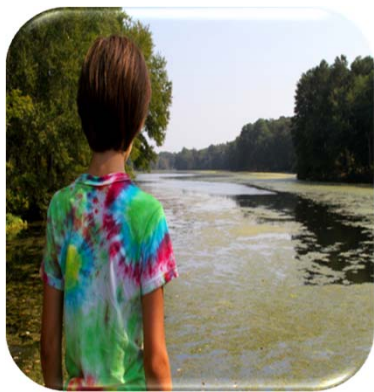
- State Revolving Funds (SRFs)
- Integrated planning
- Green infrastructure
- Promoting sustainability and technology innovation
- Enhance role of states and external partners

Future of
collaboration &
partnerships

- Financing alternatives
- Green infrastructure
- Integrated planning
- Promoting sustainable systems & technology innovation



Challenge: Nutrients



- Nutrient pollution is America's most widespread, costly and challenging environmental problem
- Wastewater treatment plants
 - Need to find practical solutions to meet Water Quality Standards
 - Need to move beyond treatment to recovery of resources
- We need to focus on other significant sources of nutrient pollution
 - Establish new partners and invigorate old partners
 - Fully engage non point and agricultural sources
- Office of Water activities
 - Training to assist states in developing WQBELS for nutrient pollution
 - *Emerging Technologies for Wastewater Treatment and In – Plant Wet Weather Management*, April 2013 plus addendum in August, 2013 providing information on emerging technologies



Challenge: Stormwater



- Stormwater is another major source of water quality problems and the problem is growing
 - New Hampshire: **83%** of surface water quality impairments are due primarily to stormwater
 - New York: Stormwater is a major contributing source of impairment in **77%** of water bodies assessed
 - Chesapeake Bay: Stormwater is the only growing source of pollution
- Most cost-effective way to manage stormwater is to incorporate sustainable controls as sites are developed and redeveloped
- Cost of retrofits to address impairment is high
- Office of Water activities
 - Encourage prevention in areas not already impacted and specific controls in MS4s to address impairment
 - Consider options for strengthening the stormwater program



Challenge: Municipal Wet Weather Issues

- SSOs and bypasses remain a tremendous challenge – need to work together to develop a path forward that provides certainty for municipalities and protects public health
- In the CSO area - there are still about 100 communities with combined sewer systems that have not yet developed their long term control plan





Challenge: Aging Infrastructure



- America's pipes are in dire need of repair
 - >\$635 billion needed in wastewater and drinking water infrastructure improvements over the next 20 years
- Population growth will put additional strain
 - Expected growth is 55% between 2000 – 2050
- Office of Water activities
 - Continue to invest in affordable financing
 - Explore integrated approaches to help communities meet the challenge of protecting their water resources
 - Promote sustainable infrastructure through green infrastructure and effective utility management
 - Encourage conservation and reuse



Nexus of Challenge & Opportunity



- EPA recognizes that addressing many of these challenges require significant resources
- We are working to support approaches to help communities in meeting these obstacles
- We remain committed to working with communities and stakeholders to achieve solutions



Opportunity: Leveraging the SRFs

- In 2013 the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs provided approximately \$7 billion, funding more than 2,300 assistance agreements in communities across the US
- Cumulative program funding is \$126 billion
 - \$100 billion in the CWSRF
 - \$26 billion in the DWSRF
- This critical funding helps states meet water infrastructure needs and advance the goals of the CWA and SDWA





Opportunity: Integrated Planning

- Integrated Planning Framework
 - Examine all pollutant sources
 - Encourages municipalities to prioritize CWA projects and focus on highest priority
 - Example: Blue Plains, Washington DC
- NACWA held series of workshops
 - Workshops very successful
 - Allowed EPA to get input from stakeholders
- Financial capability assessment – topic of most interest
- Office of Water activities
 - Developing supplement to accompany Financial Capability Guidance
 - Recent discussion on supplement with Conference of Mayors, League of Cities and National Association of Counties
 - Interested in NACWA input





Opportunity: Green Infrastructure



- EPA's GI program focuses on improving water quality and building resilient communities
 - Work with partners to develop green infrastructure approaches across scales
 - Example: Milwaukee's site-scale GI practices integrated with Greenseams
- Partnerships
 - NACWA an original signatory of 2007 GI Statement of Intent, planning to re-sign in April
- Office of Water activities
 - Capacity Building
 - Announced \$400k of tech assistance to 6 communities (Oct 2013)
 - Will offer \$400k of new tech assistance (Apr 2014)
 - Will announce 2013-2014 Campus RainWorks winners (Spring 2014)
 - Financing
 - Working with EFCs to identify sustainable financing for green infrastructure that can leverage public and private financing





Opportunity: Promoting Sustainability & Technology Innovation

- Sustainable practices are needed to achieve greater resiliency, meet increasing water demands and address climate change implications
- Today's demands and tomorrow's challenges require technology and innovation to achieve sustainability
- Office of Water activities
 - Promoting Sustainable Systems
 - Effective Utility Management
 - Rural & Small Guidebook to Sustainable Utility Management
 - Workshop in a Box: Sustainable Management of Rural and Small Systems Workshops
 - Moving Toward Sustainability: Effective Practices for Creating Your Water Utility Roadmap (coming 2014)
 - Blueprint for Integrating Technology Innovation





Future of Collaboration & Partnerships

- Enhanced role of our partners
- EPA facilitating change
- Creative financing alternatives
- Management of municipal wet weather
- Integrated planning implementation
- Green infrastructure investment
- Modernizing the permitting program
- Promoting sustainable systems and technology innovation/support





Questions?

