

WORKSHOP AT A GLANCE

All informational sessions, including the split sessions on Wednesday, will be held in the Capitol Ballroom, the Technical Assistance Expo will be held in the University Rooms, and the Reception will be held in the Assembly/Caucus Rooms.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

7:00am – 8:00am	Networking/Registration
8:00am – 8:30am	Welcome/Opening Remarks
8:30am – 9:45am	01 BIL Breakdown
9:45am – 10:45am	Technical Assistance Exposition
10:45am – 12:00pm	02 Making Federal Funding More Attractive
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Lunch – On Your Own
1:30pm – 2:30pm	03a Capacity Development Strategy Revisions 03b Operator Training
2:30pm – 3:00pm	Break & Technical Assistance Exposition (cont.)
3:00pm – 5:00pm	04a Capacity Development Roundtable 04b Operator Certification Roundtable
5:00pm – 6:30pm	Reception – Sponsored by ASDWA

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

7:30am – 8:00am	Networking/Registration
8:00am – 9:15am	05 Working Together to Improve Operator Certification Compliance
9:15am – 10:30am	06 Opportunities for New Workforce and Entry Level Jobs
10:30am – 10:45am	Break
10:45am – 12:00pm	07 Succession Planning
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Lunch – On Your Own
1:30pm – 2:30pm	08 Assessing Technical, Managerial, Financial (TMF) Capacity
2:30pm – 3:30pm	09 Utilizing Data Trends to Improve Your State's Program
3:30pm – 4:00pm	Break & Networking
4:00pm – 5:15pm	10 Emergency Response and Cybersecurity
5:45pm – 7:00pm	Evening Walk & Dinner – On Your Own

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

7:30am – 8:00am	Networking/Registration
8:00am – 9:30am	11 Lessons Learned: Lead Service Line Accelerators Pilot Program
9:30am – 10:00am	Break & Networking
10:00am – 11:30am	12 Engagement Catch-All
11:30am – 12:00pm	Closing Remarks

DETAILED AGENDA

Wednesday, August 7

7:00am – 8:00am	NETWORKING/REGISTRATION Hallway
8:00am - 8:30am	WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS Capitol Ballroom <i>Remarks by:</i> <i>Jennifer McLain (EPA HQ)</i> <i>Steve Elmore (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources)</i> <i>Rose Kyprianou (EPA HQ)</i>
8:30am - 9:45am	SESSION 1: BIL BREAKDOWN <i>Kara Goodwin, Moderator</i> This session will focus on how the capacity development and operator certification programs can use Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and related federal funding to support States and PWSs in receiving and coordinating technical assistance to build capacity and sustainability. Presentations by: <i>Matt King (EPA HQ)</i> <i>Jenny Bielanski (EPA Region 5)</i>
9:45am – 10:45am	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE EXPO University Rooms Networking opportunity between attendees and invited technical assistance providers.
10:45am – 12:00pm	SESSION 2: MAKING FEDERAL FUNDING MORE ATTRACTIVE <i>Matt King, Moderator</i> Join this session and learn about best practices to encourage systems to apply for federal funding and help support those who have historically struggled to obtain funds.
12:00pm – 1:30am	Lunch (Independently)

1:30pm – 2:30pm

SESSION 3a: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY REVISIONS

Capitol Ballroom – A

Alison Flenniken, Moderator

Attendees will learn from other states on new strategic programs and resources added to their capacity development strategies, specifically with asset management and technical assistance. This session will also provide an opportunity for discussions on challenges faced since the required revisions and how states can leverage the strategies with other drinking water programs for future implementation.

Panelists:

Hannah Stalder (Indiana Department of Environmental Management)

Katilin Curtis (New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services)

Valerie Plance (West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection)

Andy Anderson (Washington State Department of Health)

SESSION 3b: OPERATOR TRAINING

Capitol Ballroom – B

Koren Carpenter, Moderator

Join this session and learn about best practices to incorporate topics such as PFAS and other emerging contaminants, climate change, and cybersecurity in their operator training programs.

Presentations by:

Amelia Neis (Kansas Department of Health and Environment)

Brendan O'Brien (Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation)

Jenny Strobel (Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Fleming Training Center)

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Break and Technical Assistance Exposition (cont.)

3:00pm – 5:00pm

SESSION 4a: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE

Capitol Ballroom – A

Alison Flenniken, Moderator

Join this roundtable to discuss new ideas and opportunities in the capacity development program and hear from attendees who have found creative ways to overcome various drinking water challenges. Some topics up for discussion include water system restructuring and regionalization, relationship building with decision makers and governing entities, and addressing financial capacity challenges.

SESSION 4b: OPERATOR CERTIFICATION ROUNDTABLE

Capitol Ballroom – B

Matt Reed, Moderator

Join this roundtable to discuss challenges to implement the operator certification program and hear from attendees who are leveraging resources to build up the operator certification and workforce development program. Some topics up for discussion include reciprocity, contract operators, and small system needs for training and workforce.

5:00pm – 6:30pm

RECEPTION

Assembly/Caucus Rooms (off lobby)

Enjoy a cash bar and small appetizers at the hotel. Sponsored by ASDWA.

Thursday, August 8

7:30am - 8:00am	NETWORKING/REGISTRATION Hallway
8:00am – 9:15am	SESSION 5: WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE OPERATOR CERTIFICATION COMPLIANCE Capitol Ballroom <i>Kevin Letterly, Moderator</i> <p>This session aims to address the challenges faced in operator certification compliance and how other drinking water programs can collaborate with operator certification to improve outcomes. The session will explore specific topics such as fraud, incompetence, and lack of operators, and discuss how these issues may be addressed through enforcement or capacity development.</p> <p>Presentations by: <i>Koren Carpenter (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy)</i> <i>Andy Barienbrock (Ohio Environmental Protection Agency)</i> <i>Phebe Howe (Oregon Health Authority)</i> <i>Kyra Gregory (Colorado Department of Public Health)</i></p>
9:15am – 10:30am	SESSION 6: OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW WORKFORCE AND ENTRY LEVEL JOBS <i>Eddy Viveiros, Moderator</i> <p>Attendees will have an opportunity to share ideas and best practices related to recruitment and career development of the water workforce, from k-12 education programs to supporting new managers.</p> <p>Presentations by: <i>Jaya Zyman (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)</i> <i>Tonya Bronleewe (Wichita State University)</i> <i>Darlene Helmig (Missouri Department of Natural Resources)</i></p>
10:30am – 10:45am	Break
10:45am – 12:00am	SESSION 7: SUCCESSION PLANNING <i>Bill Bernier, Moderator</i> <p>This session will connect how the transition of knowledge is key to building the technical and managerial capacity of public water systems.</p> <p>Presentation by: <i>Barry Matthews (Virginia Department of Health)</i></p>
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Lunch (Independently)

1:30pm – 2:30pm

SESSION 8: ASSESSING TMF CAPACITY

Deirdre White, Moderator

Learn how States are assessing capacity and identify common indications for systems that have sufficient and sustainable capacity.

Presentation by:

Alison Flenniken (EPA HQ)

2:30pm – 3:30pm

SESSION 9: UTILIZING DATA TRENDS TO IMPROVE YOUR STATE’S PROGRAMS

Leah Cozzi, Moderator

This session will highlight states who are leveraging baseline measures and databases to improve their capacity development and operator certification program strategies and implementation.

Presentations by:

Barry Matthews (Virginia Department of Health)

Kim Parker (Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality)

Koren Carpenter (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy)

Martin Morales (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy)

3:30pm – 4:00pm

Break

4:00pm – 5:15pm

SESSION 10: EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND CYBERSECURITY

Nicholas Bertolas, Moderator

Learn from states who are encouraging public water systems to prepare and implement emergency management and response plans for natural disasters, cyber-attacks, and more.

Presentations by:

Andy Barienbrock (Ohio Environmental Protection Agency)

Jaya Zyman (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)

Daniel Honore (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Region 5)

Amanda Knutson (Federal Bureau of Investigation)

5:45 p.m.

Evening Walk & Dinner

[Memorial Union at UW-Madison](#)

[800 Langdon Street](#)

Join us for an evening stroll (approximately a 16-minute walk from the hotel) to Memorial Union for drinks and dinner. We will meet in the lobby and start to walk over at 5:45.

You can look at the dining options available here: <https://union.wisc.edu/dine/find-food-and-drink/>

Friday, August 9

7:30am – 8:00am	NETWORKING/REGISTRATION Hallway
8:00am – 9:30am	SESSION 11: LESSONS LEARNED: LEAD SERVICE LINE ACCELERATORS PILOT PROGRAM Capitol Ballroom <i>Alex Horansky, Moderator</i> Hear from participants in EPA’s pilot program in Wisconsin on their experience, and what recommendations they would give to those completing their inventories and are starting to begin replacing lead service lines. Panelists: <i>Drew Pizzala (EPA HQ)</i> <i>Steve Elmore (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources)</i> <i>Mark Briggs (Horsely Witten/Eastern Research Group)</i> <i>Karyn Rittenhouse (City of West Allis Water Utility)</i> <i>Zach Pethan (Manitowoc Public Utilities)</i>
9:30am – 10:00am	Break
10:00am – 11:30am	SESSION 13: ENGAGEMENT CATCH-ALL <i>Sheyda Esnaashari, Moderator</i> Join this interactive session to explore communication and engagement challenges and effective strategies across drinking water programs and audiences.
11:30am – 12:00pm	CLOSING REMARKS Remarks by: <i>Deirdre White (ASDWA)</i> <i>Alison Flenniken (EPA HQ)</i>