

**National Water
Policy Fly-In**
Washington, D.C. ★ March 21 - 22, 2017

Webcast to Help Prepare Attendees for Water Week 2017
March 7, 2017
3 – 4 PM EST
Hosted by WEF, NACWA, WateReuse, WRF and WE&RF
www.WaterWeek.us/nwfp

Webcast Speakers

WEF

- Steve Dye, *Legislative Director*

NACWA

- Patricia Sinicropi, *Senior Legislative Director*
- Kristina Surfus, *Legislative Affairs Manager*

Water Environment & Reuse Foundation

- Allison Deines, *Director of Special Projects*

Water Research Foundation

- Beate Wright, *Executive Director, DC Office*

WateReuse

- Ian Wolf, *Legislative Director*

Webcast Agenda

1. Review of National Water Policy Forum & Fly-In Program
2. 115th Congress Overview
3. The Message to Congress
4. How to Request a Congressional Meeting
5. Tips for a Successful Congressional Meeting

Fly-In Agenda



www.waterweek.us/nwpf/

**Washington Marriott
Georgetown**
1221 22 St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20037

Taxi:
\$15 from DCA
\$60 from IAD or BWI

Metro: Dupont Circle
(5 blocks)



Agenda cont.

Monday, March 20

2 – 5 PM WEF Government Affairs Committee Meeting
District Room

Tuesday, March 21

8 AM – 1:30 PM WEF Stormwater Institute Steering Committee Meeting – *Members Only*
District Room

8:30 – 11:30 AM NACWA Board Meeting – *Members Only*
Metropolitan Galleries 1 - 3

11:30 AM–2 PM US Water Alliance Board Meeting
– *Members Only*
Quad, 3rd Floor

Agenda cont.

Tuesday, March 21

National Water Policy Fly-In

1 – 4 PM Registration -- *Metropolitan Foyer*

2 – 5 PM Plenary Session – *Metropolitan Ballroom*
» Senior EPA Office of Water Officers
» Federal Agency Roundtables (*Finance, Reuse, Stormwater, Integrated Planning, Innovation, Nutrients, etc.*)

5:30 – 6:30 PM Welcome Reception

Agenda cont.

Wednesday, March 22

- 7:30 – 9:30 AM Registration – *Metropolitan Foyer*
- 8 – 9:30 AM Congressional Breakfast – *Metropolitan Ballroom*
-- Sen. James Inhofe
-- Sen. Cory Booker
- 10:30-11:30 AM Rally for Water – *Upper Senate Park*
- Noon – 5 PM Congressional Office Visits
- 5 PM – 6:30 PM Water Week 2017 Congressional Reception
902 Hart Senate Office Building
*Hosted by: NACWA, WEF, AWWA, AMWA, WE&RF,
WRF, WaterReuse, WWEMA, US Water
Alliance*

Other Events

NEWEA Congressional Luncheon

Tuesday, March 21, US Capitol

Value of Water Coalition -- Economic Benefits Report Release

12 – 1 PM, Wednesday, March 22, 2253 Rayburn House Office Building

AWWA Water Matters! Fly-In

March 22-23, Grand Hyatt Washington

WWEMA Washington Forum

March 21-23, The Westin Georgetown

115th Congress Overview



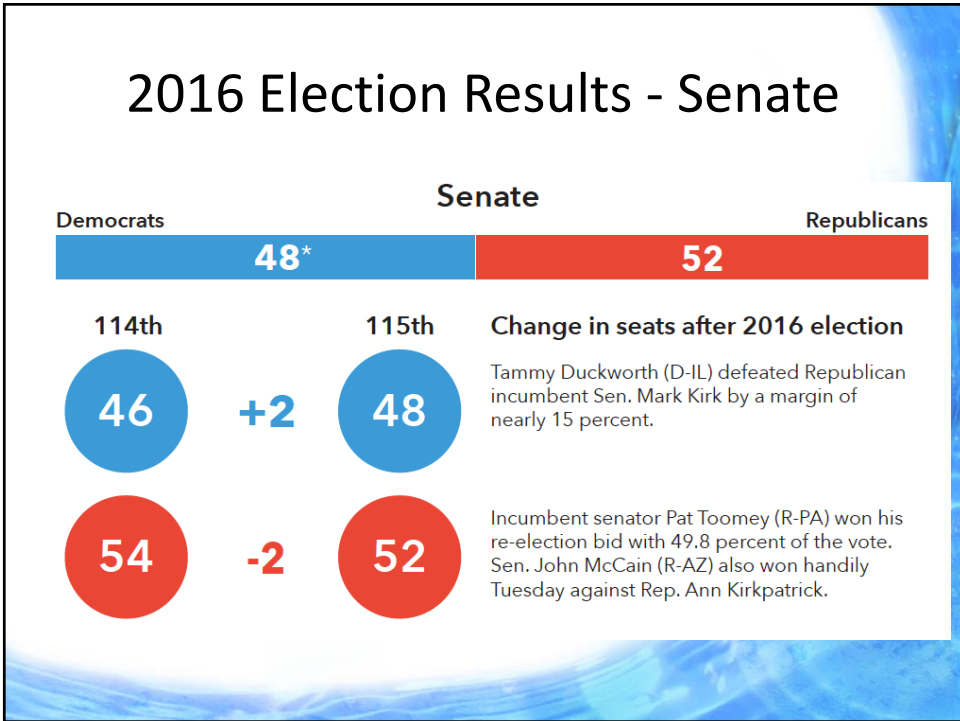
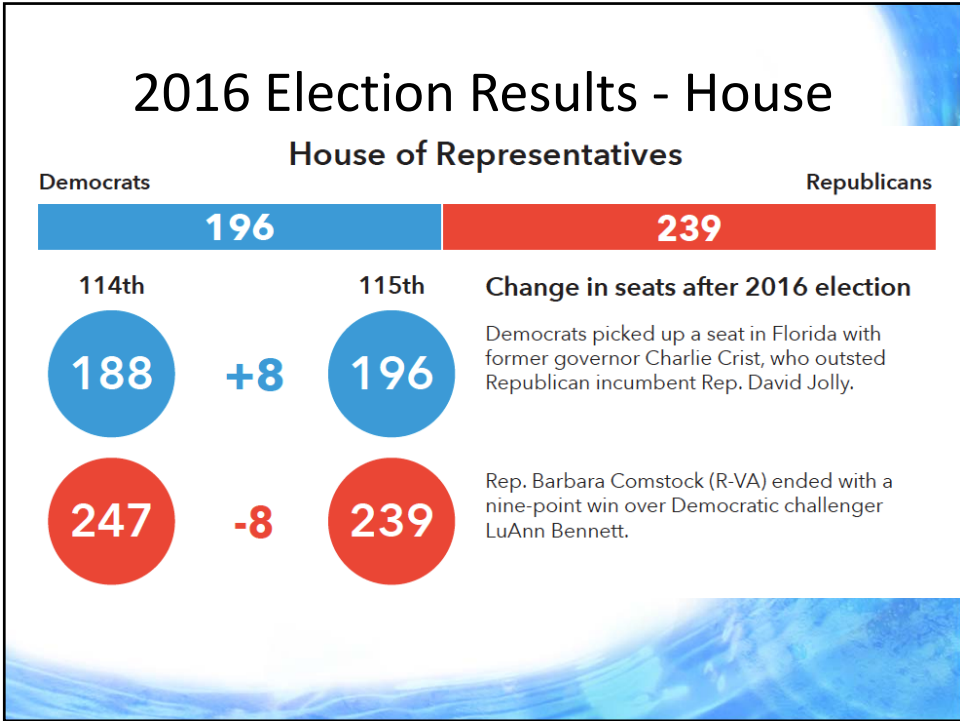
115th Congress Leadership

House Leadership

- Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI)
- Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Senate Leadership

- Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
- Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY)



HOUSE RACES RESULTS SUMMARY

House Republican Freshmen

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ★ Jodey Arrington (Texas) | ★ John J. Faso (N.Y.) | ★ Brian Mast (Fla.) |
| ★ Don Bacon (Neb.) | ★ Drew Ferguson (Ga.) | ★ Paul Mitchell (Mich.) |
| ★ Jim Banks (Ind.) | ★ Brian Fitzpatrick (Pa.) | ★ Francis Rooney (Fla.) |
| ★ Jack Bergman (Mich.) | ★ Matt Gaetz (Fla.) | ★ John Rutherford (Fla.) |
| ★ Andy Biggs (Ariz.) | ★ Tom A. Garrett, Jr. (Va.) | ★ Lloyd K. Smucker (Pa.) |
| ★ Ted Budd (N.C.) | ★ Trey Hollingsworth (Ind.) | ★ Scott W. Taylor (Va.) |
| ★ Liz Cheney (Wyo.) | ★ David Kustoff (Tenn.) | ★ Claudia Tenney (N.Y.) |
| ★ James R. Comer (Ky.) | ★ Jason Lewis (Minn.) | |
| ★ Neal Dunn (Fla.) | ★ Roger Marshall (Kan.) | |

HOUSE RACES RESULTS SUMMARY

House Democratic Freshmen

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ★ Nanette Diaz Barragan (Calif.) | ★ Joshua S. Gottheimer (N.J.) | ★ Jimmy Panetta (Calif.) |
| ★ Anthony G. Brown (Md.) | ★ Colleen W. Hanabusa (Hawaii) | ★ Jamie Raskin (Md.) |
| ★ Salud Carbajal (Calif.) | ★ Ro Khanna (Calif.) | ★ Lisa Blunt Rochester (Del.) |
| ★ Lou Correa (Calif.) | ★ Ruben Kihuen (Nev.) | ★ Jacky Rosen (Nev.) |
| ★ Charlie Crist (Fla.) | ★ Raja Krishnamoorthi (Ill.) | ★ Brad Schneider (Ill.) |
| ★ Val Demings (Fla.) | ★ Pramila Jayapal (Wash.) | ★ Carol Shea-Porter (N.H.) |
| ★ Adriano Espaillat (N.Y.) | ★ Al Lawson (Fla.) | ★ Darren Soto (Fla.) |
| ★ Dwight Evans (Pa.) | ★ A. Donald McEachin (Va.) | ★ Thomas R. Suozzi (NY) |
| ★ Mike Gallagher (Wis.) | ★ Stephanie Murphy (Fla.) | |
| ★ Vicente Gonzalez (Texas) | ★ Tom O'Halleran (Ariz.) | |

SENATE RACES RESULTS SUMMARY

Senate Freshmen Class

- ★ Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.)
- ★ Kamala D. Harris (D-Calif.)
- ★ Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.)
- ★ Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.)
- ★ Todd Young (R-Ind.)
- ★ Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.)

Senate Environment & Public Works Committee

Chair John Barrasso, Wyoming

Ranking Member Tom Carper, Delaware

Fisheries, Water & Wildlife Subcomm.

- Chair John Boozman (R-AR)
- Ranking Member Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)

Senate Approps. Committee

Chair Thad Cochran (R-MS)

Ranking Member Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

Subcommittee on Interior & Environment

- Chair Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
- Ranking Member Tom Udall (D-NM)

House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

Chair Bill Shuster (R-PA)

Ranking Member Peter DeFazio (D-OR)

Water Resources Subcommittee

- Chair Garret Graves (R-LA)
- Ranking Member Grace Napolitano (D-CA)

House Approps. Committee

Chair Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)

Ranking Member Nita Lowey (D-NY)

Subcommittee on Interior & Environment

- Chair Ken Calvert (R-CA)
- Ranking Member Betty McCollum (D-MN)



The Message

Overview of Message Points

- \$2.8 billion for Clean Water State Revolving Fund for FY2018
- \$1.8 billion for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for FY2018
- \$45 million for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act for FY2018
- \$5 million for National Priorities Research Funding
- Full tax-exempt status for interest earned on municipal bonds
- \$50 million for the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Program
- Removal of the cap on tax-exempt Private Activity Bonds for investments in water and wastewater infrastructure

ELEVATE WATER

as a

NATIONAL PRIORITY

AMERICA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE DEPENDS ON SAFE AND CLEAN WATER

America's future economic strength depends on investments made today in water infrastructure. These investments create jobs and support the economy. Consider these facts: Every \$1 invested in water and wastewater infrastructure increases long-term GDP by \$6.35; each job created in water and wastewater leads to 3.68 jobs in the national economy; over \$56 billion annually is spent on water-related sports activities. It is anticipated that expenditures by thirty of the largest metropolitan water, stormwater and wastewater utilities will contribute \$524 billion to the national economy over the next decade and support nearly 300,000 permanent jobs. However, without additional major investments, breakdowns in water supply, treatment and wastewater capacity are projected to cost manufacturers and other businesses over \$2.5 trillion in lost sales and \$4.1 trillion in lost GDP from 2011 to 2040.

AMERICA'S QUALITY OF LIFE DEPENDS ON SAFE AND CLEAN WATER

Well-functioning water and wastewater systems, and the research efforts to support them, are critically important to America's quality of life. Past investments in drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure have left America with some of the best drinking water in the world, while providing our children with safe water for swimming and bathing, and our cities and towns with opportunities to revitalize waterfronts to support

new businesses, residences, and recreational activities. However, investment in water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and research has failed to keep pace with maintenance demands and emerging hydrological threats, putting our quality of life gains at risk.

FEDERAL INVESTMENT ENSURES SAFE AND CLEAN WATER

Since enactment of the Clean Water Act in 1972 and the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1974, Congress has supported a strong federal funding partnership with States and local ratepayers, to pay for this critical infrastructure through:

- Investments in the Drinking and Clean Water State Revolving Funds, which return over \$70 to the Federal Treasury for every \$1 invested;
- Tax-exempt municipal bonds, which financed nearly \$38 billion in water and wastewater infrastructure in 2016; and,
- WIFA, the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, which has the potential to leverage over \$60 for every \$1 invested in major water and wastewater projects.

Yet EPA estimates that America's water and wastewater infrastructure requires more than \$650 billion worth of investment over the next 20 years just to maintain current levels of service, and independent estimates place this figure over \$1 trillion. While local ratepayers will shoulder much of this burden, all levels of government must be part of the solution.

IT IS TIME TO RENEW THE LOCAL-STATE-FEDERAL SAFE AND CLEAN WATER FUNDING PARTNERSHIP

WE CALL ON CONGRESS TO ENSURE:

| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2.8 BILLION for Clean Water State Revolving Fund for FY2018 • \$1.8 BILLION for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for FY2018 • \$45 MILLION for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act for FY2018 • \$50 MILLION for the Bureau of Reclamation's water reuse and recycling program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5 MILLION for National Priorities Research Funding • FULL TAX-EXEMPT STATUS for interest earned on municipal bonds • REMOVAL OF THE CAP on tax-exempt private activity bonds for water and wastewater infrastructure |
|--|---|

Updated Hand-out for 2017 Fly-In!

FY17 Budget

| Program | FY15 Enacted | FY16 Enacted | FY17 CR | Our Request |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| Clean Water SRF | \$1.45B | \$1.35B | \$1.35B* | \$2.8B |
| Drinking Water SRF | \$907M | \$863M | \$863B* | \$1.8B |
| WIFIA | | | \$20M | \$45M |
| Total Combined | \$2.36B | \$2.213B | \$2.233B* | \$4.645B |

*=CR ends 4/28/17

- The EPA's recent Clean Water Needs Surveys estimated that the nation will need \$271 billion over the next 20 years, but the report states that the data underestimates stormwater infrastructure needs by roughly \$100 billion.
- The EPA's recent Drinking Water Needs Surveys estimated that the nation will need \$384 billion over the next 20 years.

CONGRESSIONAL ASK: Fund the Clean Water SRF at \$2.8 billion, and the Drinking Water SRF at \$1.8 billion.



The Economic, Job Creation, and Federal Tax Revenue Benefits of Increased Funding for the State Revolving Fund Programs



Study Findings:

- For every \$1 in SRF spending, of which \$.23 is the federal contribution, the US Treasury receives \$.93 in federal tax revenues.
- For \$1 Million in SRF spending, 16.5 jobs are created with an average salary is \$60,000/yr.
- For every \$1M in SRF spending, \$2.95 million is created in the local economy.

April 2016

FY17 Budget cont.

WIFIA Pilot Program

WIFIA Authorized to Receive \$45M in FY18

- FY17 CR included \$20M for WIFIA, of which \$15M for loans & loan guarantees
- EPA estimates 80:1 leveraging ratio, which could equal over \$2B in loans for projects
- EPA Notice of Funding Availability open for Letters of Interest until April 10th

CONGRESSIONAL ASK: Include \$45 Million in FY18 for WIFIA Loans

Tax-Exempt Muni Bonds

Tax Reform Legislation Expected in 2017.

- Tax-exempt muni bonds fund over 80% of water infrastructure investments, of which approximate 50% are purchased by high-income earners directly or through mutual funds.
- Tax reform legislation in Congress in 2017 could potentially include elimination of personal deductions, which would drive up the interest rates for tax-exempt muni bonds.

CONGRESSIONAL ASK: Do not make changes to tax-exempt muni bonds.

Affordable Water Infrastructure Relies on Municipal Bonds

Congress Must Preserve the Municipal Bond Tax Exemption

<http://www.nacwa.org/bonds>

Our nation's water infrastructure needs are well documented. The Environmental Protection Agency reports that cities and towns across the country need to invest more than **\$650 billion** in drinking water and wastewater infrastructure over the next two decades just to maintain current levels of service.

The vast majority of water infrastructure improvements are paid for at the local level, and communities primarily look to tax-exempt municipal bonds as the most affordable and accessible financing source. Since 1913 municipal bond interest earnings have been exempt from the federal income tax, leading investors to offer lower borrowing rates to communities. This translates into millions of dollars in savings for local water ratepayers every year.

In 2016 communities nationwide issued nearly **\$38 billion** in municipal bonds to pay for water, sewer, and sanitation infrastructure projects. Fully taxing municipal bond interest would have increased total water infrastructure debt service costs by **\$16 billion** over expected loan repayment periods – an increase of **25%** – effectively imposing a new tax on municipalities and utility ratepayers.

It is appropriate for the federal government to help subsidize local water infrastructure spending.

Communities must comply with scores of federal drinking water and wastewater quality mandates and regulations. It is therefore reasonable for the federal government to help offset some compliance costs by offering a low-cost way of financing necessary state and local borrowing.

A tax exemption is the right way to deliver this subsidy.

Federal water infrastructure aid takes many forms, including rural USDA grant programs, loans through EPA's GWP programs and direct low cost financing through WIFIA. However, tax-exempt municipal bonds are the primary mechanism to promote clean and safe water — and one that can be efficiently accessed without a lengthy federal application and review process.

The current tax treatment of municipal bond interest is efficient and equitable.

Reducing financing expenses lowers the cost of water infrastructure improvements, thus reducing the amount of funding required from local ratepayers — and sought from federal grant and loan programs. Reducing rate pressure boosts the affordability of water and wastewater service to everyone in the community, but especially to individuals and families on fixed incomes.

AMWA and NACWA urge you to preserve tax-exempt municipal bonds.



Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds Sustain California's Water Infrastructure

<http://www.nacwa.org/bonds>



\$8.19 billion – The value of tax-exempt municipal bonds communities across California issued in 2016 to fund improvements to drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.

\$3.48 billion – Additional debt service costs cities and towns in California would incur over their payback periods if interest earned on these bonds was fully taxable, **a 25 percent increase.***

\$173.8 million – Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund assistance the federal government provided to California in 2016. Fully taxing municipal bond interest would cost the state **20 times** the value of this year's SRF assistance.

Affordable investment in California's water infrastructure should not be a consequence of tax reform.

AMWA and NACWA urge you to preserve tax-exempt municipal bonds.

*Based on Bloomberg data assuming uniform \$50 million projects with 30-year loan maturities and "AA" credit ratings.

Research to Support the Utility of the Future



The Water Resources
Utility of the Future:
A Blueprint for Action

NACWA WERF



PAST
collect wastewater, move it quickly downstream, treat it to acceptable standards, and dispose of waste without harming the environment



FUTURE
manage resources to generate value for the utility and its customers, improve environmental quality with the least cost to the community, and contribute to the local economy



2015 Annual Report

National Priorities Research

GOAL: To fund the competitive National Priorities Research Program at \$5,000,000.

Proposed Budget Language:

“Research National Priorities: The Committee Report provides \$5,000,000, which shall be used for extramural research grants, independent of the STAR grant program, to fund high-priority water quality and availability research by not-for-profit organizations who often partner with the Agency. Funds shall be awarded competitively with priority given to partners proposing research of national scope and who provide a 25 percent match. The Agency is directed to allocate funds to grantees within 180 days of enactment of this Act.”



Federal Funding Outreach



More than 600 letters were sent from all over the U.S.



2016 Impacts of Water Conservation on Water Quality in Premise Plumbing and Water Distribution Systems

- Water Conservation and Water Quality: Understanding the Impacts of New Technologies and New Operational Strategies, **Drexel University**
- Right Sizing Tomorrow's Water Systems for Efficiency, Sustainability, and Public Health, **Purdue University**

2015 Life Cycle Costs of Water Infrastructure Alternatives

- Community-enabled Lifecycle Analysis of Stormwater Infrastructure Costs (CLASIC), **Water Environment & Reuse Foundation**
- An Integrated Decision Support Tool (I-DST) for Life-Cycle Cost Assessment and Optimization of Green, Grey, and Hybrid Stormwater Infrastructure, **Colorado School of Mines**

2014 Systems-Based Strategies to Improve The Nation's Ability to Plan And Respond to Water Scarcity and Drought Due to Climate Change

- Fuel Reduction Techniques as Effective Forested Watershed Management Practices against Wildfire: Drinking Water Quality Aspects, **Clemson University**
- An Integrated Modeling and Decision Framework to Evaluate Adaptation Strategies for Sustainable Drinking Water utility management under drought and climate change, **Water Research Foundation**
- Prediction of Nonlinear Climate Variations Impacts on Eutrophication and Ecosystem Processes and Evaluation of Adaptation Measures in Urban and Urbanizing Watersheds, **University of Utah**
- Preparing for Water Scarcity: Learning from California's Recent Drought, **University of California - Davis**

2012 Centers for Water Research on National Priorities Related to a Systems View of Nutrient Management

- National Center for Resource Recovery and Nutrient Management, **Water Environment and Reuse Foundation**
- Center for Integrated Multi-scale Nutrient Pollution Solutions, **Pennsylvania State University**
- Center for Reinventing Aging Infrastructure for Nutrient Management (RAINmgt), **University of South Florida**
- Center for Comprehensive, optimal, and Effective Abatement of Nutrients, **Colorado State University**

More than \$20 M of research funds in the last five years.





FY18 Budget

Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Authority

- Only federal program dedicated to water reuse and recycling.
- No new projects have been authorized since 2009.

CONGRESSIONAL ASKS:

- \$50 Million in FY18 to help clear the backlog of projects



The cartoon shows two men. One man has an extremely long neck, and the other is holding a flashlight. The title above them is "BOTTLENECK".

Updated Hand-out for 2017 Fly-In!

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO ELEVATE WATER!

85% of U.S. residents get their water from public water facilities. Clean water means that our children and families have access to safe water for bathing and drinking.

1 job created in water + wastewater adds 3.68 jobs to the national economy. Every \$1 invested in water and wastewater infrastructure increases long term GDP by \$6.35. Tax-exempt municipal bonds financed nearly \$38 billion in water + wastewater infrastructure in 2015.

Clean water means our nations industries can produce finished products with water free of contaminants. Over \$86 billion annually is spent on water-related sports activities. Clean water means farmers can safely irrigate their crops.

The infographic is divided into three horizontal sections. The top section shows a cityscape with a factory and a house, with text about public water facilities and clean water access. The middle section features a crane lifting a bucket, a clock face with a dollar sign, and text about job creation and economic impact. The bottom section shows a factory, a water tower, and a farm, with text about industrial water use, sports activities, and irrigation. The background is a blue, wavy pattern representing water.

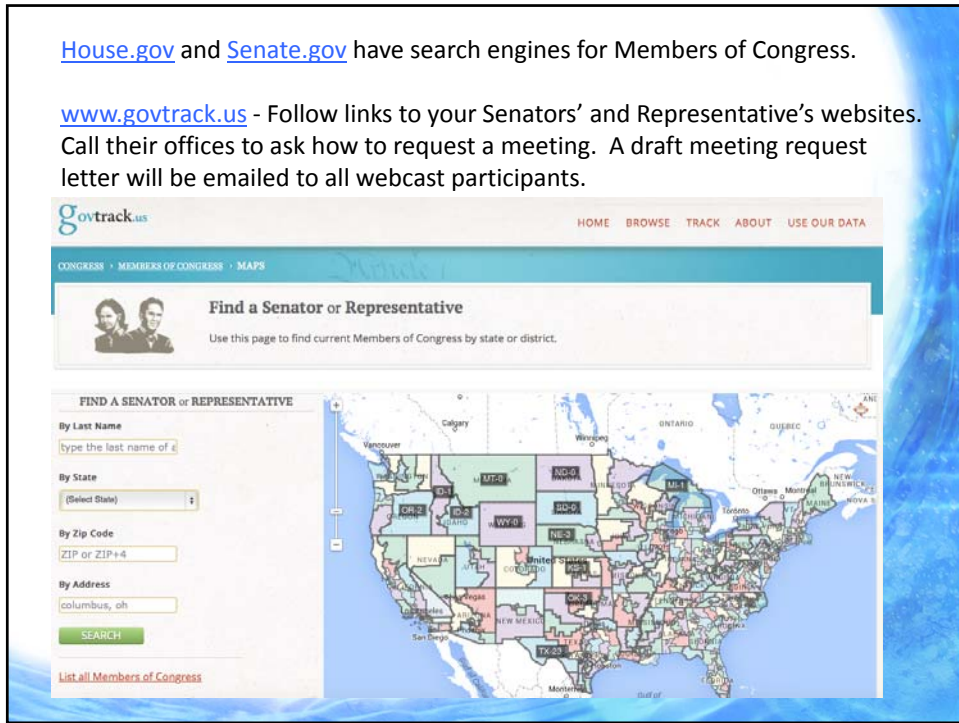
NACWA **U.S. Water Alliance** **Water Environment Federation** **WEPA** **Water Resources Institute** **WaterReuse** **W.W.E.M.A.**

For more information & to get involved, visit www.watertown.org

How to Request Congressional Meetings

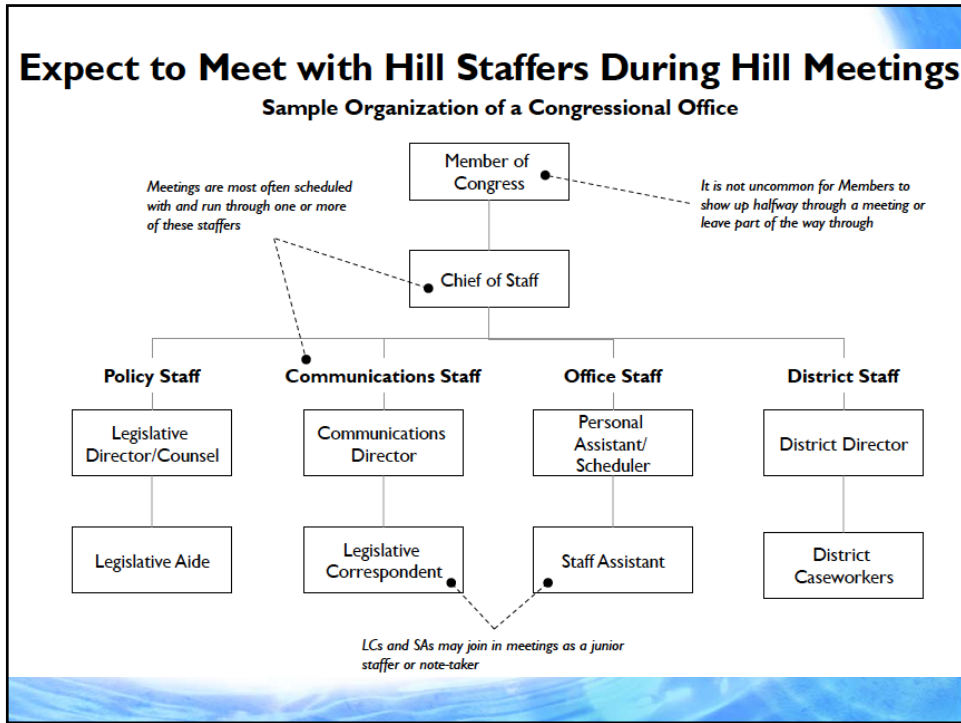
House.gov and Senate.gov have search engines for Members of Congress.

www.govtrack.us - Follow links to your Senators' and Representative's websites. Call their offices to ask how to request a meeting. A draft meeting request letter will be emailed to all webcast participants.



Example of a Hill Day meeting Schedule – Can be emailed to webcast participants.

| National Water Policy Fly-in Hill Day Schedule - Wednesday, March 22, 2017 | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|---------------|--|--------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Time | Congressional Member | District | Room/Location | Staff Contact | Email | Phone | Notes | Meeting Scheduled By |
| Congressional Switchboard#: 202-224-3121 | | | | | | | | |
| 11:30 AM | Example- Rep. John Doe | NY - 1 | 2001 Rayburn HOB or 300 Hart SOB | Jane Smith | Jane.smith@mail.house.gov or Jane_smith@doe.senate.gov | 202-224-3121 | Rep. Doe is on the Appropriations Comm. | Sally White, NYWEA, 201-123-1234 |
| Noon | | | | | | | | |
| 1:00 PM | | | | | | | | |
| 2:00 PM | | | | | | | | |
| 3:00 PM | | | | | | | | |
| 4:00 PM | | | | | | | | |
| 5:00 PM | | | | | | | | |
| 5 - 6:30 PM | Congressional Reception | | 902 Hart Senate Office Building | | | | | |



Capitol Hill Is A (Relatively) Small Neighborhood

Getting To The Hill

By Car

- Capitol Hill offers few public parking options; street parking is difficult.
- The nearest garage is north of the Capitol, by Union Station
- Many visitors prefer to arrive by taxi, available throughout the city

By Public Transportation

- For most visitors, the Metro system will prove the best transportation bet.
- The Red Line (subway) serves the north side of the Capitol, while the Blue, Orange, and Silver lines offer two stations to the south
- The Metrobus serves various points around the Hill; visit WMATA.com to see detailed maps

By Foot

- D.C. is a relatively walkable city
- However, hot and humid weather may make long walks inadvisable during summer months

Map Labels: Federal Center Metro, Rayburn House Office Building, Longworth House Office Building, Cannon House Office Building, Library of Congress Madison Building, Library of Congress Jefferson Building, Capitol Visitors Center Entrance, House, Senate, Supreme Court, Russell Senate Office Building, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hart Senate Office Building, Union Station Metro (not on map), Rally Location.

The Geography of the House Side

Understanding Office Numbers

| Building | Rayburn (RHOB) | Longworth (LHOB) | Cannon (CHOB) |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Numbering System | All rooms are four digits; the first is always 2, the second indicates floor | All rooms are four digits; the first is always 1, the second indicates floor | All rooms are three digits; the first indicates floor |
| Example | Rep. Kevin McCarthy's office, 2421 RHOB, is on the fourth floor of Rayburn | Rep. Paul Ryan's office, 1233 LHOB, is on the second floor of Longworth | Rep. Nancy Pelosi's office, 233 CHOB, is on the second floor of Cannon |

The Geography of the Senate Side

Understanding Office Numbers

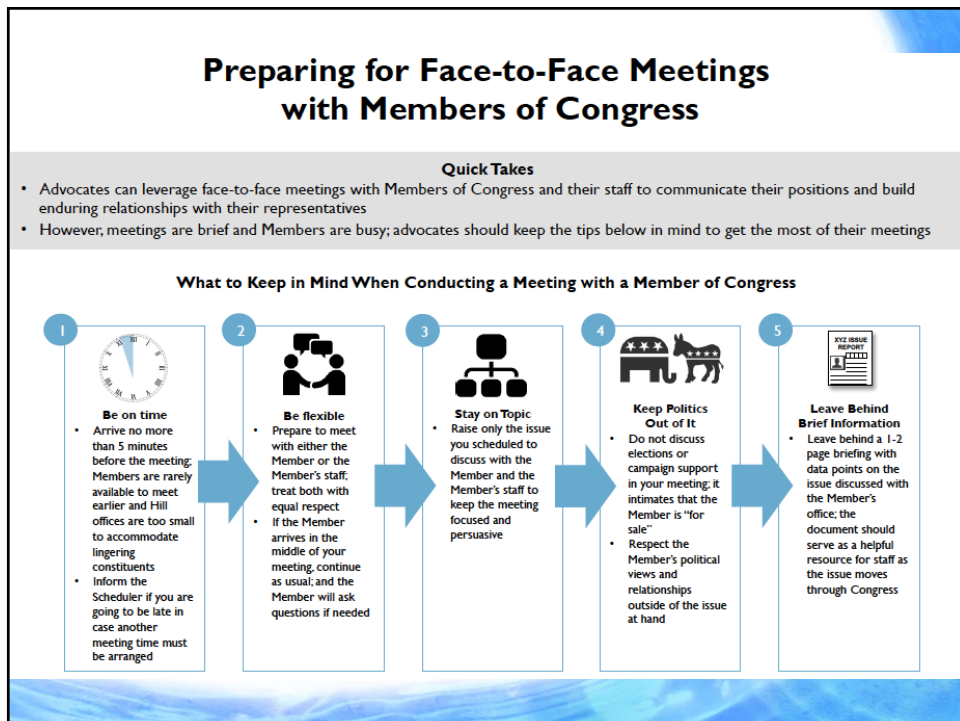
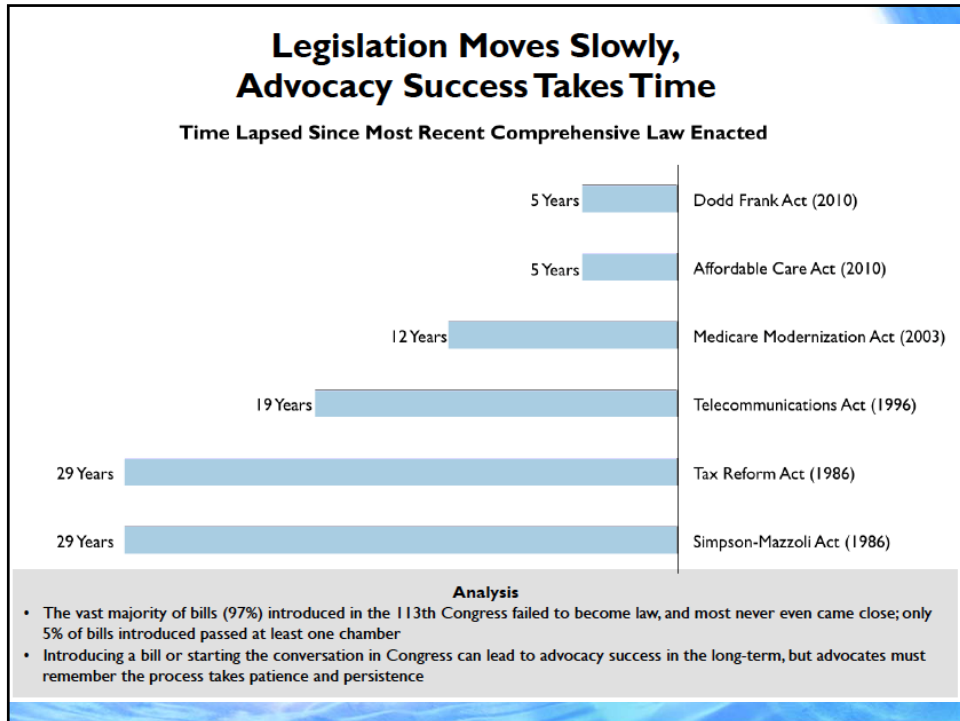
| Building | Russell (SR) | Dirksen (SD) | Hart (SH) |
|-------------------------|---|--------------|-----------|
| Numbering System | All rooms are three digits, the first digit indicating floor number and a prefix indicating office building | | |
| Example | Sen. Harry Reid's office, SH 522, is located on the fifth floor of the Hart building | | |

Tips for a Successful Meeting



What Influences Congress?

- Providing consistently **reliable** information: 87.0 percent
- Presenting a **concise** argument: 85.2 percent
- Holding **face-to-face** meetings: 58.4 percent
- Academic or issue **experts**: 81.5 percent
 - 95% of American support increased investment in water infrastructure



Important to Remember...

- Be **punctual** -- and be **patient**!
- Tell them what they need to know about what's going on back home.
- If you don't know the answer to a question, say you don't know -- promise to get back to the legislator or staff with the requested information.
- **NEVER** offer to make a political contribution or pledge of political support!
- **Don't look** at your smartphone. Silence it!

Important to Remember, continued...

- **Make the ask!** Be clear and concise, and ask who the correct staff person is for following up.
- **Don't use acronyms** or terms that someone outside of your profession won't understand.
- Thank the legislator and offer to **serve as a resource** on other water-related issues.
- After the visit, write a thank you letter/email reviewing the key points discussed.

Use Meeting Follow Up to Build Trust, Serve as Resource

Quick Takes

- Advocates can become trusted resources for lawmakers by following up and keeping in touch with Members of Congress after face-to-face meetings
- Advocates should consider following the steps below to position themselves as effective and trustworthy advocates for their issue

Steps to Take Following a Meeting with a Member of Congress



Send a Thank You Message

- Send a follow-up e-mail several days after meeting with a Member
- Keep the message brief, thank the office for their time, and remind the office of the issue at hand
- Leave a link to a reliable source of information on the issue for the office to refer to



Attend Events in the District

- Attend town hall meetings or other public events in the district to build a stronger relationship with your representative
- Find opportunities to engage in policy matters in the district and serve as trustworthy resource to earn visibility for your issue



Stay in Touch

- Do not over-communicate with Members of Congress, but do pass along new information about your issue as it is released
- Communicate with your representative in a respectful and informative manner to gain the representative's respect—for you and your points of view

See you on March 21st!

Questions or Additional Info:

www.WaterWeek.us/nwfp

WEF

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sdye@wef.org

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