

## 2021 Work Plan



### Asset Management and Finance Committee

1. Advance water/wastewater affordability for low-income customers by:
  - a. Developing recommendations for an emergency assistance program in New Jersey, and work towards implementing a permanent program.
  - b. Coordinating with the BPU water workgroup on its structure and outreach.
  - c. Communicating, sharing, and using the consensus methodology report measuring affordability.
2. Develop guidance for drinking water utilities to complete lead service line inventories.
3. Develop and implement actions for the committee to increase the committee's racial, gender, and sector diversity.
4. Coordinate with the CSO Committee on LTCP implementation and stormwater fee options for CSO communities.



### Education and Outreach Committee

1. Host or participate in at least two activities (meeting, event, letter campaign) that engage and inform elected officials about the benefits of investing in water infrastructure including the need for funding the LTCP, stormwater utilities, green infrastructure, and how to utilize Jersey WaterCheck as a resource.
2. Conduct an interactive program for the public to increase understanding of complex water policies and create opportunities for a two-way exchange of ideas.
3. Host two structured listening sessions with utilities to learn more about their challenges and continue to identify opportunities for synergy.
4. Create a resource for water customers at risk of service shut-off when the moratorium is over. Share with utility companies and the general public.
5. Host two networking events for JWW members and non-members to activate their participation.

*Jersey Water Works is working to transform New Jersey's inadequate water infrastructure through sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide communities with clean water and waterways; healthier, safer neighborhoods; local jobs; flood and climate resilience; and economic growth.*



### **Green Infrastructure**

1. Strengthen the green infrastructure workforce by publishing a fact sheet with green infrastructure certification programs and employment strategies.
2. Identify funding sources for green infrastructure retrofit projects, share with GI champions, and present findings in a fact sheet.
3. Develop the JWW Water Equity Map to show where overburdened communities experience water-related risks. By July 2021, develop the interactive map. By December 2021, identify hotspots.
4. Identify and implement a project to continue to advance the understanding of stormwater utilities in MS4 towns by sharing resources.



### **Combined Sewer Overflow Committee**

1. Work with the NJDEP to ensure that the next CSO permits reflect this committee's Jan. 2021 recommendations for Long Term Control Plans that ensure equity and achieve maximum environmental and community benefits.
2. Meet with planning staff in three or more municipalities to recommend master plan and zoning changes that integrate CSO solutions including green infrastructure.
3. Create a campaign to educate CSO local governments and stakeholders on the benefits of implementing stormwater utilities with the goal of at least one community implementing a stormwater utility in 2021.
4. Use a survey to identify LTCP-related job opportunities and workforce training programs and share them with residents of CSO communities.
5. Facilitate stakeholder meetings to establish a plan for a collaborative regional water workforce development initiative.

*Jersey Water Works is working to transform New Jersey's inadequate water infrastructure through sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide communities with clean water and waterways; healthier, safer neighborhoods; local jobs; flood and climate resilience; and economic growth.*



### **Lead in Drinking Water Task Force**

1. Provide technical assistance to help shape legislation requiring lead service line (LSL) inventories and the replacement of all utility and customer-owned LSLs in ten years, supported by full rate recovery and the elimination of any property owner cost share.
2. Furnish stakeholder input and expert advice as DEP seeks to amend New Jersey's version of the federal lead and copper rule (LCR) to address water testing, public education, expanded review of water parameters, and licensed operator training.
3. Draft legislation requiring identification and disclosure of LSLs at the time of home sale and rental. Include legal mechanisms to ensure compliance.
4. Help the state government launch a public education campaign on lead exposure.
5. Prepare a comprehensive, consensus plan on how to address lead in drinking water in licensed and family-run child care facilities in New Jersey.



### **Jersey WaterCheck**

1. Release a 2.0 version of Jersey WaterCheck by Dec. 1 based on user feedback and JWW committee recommendations. Include updated data for existing metrics, new metrics, and website enhancements.
2. Release two short video explainers on JWC metrics by the July membership meeting.
3. Partner with Sustainable Jersey to work with two pilot communities to create community water stories using Jersey WaterCheck data. Host the content on Jersey WaterCheck.
4. Leverage existing partnerships to conduct a peer-to-peer-learning forum with emerging utility leaders on best practices in a data transparent world.
5. Utilize Jersey WaterCheck data to identify utilities serving at-risk communities and advocate for targeted technical and financial assistance.

*Jersey Water Works is working to transform New Jersey's inadequate water infrastructure through sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide communities with clean water and waterways; healthier, safer neighborhoods; local jobs; flood and climate resilience; and economic growth.*