



Jersey Water Works Committee Updates

July 2021

Asset Management and Finance Committee

1. **Drafted letter** for Governor's office, DCA, BPU, and other key stakeholders on the state low-income water assistance program.
2. **Published Affordability Report (phase 2)** that showcases a new methodology to estimate affordability of water and sewer utility costs in New Jersey.
3. **Began research to educate** utilities, DEP, homeowners and renters, and other partners on resources available on recent lead service line legislation.

Green Infrastructure Committee

1. **Held the first meeting** to explore how to strengthen the green infrastructure workforce and create resources to share; two co-champions were recruited.
2. **Four working groups met** to develop projects to improve the Green Infrastructure Champions program.
3. **Provided feedback** on two collaborative chapters of the Green Streets Handbook.
4. **Launched the new JWW Water Risk and Equity Map** to show where overburdened communities experience water-related risks.

Education and Outreach Committee

1. Via a letter to all New Jersey mayors, **informed elected officials** about the benefits of investing in water infrastructure and how to utilize Jersey WaterCheck as a resource.
2. **Advanced on securing a partnership** with the New Jersey Harbor Dischargers Group for a listening session with utilities to learn more about their challenges and continue to identify opportunities for synergy.
3. AWWA-NJ Young Professionals and JWW hosted a **Young Professionals Networking Event** at which young professionals in—or interested in—the water sector met and connected.

Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Committee

1. Reviewed the NJDEP technical response letters to the Long Term Control Plans with Sewage Free Streets and Rivers and provided **recommendations for the next permits** to help ensure equity and achieve maximum environmental and community benefits.
2. Met with APA NJ to discuss master plan and zoning changes that **integrate CSO solutions, including green infrastructure**, and plan for an in-person event targeted to planners in the fall.
3. Held several meetings with partners to explore a collaborative regional **water workforce** development initiative.

NEW: Stormwater Ad-Hoc Subcommittee created to advance education on the benefits of implementing stormwater utilities and combine all four committees' efforts on this topic.

- The subcommittee is working on crafting educational materials for the public and municipal officials, in addition to creating a model scope of work for feasibility studies.



LEAD TASK FORCE

DATA ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Lead in Drinking Water Task Force

- **Helped advance lead legislation** by providing best practice information and educating policy makers on the Task Force's recommendations on lead service line replacement and water testing.
- **Assisted in shaping** the Department of Education's regulations for distributing state grants for water infrastructure improvements in public schools.

Data Advisory Committee

- **Jersey WaterCheck** data dashboard launched on March 1, 2021.
- **Advancing Phase 2 metrics** for the annual data updates to existing metrics.
- **Promoting Jersey WaterCheck** via blogs, social media, and video explainers.

Steering Committee

New co-chairs Nicole Miller and Andy Kricun welcomed in April.

Jersey Water Works Backbone Staff

Backbone staff worked to update the Jersey Water Works website.

New website relaunched on July 27, 2021.



Smart infrastructure. Strong communities.

www.jerseywaterworks.org