

# **JERSEY WATERWORKS** **CONFERENCE** 2021

DECEMBER 8-10, 2021 | COMING TOGETHER VIRTUALLY

Jersey Water Works members are proud to announce commitments for 2022—new projects, initiatives, and actions they will take to transform New Jersey’s water infrastructure. Commitments demonstrate members’ dedication to advancing their continued investment in water infrastructure, as well as the need to support strong, reliable water systems.

## **TIER ONE**

### **Camden Community Partnership**

#### **Adopt-A-Drain Program Launch**

Camden Community Partnership commits to recruiting 100 Camden residents to volunteer to adopt a drain. Residents will receive a kit with all the necessary supplies to safely and effectively clear storm drains in order to reduce localized flooding in Camden.

### **Lower Passaic River Urban Waters Federal Partnership, USGS NJ Water Science Center, and Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park**

#### **Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park Water Quality Inventory**

Partners will work together to develop a baseline water quality inventory for the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park. This will be used by park management in the development of a sound resource stewardship strategy, and by the Urban Waters Federal Partnership to identify water monitoring needs upstream of the Dundee Dam.

### **NEIWPC, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program, IFC Incorporated L.L.C.**

#### **NY-NJ Harbor Economic Analysis**

Partners will conduct an analysis of the economic benefits of having clean water in the New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary. This study, estimated to be completed in 2023, will be the first of its kind in the region and could serve as a stepping-stone for further work by governmental, non-governmental, and academic researchers.

### **New Jersey American Water**

#### **Investing for Quality and Reliability**

New Jersey American Water is committed to investing over \$350 million to support the continued treatment and delivery of high-quality water and wastewater services to the 2.8 million people it serves. New key investments include distribution system improvements (replacing over 90 miles of pipe,) continued improvements at surface water treatment plants, treatment system upgrades,

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and continued deployment of leak detection technology. The company is committed to continuing to identify and replace lead/galvanized service lines, meet lead and copper regulations, and educate customers on mitigating their exposure to lead from indoor plumbing.

## **Ridgewood Water**

### **Ridgewood Water PFAS Treatment Plan**

Ridgewood Water will continue its efforts to “reimagine” its drinking water treatment system with the installation of PFAS contaminant removal systems. The new treatment plan will consolidate the system of 31 existing plants into 12 new ones. The technology at the new plants will remove PFAS contaminants to non-detect levels and improve other water quality characteristics.

## **Rowan University, American Water, Camden City School District, Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority, Atlantic County Utilities Authority, and South Jersey Land and Water Trust**

### **Developing the Water Workforce with WaterWorks**

WaterWorks will foster awareness about employment opportunities in the drinking water and wastewater utility workforce via K-12 and higher education-level programming. In addition to developing, piloting, and implementing hands-on and virtual educational activities for students and educators about the critical role the water workforce has in their communities, the proposed project will provide linkages to employment opportunities in the water-wastewater workforce. WaterWorks is a package of tools (WaterMobile, WaterPal, WaterTalk, and Watercave) to assist educators and students.

## **US Water Alliance**

### **Delaware River Watershed Water Equity Cohort**

The US Water Alliance commits to creating a cohort of Delaware River Watershed water utilities that are committed to implementing water equity in their communities. The cohort will include Camden and Trenton, as well as Philadelphia, Allentown, Reading, Chester, and Wilmington. The goal is to promote water equity initiatives, such as affordability for low-income households, reduction of combined sewage flooding, elimination of lead service lines, and diversity, equity, and inclusion in the water workforce. Each community will develop and implement a water equity plan for the benefit of the communities they serve.

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## **TIER TWO**

### **Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)**

#### **Water Quality Improvements Through Education on NJDEP Rule Revisions**

ANJEC will work with strategic partners to advance improvements in water quality by educating local officials about the forthcoming NJPACT regulations on state stormwater requirements pending New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection adoption of Phase 2 rule revisions.

### **Clean Water Action and New Jersey Future**

#### **Educational Workshops to Solve Trenton Stormwater Issues**

New Jersey Future will support Clean Water Action to conduct a series of "Upstream/Downstream" workshops and watershed tours to understand local stormwater issues in and around Trenton.

### **New Jersey Future, Isles, Inc., and United Way of Northern NJ**

#### **Lead-Safe Family Child Care Facilities**

In collaboration with the United Way of Northern NJ and Isles, Inc., New Jersey Future will support a pilot program to eliminate lead exposure from paint and drinking water at family child care centers in Warren County, Gloucester County, and Jersey City. New Jersey Future will intercede with the affected water utilities to test the water, prioritize the replacement of any lead service lines, and provide certified filters, as required. Isles, Inc. will handle removal of any lead paint, using State resources provided through the Department of Community Affairs. New Jersey Future will publicize the effort, providing positive public relations for the water utilities and raising public awareness.

### **New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program (HEP)**

#### **Waterway Stories**

New York-New Jersey HEP and its partners will develop briefs and stories about water quality conditions of individual waterways and watersheds throughout the estuary into easily digestible, locally relevant information as a communications tool.

### **Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program**

#### **Green Infrastructure Champions - Creating Leaders in Stormwater Management**

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The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program will offer the [Green Infrastructure \(GI\) Champions training program](#) in Jan. 2022. Over 200 GI Champions have been certified over the last three years. A group of certified GI Champions are working closely with the Rutgers Water Resources Program to pilot a Youth GI Champions Program for middle and high school students in 2022.

## **Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers**

### **Community Water Leadership Program**

The Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers campaign will launch a community water leadership program in 2022 to create a pipeline of emerging leaders in CSO communities. This will increase participants and their organizations' capacity to affect the implementation of the CSO Long Term Control Plans and longer-term decisions related to climate change, flooding, and infrastructure. Participants will be prepared to engage in municipal decision-making processes through roles in community-based organizations, elected local government positions, resident councils, or by appointment to planning, zoning, and water boards.

## **Town of Kearny**

### **Investments and Upgrades for Pumping Stations to Mitigate Flooding**

Construction of upgrades and improvements for the DDTH Pumping Station Improvements Project were financed by the New Jersey Water Bank. This project will provide water quality benefits and mitigate flooding for residents and businesses. The Harrison Avenue Stormwater Pumping Station project proposes the replacement of the two existing stormwater pumps with new submersible pumps with 75% more pumping capacity, the performance of reinforced concrete wet well modifications, and the installation of new electrical service and controls on an elevated platform located above the Flood Hazard elevation.

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## **TIER THREE**

### **Lower Passaic River Urban Waters Federal Partnership, USGS NJ Water Science Center and Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission**

#### Lower Passaic River Microbial Source Tracking

Partners will work on their microbial source tracking partnership, which aims to track sources of fecal contamination in the Lower Passaic River basin by collecting data across Passaic River tributaries. Parameters that have been analyzed include E. coli, Enterococcus, Caffeine, and qPCR for the detection and quantification of human and non-human DNA biomarkers.

### **New Jersey Urban Mayors Association**

#### Advocate for Policies to Eliminate Lead in Water

The New Jersey Urban Mayors Association will advocate for policies and funding to support eliminating lead in water and improving aging infrastructure in the state's urban communities.

### **Paterson Green Team**

#### Green Team for a Greener Paterson

In partnership with the City of Paterson and various community and sustainability organizations, the Paterson Green Team will support the Adopt-a-Catch Basin Program, Education Outreach on Combined Sewer Overflows, and the Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers campaign. The Green Team will also support the Paterson Green Schoolyards Initiative and lead the Paterson Open Mic Water Stories, Earth Day, City of Water Day, and 2nd Annual Green Fair.

### **Sustainable Jersey**

#### Sustainable Jersey - Water Gold

Complete technical assistance project, with the support of New Jersey American Water, to assist Asbury Park in undertaking the Water Story Action. Sustainable Jersey will seek funding and support 50 municipalities interested in implementing actions to advance sustainable water systems and implement actions in the newly launched recognition, Gold Star in Water.