



## Educational and Training Programs for those Entering the Water Workforce

**NJ Water Workforce Training Program Inventory**: This inventory outlines career educational opportunities in the water industry. Many of the training providers on the list are organizations and unions in New Jersey that focus on construction, engineering, green infrastructure, and related trades. The information contains four main categories: operations, operations/construction, construction, and other.

**Stormwater Skills: Training Resources for Green Infrastructure Construction and Maintenance**: this inventory outlines educational opportunities in green infrastructure including certifications and/or other credentials.

**Drinking Water and Wastewater Operations Courses** offered by Rutgers University: From instrumentation and industrial waste to safe drinking water and sanitary sewers, Rutgers [training courses for drinking water and wastewater operators](#) provide the knowledge as well as the Training Contact Hours (TCHs) to maintain operator license.

**New Jersey Pathways To Career Opportunities** New Jersey's Community Colleges and the New Jersey Business and Industry Association are joining together with employers, industry associations, labor unions, education institutions, and workforce development partners to provide students and workers with the career pathways they need to find new careers and opportunity, and to ensure that employers have access to a highly skilled workforce to meet critical labor market needs. The two components of this initiative will expand stackable credential pathways for individuals at all stages of their lives and careers and build an innovative workforce.

### Education Opportunities for Youth

**Project WET: Water Education Today**: Advancing water education to understand global challenges and inspire local solutions

- Hands-on, [science-based water education resources](#) to formal and non-formal educators around the world.
- [Water Literacy Principles](#) serves as the foundation of helping to create a water literate world.

## Professional Development Opportunities for those Already in the Water Workforce

[Water & Wastewater System Operator Licensing Information](#) from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)

EPIC launched a new database to support water sector leaders (2022) EPIC launched a leadership database, a one-stop shop to support water sector leaders who want to identify and connect to training opportunities, networks, awards, conferences, and more!

<https://www.policyinnovation.org/water/leadership>

### [Small Systems Cohort Learning](#)

Registration Cost: Free

Description: Managed by the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center, The Small Systems Cohort Learning Program is a new opportunity for small drinking water and wastewater systems to learn together in an interactive, peer-training format.

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### [Transformative Water Leadership Academy](#)

Applications open now

Program Dates: November 2022 through August 2023

Description: The Transformative Water Leadership Academy (TWLA) is where the next generation of high-level water utility leaders focus on the foundations of sustainable community leadership: how to integrate social, environmental, and financial concerns into important decisions about water utilities. This 10-month program addresses leadership for drinking water, wastewater, stormwater management, and water reuse. Participants will learn to balance short- and long-term priorities while creating value for all water stakeholders.

Who should apply: Professionals with 3-10 years of work experience, including at least two years working in water (preferably at a utility). You must currently have responsibilities (on the job or in volunteer roles) for managing projects and/or supervising people, as well as support from your employer to attend TWLA.

### **Past Events:**

[Strategic Planning and Workforce Development for New Jersey Utilities](#)

Wednesday, August 17, 2022 | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM EDT | Boonton Township, NJ

No-Cost In-Person Training

Boonton Township Municipal Building (155 Powerville Rd, Boonton Township, NJ 07005)

Description: Strategic Plans are vital to the long-term sustainability and success of any organization. Water and wastewater utilities need actionable strategic plans that identify their goals, define opportunities and assess risk to maintain and improve performance in the face of an uncertain future. An important aspect of your utility's strategy is your ability to recruit and keep experienced staff. In addition to understanding your utility's strategic vision, this workshop will focus on succession planning, operator recruitment, and staff retention strategies. We will discuss links between workforce development, system sustainability, and long-term planning.

Questions? Contact [smallsystems@syr.edu](mailto:smallsystems@syr.edu)

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