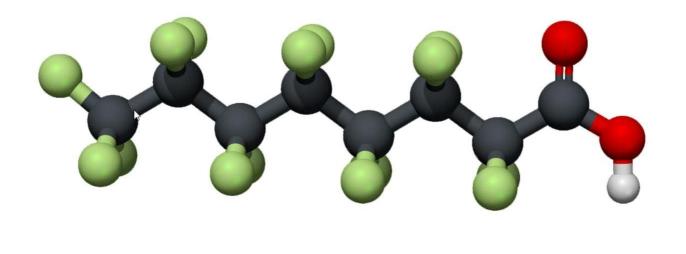
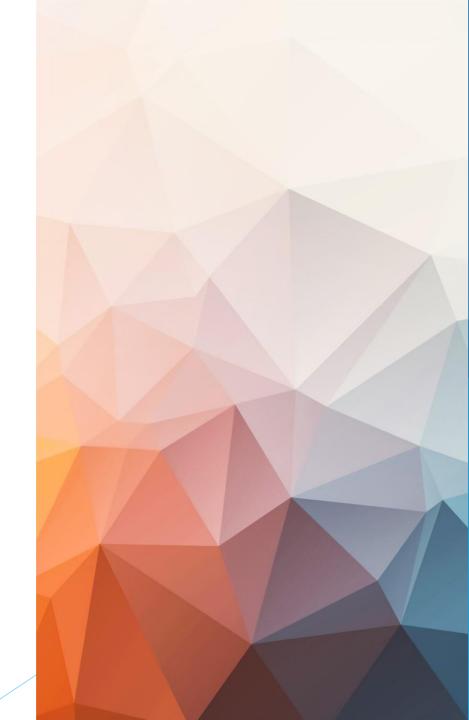
# Water Environment Federation

# PFAS Blueprint for Water Utilities *Coming in 2023!*





## WEF Focus on PFAS

#### www.wef.org/pfas

- PFAS Task Force created in March 2021
  - Coordinated "One PFAS Approach" similar to a "One Water" focus to protect public health and the environment

#### Goals and Objectives: #2 Educate

Included developing a draft "Roadmap" on how municipalities, utilities, and companies can evaluate and respond to PFAS related policy

Residuals & Biosolids Committee took the lead (since solids management is the most impacted)

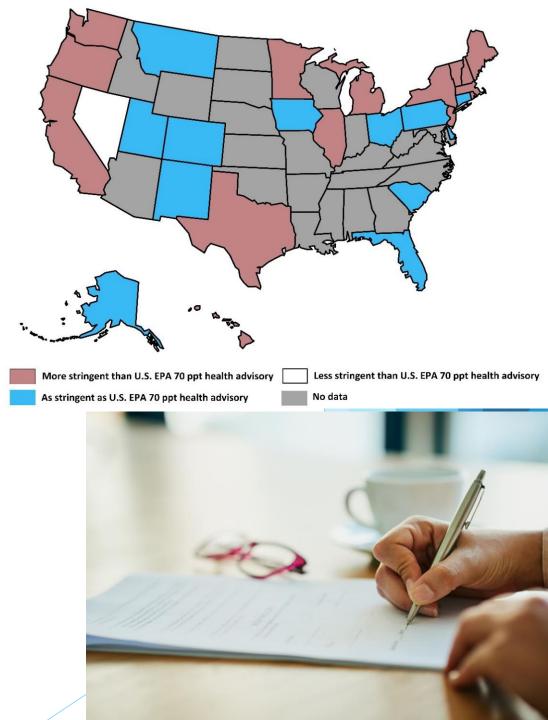


# PFAS Blueprint for Water Utilities



### **Blueprint Document Content**

- Current Regulations
- Current Research
- Communications Planning specific to PFAS
- Funding
- Key Actions
- Templates, Checklists, Links for More Detailed Information



### Summary of Key Actions

| Action                 | Level of Effort | How Long? | Cost?              | Notes            |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|
| Develop conceptual     | Minimal         | 2 months  | Low staff time     |                  |
| sewer model for PFAS   |                 |           |                    |                  |
| flows                  |                 |           |                    |                  |
| Survey                 | Minimal         | 2 months  | Moderate – staff   | See Sample       |
| commercial/industrial  |                 |           | time               | Questionnaire in |
| customers              |                 |           |                    | Appendix A       |
| Conduct sampling and   | Moderate        | 6 months  | Major staff and/or |                  |
| analysis in collection |                 |           | consultant time;   |                  |
| system,                |                 |           | Major laboratory   |                  |
| influent/effluent,     |                 |           | costs              |                  |
| sludge/biosolids       |                 |           |                    |                  |
| Implement source       | Moderate        | 1 year    | Major staff        |                  |
| control program        |                 |           | and/or consultant  |                  |
|                        |                 |           | time               |                  |

### Summary of Key Actions continued. . .

| Action                  | Level of Effort | How Long?  | Cost?              | Notes               |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Create a strategic plan | Moderate        | Continuous | Major – staff time | Message planning    |
| for communicating       |                 |            | Moderate – media   | required            |
| with customers and      |                 |            | and materials      |                     |
| other stakeholders      |                 |            | costs              |                     |
| Pilot new technologies  | Major           | 1 year     | Major – staff time | See Appendix for    |
|                         |                 |            | in review and      | helpful checklists! |
|                         |                 |            | managing; pilot    |                     |
|                         |                 |            | costs could be     |                     |
|                         |                 |            | covered by         |                     |
|                         |                 |            | technology         |                     |
|                         |                 |            | provider           |                     |
| Review/Update or        | Moderate        | 1 year     | Major – staff      |                     |
| Create a Solids Master  |                 |            | and/or consultant  |                     |
| Plan                    |                 |            | time               |                     |

### With PFAS, Communication is Critical

- Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) | CDC
- PFAS Blueprint includes examples of good communications, putting risks in perspective
- NEWEA/NEBRA bill stuffers (PFAS Outreach Materials - NEWEA)
- Communicate cost impacts
- Develop support for future investments and cost increases if needed

Water quality **P**rofessionals deliver safe water for Families and the environment, Addressing contaminants that modern living adds to the water cycle.

How can you help limit or manage contaminants before they enter the water cycle? Talk to your local water quality professional about PFAS.

adison Metropolita Sewerage District



Throughout these chapters, six principles of effective emergency and risk communications are emphasized:

#### Be First:

Crises are time-sensitive. Communicating information guickly is crucial. For members of the public, the first source of information often becomes the preferred source.



Be Riaht: Accuracy establishes credibility. Information can include what is known, what is not known, and what is being done to fill in the gaps.

#### Be Credible:

lonesty and truthfulness should not be compromised during crises



Express Empathy: Crises create harm, and the suffering should be acknowledged in words. Addressing what people are feeling, and the challenges they ce, builds trust and rapport.



#### Promote Action:

Giving people meaningful things to do calms anxiety, helps restore rder, and promotes some sense of control.<sup>3</sup>



Show Respect: Respectful communication is particularly important when people vulnerable. Respectful communication promotes cooperation

Fully integrating CERC helps ensure that limited resources are managed well and can do the most good at every phase of an emergency response.

About PFAS 🗸 Results What We're Doing What You Can Do 🗸 News & Updates Contact

#### DOING OUR **PART FOR** PEAS

SAFETY.

SCIENCE. SOLUTIONS

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NEWEA

**enebra** 

Across the nation, communities and public entities are struggling with how to best address the issue PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, in our environment.

Learn more about what Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District is doing to address PFAS in wastewater and beneficial biosolids and the role individuals and businesses have in helping reduce PFAS use and contamination.

#### **Blueprint References & Resources**

Regulations Research Source Identification and Sampling Source Control Communications Solids Management New Technologies Economies and Funding Links for additional information

Harris and States

1/2 Charactering Control Control Control 1/2 Control Control



PFAS Blueprint for Water Utility Managers – Strategies for the Next 5 Years

## New Technology Vetting

- Staying on top of the latest technologies
- Participating in studies, providing samples
- Piloting new technologies
- "Checklist" for assessing new technologies

| <b>New Technology Assessment Form</b><br>* This is a suggested template form for utilities to fill out when evaluating proposals to<br>implement new technology at wastewater treatment utilities – each utility should customize this<br>form for its own use * |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Please describe your request by co   | mpleting the following sections below: |  |  |  |  |
| Date -   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Technology -   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vendor/Proposer Name (Reques<br>General information  | ter) -                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Vendor   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Contact person   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Phone  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Email  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Website  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date of initial contact  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Technology category (solids,   |  |  |  |  |  |
| energy, etc.)  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coordinate with other utility  |  |  |  |  |  |
| programs staff (specific plant   |  |  |  |  |  |
| name, team name, etc.)   |  |  |  |  |  |

Brief description of technology proposal:

#### **Evaluation Criteria**

- 1. Level of technology development (circle one)
  - a. Full-scale operation
  - b. Pilot/demonstration-scale testing
  - c. Bench-scale testing



## Save some for the upcoming Panel Discussion!



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