

2022 Water Project Priority Lists to be Announced Soon

Project priority lists for the Drinking Water and Clean Water Revolving Funds are expected to be announced soon. Projects that are added to the list are eligible for below-market rate loans to improve public drinking water systems. Typical projects include watermain, wells, water treatment plants and water towers, or wastewater or stormwater collection and treatment system projects.

The two state revolving fund programs are administered by the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (PFA), together with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). The PFA provides low interest loans or grants to local governments for eligible projects based on priorities determined by the MPCA (for wastewater and stormwater projects) and the MDH (for drinking water projects).

The lists are organized by priority and also alphabetically by community. Reading the lists and noting any communities that are in your service area is a good way to keep on top of any projects that may affect the water quality improvement industry, such as community hardness reduction plants. Remember, the MWQA can assist you with consumer literature, attending city or county meetings, and working with local government if there are proposed changes coming to your community. Watch for an announcement from MWQA when the two lists are released to the public.

MWQA Convention is October 19 - 20

We have reserved the Holiday Inn in Lakeville for our annual fall convention. Join us for our in-person event featuring informative educational seminars, vendor fair, and more! Watch for more info on our event!

Salt Symposium Registration Still Open

MWQA is one of several sponsors of the annual Salt Symposium, scheduled for August 3-4. The Salt Symposium celebrates the optimization of salt use and the minimization of its impact on the environment. The virtual event will feature professionals from across industrial and economic sectors and examine state-of-the-art research developments and advanced best practices for reducing salt use.

Take a look at the Salt Symposium agenda and register today!

WQA Mourns Death of Government Affairs Director David Loveday

The Water Quality Association's staff, members and friends are mourning the loss of Global Government Affairs Director David Loveday, who passed away July 3, 2021, of cancer. David is being remembered as a tireless and innovative leader within the water treatment industry.

"We are devastated," said WQA Executive Director Pauli Undesser. "David was such an integral part of the association with his unique experience in public policy, but he was also a great colleague and friend embraced by so many in the industry."

David's achievements and leadership over nearly 15 years at WQA supported the water treatment industry at the state and federal level, building strong relationships on both sides of the political aisle. He drew upon a vast reservoir of political strategy experience that began in the Reagan Administration in the 1980s, later serving in various roles with the Illinois Attorney General's office; Illinois House of Representatives, Office of the Republican Leader; Illinois State Toll Highway Authority; and the Regional Transportation Authority, which oversees mass transit in the Chicago area.

David spearheaded several new programs while at WQA, launching the annual DC Fly-in, which brought members to Washington, D.C., to meet with members of Congress or their staffs. He also helped create the WQA Political Action Committee to expand the association's influence among legislators. And, during the COVID-19 pandemic, he was instrumental in helping WQA members be recognized as essential businesses at both the federal and state levels.

David, 65, battled cancer for the past several months, yet never let on the difficulties that he faced, and never stopped contributing in every way he could to WQA, its members and clients. His sense of humor and positive outlook remained intact, and he was still working, engaging with his WQA colleagues from his hospital room, the last few weeks of his life. David is survived by his wife of 35 years, Natalie; three children; and a new grandson. Memorial arrangements will be shared by the Humes Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the David Loveday Memorial Research Fund of the Water Quality Research Foundation, which will go toward scientific research to support David's passion for water quality.