

FY 2016: YOUR ACWA DUES AT WORK

"When we make a case for dues, we discuss how important and indispensable ACWA is to the implementation of the CWA programs. In these fiscal times we need ACWA more than ever."

Past President Walter L. Baker, P.E., Utah DEQ

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

This year was another exciting and busy year for ACWA! During this year we said goodbye to some longstanding ACWA members and two members of our staff. Earlier this year we welcomed two new Environmental Program Managers to our staff while we continued to represent and serve our members.

As your voice in Washington, DC, ACWA's staff serves as the primary liaison between states and the federal government on national water quality issues. ACWA's staff works to facilitate state-to-state information exchange, regulatory and policy input, and technical transfer. The Association continues to be a preeminent source of information relied upon by the Administration, Congress, and other stakeholders for objective and expert input on issues, innovations, options, and trends in water quality related management and regulation.

HOW WE WORK: Through Leadership

ACWA works through our dynamic state/interstate-led Committees, Task Forces, and Workgroups. These groups are open to all state and interstate staff.

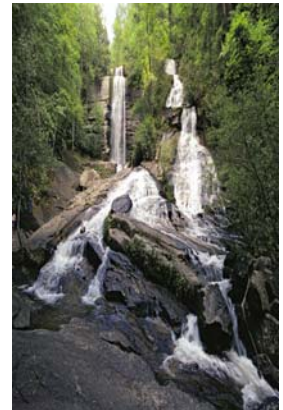
To maximize your ACWA membership, your staff should join relevant groups via MemberPoint™, our State/Interstate-Only Web Portal.

Committees & Chairs:

- ◆ **Funding & Congressional Relations**
Ron Poltak (NEIWPCC), Shellie Chard-McClary (OK)
- ◆ **Legal Affairs**
Carin Spreitzer (NY), Bob Brown (MA)
- ◆ **Monitoring, Standards & Assessment**
Derek Smithee (OK), Jennifer Wigal (OR)
- ◆ **Nutrients Policy**
Susan Sylvester (WI), Adam Schnieders (IA)
- ◆ **Permitting and Compliance**
Melanie Davenport (VA), Janet Kieler (CO)
- ◆ **Watersheds**
Tom Stiles (KS), Traci Iott (CT)
- ◆ **Water Resources Management**
Jeff Manning (NC)

Workgroups & Chairs:

- ◆ **Enforcement**
Carl Parrott (OK)
- ◆ **Pretreatment**
Jennifer Robinson (UT)
- ◆ **Rural**
Kent Woodmansey (SD)
Bruce Yurdin (NM)
- ◆ **Municipal**
Mary Borg (VT)
- ◆ **319/Nonpoint Source**
Jaime Gaggero (KS)



Reedy Cove, South Carolina
Courtesy of: Bureau of Water,
South Carolina Department of
Health & Environmental Control

HOW WE WORK: Cooperative Agreement with USEPA

In March 2012 ACWA was awarded a multi-year Cooperative Agreement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Office of Water. Work under this agreement is scheduled to continue until June 2016. Earlier this year USEPA agreed to continue supporting the work of the organization by renewing their financial commitment for the next five years. Under this new agreement, ACWA will continue to provide technical assistance and facilitate improved communication, knowledge transfer, state/interstate identification of challenges and implementation improvements to water quality program areas. Areas of focus include the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), stormwater, CAFOs, pesticide permitting, integrated planning, compliance assurance, decentralized wastewater treatment, water quality monitoring and assessment, nonpoint source pollution reduction, new/revised effluent limitation guidelines (ELGs), water quality standards development and implementation, CWA/SDWA interactions, nutrient reductions, program reviews and oversight, CWA jurisdiction, electronic reporting, and next generation compliance. This relationship helps states better serve the public by supporting effective actions to protect public health and the environment. Enhanced involvement of states/interstates in policy, regulatory, and associated initiatives results in a shared vision and common understanding of priority areas for the nation's clean water program.

Dues at Work highlights accomplishments to date in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015). We hope this shows the value of your participation in the Association, and assists you as you process the attached FY2016 dues invoice.

A NATIONAL VOICE FOR STATES & INTERSTATES

Regulatory Activities:

ACWA provided comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on:

- ◆ Clean Water Rule Defining “Waters of the U.S.”
- ◆ NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit Remand
- ◆ Supplemental Notice Proposed NPDES eReporting Rule
- ◆ Dental Amalgam Effluent Limitation Guidelines

Policy & Guidance Activities:

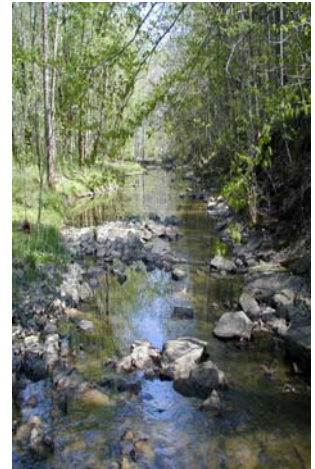
ACWA is engaged in cutting-edge policy on behalf of the states. For example ACWA:

- ◆ Promoted State/EPA Technical Committee to engage on NPDES eReporting Rule
- ◆ Consulted with partners to help construct templates for states based on the National Network on Water Quality Trading *Options and Considerations* publication
- ◆ Led EPA-state dialogue, and convened calls on WQS regulatory revisions and other standards, monitoring & assessment challenges
- ◆ Hosted a dynamic Annual Meeting and Mid-Year Meeting focused on water infrastructure financing, NPDES strategic visioning, nutrient reduction strategies, water quality trading, CWA jurisdiction, EPA’s technology blueprint, water reuse, oil & gas water regulations, new 303(d) program measures, stormwater management, Congressional outlook, integrated planning, source water protection, and climate change impacts.
- ◆ Co-chaired promotion of the CWA-SDWA Source Water Toolkit
- ◆ Coordinated and assisted in planning for the 2016 NASDA/ACWA Water Quality Roundtable in St. Louis, Missouri (May 2016)
- ◆ Organized and held the 2015 National Stormwater Roundtable, Philadelphia, PA (Oct 2015)
- ◆ Coordinated cross-program discussions with the 303(d), 319, and monitoring programs on implementation of the 303(d) Long-Term Vision
- ◆ Supported the Nutrients Working Group to assist in developing progress tracking tool and minimum expectations for permits.
- ◆ Assisted states with implementation of the 316(b) cooling water intake rule and the steam electric rule
- ◆ Regularly released a summary chart of EPA rulemakings, guidance documents, & policies
- ◆ Helped support the new National Vision and Strategic Planning for NPDES Program
- ◆ Wetlands templates

Legislative & Funding Activities:

ACWA tracks and engages in Congressional activity relevant to state programs. Examples include:

- ◆ Tracked implications of FY16 federal omnibus and the President’s FY17 Budget Request
- ◆ Provided comments to the House on the Hydropower Regulatory Modernization Act of 2015
- ◆ Provided comments to the Senate on the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015.



Backbone Creek, Kentucky
Courtesy of: John Brumley, Div. of Water, Kentucky Dept. of Environmental Protection

“There is no professional organization that I belong to or have ever belonged to that adds value to me doing my job like ACWA adds. From facilitating discussion among states, negotiating with EPA, or highlighting water quality issues from around the country, ACWA delivers superbly.”

-Mid-Year Meeting 2015 Attendee



Newcomb Lake, New York
Courtesy of: Joe DiMura, Bureau of Water Compliance, Div. of Water, New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation

AN EFFECTIVE PARTNER, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Collaboration:

ACWA uses its presence in the Nation's Capital to collaborate and work with many organizations with like goals and priorities, as well as to build bridges with others. These include, but certainly are not limited to:

- ◆ EPA, as well as other federal agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce (NOAA), and Department of Interior (USGS, USFWS, USFS).
- ◆ State associations, such as the Association of American Pesticide Control Officials, ASDWA, the Association of State Wetlands Managers, the Coastal States Organization, the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities, ECOS, GWPC, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Governor's Association, and the Western States Water Council.
- ◆ Local government organizations, such as the National Association of Counties, the National Association of Towns and Townships, the National League of Cities, and the United States Conference of Mayors.
- ◆ Municipal groups, such as NACWA, the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, WEF, and the WERF.
- ◆ Nongovernmental organizations, such as the Willamette Partnership, American Rivers, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Environmental Defense Fund, and Waterkeeper Alliance.
- ◆ Agricultural and silvicultural groups, such as the American Farm Bureau Federation, the Agricultural Nutrient Policy Council, CropLife America, the National Association of Conservation Districts, and the National Association of Forest Owners.
- ◆ Industry sector groups, such as the American Forest and Paper Association, and the Edison Electric Institute.
- ◆ Industry and environmental law firms such as Barnes & Thornburg, Crowell & Moring, Beveridge & Diamond, and Super Law Group

Communications with Our Members:

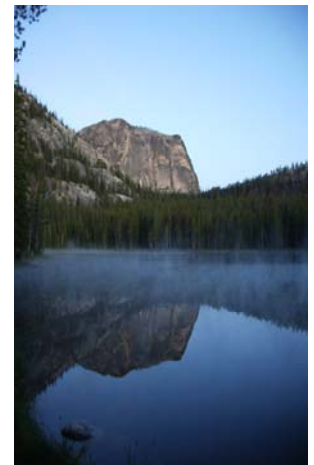
Our top priority is communicating with our members. We strive to develop quality communications and timely updates, as well as to offer insight and guidance. In addition to the Committee and Workgroup work, some of the ways we reach out to our members include:

- ◆ Our website, www.acwa-us.org, Twitter feed—follow us @cleanwaterACWA, and one-page Friday e-newsletter, *The Weekly Wrap*.
- ◆ Timely staff response to your e-mails, calls, and requests for information.
- ◆ E-mails to our Members, Committees, Work Groups, and Task Forces containing the latest information from the Agency and other sources.
- ◆ Our State/Interstate Only Web Portal, MemberPoint™; fully searchable; allows you and your staff to control membership on Committees, Work Groups, and Task Forces.
- ◆ Regulatory and legislative alerts and updates.
- ◆ Surveys and reports on important topics.
- ◆ FY2014 Annual Report, available on our website.

In 2014-2015, ACWA continues to implement strategic planning efforts to ensure the association delivers the highest quality services that are most valued by the membership and maintains a sustainable budget that supports sufficient staffing and resources.

Professional Networking, Development, & Recognition:

ACWA holds two face-to-face meetings a year to allow our members to meet with their peers, facilitate conversations with EPA Headquarters and Regions, recognize achievements, and to collaborate with organizations with similar and differing water quality goals. Mark your calendar for the 54th Annual Meeting to be held in Minneapolis, MN from August 9-12, 2015.



Yellowjacket Lake, Idaho
Courtesy of: Mary Anne Nelson,
Idaho Dept. of Environmental
Quality

"ACWA provides a single focus for all of the clean water issues arising in states and the administration of the federal law across the diverse landscape. States can learn and borrow from each other and have frank discussions among themselves and with EPA on what works, what doesn't, and the best ways to approach problems, both in the long term and today."-- ACWA Annual Meeting 2014 Attendee



Bitterroot River, Montana
Courtesy of: Kristy Fortman, Water
Protection Bureau, Montana Dept. of
Environmental Quality

HOW DO STATES PAY ACWA DUES?

ACWA was founded in 1961 and has achieved tremendous success in consistently securing base operational funds from membership dues. By relying on member dues, the Association has been able to remain independent and fully represent the membership in Washington, DC on various water quality issues. This success is due in part to the creative and diverse approaches the membership has utilized to ensure their ACWA dues are paid annually. In communicating with members over the years, we have learned they take varying approaches to dues payments, including:

1. § 106 Grant Funds
2. CWSRF Administration Funds
3. State General Revenue Funds
4. State Agency Appropriated Funds
5. Water Program Specific Funds
6. NPDES Program Funds
(including permit fees and enforcement fines)

ACWA, as a 501(c)(3) organization, is limited in the amount of lobbying it may conduct and is required by law to report all such activity. In consideration of the federal grant funding source used by some members to pay dues, ACWA has been very diligent in further limiting lobbying, even beyond that required by the IRS.



Crater Lake,
Oregon
Courtesy of: Debra
Sturdevant,
Oregon
Dept. of Environ-
mental Quality

ACWA can track, report, and certify that a particular state or interstate’s dues have not been utilized for lobbying. Should a letter of documentation be helpful or necessary, please contact Annette Ivey, Director of Operations, at (202) 756-0602 or aivey@acwa-us.org.

In October 2014, the ACWA Board of Directors approved a new dues structure for the association that includes a standard baseline dues amount that all states pay, plus a portion of dues that is based off population. Your FY2016 dues invoice starts a 3 year phase-in process to move to this new dues structure. Depending on which tier you are in, you may see an incremental increase or decrease. ACWA’s dues keep the us stable and allow this organization to be “the voice of states and interstates” on clean water issues. We hope Dues at Work helps demonstrate how critical your dues are to ACWA’s continuation. Please know your support is appreciated and necessary to ensure a sustainable future for ACWA.

Who’s Who at ACWA

National Office Staff:

Julia Anastasio	Executive Director & General Counsel
Sean Rolland	Deputy Director
Annette Ivey	Director of Operations
Julian Gonzalez	Environmental Program Manager II
Patrick McGuire	Environmental Program Manager I

2015-2016 Leadership as of April 2016:

President	Martha Clark Mettler (IN)
Vice-President	Peter LaFlamme (VT)
Treasurer	Carlton Haywood (ICPRB)
Secretary	Andrew Gavin (SRBC)
Past President	Shellie Chard-McClary (OK)

Board Representatives:

Region 1	Alicia Good (RI)
Region 2	Leslie McGeorge (NJ)
Region 3	Collin Burrell (DC)
Region 4	Peter Goodmann (KY)
Region 5	Rebecca Flood (MN)
Region 6	Allison Woodall (TX)
Region 7	Vacant
Region 8	Kent Woodmansey (SD)
Region 9	Trevor Baggiore (AZ)
Region 10	Jennifer Wigal (OR)
Interstates	Andrew Gavin (SRBC)

Year	Lobbying \$\$	% of FY Expenses
FY2013	\$155	0.001%
FY2014	\$605	0.006%
FY2015	\$1,106.00	0.001%