



## State & National Rural Water Association Member Benefits

### ✓ State & National Rural Water Associations Advance the Industry, its Personnel and Expertise!

Eight State Rural Water Associations came together in 1976 to fill a much needed role in representing rural and small systems in legislation, regulatory and federal policy areas. Today, all 50 states combine their collective knowledge and membership to be the leading voice for water and wastewater systems in each state and on the national stage. The results speak for themselves. From building, upgrading and expanding service areas, to supporting the rural economy, your association is here to serve its membership. Thank you for your support of your State and National Rural Water Association.

- Utility Management Certification through Water University
- State training courses, online courses and webinars provided on a daily basis
- WaterPro Community offers learning opportunities and connects the industry 24/7
- Specialized advanced conferences and training to meet the most relevant needs

### ✓ Shape Federal Water Policy

State Associations join together as one on the national level through the National Rural Water Association to shape Federal water policy in agencies and Congress. Our full-time, bi-partisan professional staff in DC has extensive experience in the legislative and regulatory process. They help guide common-sense policy and legislation that continues our success in representing your utility, including accessing the highest levels of agencies. For example, NRWA's leadership recently met with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt and discussed regulatory reform to benefit your utility. Your State and National Association's success and benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Experts in drafting assistance and comments on legislation, testimony and budget activities
- Coalition building
- Establishing effective strategy, policy and regulatory activities necessary to represent the industry on a continuous basis with proven results:

FY2017- \$50 million increase in USDA RUS Water and Waste Loans and Grants

SRF levels maintained

Rural Water members congressional testimony on Farm Bill policies and proposed legislation

Rural Water members congressional testimony on infrastructure proposal

Rural Water members congressional testimony on EPA funding and proposed legislative changes

Participated with White House staff on President's infrastructure bill to ensure membership needs are included in the final bill

Annual Rural Water Rally in DC

Annual Regional and District Forum and discussion with leadership from agencies and

Congressional policy makers

Retention of 1926(b) protection of district and regional service areas from annexation –

*Estimated savings of \$11,550,871,000*

E-delivery of Water Quality Reports/Consumer Confidence Reports – *Estimated savings of \$126,000,000*

Successful legislation exempting fire hydrants from new lead standards – *Estimated savings of \$3,100,000,000*

Filing of Amicus Brief in US 6th Circuit Court opposing Waters of the US regulation (WOTUS)

Participation in Revised Total Coliform Federal Advisory Group – *Estimated savings of \$126,000,000*

**Team Rural Water, the Nation's Largest Utility Membership**



## ✓ Continuous Representation of Rural Water Membership:

Your association represents the membership on a continuous basis as deliberations take place at all levels. Tapping the membership who govern, manage and/or operate water and wastewater systems to participate in these meetings and workgroups is the key to success. Your systems are continually represented on:

- EPA National Drinking Water Advisory Council
- AWWA's Water Utility Council
- DHS Water Sector Coordinating Council
- EPA Lead & Copper Rule Rulemaking
- EPA Nutrient Removal and Secondary Technologies Questionnaire Workgroup
- National Lead Service Line Removal Collaborative
- Many other collaborations!

## ✓ Stay Informed

Your association offers multi-avenues to stay abreast of water industry news in-state and on the national level. From personal communications, social media, print and electronic publications, information and communication connects you with your association and the industry.

- State Conferences and the WaterPro Conference
- Annual District/Regional Water System Issues Forum
- State Association magazine and newsletters
- Rural Water Magazine and E-newsletters
- WaterProcommunity.org – connecting the industry 24/7
- Weekly regulatory and legislative updates

Our grassroots approach includes all 50 states. State Associations have respected and well-established relationships with all members of Congress, state legislators and state & federal agencies. This grassroots approach allows NRWA to advance your agenda while adapting to the constant changing political landscape including leadership changes on Capitol Hill. **Your membership is the strength of this association!** When local elected officials and professionals from every level of the industry are involved, it translates into the largest and most effective legislative and regulatory advocacy for the water and wastewater industry.

## ✓ The Power of Association

Only State & National Rural Water Associations bring together unique products and services designed to meet the needs your utility. Knowledge is the key to success. Explore these valuable resources by visiting your State Rural Water Association or [www.nrwa.org](http://www.nrwa.org) today!

