



**NEWWA**  
New England  
Water Works  
ASSOCIATION

**2025**  
**Water Resources and Sustainability**  
**Symposium**

Presented by the NEWWA Water Resources, Conservation,  
Groundwater, and Sustainability Committees

**Wednesday, October 29, 2025 | 8:30 AM — 4:00 PM**

**Devens Common Center, Devens, MA**

**5.5 Training Contact Hours (TCHs). You must attend the entire symposium to earn TCHs.**

**25th Anniversary Water Resources and Sustainability Symposium**  
**"Where Have We Been, Where Are We Now, and Where are We Going?"**

The 2025 NEWWA Water Resources & Sustainability Symposium will explore how water management practices, policies, and technologies have evolved over the past 25 years while highlighting the challenges that remain. Sessions will cover topics such as water efficiency, climate change impacts, groundwater and reservoir management, drought planning, infrastructure resilience, and emergency response.

- **KEYNOTE ADDRESS - "Water Efficiency in the New Millennium: What Have We Achieved?" by Founder and former CEO of Alliance for Water Efficiency Mary Ann Dickinson**
- **TECHNICAL CONTENT AND PANEL PRESENTATIONS**

**SEE THE FULL AGENDA AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES.**

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**2025 WATER RESOURCES & SUSTAINABILITY SYMPOSIUM**  
**Wednesday, October 29, 2025 | 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**8:30 AM - Registration & Continental Breakfast**

**9:00 AM - Welcome and Introduction by Moderators:** BRIAN GOETZ, Administrator, Rye Water District, Rye, NH, and BLAKE MARTIN, Vice President - Market Leader, Weston and Sampson, Reading, MA

**9:15 AM - KEYNOTE - “Water Efficiency in the New Millennium: What Have We Achieved?”** - MARY ANN DICKINSON, Founder and former CEO, Alliance for Water Efficiency

Much has changed since the 2000 Water Resources & Sustainability Symposium. But much has also remained the same. This opening Zoom presentation from the speaker who also opened the symposium back in 2000 will explore key policy and research areas in water sustainability and efficiency that have been talked about for the past 25 years. What exactly have we achieved? What still remains to be done and how do we get there? This will be a retrospective.

**9:45 AM - “40 Years of Water Use Under the Massachusetts Water Management Act”** - SHI CHEN, Environmental Analyst, and DUANE LEVANGIE, Program Chief, MassDEP

MassDEP, through the Massachusetts Water Management Act (M.G.L.21G), requires public water suppliers (PWS) to implement a suite of conservation measures to promote efficient water use and requires reductions in nonessential water use, primarily irrigation, during drought to limit the impacts of water withdrawals on water resources. Between those requirements and a host of anthropogenic changes, water use in MA is trending down in many locations. Join us as we discuss water use trends in MA, identify where water use appears to be increasing, and how water use fluctuates year to year.

**10:15 AM - BREAK**

**10:30 AM - “Quarter Century of Change: Advancing Water Supply Resilience in the Face of Climate Variability”** - Kevin MacKinnon, PG, PH, Vice President, Weston & Sampson, Portsmouth, NH, and BRIAN GOETZ, Administrator, Rye Water District, Rye, NH

Water suppliers have historically been focused on rainfall consistency and drought occurrence. In this 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary presentation, we review the data,

resources, and guidance available to suppliers a quarter-century ago, reflecting on lessons learned amid New England's always challenging and changing weather patterns. We will also showcase the advancements in tools and technologies and discuss how these innovations can support suppliers in meeting future challenges related to climate variability and water resource management over the next 25 years.

**11:00 AM - “Web-Based Multi-Reservoir Model to Guide Reservoir Management”** - ANDREW WALKER, PH, CFM, Senior Team Leader (Hydrology), Weston & Sampson

Developed a web-based multi-reservoir model to predict future water levels and likelihood of failure for five drinking water reservoirs in Peabody, Massachusetts. Used model to evaluate the vulnerability of the City's water supply system to future climate change, demand trends, and potential new permit requirements. Also used model to evaluate cost-benefit of capital improvements and alternate management strategies for the City's water supply infrastructure. Model calculates changes in failure rate, annual revenue, and need for emergency regional purchases. Interactive web-based model used weekly by City to evaluate most efficient and resilient management strategy based on current reservoir and watershed conditions.

**11:30 AM - “Sustainable Management of Groundwater Supplies – A Change in Perspectives Over the Years”** - ANDREW MILLER, PE, PH, PMP, CDM Smith Inc., and PETER NEWTON, PG, H2Olson Engineering, Inc.

The meaning of “sustainability” has changed over the years relative to groundwater supply management. While past objectives were to simply ensure well capacity and water quality, efforts today must focus on many competing demands such as streamflow maintenance, fishery/wildlife habitat, wetlands, and private well impacts. The NEWWA Groundwater Committee has been at the forefront of examining these issues and educating the membership for many years, resulting in the development of the *Sustainable Ways to Manage Your Groundwater Supply Workshop*. Our presentation focuses on the change in goals, perspectives, and well operations based on real world experience over the last 25 years

**12:00 PM - LUNCH**

**12:40 - Welcome back and Introduction by Moderator** - JENNIFER PEDERSON, Executive Director, Massachusetts Water Works Association, and MATT STOSSE, Procurement Manager, Connecticut Water Co., CT

**12:45 PM - “The Vulnerability of Water Conveyance Infrastructure Due to a Changing Climate in the Context of a Changing Landscape”** - MICHAEL H. SIMPSON, Professor Emeritus, Environmental Studies Dept., Antioch University - New England, Keene, NH

Since 2010, the presenter’s EPA and NOAA-funded research on climate change impacts in New England has driven progress in enhancing stream-road crossing resilience. This presentation highlights efforts to replace outdated culverts, incorporate climate projections into design standards, and foster regional collaboration through programs like Stream Smart. Additionally, it covers a NOAA-funded project assessing the vulnerability of municipal stormwater infrastructure to extreme precipitation events, providing insights into future climate resilience strategies.

**1:15 PM - “The Mass Estuaries Project, Nitrogen Sensitive Areas”** - IAN JARVIS, Environmental Engineer, Water Pollution Control - Cape & Islands, and BRIAN HARRINGTON, Deputy Regional Director, MassDEP – Southeast Region

The Massachusetts Estuaries Project was created to help determine current nitrogen loads to southeastern Massachusetts estuaries and evaluate reductions that would be necessary to support healthy ecosystems.

The Plan focuses on resolving nitrogen impacts and restoring coastal water quality where septic systems are the primary source of nitrogen. The Cape Cod communities are responsible for planning for and implementing wastewater infrastructure and water quality improvement projects. This work has presented challenges for wastewater and drinking water operators.

**1:45 PM - “Emergency Response for Recent Vermont Floods”** - LIZ ROYER, Executive Director, Vermont Rural Water Association

The Vermont Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (VTWARN) allows water and wastewater systems (municipalities, fire districts, and privately-owned) to rapidly receive mutual aid from other systems when their operations are impaired by unforeseen staff absences, materials shortages, equipment failures, or natural disasters. In recent years, VTWARN has worked through the Vermont Rural Water Association and the State of Vermont to provide assistance to water and wastewater systems impacted by flood events. This presentation will cover challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned during federally-declared disasters in 2023 and 2024.

**2:15 PM - BREAK**

**2:30 PM - “Massachusetts Drought Management: 25 Years of Evolution”** - ANNE CARROLL, Director of the Office of Water Resources (OWR), and VIKI ZOLTAY, State Hydrologist, MA DCR Office of Water Resources, Boston, MA

The Massachusetts Drought Management Plan (DMP) is almost 25 years old. This presentation will provide an overview of the DMP’s adaption for fast onset droughts, its evolution from Excel calculations to an automated dashboard, and examples of the many state resources available to water managers to help prepare for and respond to droughts.

**3:00 PM - “Updates to Drought Management Plan Following the Experience of Recent Droughts and Changes in Massachusetts Water Supply Regulation”** - DEREK ETKIN, P.E., Water Resources Engineer, CDM Smith, Boston, MA, and DAVID KAPLAN, Watershed Manager, Cambridge Water Department, Cambridge, MA

This year the Cambridge Water Department (CWD) worked with CDM Smith to update its drought management plan which had been previously completed in the spring of 2016. The experience of the drought in 2016 and successive droughts, improved CWD’s understanding of operational priorities during drought conditions, which was integrated into the updated plan. The additional hydrologic and operational records during recent droughts improved the skill of the drought risk model. The updated management plan also integrates recent guidance from state agencies on local drought planning and amendments to Water Management Act (WMA) regulations related to drought management for registrants like CWD. This presentation describes the ways CWD and CDM Smith improved the drought risk analysis and management plan as new information became available and regulatory context evolved over the last ten years.

**3:30 PM - “Water Conservation and Efficiency: A Tale of Two Towns”** - ERIC HOOPER, Director of Public Works, Town of Sharon, MA, and MATTHEW MOSTOLLER, District Manager, Acton Water District, Acton, MA

The popular Boston suburbs of Acton and Sharon have been ahead of the curve on embracing water conservation & efficiency as part of the local water utilities they operate. Learn about the reasons each community has pursued these measures, what actions or programs have been utilized and how did they work out, and finally, after decades of this work, what have been the outcomes? Join us for a lively presentation on the good, the bad, and the ugly of this often-controversial topic in the water supply industry.

**4:00 PM - ADJOURN**

**REGISTRATION FORM  
2025 WATER RESOURCES & SUSTAINABILITY SYMPOSIUM — OCTOBER 29, 2025**

**3 WAYS TO REGISTER!**

Register online at [newwa.org](http://newwa.org)

Complete this form, scan, and return by email to Katelyn at [ktodesco@newwa.org](mailto:ktodesco@newwa.org).

Complete this form and mail to NEWWA:  
125 Hopping Brook Road, Holliston, MA 01746,  
Attn: Katelyn Todesco

**CONTACT INFORMATION (Please print clearly.)**

Name		Title		Nickname	
Company					
Address			City		State   Zip
Phone	Fax		Email		Member #

**SYMPOSIUM FEES**

The discounted fee for NEWWA members is \$195. Full price is \$355. The discounted fee for watershed organizations, regulatory agencies, and NGOs is \$125. Registrations received two days or less to the start of the symposium will be assessed a \$20 late fee.

**PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE SYMPOSIUM FEE:**

NEWWA Member @ \$195

Non-Member @ \$355

Non-Profit @ \$125

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Personal Check (Payable NEWWA)	Company Check	MasterCard	Visa	AMEX	Discover	TOTAL PAYMENT	
Credit Card #		Exp. Date	CSV	Signature			

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**Dietary Restrictions:** Please email [KTodesco@newwa.org](mailto:KTodesco@newwa.org) at least one week before the event if you have any dietary restrictions.

**Photograph and Information Release:** Photographs will be taken at this event. By registering for this event you agree to allow NEWWA to use your photo in any NEWWA-related publication or social media site.

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**QUESTIONS? Contact Katelyn Todesco, Events & Marketing Manager, at [ktodesco@newwa.org](mailto:ktodesco@newwa.org).**