



**40**  
**YEARS**

**ASSOCIATION OF  
METROPOLITAN  
WATER AGENCIES**

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***LEADERS IN WATER***



An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Chicago, with a large blue bar at the top and bottom. The text "1981 - 2021" is overlaid in the center in a large, bold, dark blue font. The city features numerous skyscrapers and a body of water in the background under a cloudy sky.

**1981 - 2021**



# HISTORY

**“For 40 years, AMWA has been a true champion for the water sector and has helped to raise the profile of our country’s critical metropolitan systems. AMWA staff has provided critical information and thought leadership on a broad range of issues, including cyber security, green bonds, and COVID-19 impacts. New York City, a founding member of AMWA, is excited for the next 40 years of essential and thought-provoking work that AMWA will undertake.”**

Angela Licata, Deputy Commissioner for Sustainability  
New York City Department of Environmental Protection  
AMWA President

1980s

**1981**  
**Origins**



Sixteen large publicly owned utilities formed AMWA to represent their unique needs before Congress and federal agencies.

**1981**  
**Annual Meeting**



First Annual Meeting is held in St. Louis and Donald R. Boyd is selected as AMWA's first president.

**1982**  
**Policy Steps**



AMWA formalized its positions on changes needed to the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act.

**1987**  
**Boyd Award**



Kenneth Miller, of Denver Water, receives the first Donald R. Boyd Award for extraordinary personal service in the drinking water sector.

**1988**



**President's Award**

Donald E. Jackson, of Kansas City Pollution Control and Water Department, receives the first President's Award for outstanding contributions in water supply management.

1990s

**1993**

**REG-NEG**



AMWA helped shape the final agreement for the Negotiations on Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule.

**1995**

**MMB**



AMWA published the inaugural issue of Monday Morning Briefing.

**1996**

**SDWA**



AMWA led efforts to reform the Safe Drinking Water Act to recognize the need for science-based standard setting and establish the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

**1998**

**Leadership**



AMWA expanded its core services to include utility management and leadership and began producing workshops for utilities.

**1999**

**UCMR**



The first Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule was promulgated, shaped by the monitoring data of AMWA member utilities.



2000s

**2001**  
Gold Award



AMWA presented its first Gold Awards to 44 member utilities to recognize utility management excellence.

**2002**  
WATERISAC



Water Information Sharing Analysis and Center was launched to deliver all-hazards threat alerts and best practices to water and wastewater systems.

**2007**  
Management



AMWA, other water associations, and EPA launched a new effort to develop primers and guides on the attributes of effective utility management.

**2008**  
International



AMWA created the International Committee to facilitate peer-to-peer exchanges of knowledge and ideas among utility managers globally.

**2009**



UFI  
AMWA unveiled the Utility Financial Information database, now INSIGHT, to help large systems compare their financial situations to those of peer utilities.

**“Boston Water and Sewer Commission has been an active and enthusiastic member of AMWA since the early 1980s. We value and take advantage of all the provided benefits, especially the opportunities to engage with the leaders of the water sector. AMWA has led the sector in security, establishing the WaterISAC in 2002, and the association engaged early to address climate adaptation needs of the sector by providing us with resources to help us adapt to our ever-changing challenges.”**

John P. Sullivan, P.E.  
Chief Engineer  
Boston Water and Sewer Commission

2010s

2010

Climate Change



AMWA hosted Climate Change Impacts on Water, an International Adaptation Forum of over 200 policymakers and water leaders.

2012  
TWITTER



AMWA joined the social media movement by tweeting as amwa\_water.

2014  
WIFIA Act



Congress passed AMWA-backed legislation creating the WIFIA program, a new source of low-cost financing for major water infrastructure projects.

2016  
WIIN



AMWA aided in crafting a program in the WIIN Act to help communities replace lead service lines, with a focus on low-income households.

2019

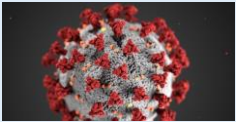
Bond Ratings



AMWA published "Insurance Bond Ratings and Climate Risks," which describes bond rating agencies' interest in climate change's effect on utilities.

2020s

## 2020 COVID-19



AMWA responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by developing a series of webinars, providing a wealth of new resources, and developing financial impact surveys for water utilities.

## 2020



### Countering Disinformation

AMWA and WaterISAC co-developed “Countering Drinking Water Disinformation: Protecting Public Health from Malicious Messaging.”

## 2020 Virtual EMC



For the first time, AMWA hosted the Executive Management Conference virtually.

## 2021



### Affordability

AMWA and NACWA co-launched the Affordable Water, Resilient Communities campaign, which built support for a ratepayer assistance pilot program.

## 2021



### Water's Moment

Water receives greater national recognition and awareness as the Biden Administration unveiled plans to fund aging water infrastructure upgrades, advance equity, and implement climate resilience efforts.



# Forging Ahead



## 40+ AMPLIFY



AMWA will continue to amplify the voices of the nation's largest publicly owned drinking water systems and lead the sector in innovative solutions to emerging issues.

## 40+ BUILD



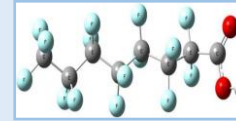
AMWA will persist in helping utilities recruit and retain an innovative, diverse, skilled, and more equitable workforce.

## 40+ PREPARE



AMWA will provide the needed information, tools, and resources to prepare utilities for a more resilient present and future.

## 40+ ADVOCATE



AMWA will continue to advocate for science-based regulation on PFAS and other emerging contaminants and ensure the entities responsible for water pollution are held accountable.


## 40+ GROW



AMWA will continue to grow its services, membership, and impact in its core areas: legislation, management, regulation, security, and sustainability to ensure the continued delivery of affordable, safe and clean drinking water.

**"The Las Vegas Valley Water District has long recognized the value that AMWA provides to the water industry through its programs and advocacy to foster sustainable, innovative utility management practices. AMWA's proven leadership spanning four decades has provided the guidance and resources necessary to help water utilities reach their full potential."**

John Entsminger  
General Manager  
Las Vegas Valley Water District  
AMWA Vice President



**AMWA looks forward to continuing to advocate on behalf of the nation's largest drinking water systems for the next 40 years and beyond.**

