What are the benefits of committee participation?

- Networking with other professionals who have already dealt with your latest wastewater management challenge;
- Being a part of a group that shares your interests and concern for small community wastewater issues;
- Discussing cutting edge technology that applies to small communities;
- Broadening your professional approach by integrating small community issues and technologies into wastewater issue problem-solving;
- Improving small community technical, managerial and financial (TMF) competency; and
- Participating in the development of WEF technical publications, manuals of practice, and other products.

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What is our mission?
The committee shall promote technologies and procedures that have been developed in small communities (communities of less than 10,000 in population in both the United States and in other Federation-supported countries) to engineers, planners, state regulatory agencies, federal agencies, academia, and international organizations. In addition to broadening the approaches toward the adoption of more sustainable water management systems, the committee seeks to promote improved understanding of specific topics, such as financing, financial management, design, construction, operation, and maintenance requirements for small community environmental facility managers. These outreach efforts include increasing the awareness of WEF members and other key stakeholders of potential advantages of more areawide or watershed based solutions..

How can I join?
Application is made on WEF's standard committee membership form available from WEF. The SCC's chair and vice-chairs review the application and recommend membership to WEF.

A downloadable and an electronic Committee Application can be found at
http://www.wef.org/TechInfoCtr/committeenotes/techcomm.jhtml
A hard copy can be obtained by writing to:
Water Environment Federation
601 Wythe Street
Alexandria VA 22314-1994 or calling 703-684-2400, faxing 703-684-2492, or emailing
www.wef.org

Water Environment Federation®
Preserving & Enhancing the Global Water Environment

Welcome to the

Small Community Committee

where centralized and decentralized options meet

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Cover graphic provided courtesy of Small Flows Clearinghouse.

What does the SCC do?

SCC is WEF's forum for all activities and projects related to wastewater management in watershed context for small to mid-sized communities.

The primary focus of the committee is to assist small and mid-sized communities in identifying the most effective approaches to identifying problems and strategies for solving them with distributed management approaches.. The approach involves a much broader process than has been traditionally applied, and always requires a centralized management program with sufficient powers and capabilities to be sustainable for the foreseeable future. Technical options include a full spectrum of technologies for wastewater collection, treatment, and dispersal that provides for those solutions that best satisfy the economic, environmental and social needs of the community.

Specific activities include the following:

- Provide a forum for evaluations of technology, management, and training approaches that can be transferred to practice by local decision makers, elected officials, and managers by consulting engineers and other small community assistance organizations, such as Rural Community Assistance Program, National Environmental Services Center, National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association, National Environmental Health Association, Consortium of Institutes for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment, and other interested parties.
- Work with other WEF Committees to assist them in including small community issues are properly addressed in all Federation programs, and provide them with data and information to support those inclusions, such as doing the annual review of the literature.
- Provide a forum for small community issues for Federation members through workshops, specialty conferences, and publications.
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How is the SCC structured?

SCC is made up of a large cross-section of professionals with interests in wastewater management for small communities.

Design engineers, regulators and resource providers comprise the largest segments, but the committee also includes educators, researchers, manufacturers, service providers, utility managers, and legal experts. To achieve a broad perspective, it is the goal of the leadership to keep the committee membership reasonably balanced between the public and private sectors.

The committee has a chair and two vice-chairs that provide overall management. The overall SCC relates to small community technologies, management, planning and small utility issues.

How does the committee go about getting its work done?

The committee meets as a whole at the WEFTEC annual conference. The committee also holds a midyear meeting in March or April to prepare for WEFTEC and to discuss issues that require it. In addition to these face-to-face meetings, committee project working groups meet as needed by phone, mail, or email as they work on various committee activities.

What is expected of members?

SCC is small by WEF standards, but is a dynamic and productive committee that must maximize member involvement. You will find yourself in the company of bright, hard-working people who are energetic and dedicated, and much the same will be expected of you. Full participation is expected as follows:

1. Attend at least one of the two meetings held each year. Attendance at both meetings is encouraged, but not mandatory.
2. Actively participate in as many of your committee's activities as possible. Actively contribute in WEF/SCC's general activities, including being a communications liaison between SCC/WEF and your state/regional members association, and submitting small community and natural systems technical papers at WEFTEC.