The Specialty Conference Committee is soliciting abstracts on the following topics 1-10. Suggested subtopics provide content guidance and are not limited to those listed.

1. **System Operations and Maintenance (O&M)**

2. **Planning**

3. **Design and Construction—Delivering Capital Projects**
   Capital Improvement Project Validation Sustainability design issues, Money matters, Stakeholder involvement, Life cycle issues, Critical infrastructure, Alternate project delivery, Construction Management, Design Criteria and Standards, Conventional vs Alternative Sewers, Rehabilitation, Challenges solved, Case studies, Construction issues, Lessons learned and successes, Easement access, Community involvement.

4. **Affordability**
   Funding Alternatives, Feasibility Analysis, Rate Impact Studies, Affordability Analysis, Use of Various Financing Instruments, Methods of Charging for Wastewater Flows, Alternative Delivery Methods, Innovative Solutions, Stakeholder Involvement.

5. **Integrated Wet Weather Planning**

6. **Utilities of the Future**
   Predictive Modeling, Big Data/Data Analytics; Sensors in collection systems; Developing sensed networks; Active Management of the Collection System, Incorporation of radar/advanced forecasting, Metering, Rainfall monitoring, System Optimization for Overflow Reduction.

7. **Asset Management and Sustainability**
   Level of Service definition and performance goals; Risk Management; Asset inventory and valuation; Asset Management Plans; Information Systems Management tools and processes; Condition assessment and efforts to gather valuable, consistent data and how to use data; Flow Monitoring, Modeling, Design Standards, Construction Specifications, and Inspection; Maintenance Analysis and Planning; Sewer System Evaluation Surveys that provide results and impact decisions; Planning and Measuring Results of a Rehabilitation and Replacement Program; Developing business case evaluations; Culture Change - Getting buy-in top down and
bottom up: asset management needs to involve utility and municipal management, financial, engineering, IT, administrative, and field staff, Enterprise Asset management case studies, Capital Budgeting and Improvement Plans, Benefit/Cost Analysis.

8. Sanitary Sewer Overflows
Responding to events, SSOs, CSOs, Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Reduction, Implementing SSO/CSO Control/Reduction Plans, SSO Response Plans, Source Tracking, Sampling CSOs and SSOs, SSO Reporting, SSO Volume Estimation, SSES, Managing Water Across Political Boundaries, Planning, TMDL Compliance, Storage/Treatment Options.

9. Trenchless Technologies, Rehabilitation and Private I/I
Trenchless rehabilitation technologies, Tunneling in soft ground, rock, and mixed face; Tunnel geotechnical investigations best practices; Design and construction best practices or lessons learned; Tunnel risk approaches and risk registers; Contractor outreach/engagement during design, Private property rehabilitation, education and the challenges.

10. Pump Stations/Force Mains, and Manholes

Important Information about Collection Systems 2018 Abstracts

Method of Submittal: Online only please. Please visit www.wef.org/CollectionSystems for a direct link to the online submittal site. Abstracts must be received by Midnight Eastern on August 28, 2017.

Review Criteria: Abstracts shall be no longer than two pages. One additional page may be submitted with tables, graphics, and/or images

Clearly defined and addressed in the abstract submittal:

- **State purpose** – What message or knowledge transfer will be provided?
- **Benefits of project** – Clearly state why this project should be selected and will provide a benefit to our industry. Is it unique, new technology, a different spin on an old concept, etc.
- **Status of Completion** – At the time of submittal, is the project complete, if not, when will it be complete? Consideration for completed projects is weighted more than incomplete projects.
- **Conclusion** – Clearly state the take away message. Example: If several products or methods are being evaluated, there should be a definitive conclusion stated in the abstracts to why one was chosen over the others.

After Selection: All authors will be notified of their placement in the technical program in October. Per WEF’s policy, selected authors are required to submit manuscripts prior to the deadline.

Presenters are expected to register for the Conference and pay the appropriate registration fee.

No travel or assistance funds are available for speakers.

For Questions or Additional Information:
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