



Water Week 2021

Stormwater Policy Recommendations

April 19, 2021
1 - 2 PM ET

Webcast Agenda and Participants

- 1) **Introduction**, Fernando Pasquel, SWI Advisory Committee Chair
- 2) **WEF Stormwater Programs Update**, Adriana Caldarelli, WEF Stormwater Institute Director
- 3) **Update from DC**, Steve Dye, WEF Legislative Director
- 4) **WEF/NMSA Stormwater Policy Recommendation Document**
 - Fernando Pasquel, SWI Advisory Committee Chair
 - Greg Williams, StormTrap
 - Seth Brown, NMSA Executive Director
- 5) **Q&A** via the Chat Function
- 6) **Tips for successful congressional meetings**, Steve Dye, WEF Legislative Director

Recommendations Document Work Team

- Vaikko Allen, Contech
- Seth Brown, NMSA
- Steve Dye, WEF
- Kimberly Grove, City of Baltimore Public Works
- Jim Lenhart, Stormwater Northwest
- Fernando Pasquel, Arcadis, SWI Advisory Committee Chair
- John Phillips, Parametrix
- Wesley, Sydnor, Louisville MSD
- Scott Taylor, Michael Baker International, SWI Advisory Committee Vice Chair
- Erin Wagoner, Louisville MSD
- Greg Williams, StormTrap, President SWEMA

Upcoming Stormwater Events

- **Stormwater Policy Forum**
 - Part 1 - Monday, April 26th, 1:00 - 3:00pm Eastern
 - Part 2 - Thursday, April 29th, 1:00 - 3:00pm Eastern
- **Stormwater Summit**
 - June 22 - 23, 2021

Stormwater Policy Forum - Part 1 Agenda

Welcome

- Scott Taylor, SWI Advisory Committee Vice-Chair

Keynote

- Dr. Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, USEPA, Office of Water

Regulatory Update (USEPA)

- Lisa Biddle, Municipal Branch, Water Permits Division, Office of Water
- Rachel Urban, Stormwater Team, Office of Water
- Robyn DeYoung, Municipal Stormwater Program, Water Permits Division, Office of Water
- Jamie Piziali, Municipal Ombudsman, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations,
- Ellen Tarquinio, US EPA Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

Congressional Update

- Steve Dye, WEF
- Annie D'Amato, Majority Professional Staff Member, Environmental and Public Works Committee
- Ryan Seiger, Staff Director/Senior Counsel, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Open Discussion and Feedback

Stormwater Policy Forum - Part 2 Agenda

Welcome

- Fernando Pasquel, SWI Advisory Committee Chair

Keynote Speaker

- John Putnam, US DOT Deputy Legal Counsel

Hot Topics Panel

- Resiliency: Marissa Aho, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Houston
- Maintenance: Todd Hill, Commissioner, Office of Watershed Protection, City of Atlanta
- Trash: Matthew Robinson, Environmental Protection Specialist, District Department of Energy and Environment



- Registration: <https://www.wef.org/events/conferences/upcoming-conferences/stormwatersummit/>
- Program: <https://www.wef.org/globalassets/assets-wef/4---events/conferences/stormwater-2021/stormwater-2021-draft-program.pdf>

Water Week 2021 Virtual Events

www.WaterWeek.us

Water Week Prep Webcast - recording at
<https://www.wef.org/WaterWeekPrep2021Arch>



Water Week Policy Zoom-In - Register at www.WaterWeek.us

Tuesday, April 27th, 2 - 4:30 PM ET

Stormwater Institute Program Update

- National Municipal Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Awards
 - Nomination Deadline Monday, May 10th
 - <https://wefstormwaterinstitute.org/programs/ms4awards/>
- National MS4 Needs Assessment Survey
 - Final Report: https://wefstormwaterinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/WEF_MS4_Needs_Assessment_Survey_Final_Report_2020_Final.pdf
 - Data Dashboard: <https://2ndnature.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opstdashboard/index.html#/d6005ea6de144cff928a4a558158d80b>



Update from DC

Overview of the State of Things in DC

President Biden's American Jobs Plan -- Infrastructure Proposal

- \$2 Trillion funded primarily by reversing 2017 corporate and global tax cuts
- Includes funding for Water, Transportation, Broadband, Energy, Housing, Education, R&D, Manufacturing, Homecare, and more programs
- \$111 Billion in Water Infrastructure Provisions:
 - \$45 Billion for Lead Service Lines
 - \$10 Billion for PFAS in Drinking Water
 - \$56 Billion to “upgrade and modernize” Drinking Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater Infrastructure for “grants and low-interest loans”.

Overview of the State of Things in DC

Senate -- Drinking Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, S. 914

- *Total Bill Cost: \$35 billion over 5 years*
- Clean Water SRF & Drinking Water SRF: *Each* at \$14.65 billion over 5 years
- WIFIA: \$250 million over 5 years
- Stormwater Infrastructure Technology
 - 5 regional SW Centers of Excellence funded at \$1M/yr each.
 - Planning & Development Grants funded at \$3M/yr for \$200k max for each grant
 - Implementation Grants funded at \$7M/yr for \$2M max for each grant
- Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants: \$1.4 billion over 5 years
- Alternative Source Water Pilot Program: \$125 million over 5 years
- Infrastructure Resiliency & Sustainability Grants: \$125 million over 5 years
- Water Workforce Grants: \$25 million over 5 years
- And MUCH More...

Overview of the State of Things in DC

House - The Water Quality Protection & Jobs Creation Act of 2021, H.R. 1915

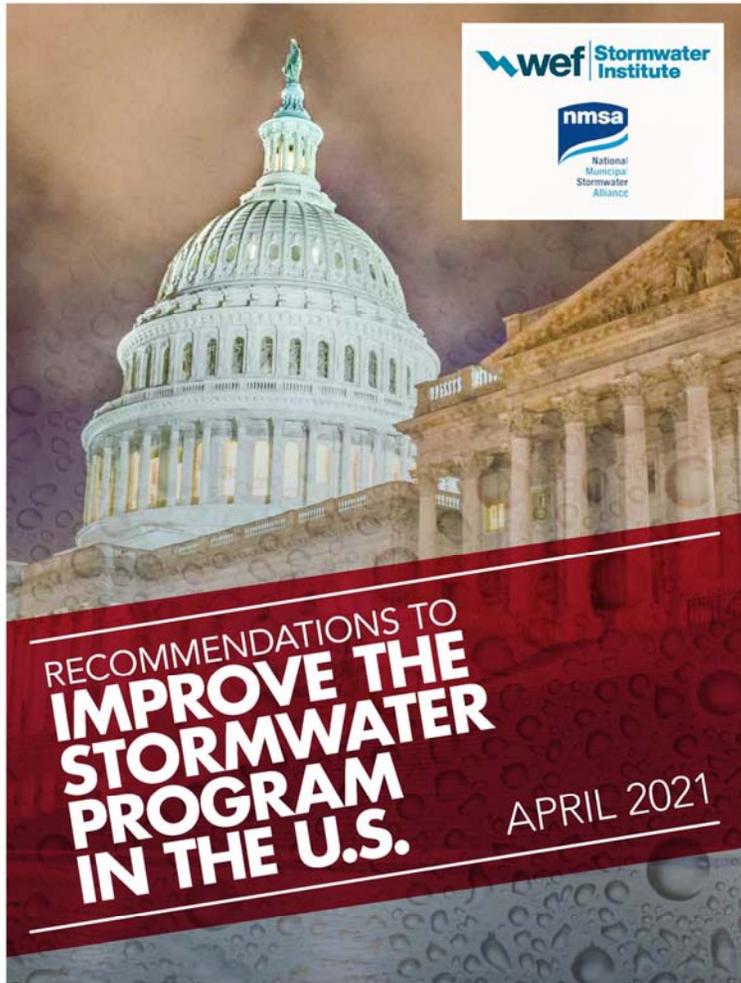
- *Total Bill Cost: \$50 billion over 5 years*
- Clean Water SRF: \$40 billion over 5 years
- Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants: \$2 billion over 5 years
- State Management Assistance (Sect. 106) Grants: \$2.5 billion over 5 years
- Watershed Pilot Projects Grants: \$1 billion over 5 years
- Alternative Source Water Pilot Program: \$1 billion over 5 years
- PFAS & other emerging contaminants grants: \$1 billion over 5 years
- Indian Tribe Wastewater Grants: \$2.5 billion over 5 years



Stormwater Recommendations

Overview of SW Ask Document History

- https://wefstormwaterinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/SWI_2021_Handout_Update.pdf
- Previous versions in 2018, 2019, and 2020
- Successes include Stormwater Financing Taskforce, funding for EPA Needs Survey, new CSO, SSO and SW grant program (EPA Sewer Overflow Control Grants) and microplastics and trash grants in Save-Our-Seas 2.0 Act
- Reviewed by WEF Stormwater Institute, WEF Stormwater Committee, WEF Government Affairs Committee, and National Municipal Stormwater Alliance



Four Core Recommendations

- 1) SW Infrastructure Funding Tools
- 2) Stormwater Treatment System Verification Program Funding
- 3) Local Flooding Product and Reference Development Funding
- 4) Promote Comprehensive Source Control for Stormwater Pollution

Recommendation 1: Stormwater Infrastructure Funding Tools

Establish dedicated funding for stormwater infrastructure.

Establish a technical assistance grant program.

- To close the funding gap, investment is needed in the next decade to ensure public safety, increase resilience, and meet CWA requirements
- Assist communities and utilities with the creation of sustainable funding sources for stormwater infrastructure to leverage Community-Based P3 and other innovative financing approaches
- Recommendations from the EPA Stormwater Infrastructure Finance Task Force Report to Congress
 - <https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter/efab-report-evaluating-stormwater-infrastructure-funding-and-financing>

Recommendation 2: Stormwater Treatment System Verification Program Funding

Support for Testing and Evaluation Program for Stormwater Products/Practices

- Lack of national testing and verification of performance program in stormwater limits innovation and confidence in investments in stormwater infrastructure.
- Focus should include public domain practices, including green infrastructure, as well as manufactured products.
- Performance should encompass short- & long-term performance and maintenance.
- *Request: Provide funding to nonprofit organizations who demonstrate excellence in supporting the performance verification of stormwater control infrastructure*



Goodharbour Labs, 2020



Washington Stormwater Center, 2020

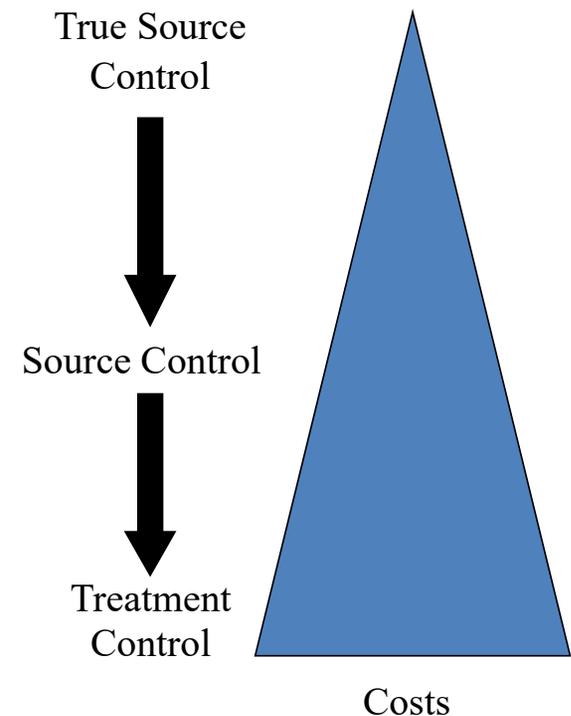
Recommendation 3: Local Flooding Product and Reference Development Funding

- Localized flooding is a major issue now/future for communities
- Climate change has/will exacerbate flooding and water quality issues
- Tools exist to estimate existing and project future flooding issues
 - NOAA, FEMA, USFS, USGS, EPA, and others
- Problems is that these tools are:
 - “Macro-scale” in application - limits community applications
 - Lacking in in ability to project in future due to climate change
 - Solely focused on hydrologic issues - what about social and economic issues?
 - Often divided into jurisdictional applications when watersheds cross jurisdictional boundaries
- Ask to Congress:
 - Providing funding and direct Federal agencies to adjust existing tools:
 - To become easily applied at community scale through higher granularity of tools
 - Support H.R. 1437 (FLOOD) and S. 558 (PRECIP) Acts) to expand Atlas 14 to national coverage and updated every 10 years
 - Fund NOAA to develop a strategy for future projections at community-scale
 - To include a more holistic view of flooding dynamics, such as economics and social impacts
 - Broaden the scope of tools to cross jurisdictional boundaries
 - Support HR 1915 - Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021
 - Provides \$1 billion for Clean Water pilot programs for watershed-based efforts to address wet weather discharges, to promote stormwater best practices, to undertake integrated water resource management, and to increase climate resiliency.



Recommendation 4: Promote Comprehensive Source Control for Stormwater Pollution

- True scope of stormwater pollution problem is unknown:
 - 48 Million organic and inorganic substances
 - 35 Million of these commercially available
 - About 250,000 of these inventoried or regulated
 - About 12,000 new substances added each day
 - Recent notable examples include PFAS, microplastics, and 6PPD
- Current regulatory system is reactive, based on proxies
- Ask to Congress:
 - Direct EPA to establish a permanent program within the Office of Wastewater Management focused on source control
 - Provide funding to support be dedicated to developing pollutant source control for stormwater
 - Assist communities in developing pollutant source control programs





Questions?



Virtual Hill Meetings

Finding Your Member of Congress

If you don't already have a relationship with your Members of Congress, visit:

www.house.gov

www.senate.gov

www.govtrack.us/congress/members

Follow links to your Senators' and Representative's websites. Call their offices to ask how to request a virtual meeting with Member of Congress or staffer handling water infrastructure issues.

govtrack.us

HOME BROWSE TRACK ABOUT USE OUR DATA

CONGRESS > MEMBERS OF CONGRESS > MAPS

Find a Senator or Representative

Use this page to find current Members of Congress by state or district.

FIND A SENATOR or REPRESENTATIVE

By Last Name
type the last name of c

By State
(Select State)

By Zip Code
ZIP or ZIP+4

By Address
columbus, oh

SEARCH

[List all Members of Congress](#)

What works best:

According to a Congressional Management Association survey of Members of Congress and Senior Staff:

- 95% said that **"in-person visits from constituents"** would have "some" or "a lot" of influence on an undecided lawmaker.
- 79% said **"meet or get to know** the Legislative Assistant with jurisdiction over their issue area"
- 91% said it would be helpful to have "information about the **impact the bill/issue would have on the district or state."**
 - Only 9% report they receive that information frequently.
- 79% said **a personal story** from a constituent related to the bill or issue would be helpful.
 - Only 18% report they receive it frequently.

Important to Remember...

- Be punctual -- and be patient!
- Tell them what they need to know about what's going on back home.
- If you don't know the answer to a question, say you don't know -- promise to get back to the legislator or staff with the requested information.
- **NEVER** offer to make a political contribution or pledge of political support!
- Don't look at your smartphone. Silence it!

Important to Remember, continued...

- *Make the ask!* Be clear and concise and ask who the correct staff person is for following up.
- Don't use acronyms or terms that someone outside of your profession won't understand.
- Thank the legislator and offer to serve as a resource on other water-related issues.
- After the visit, write a thank you letter/email reviewing the key points discussed.

Virtual Hill Meeting Slide Deck

- Available at https://wefstormwaterinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Water-Week-2021_Meeting-Slide-Presentation-Template.pptx
- Optional to use for your virtual congressional meeting
- Please be sure to update the slides prior to each meeting.
- Please be sure to download and share the Water Week Priorities Document with the congressional office prior to the meeting.

Slide Deck Template



Water Week 2021

National Stormwater Priorities

Recommendations from

Water Environment Federation

&

National Municipal Stormwater Alliance

April 2021

Meeting with:

John Smith

jsmith@emailaddress.com

555-555-5555



Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
 - *Names of meeting participants*
 - *Names of meeting participants*
- Update from (*Name of town, utility, state, organization*)
- Priorities for the Water Sector

SD8



Slide 30

SD3 Wherever home is for the Member of Congress you're talking to, such as the state he/she is from or the name of your utility or the region of the state.

Steve Dye, 4/23/2020

SD8 Please be sure to add your organization's name here on all the slides or remove this text.

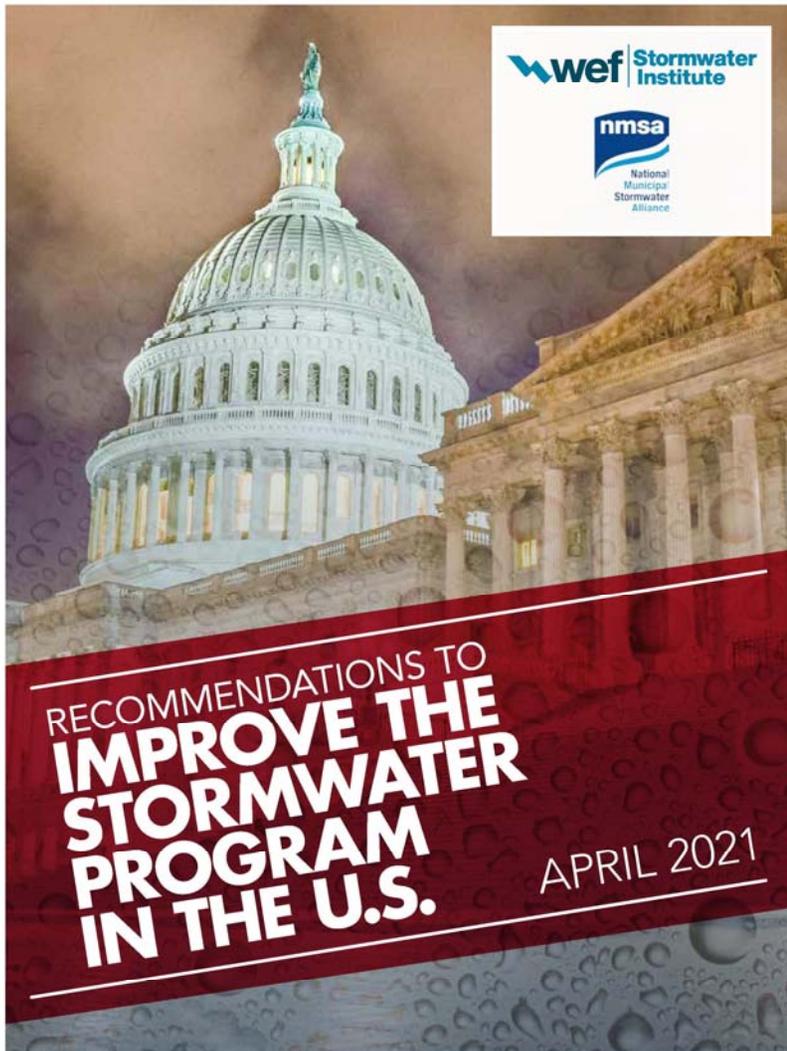
Steve Dye, 4/24/2020



Update from the _____

- Include a couple bullet point items about the status of things back home, such as specific stormwater infrastructure projects needed or underway, or an update on the amazing work the employees are doing to protect the community, or any other challenges your organization is facing.
- Feel free to add photos on this slide or create another slide.





Four Core Recommendations

Recommendations Available at:

<http://bit.ly/swi-2021>

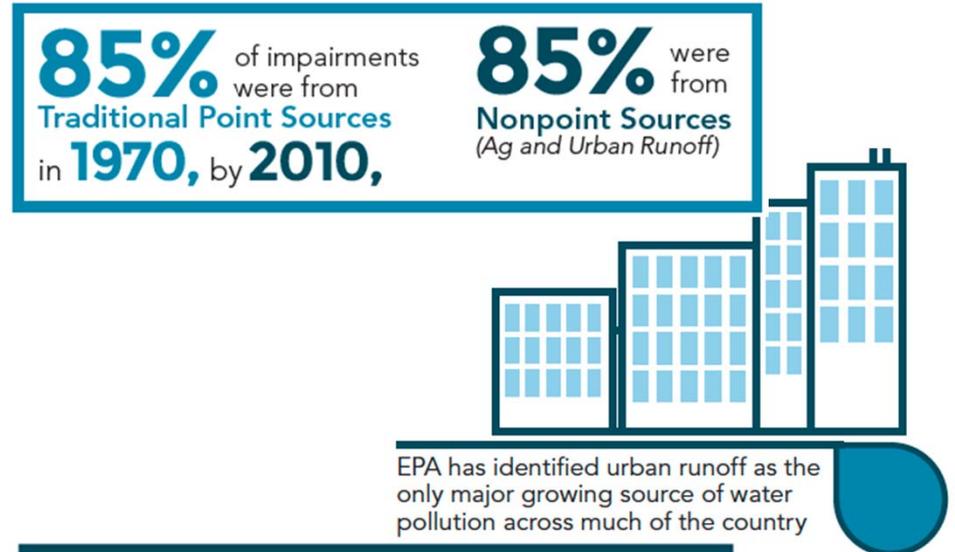
- 1) SW Infrastructure Funding Tools
- 2) Stormwater Treatment System Verification Program Funding
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- 4) Promote Comprehensive Source Control for Stormwater Pollution





There are massive national need for stormwater infrastructure funding.

- WEF's 2020 MS4 National Needs Survey found a stormwater infrastructure funding needs gap of **\$8.5 billion annually**.
- In March 2021, ASCE released their first-ever Stormwater Infrastructure Report Card and gave stormwater infrastructure a **D Grade**.
- Even more frequent and intense rain events are expected, according to the 2014 National Climate Assessment Report.



EPA estimates that **\$150 BILLION IS NEEDED** for MS4 and CSO investments over the next 20 years across the country.





- Stormwater Infrastructure Funding **MUST** be included in the Infrastructure Package!
- Funding **MUST** be as Grants or Forgivable Loans.
 - Ratepayers and utilities cannot afford more loans.
 - 70% of MS4 communities lack a stormwater utility or way to repay a loan.
 - Currently, federally-subsidized water infrastructure funding provides less than 5% of all local water infrastructure funding.

MS4
Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

The EPA estimates that more than 7,550 MS4 permittees (cities, towns and agencies) must comply with the MS4 stormwater provisions of the Clean Water Act.

There are **7,550 MS4** stormwater permittees in the United States, including more than **6,500 MS4 cities**.

Communities with MS4 stormwater permits include **more than 80% of the U.S. population.** (EPA)

Only approximately **1,500 OF THE 7,550** permitted entities in the U.S. have a dedicated revenue source.

A recent study suggests that **over 100,000 jobs** can be created when meeting the \$8.5 billion funding gap in the stormwater sector.

➤ It is estimated that nationally only 1.5 to 3 percent of the Clean Water SRF's Green





Four Core Recommendations

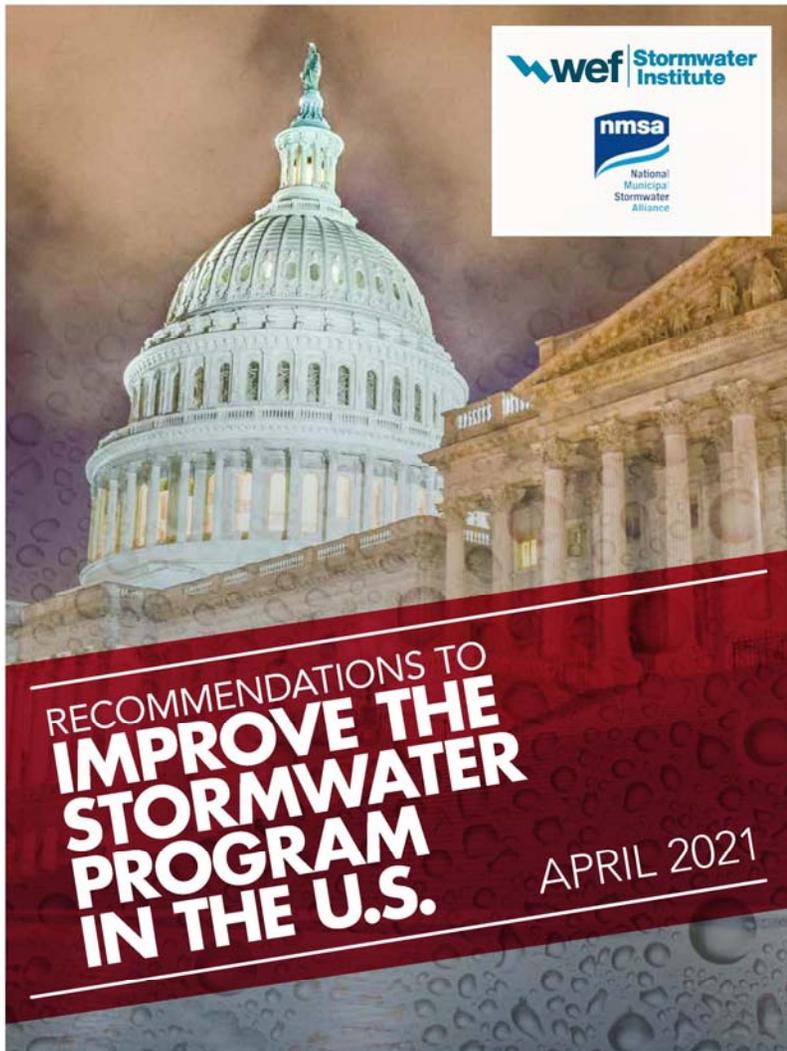
Recommendations Available at:

<http://bit.ly/swi-2021>

1) SW Infrastructure Funding Tools

Request: Establish dedicated stormwater funding for the construction, rehabilitation, and operation and maintenance of stormwater infrastructure. In addition, establish a technical assistance grant program (at regional or federal level) to assist communities and utilities with the creation of sustainable funding sources for stormwater infrastructure.





Four Core Recommendations

Recommendations Available at:

<http://bit.ly/swi-2021>

2) Stormwater Treatment System Verification Program Funding

Request: Create up to 5 national centers of excellence and grant programs to drive research, planning and implementation of stormwater infrastructure as well as facilitate coordination between municipal stormwater permittees across all centers.

APRIL 2021





Four Core Recommendations

Recommendations Available at:

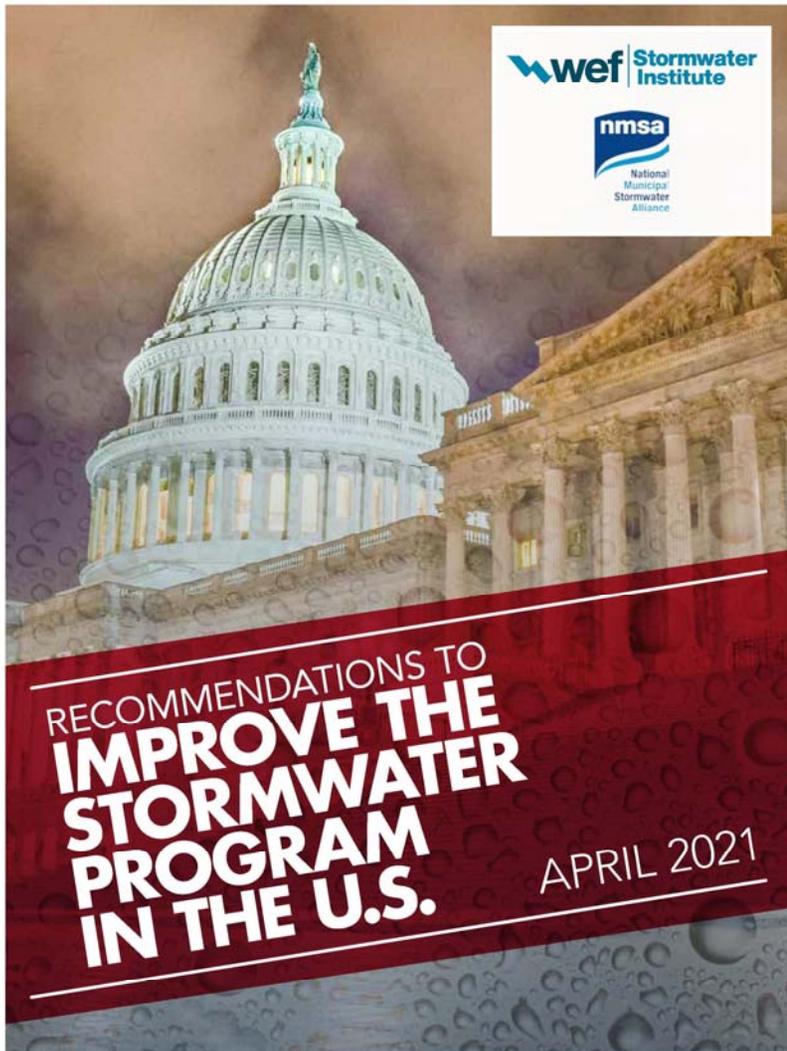
<http://bit.ly/swi-2021>

3) Local Flooding Product and Reference Development Funding

Request: Provide funding to federal agencies to develop and maintain monitoring programs and technical products to enable local and state agencies to address current and projected local flooding challenges.

APRIL 2021





Four Core Recommendations

Recommendations Available at:

<http://bit.ly/swi-2021>

4) Promote Comprehensive Source Control for Stormwater Pollution

Request: Direct the US EPA to establish a permanent program within the Office of Wastewater Management, and provide funding to be dedicated to developing pollutant source control for stormwater.

APRIL 2021





2021 Infrastructure Package

Key Stormwater Infrastructure Programs to include in the Infrastructure Package:

- Clean Water SRF - *Forgivable Loans!*
- WIFIA
- EPA Sewer Overflow & Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants
- Stormwater Infrastructure Technology Grants (*Sect. 217, Senate Drinking Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, S. 914*)
- Watershed Pilot Projects (*Sect. 3, House Water Quality Protection & Jobs Creation Act of 2021, H.R. 1915*)
- New Resiliency Grant Programs





Additional Resources

- Please contact _____ at (email address) if you would like a stormwater facility tour or a meet & greet with local stormwater professionals.
- If you need additional info about the Recommendations, please contact:
 - Steve Dye (WEF), sdye@wef.org
 - Seth Brown (NMSA), seth.brown@nationalstormwateralliance.org
- For additional info and materials, please visit:
 - 2021 Recommendations Document: <http://bit.ly/swi-2021>
 - <https://wefstormwaterinstitute.org>
 - <https://nationalstormwateralliance.org>

