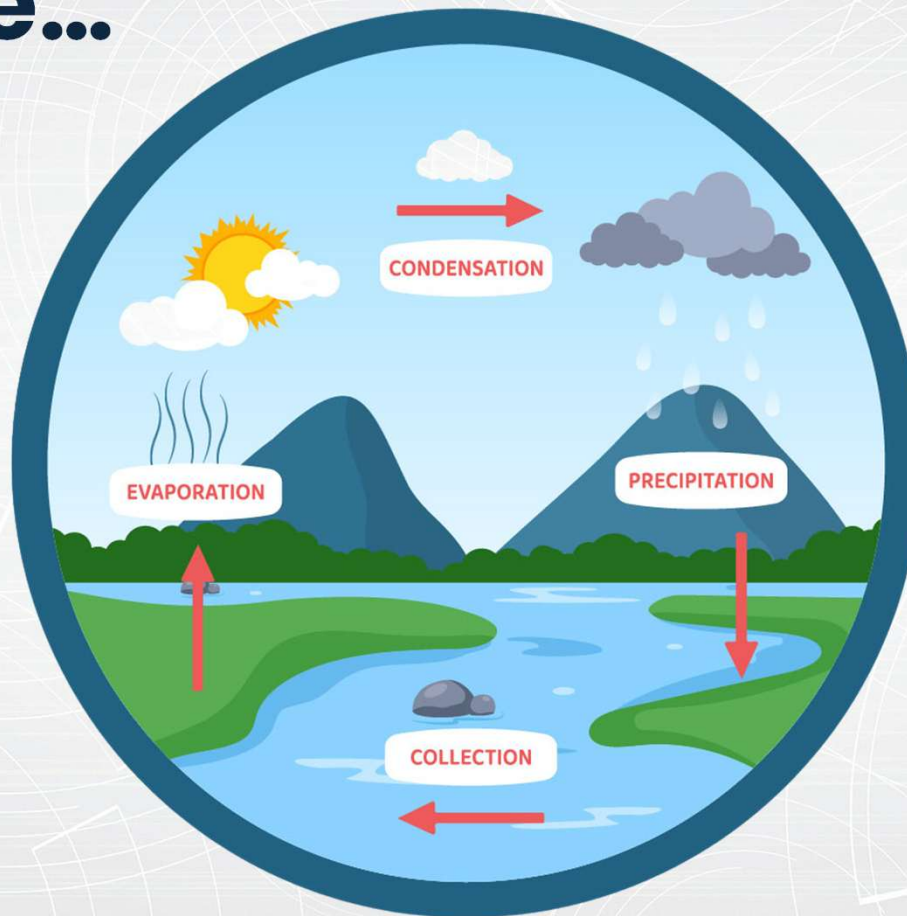


Closing the Loop with the Circular Water Economy



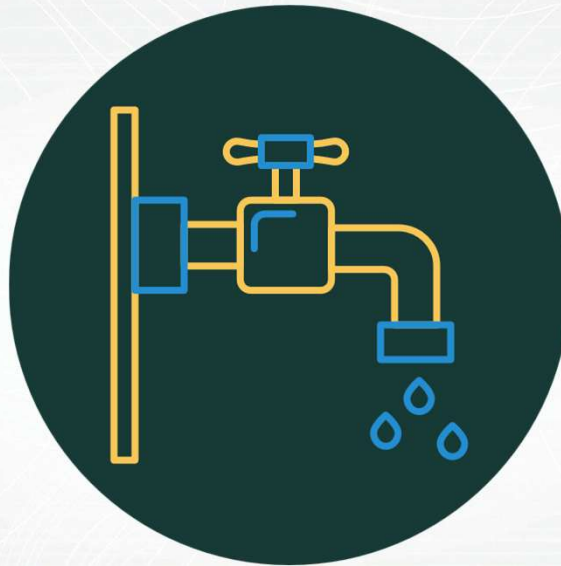
Water is an Endlessly Renewable Resource...



The way we use it is linear



Take

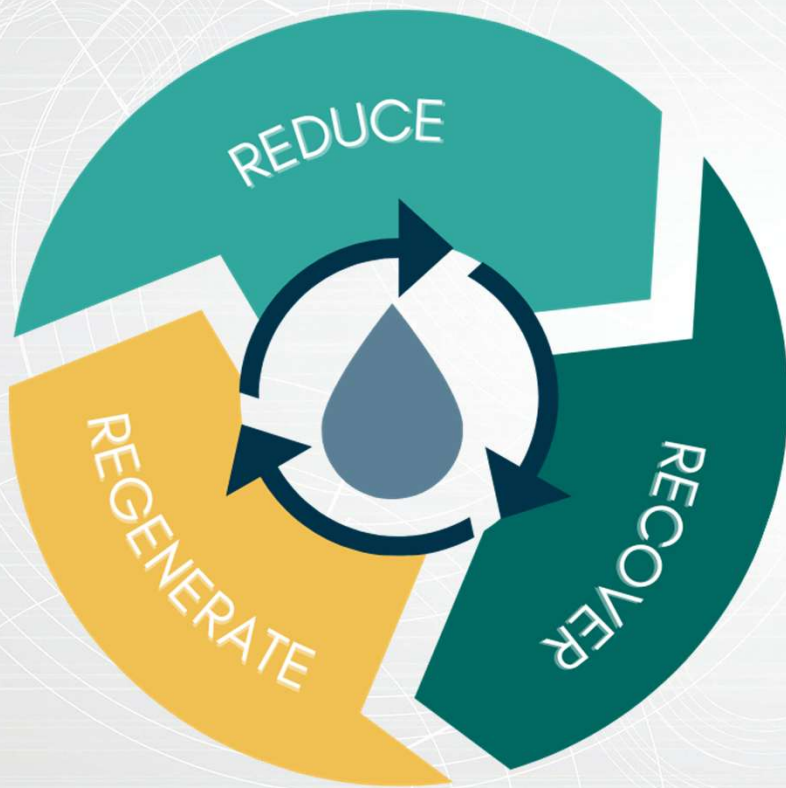


Use



Dispose

The Circular Water Economy provides the path forward



Economic growth

Job creation

Stronger environment

Greater resilience

Circular Water Economy 101 Book

Through real-world case studies, this resource demonstrates how circular water principles can be applied across diverse settings, offering actionable guidance for water professionals seeking to build more resilient and efficient water systems.

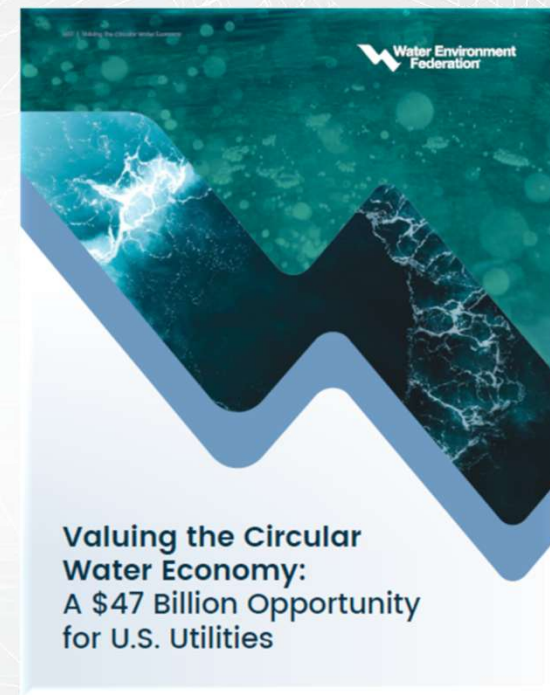
Scan the QR-code to order the book →



The Value of Circular Water

A national transition toward a circular water practices could unlock up to **\$47 billion** annually in direct economic value for U.S. water utilities and municipalities

Scan the QR-code to view the report →



Financing Circular Water Economy

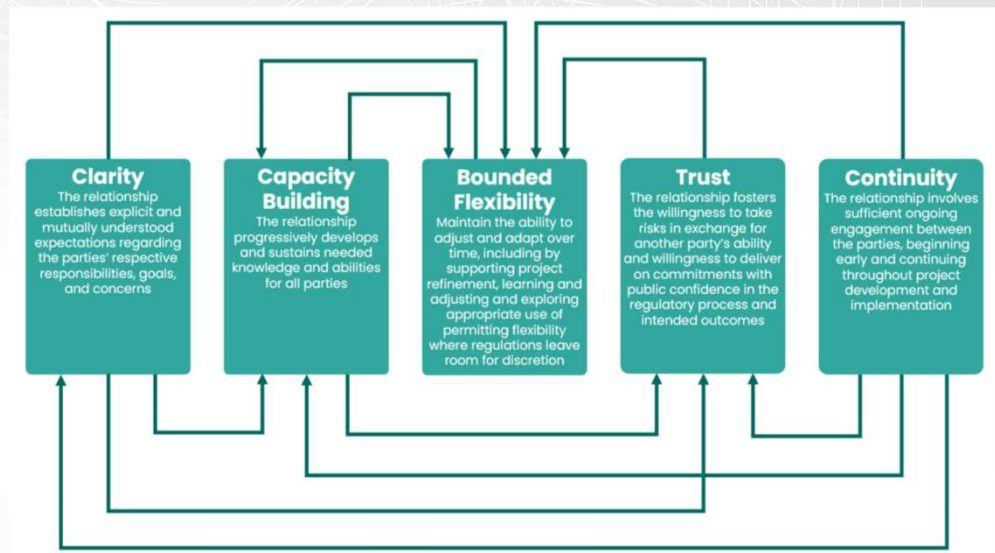
U.S. water infrastructure is evolving into a climate-aligned, investable asset class, requiring diversified financing solutions to meet growing long-term capital demands

Scan the QR-code to view the report



Innovation Through Permitting

Innovation is key to advancing a circular water economy. WEF's new concept sheet series explores how utilities and innovators can collaborate with permitting authorities to unlock innovation in wastewater management.



Scan the QR-code to view the docs →



Reduce

Minimize waste in service delivery and enhance water system efficiency

Energy Efficiency – Reducing the energy used to provide water and wastewater services

Source Control – Preventing pollution at the source to reduce the costs of treatment

Stormwater Management – Investing in stormwater infrastructure to reduce financial impacts of natural disasters



Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD)

MMSD implemented innovative strategies to reduce waste and enhance energy efficiency, aligning with its 2035 Vision to meet 100% of its energy needs with renewables

Economic Value:
Cost savings of >\$1 million
annually from renewable energy
usage



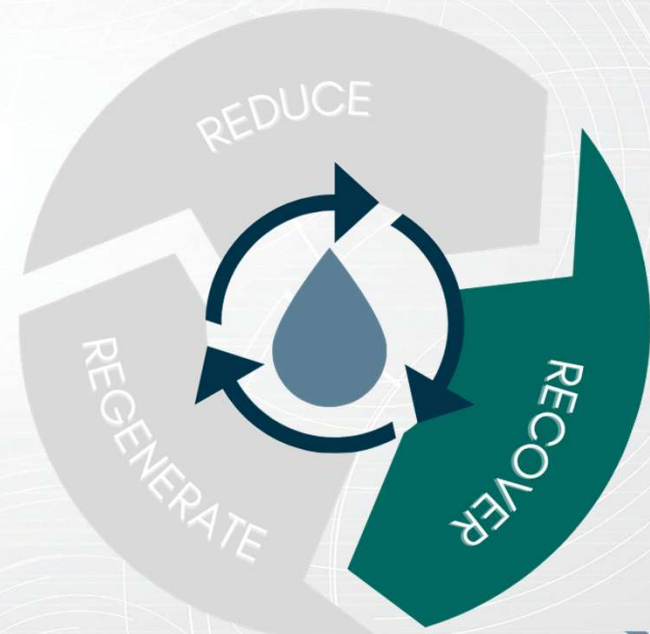
Recover

Convert waste that cannot be eliminated into valuable resources

Water Reuse – Using treated wastewater for agriculture, irrigation, and municipal purposes

Nutrients – Extracting valuable resources like nitrogen and phosphorus

Energy – Harnessing energy from wastewater



Loudoun Water

Loudoun Water in Virginia provided 815 million gallons of recycled water in 2023 for cooling data centers, conserving freshwater resources and reducing nutrient discharge into Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.

Economic Value:
Cost savings of ~\$3.26 million
compared to potable water



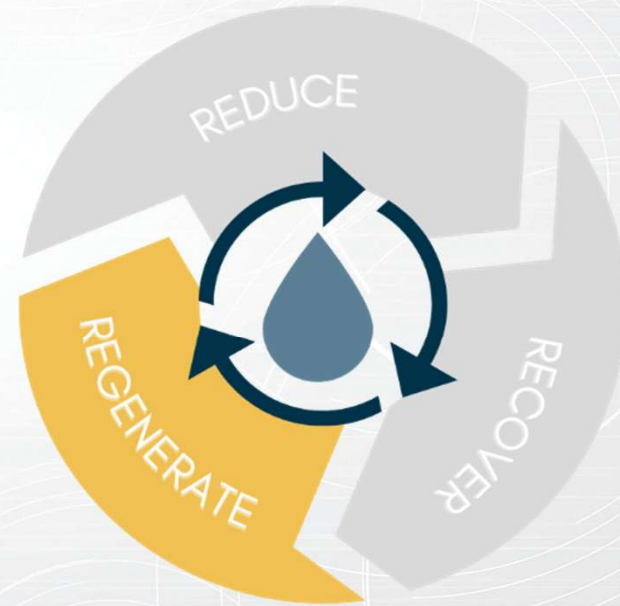
Regenerate

Strengthening nature while using and treating water

Water Resource Management – Ensuring a rational and resilient approach to using water

Watershed Restoration – Protecting and revitalizing water sources

Nature-Based Solutions – Providing water services while delivering co-benefits for the environment



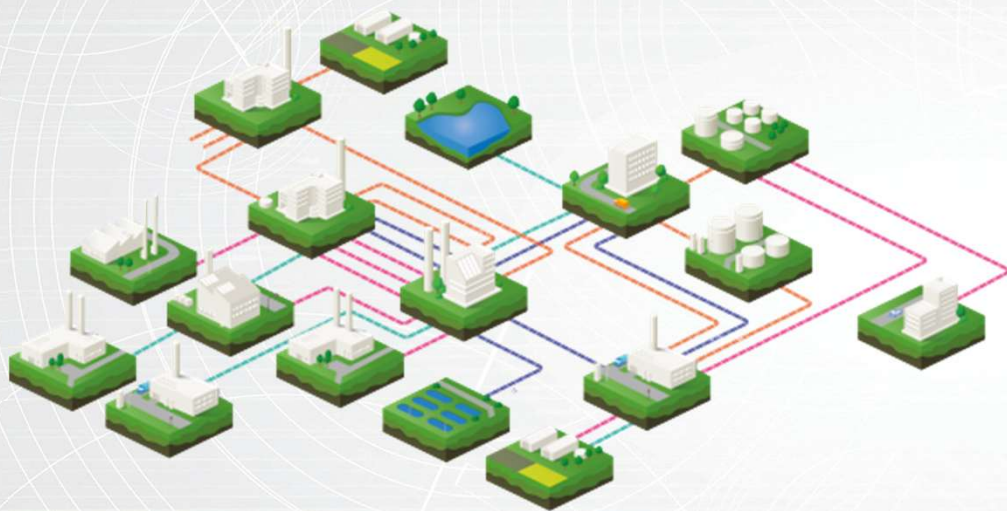
Clean Water Services

Clean Water Services Fernhill Natural Treatment Systems use engineered wetlands to naturally treat water, restore habitats, enhance biodiversity, and improve water quality in the Tualatin River.

**Economic Value:
Cost savings of ~\$18 million
compared to traditional
treatment system**



Kalundborg Symbiosis



1 billion gallons of water saved

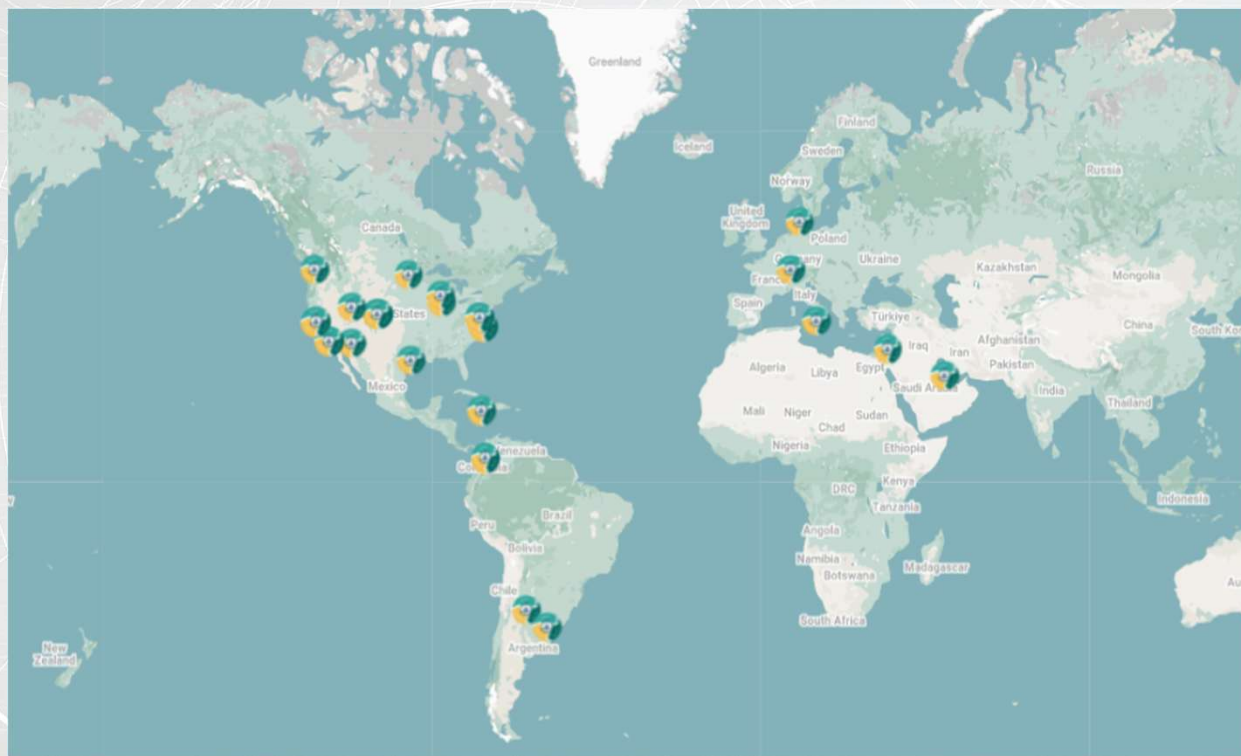
635,000 tons of greenhouse gases eliminated

100 gigawatt hours of energy saved

5,000 jobs created

Since inception, generated ~\$370 million in savings

Circular Water Economy Map



Share your Reduce-Recover-Regenerate case study to be featured on WEF's global **Circular Water Economy Map** and inspire others worldwide.



<https://www.wef.org/circularwatereconomy>

Get Involved Today

Join WEF in leading the transformation to the Circular Water Economy!

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[Present at an upcoming WEF event](#)

Thank you!