

National Water Research Institute

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National Academy of Sciences Releases "Water Reuse" Pre-Publication Report

Expanding the reuse and reclamation of municipal wastewater could significantly increase the nation's total available water resources, concluded a National Research Council pre-publication report released by the National Academy of Sciences on January 10, 2012.

The pre-publication report, entitled "Water Reuse: Potential for Expanding the Nation's Water Supply through Reuse of Municipal Water," was prepared by the Committee on the Assessment of Water Reuse as an Approach to Meeting Future Water Supply.

Rhodes Trussell of Trussell Technologies chaired the committee, which also included Ed Archuleta (El Paso Water Utilities PSB), Jim Crook (environmental engineering consultant), Jörg Drewes (Colorado School of Mines), Dave Sedlak (UC Berkeley), Shane Snyder (University of Arizona), and eight other experts in the water industry.

The report was sponsored by a number of agencies, among them NWRI, Irvine Ranch Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Water District, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, and West Basin Municipal Water District.

Other key findings included:

- Available technology can reduce chemical and microbial contaminants to levels comparable to or lower than those present in many current drinking water supplies.
- Modifying the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act could ensure public health protection for both reuse projects and de facto (or unplanned) reuse while increasing public confidence in water reuse.
- Improved coordination among federal and nonfederal entities could more effectively address key research needs.

The pre-publication report can be downloaded for free at http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13303.

Questions about the pre-publication report are welcome and may be submitted to Rhodes Trussell through the National Academy of Sciences online forum at <http://nas-sites.org/waterreuse> until Tuesday, January 24, 2012.

Challenging Water Projects Benefit from NWRI “Expert Panel” Review

For agencies considering the development and implementation of a challenging water project or program, an NWRI “Independent Advisory Panel” can provide the guidance and credibility needed to make appropriate project decisions and develop good public policy.

NWRI specializes in facilitating expert panels on behalf of water and wastewater agencies, as well as local, county, and state government agencies. We have conducted over 20 panels in California, Arizona, and Washington on a number of areas, including water resources, water supply, water and wastewater planning, and recycled water.

Our panels consist of academics, industry professionals, government representatives, and independent consultants who are experts in their fields. Together, they meet in person with agency staff to review issues as wide ranging as potable reuse, permit amendments, water quality monitoring, master planning, and more.

The benefits of having an NWRI expert panel include:

- Transparent, third-party review and evaluation of a project or program (which helps foster public support and enhances the credibility of the project).
- Access to scientific and technical advice by leading experts in a cost-effective manner.
- Direct help and support with challenging scientific questions and regulatory requirements.
- Documented reports detailing the findings and recommendations from each panel meeting.
- Assistance with interactions with the public, decision makers, and regulators.

For more information about the NWRI panel process (including a brochure), please visit <http://www.nwri-usa.org/panels.htm>. For direct inquiries, please contact Jeff Mosher, NWRI Executive Director, at jmosher@nwri-usa.org or 714-378-3278.

NWRI Fellowship Application Deadline - April 25, 2012

Applications are now being accepted for graduate fellowship funding for the 2012/2013 academic year. The deadline for fellowship applications is April 25, 2012.

NWRI will offer the following fellowships to graduate students (Masters or Ph.D.) at U.S. universities conducting research in the areas of water resources, treatment, and policy:

- **NWRI Fellowships** (up to \$5,000 a year for 1-2 years). Research must pertain to the following areas of interest in the water and wastewater fields: recycled water, treatment technologies, water and energy nexus, sustainability, exploratory research, desalination, and policy and regulation.
- **NWRI-AMTA Fellowships for Membrane Technology** (two fellowships of \$10,000 a year for 2 years). Research must pertain to the advancement of membrane technologies in the water, wastewater, or water reuse industries. Funding is provided by the American Membrane Technology Association (AMTA).
- **NWRI-Southern California Salinity Coalition Fellowship** (one fellowship of \$10,000 a year for 2 years). Research must address the critical need to remove or reduce salts from water

supplies and to preserve water resources in Southern California. This fellowship, which is funded by the Southern California Salinity Coalition, is limited to students at Southern California universities/colleges.

Additional information about Fellowships, including application procedures and commonly asked questions, are available at www.nwri-usa.org/fellowship.htm.

NWRI's Fellowship Program is underwritten by:

- The Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation.
- NWRI Member Agencies, which include Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Irvine Ranch Water District, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Sanitation District, and West Basin Municipal Water District.
- NWRI Corporate Associates, including Black & Veatch, Carollo, CDM, CH2M Hill, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, ARCADIS Malcolm Pirnie, MWH, and United Water-Suez.
- NWRI Partners, including the American Membrane Technology Association and Southern California Salinity Coalition.

NWRI is grateful for the support provide by these partners.

Be a Part of Sixteenth Annual Children's Water Education Festival

The Orange County Water District (OCSD) is seeking sponsors for the Sixteenth Annual Children's Water Education Festival, which will be held March 28-29, 2012, at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda, California.

The Festival is hosted by OCWD, its Groundwater Guardian Team, and the Disneyland Resort. NWRI is a sponsor of this event.

Through hands-on activities like lab experiments and water relays, the Festival will provide an opportunity for 6,000 elementary school students and teachers to learn more about water and the environment, as well as how to conserve our limited natural resources.

This year, students will be treated to presentations from two National Geographic Emerging Explorers. Dr. Kevin Hand, a planetary scientist/astrobiologist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will share his work on seeking evidence of life beyond Earth by following the water, including the conditions that support life on Earth and why scientists believe life could exist in the vast sub-surface ocean of Jupiter's fourth largest moon. In addition, Dr. Zeb Hogan, an aquatic ecologist, will share his work on identifying and protecting the world's largest freshwater fish species and the ecosystems that support these "mega fish."

The Festival is provided at no cost to schools, making public and private financial support crucial to the success of this educational event and its continued growth. The following support is welcome:

- Volunteers to help with a range of activities, from staffing registration tables to directing students to their next activity.
- Presenters to staff the Festival's interactive booths.
- Tax-deductible donations.

To sponsor, donate supplies, present an activity, or volunteer, please contact Amanda Gavin, OCWD, at (714) 378-3202 or visit www.childrenwaterfestival.com.

MSSC Salinity Summit (Jan. 2012)

Registration is still open for the 2012 Multi-State Salinity Coalition (MSSC) Annual Salinity Summit, which will be held at the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, on January 26-27, 2012.

The summit will bring together professionals from throughout the nation, providing an opportunity for networking, education, and exchange of ideas on topics such as inland and ocean desalination, concentrate management, salinity policy and government, brackish groundwater, salinity and the environment, and the salinity/energy nexus.

To register, please visit <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaid=222100>. To view the program or learn more about MSSC or the summit, please visit www.multi-statesalinitycoalition.com.

SWMOA Annual Symposium (Jan. 2012)

The Southwest Membrane Operator Association (SWMOA) will hold its 2012 Annual Symposium from January 30 - February 1, 2012, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Redondo Beach, California. The symposium's theme is "Five Years of Membrane Fun."

The symposium will include sessions on seawater desalination, wastewater applications, and hands-on training, among others. A tour of the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility will also be included.

Attendees who complete the 2-day program will qualify for Contact Hours for Water & Wastewater approved by the States of Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Nevada.

More information, including registration and the symposium brochure, is available at www.swmoa.org. Exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities are also available.

AWWA/AMTA Membrane Technology Conference & Exposition (Feb. 2012)

Registration is open for the 2012 Membrane Technology Conference & Exposition, to be held February 27 - March 1, 2012, at the Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa in Glendale, Arizona.

The American Water Works Association and American Membrane Technology Association are hosting this event.

Highlights of the conference include:

- Over 100 technical papers and 40 poster presentations on the latest developments and research in both potable water and wastewater applications.
- International perspectives on desalination energy use.
- Opportunities to network with membrane colleagues from around the world.
- Technical sessions that range from startup membrane plants to integrated membrane systems and large-scale membrane operations.

The range of membranes covered includes ultrafiltration, microfiltration, nanofiltration, membrane bioreactors, and all desalination technologies, including reverse and forward osmosis.

Please register by January 24, 2012, for the best registration rates at www.awwa.org/amta/membrane2012.

The American Membrane Technology Association supports NWRI's fellowship program through the NWRI-AMTA Fellowship for Membrane Technology. NWRI is grateful for AMTA's support.

Student Participation Wanted at Sixth World Water Forum (Application Deadline Jan. 15)

Graduate student participation is welcomed and encouraged at the Sixth World Water Forum, to be held in Marseille, France, from March 12-17, 2012.

The purpose of the Forum is to address global water challenges, develop solutions, and gain firm commitments to implementing them.

As part of this effort, the Forum organizers will fully integrate the contributions of advanced graduate students focusing on various water issues. Students will participate in technical sessions, panel discussions, and research presentations alongside a global network of water experts.

Students should possess extensive knowledge of water issues (and be prepared to discuss solutions at a professional level), international perspective and experience, and an integrated, interdisciplinary outlook.

Applications to participate in the forum will be accepted until January 15, 2012. The application can be accessed at <http://www.jotform.com/wateryouthmovement/applicationforthe6thworldwaterforum>.

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