



# 2024 Government Affairs Report



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## MISSION

The recognized resource and advocate for the betterment of water quality

## VISION

Improving awareness and knowledge of water quality to enhance quality of your life through sustainable technologies and services

GOAL 1	Advancing knowledge and professionalism of industry participants
GOAL 2	Increasing advocacy
GOAL 3	Driving public awareness and knowledge

# Meet Our Team



**Jeremy Pollack**  
Director of  
Government Affairs

*Named Top Lobbyist of 2024*

THE HILL



**Paige O'Malley**  
Government Affairs  
Manager

# Committee Leadership

*In 2024 the Federal Government Affairs Committee and Regional & State Government Affairs Committee merged to form one WQA Government Affairs Committee, overseeing the member advocacy and leadership.*



**David Nelsen**  
BOD LIAISON



**RJ Easton**  
CHAIR



**Nichole Pennisi**  
VICE-CHAIR

# Legislative Highlights



**278**

*Bills  
Tracked*



**47**

*Bills Signed  
into Law*



**150+**

*Policymaker  
Meetings*



**25+**

*Advocacy  
Letters Sent*

# Government Affairs



## Why is it important?

- Builds connections with policymakers & influencers
- Provides important technical information to aid decision-making
- Raises awareness of issues of concern to WQA members
- Reinforces that WQA & its members are the “go-to” technical resource for water treatment issues

# Providing Value

## UNDERSTANDING TRENDS



LCRI & PFAS Rules from the EPA driving awareness.

## FOSTERING GROWTH



CA Safer Program - \$130 million per year for water quality which includes POE/POU technology.

## DRIVING CHANGE



Overtured a provision in the City of Houston's specialty plumbing code that mandated a double-check valve assembly for all water softeners.

## NAVIGATING BARRIERS



WA State requires a specialty plumbing license for the sale and/or installation of the POU/POE systems.

# Water Resources Congressional Summit Day 1 – Educational Sessions



- Hosted on the Capitol grounds for the first time in the House Rayburn Building!
- WQA & NGWA partnered together to provide programming for over 70 attendees.



## Educational Highlights

- Keynote Speakers
  - USDA Deputy Sec. Xochitl Torres Small
  - Bruno Pigott, EPA Office of Water
- Sessions & Panels
  - SDWA 50th Anniversary - ASDWA
  - Congressional Staff Panel



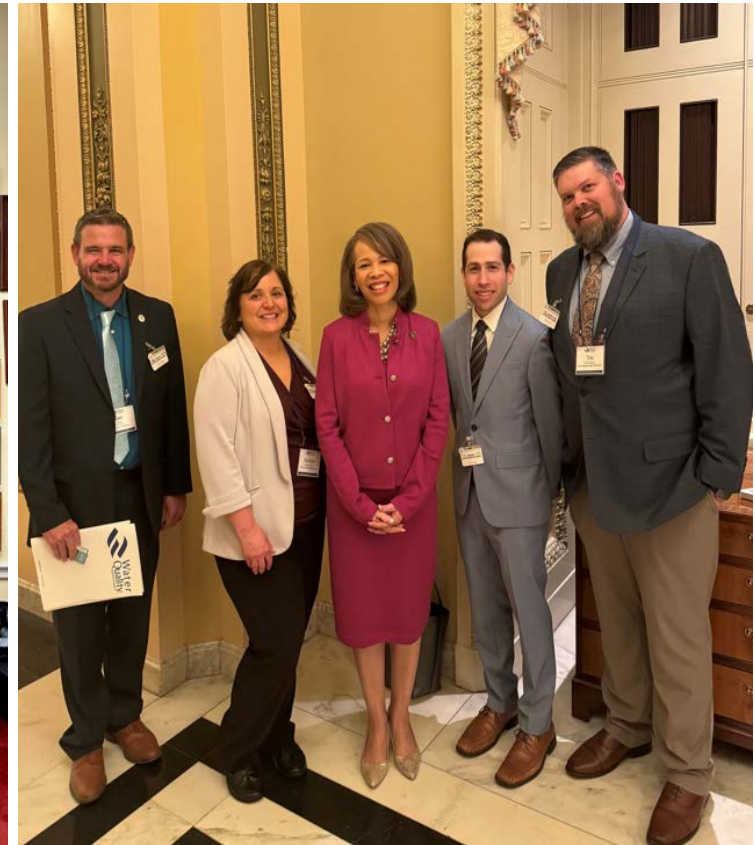
WQA Members  
Registered





# Water Resources Congressional Summit

## Day 2 – Congressional Fly-In



68  
Congressional  
Meetings

14 Member Level &  
16 with Leadership offices

# Tools & Resources

- [Government Outreach Meeting Guide](#)
- [Government Outreach Slide Deck](#)
- [Fact Sheets](#)
- [An Introduction to WQA \(Protecting the Public\)](#)
- [The Final Barrier](#)
- [Water Treatment for Dummies](#)
- [REACH Toolkit](#)

The image shows two items related to water quality resources. On the left is the cover of the book 'Water Treatment for Dummies', 2nd WQA Special Edition. The cover features a cartoon character with glasses and a yellow background. Text on the cover includes 'LEARNING MADE EASY', '2nd WQA Special Edition', 'Water Treatment for dummies', 'Find a qualified professional', 'Ensure water quality', 'Enhance your health and home', and 'Compliments of Water Quality'. On the right is an infographic titled 'R.E.A.Ch. – Research, Engage, Advocate, and Change'. It outlines a four-step process: Research (understanding laws/regulations), Engage (getting active with stakeholders), Advocate (educating policymakers), and Change (effectively changing codes/laws). Each step includes a brief description and a key icon (magnifying glass, people, megaphone, scales).

**LEARNING MADE EASY**

2nd WQA Special Edition

**Water Treatment**

**for dummies**

Find a qualified professional  
—  
Ensure water quality  
—  
Enhance your health and home

Compliments of  
**Water Quality**

**R.E.A.Ch. – Research, Engage, Advocate, and Change**

To properly understand and amend laws, regulations, and ordinances, it's vital to follow a multi-step process called *REACH* – *Research, Engage, Advocate, and Change*.

**Research**  
Research. Research on this subject is two-fold – understanding laws/regulations and learning about the code development process to inform, shape, and influence additions, deletions, and modifications.  
*Laws & Regulations:* Researching local and state codes, ordinances, and other specific laws will help one fully understand regulatory actions related to the water treatment industry.  
*Gather Technical Information:* Understanding applicable laws and regulations is important, but you must also gather technical information that can be provided to support your efforts in response to a law or regulation. WQA may already have research on these technical issues available so be sure to visit [WQA.org](http://WQA.org) or contact [govaffairs@wqa.org](mailto:govaffairs@wqa.org) to see what resources are available.

**Engage**  
*Engage:* Get engaged and engage early. Become active with local and state stakeholders including other organizations in the construction code space and groups that may also be impacted by regulations. Meeting with policymakers and regulatory bodies can also help build relationships and bolster your support when advocating for amendments.

**Advocate**  
*Window of Opportunity:* It's important to engage early and avoid a regulation being implemented but if you want to change an existing one, make sure you review the right time/opportunity to engage. Understanding local or state governance structures and verifying the Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) can help one fully grasp the regulatory process or the legislative process related to code development. This can also highlight a window of opportunity and if the state or municipality has a specific process for amending and adopting codes.

**Change**  
*Advocate:* Educating and guiding policymakers and stakeholders on the issue is vital to effectively changing codes, laws, and regulations. Using scientific and technical information to guide advocacy will also help overcome objections and opposition; remember messaging is important so think of the target audience.

Be sure to check out the [Advocacy Toolkit](#) and contact [govaffairs@wqa.org](mailto:govaffairs@wqa.org) for more information.

# New - Tools & Resources

## THE BENEFITS OF WATER SOFTENING

Water quality and hardness vary greatly across the United States, which can ultimately impact health and the environment. It's important to understand the benefits of water softening and how this can help protect your home and business from the effects of hard water.



### HARDNESS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

The term "hard water" refers to water that contains high levels of dissolved minerals - primarily calcium and magnesium. Hardness is usually expressed in grains per gallon (gpg) or parts per million (ppm) as calcium carbonate equivalent.

In general, some of the hardest water in the country can be found in the Midwest and parts of the Southwest, where water hardness levels can reach well over 20 gpg (342 mg/L). This is due to differences in geological formations and the presence of minerals in the soil and rock. However, it is important to note that water hardness can also vary greatly within regions and even within individual communities, so it's important to test the water in a specific location to determine its hardness.

#### Effects of Hard Water include:

- Stiff, dingy laundry
- Spots on dishes and sink fixtures
- Scale buildup in showers, tubs, sinks, and toilets
- Poor soap lathering
- Clogged pipes and damage to appliances



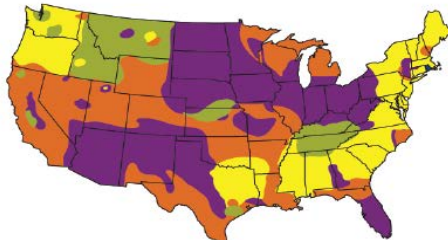
## Trends Report – U.S. Landscape of Consecutive Systems

### HOW IS SOFT WATER DEFINED?

Soft Water is defined in the North American standards NSF/ANSI 44 and NSF/ANSI 330 as water containing <1 grain of hardness per gallon (or <17.1 mg/L hardness).

### GROUNDWATER HARDNESS

- Very Hard (10+ gpg)
  - Hard (7-10.5 gpg)
  - Moderately Hard (3.5-7 gpg)
  - Slightly Hard (1-3.5 gpg)
- gpg = grains per gallon



For more information on water hardness in the United States visit the U.S. Geological Survey website.

<sup>1</sup>National Sanitation Foundation/American National Standards Institute. Glossary of Drinking Water Treatment Unit Technology, Standard No. 330, 2021. <https://www.neha.org/images/resources/NSF%20330-2021%20-%20Watermarked.pdf>

## WQA Released Informational Handouts in 2024:

- *Build America, Buy America (BABA): Applicability to POU/POE Systems*
- *Using Water Treatment Systems for SDWA Compliance*
- *FAQs on New Lead Regulations (LCRR & LCRI)*



# Support Provided

- **Association Benefits**

- Monthly Newsletter
  - Bills list and tracking
  - Local /State/Federal Updates
- Advocacy Toolkit and Handouts
  - Visit [wqa.org/advocacy](http://wqa.org/advocacy)

- **Association Assistance**

- Government Outreach Training & Meeting Prep
- Letters Related to WQA's Public Policy Priorities
- Testimony and Comments
- Preparation for Hearings and Public Forums



## What's Happening on the Hill and Across the U.S.

Welcome to the Government Affairs Update! Click below for the latest report on state and federal legislation.

STATE BILLS LIST

FEDERAL BILLS LIST

### FEDERAL UPDATE

#### MyPlate Initiative - House & Senate Letter

WQA has signed a **coalition letter** with more than 30 other water and health associations supporting an effort to add a symbol for water to the



Government Affairs Staff Support: [GovAffairs@WQA.org](mailto:GovAffairs@WQA.org)

# Federal Affairs

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# Healthy H2O Act

50  
Congressional  
Cosponsors



HEALTHY  
H2O  
ACT



Embedded in R &  
D Frameworks for  
Farm Bill

35+ Supporting  
Organizations

**Goal:** Assist rural and underserved communities by authorizing a Federal grant program to help cover the costs of water quality testing and the purchase, installation, and maintenance of certified POU/POE water treatment systems.

**Why?** 23 million U.S. households rely on private wells for drinking water which are not subject to the same regular oversight and testing [as public water] for contamination, which can delay the identification and response to health threats.

# MyPlate Initiative

**Goal:** To add a symbol for water to the MyPlate dietary guidance graphic. The MyPlate nutrition graphic is a cornerstone nutrition teaching tool in schools and childcare.

**Why?** Inclusion of water on MyPlate would increase knowledge among those segments of the population that are most vulnerable, including young people.



***“Water—whether tap, bottled, or filtered—is essential to life. Public health experts widely recognize water as a preferred source of hydration.” –MyPlate Support Letter***

# Counterfeit Products

## *Exhibiting at the U.S. Capitol!*

WQA partnered with the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) and several other organizations to educate policymakers about the dangers of counterfeit products. WQA showcased information from the [“Filter it out” campaign](#) that was based on research conducted by AHAM and the Water Quality Research Foundation. Speakers included Congressmen Darrell Issa (CA) and Ben Cline (VA), and Dawn Nelson from the Department of Homeland Security.

***Advocating for more Protections!*** WQA signed a Plumbing Industry Leadership Coalition (PILC) letter to Amazon regarding potential counterfeit, non-compliant, and potentially dangerous products being sold on the marketplace.

To read the letter, [click here](#).





# FIFRA

2021

In 2021, WQA launched the FIFRA Taskforce; charged with exploring the regulations through a technical analysis, comparing industry standards, and assessing alternative pathways to compliance.

2022

In 2022, the taskforce with more than 30 coalition partners, sent the EPA a proposal to modernize the enforcement of the regulations pertaining to specific water filtration systems regulated under FIFRA.

2023

In 2023, WQA and taskforce members met with the EPA to discuss the [\*Alternative Compliance Pathway\*](#) proposal. The taskforce began gathering information to understand the costs associated with compliance.

2024

In 2024, WQA and taskforce members used a survey to gather information that covered the financial, time, and material impact of the regulation. These findings were presented to the EPA as they consider a potential new rulemaking.

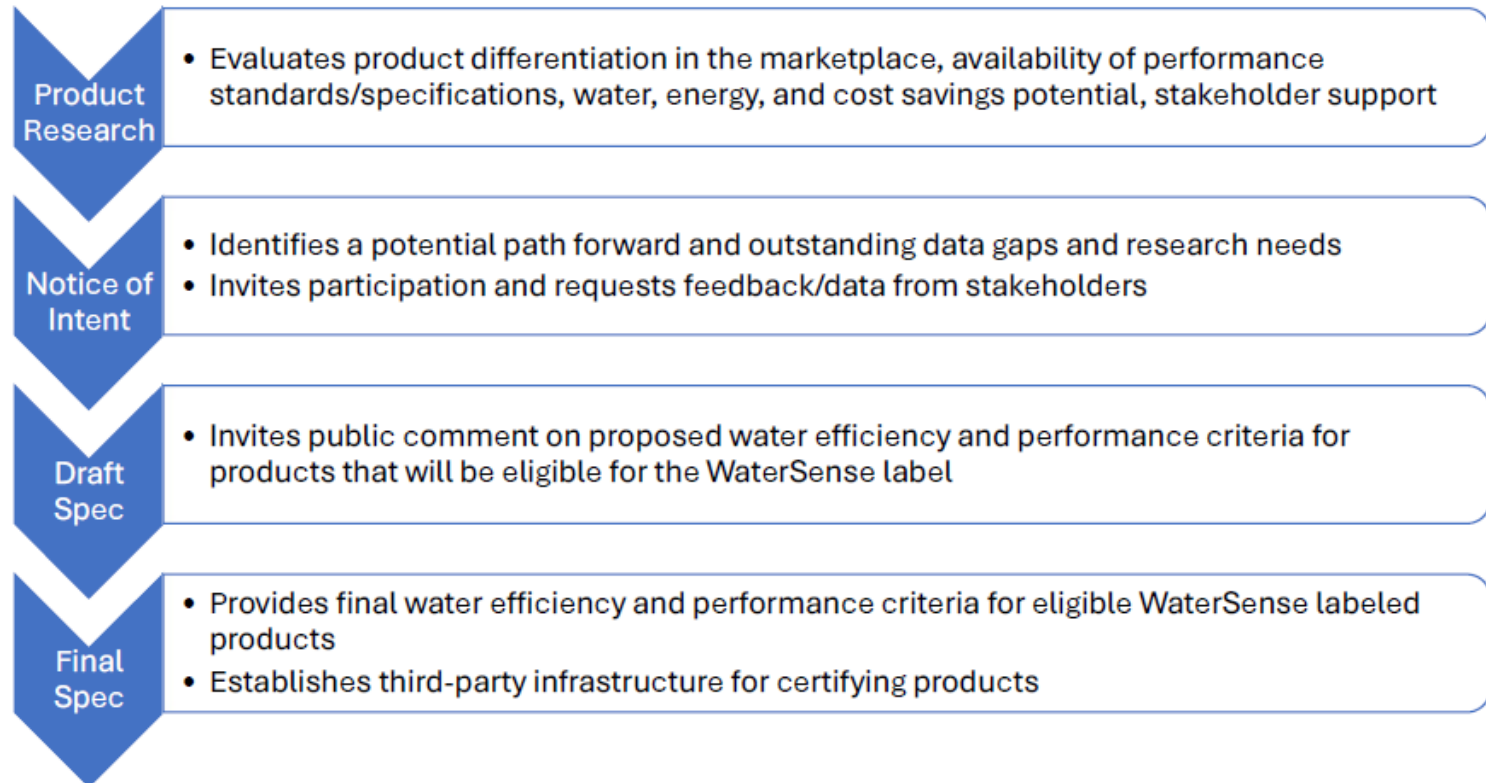
# EPA - WaterSense

- A typical residential POU RO system will generate five or more gallons of concentrate for every gallon of permeate produced.



- The EPA's voluntary WaterSense program developed specifications that will help consumers distinguish RO systems that operate with greater water efficiency, while still providing the water treatment that consumers expect.

# EPA - WaterSense



**New Specifications:** Point-of-use RO system must meet specific criteria set by the EPA, ensuring it produces high-quality drinking water while significantly reducing water waste by sending no more than 2.3 gallons of water down the drain for every gallon of treated water produced, making it significantly more water-efficient than a typical RO system.

# Lead Policy & Regulations

1991

## EPA published the LCR

Established an MCLG of Zero and Action Level (AL) for Lead at 15 ppb.

2004

Minor revisions addressing technical changes to the rule.

2014

Flint Water Crisis

2023

Biden Admin proposed the Lead & Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)

**Final ruling issued Oct. 8, 2024; effective 3 years later.**

Minor revisions addressing implementation issues.

2000

Short-term revisions to enhance the monitoring, treatment, customer awareness, and lead service line replacement.

2007

Trump Admin – Lead & Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)

**Compliance Date: Oct. 16, 2024**

2021




# Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)



The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) included four major requirements for public water systems:

Develop a lead service line (LSL) inventory and make it publicly available.



Help water systems develop an LSL replacement plan.

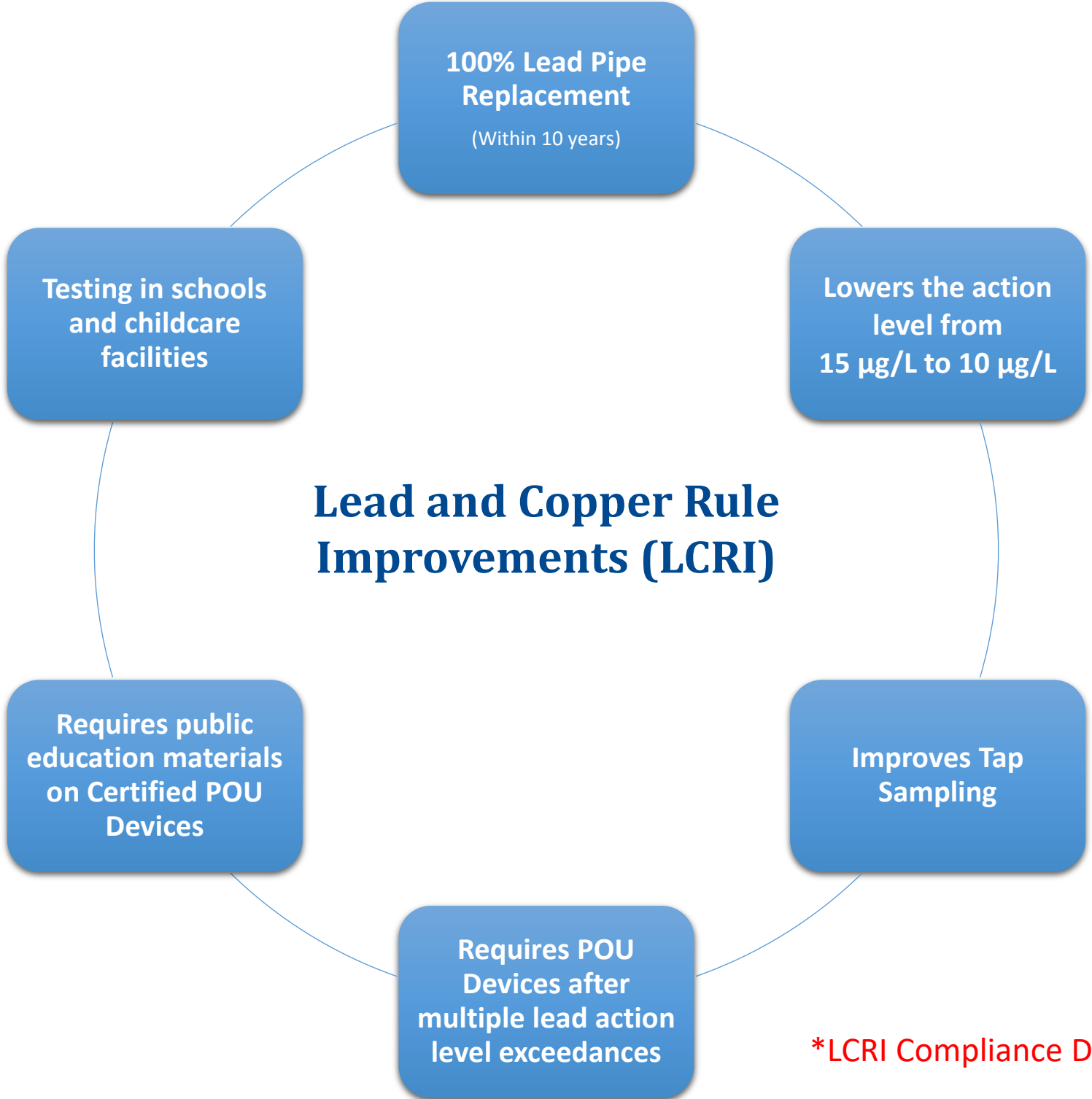


Sample schools and childcare facilities for lead and copper.



Communicate with the public about the LCRR's requirements and the steps water systems take to meet them.

**\*LCRR Compliance Date: October 16, 2024**



\*LCRI Compliance Date: 2027

# PFAS Regulations & Actions



# EPA's NPDWR for PFAS

EPA published a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) to establish legally enforceable levels, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), for six PFAS in drinking water.

Compound	Final MCL (enforceable levels)
PFOA	4.0 parts per trillion (ppt)
PFOS	4.0 ppt
PFHxS	10 ppt
PFNA	10 ppt
HFPO-DA (commonly known as GenX Chemicals)	10 ppt
Mixtures containing two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS	1 (unitless) Hazard Index

**Regulatory Timeline:** Finalized in early 2024 and implemented in 2027/2029.

# EPA's NPDWR for PFAS

## What does it include?

- The proposed rule requires public water systems to:
  - ✓ Monitor for these PFAS by 2027
  - ✓ Notify the public of the levels of these PFAS by 2027
  - ✓ Reduce the levels of these PFAS in drinking water if they exceed the proposed standards by **2029**.

## Cost of Compliance?

### Total Annual Cost per Household for Candidate Technologies

System Size (Population Served)	GAC	IX	RO	POU
25-500	\$607 to \$1,241	\$563 to \$990	\$4,332 to \$5,224	\$345 to \$357
501-3,300	\$203 to \$484	\$171 to \$351	\$721 to \$1,324	\$327 to \$ 327
3,301-10,000	\$178 to \$417	\$145 to \$284	\$388 to \$544	Unavailable

# SDWA – Small System Compliance

- As the EPA has finalized new rules for PFAS and Lead, several utilities have engaged with WQA members about using water treatment as a compliance mechanism
- For POU and POE systems, many states have administered additional requirements when utilizing them for compliance.

WQA has created a new handout to help educate state drinking water officials and other trade groups on the SDWA and has developed a course available on municipal water!



## Using Water Treatment Systems for SDWA Compliance

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was originally passed by Congress in 1974 to protect public health by regulating the nation's public drinking water supply. SDWA authorizes the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to set national health-based standards for drinking water to protect against both naturally occurring and man-made contaminants that may be found in drinking water. The U.S. EPA, states, and water systems then work together to make sure that these standards are met.

### SDWA Provisions for Small Systems

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), small public water systems (PWSs) are broadly characterized as systems serving 10,000 or fewer customers. This category of systems represents more than 92% of the nation's 51,000 community water systems (CWSs), and nearly all 100,000 non-community water systems.

Small systems are allowed to utilize Point-of-Use (POU) and Point-of-Use (POE) systems and the SDWA regulates the design, management, and operation of these treatment units when being used to achieve compliance with an MCL.<sup>1</sup>

- POU and POE units must be owned, controlled, and maintained by the PWS or contracted/hired out by the PWS. Maintenance and management of these systems can be contracted out. PWS retains final responsibility for compliance. PWS may not delegate its responsibility for the operation and maintenance of installed POU or POE devices to homeowners as part of a compliance strategy.
- POU and POE units must have mechanical warnings to automatically notify customers of operational problems. Each POU or POE treatment device must be equipped with a warning device (e.g. PID, automatic shutoff mechanism, etc.).
- ANSI standards for POU or POE treatment units may be used as part of a compliance strategy.
- The statute prohibits EPA from listing any POU treatment units to achieve compliance with an MCL or treatment technique for a microbial contaminant or an indicator of a microbial contaminant. POE is not specifically prohibited.
- The PWS must develop and obtain State approval for a monitoring plan before POE devices are installed for compliance.

### Tools



Find a Certified Professional



Find a Certified Product



Water Treatment for Dummies

<sup>1</sup> Section 1412(b)(4)(E)(ii) of SDWA (40 CFR Part 141 Subpart J, Subpart K, and Subpart T)

Contact us at [GovAffairs@WQA.org](mailto:GovAffairs@WQA.org)



# Other Federal Agency Actions



EPA's Finalized Rule on Consumer Confidence Reports

EPA Released Water System Restructuring Assessment Rule (WSRAR)

EPA Proposed five new TSCA Chemicals

EPA Announced Funding for Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities

WQA Letter Sent in Support of Federal Interagency Working Group for Water

# WQA's Federal Consultants



**Mae Stevens**  
BANNER PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS



**Ted Mondloch**  
BANNER PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS



**Wendi Wilkes**  
BANNER PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS



**Ryan Losak**  
BANNER PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS

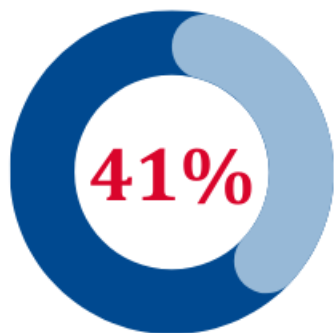
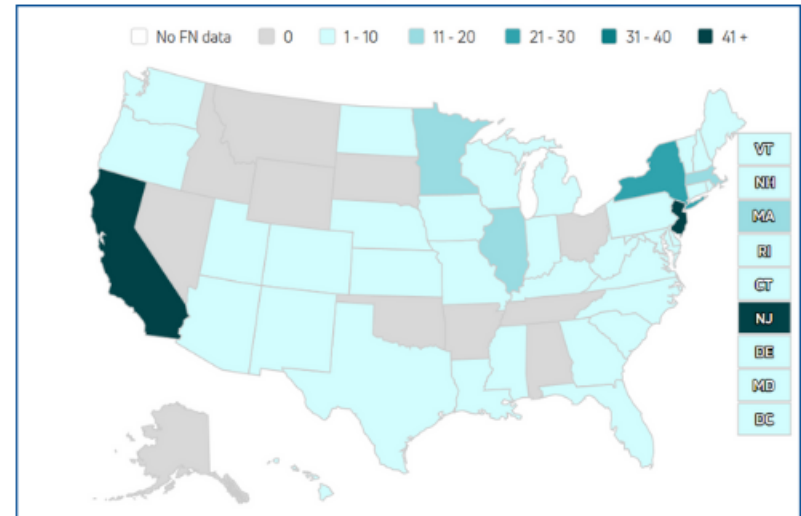
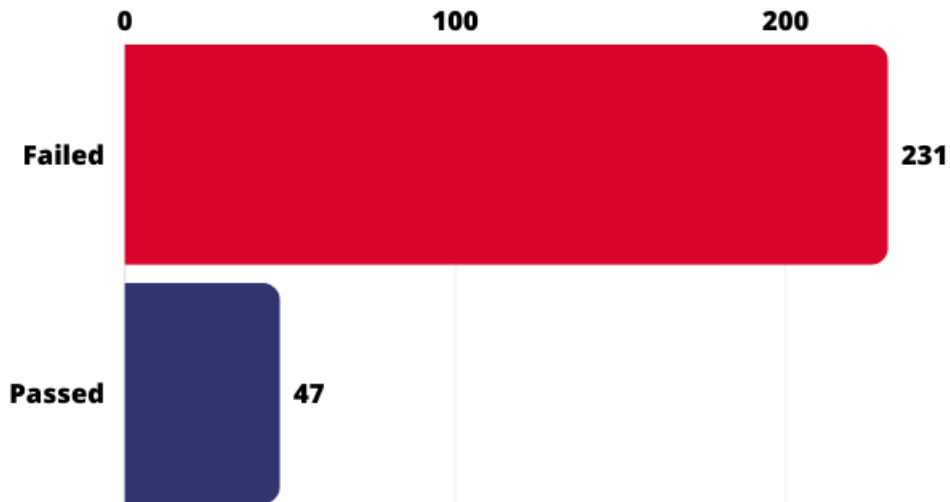
**BANNER**  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

# State & Local Affairs

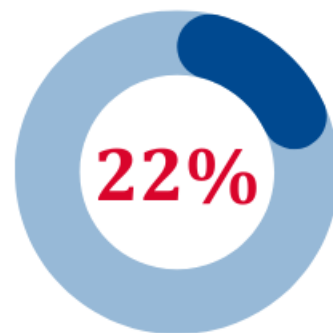
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# State & Local Trends



School Drinking Water Bills



Water Treatment Incentive Bills



Lead Bills



PFAS Bills

**\*\*Likely higher - some overlap with "School Bills" skews this percentage lower.\*\***

**\*\*Percentage of the 278 total bills tracked in 2024.\*\***



# WQA Letters & Bills List



- [HI SB 2579 Bottle Filling Station](#)
- [NE LB 1184 Reverse Osmosis System Tax Credit Act](#)
- [AZ SB 1132 Lead Testing in Schools](#)
- [VA HB 1295 Rural Water Supply Program and Fund](#)
- [PA HB 2011 Safe Schools Drinking Water Fund](#)
- [MA DEP Lead in Drinking Water POU Filter Guidance](#)
- [WQA Technical Amendments WA SB5997HB 2412](#)
- [Chicago Certification Acceptance Water Treatment Systems](#)
- [MI SB 694 – Protection of Children Through the Licensing and Regulation of Child Care Organizations](#)
- [CA AB 2671 – Filtered Water in Family Daycare Homes](#)
- [CA AB 1851 – Drinking water: school sites: lead testing pilot program](#)
- [NY S 7934 – PFAS Removal Treatment Installation Grant & Rebate Programs](#)
- [NY A 9260 – PFAS Removal Treatment Installation Grant & Rebate Programs](#)
- [WI SB 1078 – Providing safe drinking water in public and private schools](#)
- [PA HB 2145 – Providing for Legionnaires’ disease risk management](#)
- [WQA Comments on IL PFAS Groundwater Rule](#)

STATE BILLS LIST

FEDERAL BILLS LIST

# A Day at the State Capitol



**WQA Illinois  
Day on the Dill**

★ Springfield, IL

**MWQA & WQA Minnesota  
Day on the Hill**

St. Paul, MN



**PWQA & WQA  
California Day on  
the Hill**

Sacramento, CA



**PWQA**  
AGRICULTURE WATER QUALITY ASSOCIATION



Minnesota  
Water  
Quality  
ASSOCIATION

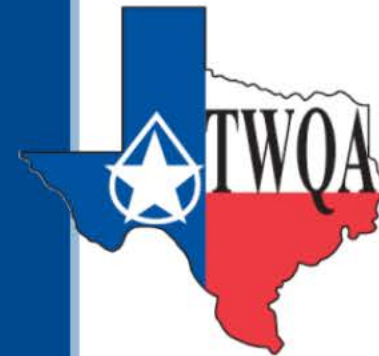
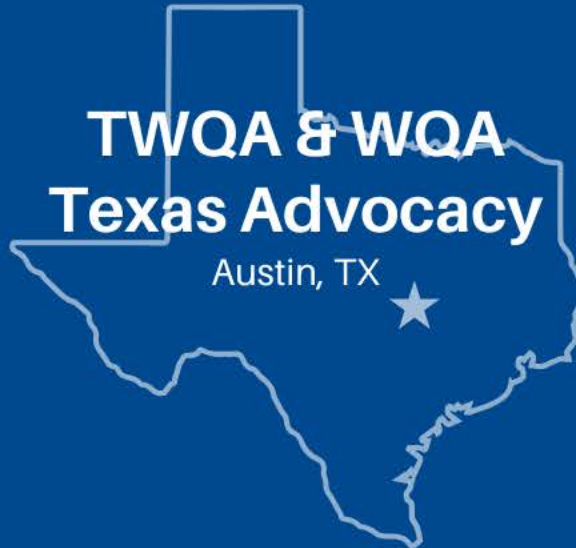
# A Day at the State Capitol



**FWQA & WQA Florida  
Day on the Hill**  
Tallahassee, FL



**TWQA & WQA  
Texas Advocacy**  
Austin, TX



# WQA's California Consultant

## 2024 CALIFORNIA STATE UPDATE

In the 2024 legislative session, two significant bills aimed to enhance water safety in California's schools and daycares. Assembly Bill 1851 (Holden) proposed a pilot program led by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to test and remediate lead in drinking water in 6-10 local educational agencies (LEAs). Assembly Bill 2671 (Weber) sought to mandate that licensed family daycare homes use water filtered through certified devices meeting safety standards, along with requirements for maintaining records on maintenance and filter replacements.

Unfortunately, both bills stalled, due to California's projected budget deficit of over \$40 billion for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Despite this, the Water Quality Association (WQA) remains committed to raising awareness among legislators on the importance of enhancing water systems through point-of-use (POU) and point-of-entry (POE) technologies.



**Randy Pollack**

White Brenner LLP

**White**Brenner<sup>LLP</sup>

# State Impact: CALIFORNIA

## Chrom 6

The California State Water Resources Control Board finalized its MCL for Hexavalent Chromium (Chrom-6) at 10 ppb in Public Water Systems. California is the first state to target chromium-6. The rule specifically named RO Systems, Filtration, and Ion Exchange as the Best Available Technologies (BAT) to combat the contaminant. ★



## SAFER Program

After the state declared clean drinking water a "basic human right", the California State Water Board distributed \$880 million to improve drinking water, increase water supplies, and climate resilience projects. These projects benefitted 12 million Californians in nearly 400 communities.

**A special congratulations to WQA/PWQA member Shannon Murphy on his appointment to the SAFER advisory board!**





# State Impact: Filter First



## MICHIGAN

### The Pioneers of Filter First

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) implemented Filter First, a law requiring schools and childcare centers to install NSF/ANSI certified systems to filter out lead and mandates reoccurring water testing and plans for contamination management.

### Continuing Success

WQA wrote letters to the Michigan Legislature supporting the passage of MI SB694, which further supported this effort by expanding the lead testing and filtration funding in preschools.



## DC & Beyond

### DC to Follow the Leader

The nation's capitol has instituted a similar Filter First Program, partnering with Aquatech to provide water bottle filling stations to filter out lead with rigorous annual testing.

Like Michigan and DC, many states including WI and MN, have started looking to create similar programs.

# State Impact: Licensing

## WASHINGTON

### Amending Existing Restrictions

Starting in 2020, Washington began requiring a plumbing license to install and maintain water treatment products, impacting long-standing local small businesses' work. WQA submitted comments on SB 5997 / HB 2412 to alleviate the burden to WA Members. Although these negotiations were unsuccessful, at the end of 2024 WQA began proactive steps to introduce legislation in the 2025 Washington Session.

## WQA PROGRAMS

WQA's Education & Training has been developed by industry professionals as optional qualifying education, with many states recognizing the program's value, including: TX, CA, OH, CO, OR, NY, WI, MD, MN, NH, MS.

**WQA Training Programs**

# State Impact: Incentives

## NEBRASKA

### New Reverse Osmosis Tax Credit PASSED

WQA wrote a letter supporting the passage of LB 937, known as the Reverse Osmosis System Tax Credit Act, that establishes a one-time refundable income tax credit for the installation of a reverse osmosis system in a primary residence.

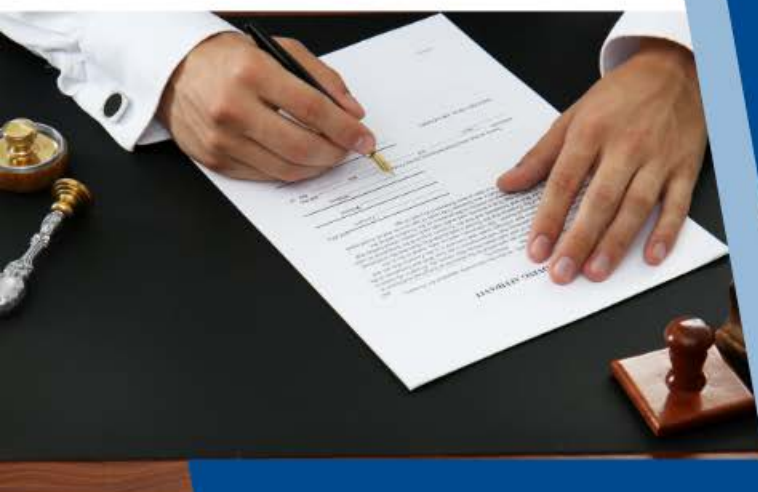


## VIRGINIA

### Rural Well & Small Systems Grant Fund

WQA commented on legislation that would establish a grant for small systems struggling with SDWA compliance and private well owners facing contaminants. The bill continues into the 2025 session.

# State Impact: PFAS & Wells



## ILLINOIS

### New PFAS Regulations

★  
Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) proposed Ground Water Quality Standards for 6 PFAS substances and cobalt, selenium, and vanadium. This change impacted the 400,000 private wells and approximately 1.3 million people.

## MINNESOTA

### \$2.8 Million in Private Well Funding

The Minnesota Legislature approved a one-time appropriation of \$2.8 million for home water treatment systems for Minnesota residents whose private wells test with high levels of nitrates.



# Local Impact: Water Softeners



## LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

### Tackling Challenges in Hometowns

Water Softeners have continued to be a local issue in 2024. WQA has worked with members in Maine, Minnesota, California, Virginia, and more to negotiate and tackle challenges to this crucial service.

Policies governing water softeners can take many different forms such as setting salt discharge restrictions, water efficiency standards, and requirements mandated by plumbing codes.

## MN DLI Ruling on Softeners

Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) ruled that licensed water conditioning professionals can install water conditioning equipment in single family homes.



**WATER SOFTNER WHITE PAPER**

# Local Impact: Lead



## CHICAGO, IL

WQA met with the Mayor of Chicago to discuss the City's lead service lines, Chicago having the most of anywhere in the country. POU and POE systems are essential to aid in effort to remove lead from city drinking water.

WQA also authored letters educating regulatory officials on the many products certified to NSF/ANSI standards by WQA and others besides just NSF itself.

## SYRACUSE, NY

In response to the LCRR deadline for submitting initial service line inventory in October, WQA worked closely with Syracuse, NY's congressional representatives and the EPA following the discovery of significantly high lead levels. WQA aided in sharing resources that could be leveraged by the community. This included sharing best practices on how certified water filtration products can be used to mitigate lead exposure, as well as relevant funding sources Syracuse can pursue to address their problem in the short and long-term.

The city continues to test and check lead levels in ongoing efforts to mitigate the lead issue and investigate varying lead levels in the area's drinking water.