WATEREUSE® SYMPOSIUM 2027

CAESARS PALACE LAS VEGAS • MARCH 1-4

2027 WateReuse Symposium

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS: TECHNICAL PROGRAM

Deadline: Wednesday, August 19, 2026, 5:00 PM PT

YOU ARE INVITED

The WateReuse Association is accepting presentation proposals for the 42nd Annual WateReuse Symposium to be held at the Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada from March 1-4, 2027.

Submit your proposals on everything water reuse: best practices, lessons learned, innovations, emerging research, and more. Presentations are meant to spark ideas, inspire creative collaborations, build on foundational concepts, and drive new solutions for greater adoption of water recycling globally. Demonstrate your thought leadership and build your professional network with a place on the podium at the 2027 WateReuse Symposium.

Submit your proposals by **August 19, 2026,** on our website: **www.watereuse.org/symposium**

THE MOST IMPORTANT GLOBAL WATER REUSE EVENT

The Annual WateReuse Symposium is the premier conference on water recycling — attracting global water professionals and water reuse practitioners for knowledge-sharing, networking, and training. Planned in collaboration with The Water Research Foundation, the WateReuse Symposium is the most comprehensive water recycling knowledge-sharing opportunity available, covering water reuse policy, technology, operations, communications, research, and more.

JOIN US: THE LATEST TRENDS, CHALLENGES, AND INNOVATIONS IN WATER REUSE

The 42nd Annual WateReuse Symposium seeks to explore the latest trends, well-rounded projects, common challenges with unique solutions, and innovations that are impacting water recycling opportunities. Together, we will work to understand how water reuse systems, practices, and policies are bolstering water security, public health, and economic vitality. The 2027 Symposium takes place in Nevada, a proud leader in water reuse innovation. Join us for tours of cutting-edge local facilities, exciting networking opportunities, and technical education on water recycling solutions that range from regional mega-projects to small community and onsite reuse solutions. If you are a utility leader, community leader, regulator, technology provider, industrial water user, researcher, student, or simply someone with a strong interest in water reuse – the 2027 WateReuse Symposium is the place to be!

PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS AND SESSION TOPICS

The WateReuse Association invites technical presentation proposals with a fresh – or tried and true - point of view on the essential and supportive role of water recycling in water management for communities, regions, and businesses. Proposals should align with one of the **bolded** focus areas listed below; the sub-bullets are examples, but not an exhaustive list, of content that we are seeking, e.g. related to gaps, opportunities, and solutions. Of the bolded options below, you will be asked to select a *primary focus area* and will have the option to select a *secondary focus area*.

Please note that there are some cross-cutting topics that are not unique to a specific focus area. These include creative partnerships, funding strategies, potable and non-potable applications, and regulatory compliance. Case studies, emerging research, innovative technologies, and pilot projects are also acceptable in all focus areas. Please carefully consider which focus area your proposal would *best* fit into, using the bulleted list below as your guide. *If the proposal is related to a Water Research Foundation (WRF) project or a National Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP) project, please make sure to include the respective project/action number and title.* A list of official WRF projects can be found **here** - and a list of official WRAP projects can be found **here**

POTABLE REUSE

Previous Calls for Presentations included "Potable Reuse" as a primary focus area. Potable reuse submissions are still **highly encouraged** but will be evaluated based on these more specific focus areas for the 2027 WateReuse Symposium.

REUSE FUNDAMENTALS

As water reuse expands into new sectors and regions, we are encouraging "Reuse Fundamental" proposals that highlight the foundational aspects of reuse. We want to hear the reuse stories, lessons learned, and best practices that have helped shape the field.

Affordability, Economics, and Financing

- Budget process and planning for the unexpected (e.g., tariffs, increasing prices, canceled grants & loans)
- Circular Water Economy (e.g., market creation and co-benefits)
- Comparative costs of reuse (e.g., non-potable vs. potable, groundwater vs. surface water augmentation, IPR vs. DPR)
- Financing by use type and scale
- Federal funding & financing programs
- Incentives for development projects
- Rate structures and the value of water
- Reducing market barriers

Agricultural Reuse, Landscape, and Irrigation

- Considerations for differing landscaping customers (e.g., schools, golf courses, etc.)
- How reuse reduces runoff – nutrient mgmt.
- Farming operations and purple pipe projects
- Food safety regarding irrigation of crops (e.g., disinfection requirements, quantitative microbial risk assessment, CEC uptake)
- Regulatory considerations and guidelines (e.g., monitoring programs)
- Seasonal storage
- Grower/end user perceptions and challenges

Climate Resiliency

- Climate disasters and water reuse – preparation, response, and debrief
- Climate impacts on *de facto* reuse systems
- Modeling to characterize uncertainty and water supply implications
- Nature-based solutions (e.g., brine management, ecological restoration)
- Protection of sensitive waterways and ecosystems

Communications, Engagement, and Education

- Building support among local elected officials and ratepayers – successful advocacy, social media, marketing
- Crisis communication planning – preparing for pushback, misinformation, and negative media cycles

- Communicating about hot topics (e.g., CECs, PFAS, data centers/hyperscalers) and emerging applications (e.g., DPR)
- Engaging strategic stakeholders (e.g., medical community, academia, developers)
- Workforce development, certification programs, and continuing education

Groundwater, Saltwater, and Surface Water

- Brackish groundwater as a source
- Desalination, including deep-sea
- Groundwater drawdown, depletion, and replenishment
- Land subsidence
- Managed aquifer recharge
- Saltwater intrusion management

Industrial and Commercial Reuse

- Brine Valorization – costs & feasibility
- District-scale reuse and energy planning
- Energy/heat capture and conveyance
- Environmental Social Governance (ESG) goals, corporate water sustainability programs, and return on investment (ROI)
- Industrial applications for reuse (e.g., liquid cooling, process water)
- Private-public partnerships (e.g., economic development & business attraction)
- Reuse perspectives from different industries, (e.g., data centers, food & beverage, manufacturing, microchip, oil & gas, automotive, etc.)
- Reuse to support data centers and AI
- Water-energy nexus

Onsite Reuse and Decentralized Systems

- AC condensate and atmospheric water harvesting systems
- District-scale reuse
- Industrial and commercial onsite reuse systems & considerations
- Lessons learned from design, operation, and maintenance
- Moving towards potable or near-potable reuse on a decentralized scale
- Nature-based solutions in decentralized treatment systems
- Retrofitting systems in existing buildings
- Sewer mining

Planning for Reuse as a Water Management Tool

- Benefits of integrating decentralized and centralized water and wastewater infrastructure
- Conservation (e.g., reducing consumptive use) Drought management
- Environmental equity - advancing reuse in underrepresented and underserved communities
- Interagency engagement and community partnerships
- Integrated water resources / One water planning
- Evaluating potable reuse opportunities, tradeoffs, and challenges
- Strategies & considerations for implementing a new water reuse program
- Regional approaches to water reuse

Operations, Maintenance, and Management for Water Reuse Systems

- Artificial intelligence/machine learning in treatment systems
- Meters, pipes, and pumps
- Planning, design, construction, and project delivery approaches
- Urban & rural infrastructure and implementation challenges
- Utility distribution management including transmission

Policies and Regulations Advancing Water Recycling

- Federal initiatives and programs
- Federal, state, and local regulations, legislation, and policies
- Incentives and credits
- Regulatory environment: challenges, solutions, and opportunities

Rainwater and Stormwater

- Combined sewer overflow
- Flood management
- Stormwater and rainwater capture, storage, and use
- Treatment considerations & approaches

Reuse Fundamentals

- How to get started in reuse
- Basics of water reuse treatment
- History & foundations of reuse
- Reuse applications (e.g., agricultural, industrial, onsite, potable)
- Reuse Policy 101
- Public Outreach 101
- Developing treatment and public health criteria for regulatory frameworks (e.g., pathogen LRV targets) – assumptions & processes

Water Quality, Treatment, and Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs)

- Antimicrobial resistance
- Measuring, mitigating, and treating CECs (e.g., 6PPD, PFAS, microplastics)
- Source control
- Enhanced process control optimization and monitoring
- Innovative treatment technologies and trains
- Pathogen and chemical control
- Reverse osmosis (RO) concentrate management
- Water quality challenges and solutions

Water Reuse Around the World

- Indigenous water management
- International partnerships and global exchange programs
- Reuse rules, regulations, and policy developments (locally, regionally)
- Water reuse commitments connected with UN Sustainable Development Goal 6

SEEKING REUSE-RELATED CONTENT FROM UNDERREPRESENTED SECTORS

Any successful venture requires creativity, adaptability, and water. Our global society is bumping up against aging infrastructure and increasing climate-related disasters; water reuse strategies have a proven track-record of endurance and resilience against the predictable and unpredictable. Integrating thoughtful & region-specific reuse solutions across sectors and fields can create symbiotic industry relations and community-wide efficiencies.

As we work to solve challenges within our respective fields, there is incredible opportunity to learn from experts in related and cross-sector fields and industries.

We are interested in receiving abstracts from the following industry and labor groups and learning more about reuse considerations in their respective professions:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Building Design, and Development
- Cybersecurity
- Energy
- Food & Beverage
- Manufacturing
- Mechanical Officials and Plumbers

PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

WateReuse encourages proposals that include a diversity of voices, including water and wastewater utilities of all sizes, young professionals, and rural and urban communities. When submitting, please enter your **full organization name**, not only the acronym.

Preparing a Proposal

Please gather the following information to prepare a presentation proposal:

- Title (up to 15 words)
- Presentation Type (Standard, Panel, or Poster)
- Focus Area/Topic (select up to two)
- Summary (up to 150 words)
- Learning objectives (up to 100 words)
- Full presentation description/abstract (up to 500 words)
- Contact information and brief bios (up to 150 words) for presenters and/or panelists.
- List of co-authors (for reference). Co-authors include contributors who will NOT be presenting at the session. All others who will be presenting should be listed as co-presenters.

Types of Proposals

WateReuse is accepting proposals for three types of technical presentations at the 2027 WateReuse Symposium:

- **Standard Presentation:** An in-depth technical presentation by one to two presenters (Time: 25 minutes, including Q&A).
- **Panel Discussion:** An interactive discussion on a single topic featuring multiple presenters. Panels may include up to four presenters and a moderator and should reflect a range of perspectives, such as utilities and end users. (Time: 55 minutes, including Q&A)
- **Poster Presentation**: A visual presentation of a reuse application (e.g., research project or case study). A 60-minute period is designated for you to stand with your poster and interact with attendees.

Please note that the WateReuse Association reserves the right to work with presenters to refine the title for communications purposes. The submission form allows presenters to mark if they are interested in being considered for an alternate proposal category. Please note that selecting to be considered for an alternate proposal type (e.g. marking yes to being considered for a poster presentation if the desired presentation type is unavailable) does not impact how your oral presentation is evaluated but may provide an alternative option for participation if the oral presentation is not selected.

Curated Panels

Some projects have many players and various lessons learned; when we receive 4+ abstracts on the same project, we might suggest a curated interactive panel.

Learning Objectives

Presentations must clearly define learning objectives for attendees. Learning objectives should describe the information, skills, behaviors, or perspectives participants will acquire or outcomes and actions attendees will be able to demonstrate after attending your presentation. Examples include:

Presenter Registration

Presenters are responsible for registering in advance for the Symposium, paying the registration fee, and securing and paying for travel and lodging. All accepted speakers are eligible to register at the discounted speaker rate if registered by the speaker deadline date of **February 3, 2027**.

Presenter Commitment

Presenters must attend in-person in Las Vegas and agree that WateReuse Association can record presentations for on-demand viewing. Presenters will be required to upload their presentations and/or supporting materials and resources prior to the Symposium. These resources will then be posted for attendees to access beyond the session. If your proposal is selected, you will be provided with further instructions on uploading your presentation materials.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The WateReuse Technical Program Committee – made up of 15-30 subject matter experts/members – will review proposals for panels, presentations, and posters. Proposals will be evaluated based on relevance, appropriateness, applicability to focus areas, and overall clarity and quality. Please note that we typically do not include more than 3-5 abstracts from the same organization in the final program.

Preferred proposals will include:

- Concepts, tools, and approaches that move reuse strategies forward
- Research with results (i.e., advanced or completed projects)
- Filling in the gaps, next level planning
- New developments in existing projects
- Please no sales pitches
- Relevance to selected focus area(s)
- Speakers with valuable insight—both established experts and up-and-coming thought leaders
- Partnerships between private entities and utilities
- Diverse voices
- Audience engagement

Key Dates

August 19, 2026	Proposals Due via Online Submission Form
November 10, 2026	Speakers Notified
February 3, 2027	Deadline for Speaker Registration Discount
February 15, 2027	PowerPoint Presentations Due
March 1-4, 2027	2027 WateReuse Symposium

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information is available at watereuse.org/symposium. Presentation proposals will be accepted **here**.

Please direct inquiries regarding this Call for Presentation to Monika Merk, Technical Program Manager, at mmerk@watereuse.org.