



AWE UPDATE

CalWEP Plenary – March 9, 2023



Alliance
for Water
Efficiency



STAFF CHANGES



Welcome **Kelly Connolly Palmer**,
Director of Communications and
Membership



Welcome **Andrew Morris**, Senior
Manager for Policy and Programs

Farewell to Brad Spilka

- Now a consultant at Resource Innovations

SCORECARD RELEASED JAN. 18TH

- [Webinar February 2nd](#)
- Evaluation of state water efficiency and sustainability policy
 - Not an evaluation of local water agencies/policies
 - Not an assessment of actual water use (e.g., gallons per capita per day) or water availability
- Goals:
 - Encourage states to adopt laws/policies that promote water conservation and efficiency
 - Highlight exemplary laws that can be foundational for other states
 - Identify opportunities for states to improve
 - Report includes individual state scorecards with recommendations



SCORING CATEGORIES

Figure ES-1

Primary Scoring Categories from 2017



Figure ES-2

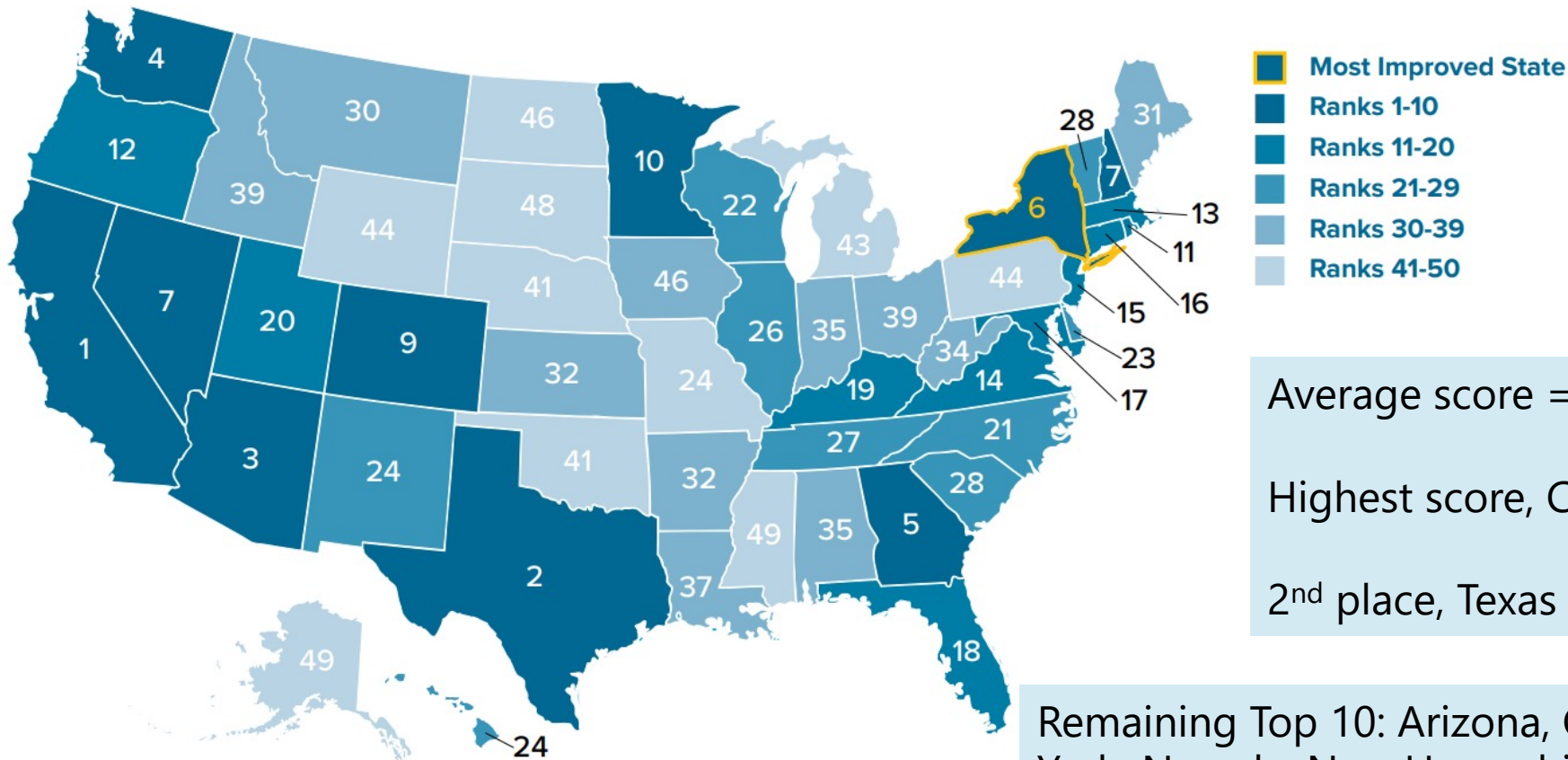
New Scoring Categories for 2022



NEW! 1-50 STATE RANKING

2022 State Rankings Map

**States with the same score are tied for that ranking*



- Most Improved State
- Ranks 1-10
- Ranks 11-20
- Ranks 21-29
- Ranks 30-39
- Ranks 41-50

Average score = 23 out of 89 possible points.

Highest score, California = 72.5 points.

2nd place, Texas = 54.5 points.

Remaining Top 10: Arizona, Georgia, Washington, New York, Nevada, New Hampshire, Colorado, and Minnesota.

CALIFORNIA	72.5 POINTS TOTAL	#1 NATIONAL RANKING	#1 REGIONAL RANKING (OF 7) <small>COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION</small>
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About the Scorecard

The 2022 U.S. State Policy Scorecard for Water Efficiency and Sustainability evaluates and scores U.S. states by their adoption of policies and laws that advance water efficiency, conservation, and sustainability. The Scorecard is intended to encourage further legislative action at the state level.

Scorecard Summary	Points
Plumbing Fixture Standards and Codes	15/12
Water Loss Control	10.5/11
Water Conservation Planning	18.5/27.5
Drought Preparedness Planning	6.5/8.5
Climate Action Planning	3/4
Water-Land Use Planning Integration	3/6
State Funding for Water Efficiency Programs	4/4
State-provided Technical Assistance for Water Efficiency	3/3
Rate Structures that Encourage Conservation	2/4
State Funding for Water Bill Assistance	0/2
State Funding and Support for Water Reuse	4/4
Accounting for Energy Savings from Water Efficiency	1/1
Completion of Survey	2/2
TOTAL POINTS	72.5/89

Priority Scoring Factors

The categories below are highlighted in order to encourage states to make the most progress in heavily weighted sectors.

Plumbing Fixture Standards and Codes



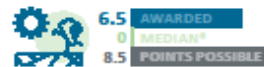
Water Loss Control



Water Conservation Planning

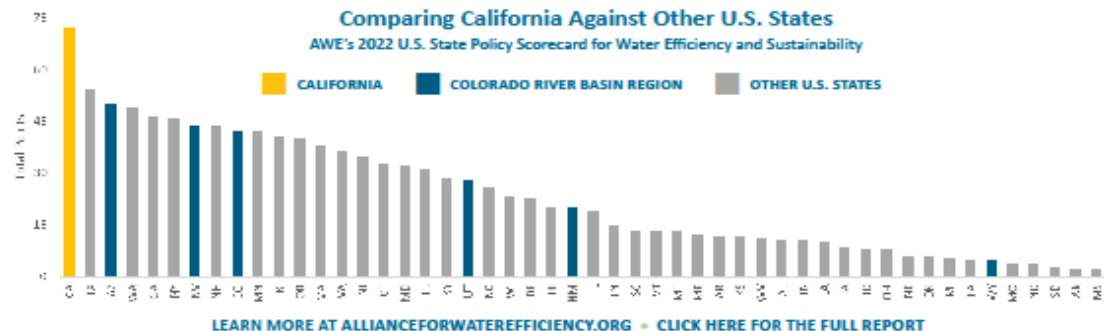


Drought Preparedness Planning



Recommendations for California

- ✓ Require water rate structures that encourage conservation
- ✓ Eliminate ban on water utilities using customer revenues for low income financial assistance



NEW PROGRAM! – COOLING TOWER LEARNING COHORT

- Learning Cohorts
 - Small groups that meet regularly for 6 months-1 year to work on a similar project
 - Collaborative learning approach that offers support, structure, and accountability to participants
 - Participants learn and troubleshoot together, building relationships and connection with AWE community
- Reviewed applications, notified selected cohort members
- Created an explore track and an enhanced track based on member and organizational experience levels
- Held first learning cohort meeting

2023 POLICY AGENDA

U.S. Congress

- Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Sustainability Act – Would establish new federal grant programs to fund local water efficiency efforts focused on landscapes, appliances, and fixtures as well as water loss control.
- Water Conservation Rebate Parity Act – Make water conservation rebates tax-free, the same as energy conservation rebates which were exempted from federal taxation in 1992. This language passed the House (Build Back Better Act) in 2022 but didn't make it into the Inflation Reduction Act that became law.

2023 POLICY AGENDA

Federal Executive Branch

- **Bureau of Reclamation** – AWE is urging the Bureau of Reclamation to **spend a significant portion of the \$4 billion for western drought response from the Inflation Reduction Act on urban water efficiency strategies** that provide long-term, cost-effective water demand reductions.
 - **DOE and IRS** – AWE is working with energy-related nonprofit partners to explore how **water efficiency can be incorporated into energy efficiency funding and tax credits** from the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill.
 - **WaterSense** – AWE is working with its members to review and provide **comments on the draft WaterSense specifications for spray sprinkler nozzles** for landscape irrigation and for point-of-use reverse osmosis filtration systems.
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ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Water Efficiency Research Committee (Liesel Hans)

- Completed a committee-wide search to replace Kelly Kopp as a Co-Chair of the Committee. Celine Benoit was elected as the new WERC Co-Chair in January
- Continued to discuss potential new research projects for AWE and members
- Continued progress with the Peak Demand and Behavioral Change working groups

WaterSense & Water Efficient Products Committee (Andrew Morris)

- Comments developed and submitted for WaterSense draft specification for RO systems
 - Created plan for potential comments for WaterSense spray sprinkler nozzles spec, including a special member meeting to get feedback on 2/21
-

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Education and Outreach Committee (Kelly Connolly Palmer)

- The committee approved the 2023 Workplan
- Subcommittee being formed to explore creating a Communications Resource Library

CAMI (Conservation + AMI) Working Group (Liesel Hans)

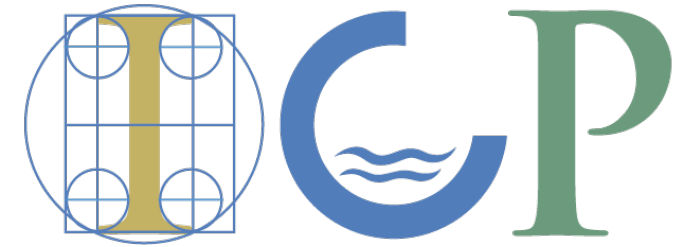
- Transitioned coordination from former Aurora Water (CO) staff to AWE.
 - Moved old materials to an AWE Teams site, set up 2023 Q1 meeting and organized speakers.
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AMI LEAK NOTIFICATION PROJECT

- Final report sent to Met; working on public-facing report for release in late March.
- **AWE webinar March 29th. Register [here](#).**

Data analysis and literature review

- 3 of the 4 agency's single-family leak notification programs had statistically significant reductions in average leak volume, ranging from 29-43%
- 2 of the 3 agency multi-family leak notification programs had statistically significant reductions in average leak volume, ranging from 16-31%.
- The mean leak formation rate decreased in half of the six programs registering statistically significant savings
- The leak notification programs with statistically significant reductions in leak volume also successfully shortened the average duration of leaks



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Toilets

Clothes Washers

Natural Gas Clothes Dryer

Natural Gas Storage Water Heater

Program Year

2022

Long Beach Water

Alliance for Water Efficiency Partnership for Water Affordability: Long Beach Pilot

Alliance for Water Efficiency Partnership for Water Affordability: Long Beach Pilot aims to increase water conservation through no cost water efficiency measures. It is designed to meet the needs of residents to save on utility costs and conserve water. Possible measures that can be installed in your home are faucet aerators, shower heads, toilets, clothes washers, natural gas clothes dryer and natural gas storage water heaters.

Customer Eligibility

To be eligible for this program, the customer must be a residential customer within the Long Beach Water service area.

How to Participate

1. Call 1-800-818-4298 to request an appointment.
2. Receive No Cost Services.
3. Enjoy Water & Energy Savings.

*Synergy Companies is an authorized service provider for Long Beach Water.

2023 RESEARCH PROJECTS

AWE is looking for participants and funders for our next round of research projects!

- [Evaluating & Optimizing Large-Scale Landscape Irrigation Management and Transformation Strategies](#)
- [A Practical Primer on the Many Uses of AMI in Water Conservation & Efficiency](#)
- [Evaluating Changes in Peak Demand and How that May Affect the Choice, Design, Management, and Evaluation of Demand Management Strategies](#)
- March 14th webinar to learn more. Register [here](#).
- Email Liesel@a4we.org with any questions.

INTRODUCING THE 1ST ANNUAL

WATER EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

AUGUST 2-3, 2023 | CHICAGO, IL

A dynamic event bringing together water efficiency and conservation professionals from across the country for two days of engaging sessions, hands-on learning, and networking opportunities. Join us August 1st for a pre-Symposium workshop and social outing.

WWW.ALLIANCEFORWATEREFFICIENCY.ORG/MEMBERS/2023SYMPOSIUM

**REGISTER
TODAY!**



WATER CONSERVATION TRACKING TOOL TRAINING FOR CALIFORNIA MEMBERS

- The [AWE Water Conservation Tracking Tool](#) tracks and evaluates the water savings, costs, and benefits of urban water conservation programs and projects future water demands.
- The Tool has been used by hundreds of local water providers and can help agencies meet the demands of new California regulations and save time.
- There is a learning curve, but anyone can get the hang of it!
- Two training options will be offered:
 1. Online, delivered as a three-part series
 2. In-person, half-day training the day before Peer-to-Peer.

AWE will open registration soon!