



AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAEE	American Academy of Environmental Engineers A professional association that encourages excellence in engineering and provides certification for qualified environmental engineers.
ABC	Association of Boards of Certification Promotes water and wastewater operator certification through model state legislation and national testing services.
ACE or AC/E	Annual Conference & Exposition The annual meeting of the American Water Works Association.
ACEC	American Council of Engineering Companies The business association of the engineering industry.
ACS	American Chemical Society A professional society for chemists and chemical engineers.
AEESP	Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors An association dedicated to provide opportunities that foster a supportive community for the professional development of its members.
AGC	Associated General Contractors of America
AIChE	American Institute of Chemical Engineers A professional association that provides leadership in advancing the chemical engineering profession.
AIDIS	Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering An association of environmental engineers and scientists in the United States and Latin America.
AMSA	Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies An association representing the interests of the country's wastewater treatment agencies to maintain a key role in the development of environmental legislation, and works closely with federal regulatory agencies in the implementation of environmental programs

AMWA	Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies An association representing large municipal public water agencies. A member of the Water Industry Coordinating Committee (WICC).
ANSI	American National Standards Institute The association of individuals and organizations involved in voluntary consensus standards development.
APC	Administrative & Policy Council The council responsible for overview of AWWA's policies, governance process, and Governing Documents. Formerly the General Policy Council (GPC).
APHA	American Public Health Association The association representing the variety of disciplines in the public health profession.
APQC	American Productivity & Quality Center An association which for more than 20 years has remained steadfast in its mission of working with people and organizations to improve productivity and quality.
APWA	American Public Works Association An association representing the public works profession.
ASAE	American Society of Association Executives An association dedicated to promoting the value of associations and the profession of association management to our elected officials at the federal level.
ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers The professional society representing civil engineers.
ASDWA	Association of State Drinking Water Administrators An association representing state drinking water regulatory agencies.
ASM	American Society For Microbiology A society involved in activities to advance the interests of the microbiological sciences and provide timely, objective information on science issues to Congress, the Executive Branch, federal agencies, and the public.
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers The professional society representing mechanical engineers.
ASPAC	Asian-Pacific Group The association representing the Asian and Pacific-Rim members of the International Water Supply Association.

ASTM	American Society of Testing & Materials A technical society that establishes voluntary test standards for a wide variety of products and procedures.
AWA	Australian Water Association The association representing the Australian drinking water and wastewater professions.
AWRA	American Water Resources Association A technical society dedicated to the science of water resources.
AWWA	American Water Works Association The largest association in the world serving drinking water professionals and dedicated to the provision of safe drinking water.
AwwaRF	American Water Works Association Research Foundation The only non-governmental organization which sponsors research for the drinking water profession.
BOD	Board of Directors The governing body of AWWA composed of 60 members, of which 44 are section directors.
BOT	Board of Trustees The governing body of AwwaRF composed of 20 members. Nine members are appointed by the AWWA President.
CAC	Canadian Affairs Committee The AWWA administrative committee which advises the Board of Directors on Canadian issues.
CCR	Consumer Confidence Reports
CDC	Centers for Disease Control The federal agency (part of the U.S. Public Health Service) responsible for research, monitoring, and programs to control communicable diseases.
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (also known as Superfund) The federal law enacted to fund clean-up of hazardous waste sites posing threats to public health and the environment.
CESSE	Council of Engineering and Scientific Society Executives Organization that provides a forum for mutual exchange of experience, guidance, and discussion of common problems in operating these societies.

CEU	Continuing Education Unit
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMC	Conference Management Committee The AWWA committee (under the APC) Which develops procedures for all of AWWA's conference and site recommendations.
CSP	Compliance Support Program An AWWA program designed to provide guidance to sections on providing assistance to small systems in order to improve compliance with the drinking water regulations.
CWA	Clean Water Act (also know as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or PL 92-500) The federal legislation which established regulation of surface water pollution in the United States.
CWQA	Canadian Water Quality Association Promotes the individual right to quality water; educates water quality professionals; promotes the growth of the water quality improvement industry; serves as a unified voice in government and public relations; provides a role in consumer education.
CWS	Community Water System
CWWA	Canadian Water & Wastewater Association An association representing Canadian water and wastewater utilities. The CW&WA is not affiliated with AWWA.
DBP	Disinfection By-Product Organic or inorganic by-products of disinfection.
D/DBP	Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products
DOC	Department of Commerce
DPOC	Distribution & Plant Operations Conference and Exposition An AWWA specialty conference for distribution and operations personnel.
DSS	DSS: The Distribution & Plant Operations Conference
EC	Executive Committee The governance body reporting to the Board of Directors, which can act for the Board between Board meetings, composed of 19 members.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (See USEPA)

FACA	Federal Advisory Committee Act The Act authorizing EPA and other federal regulating agencies to use formal committees to assist in the development of regulations. The Microbial/Disinfection By-Product Rule Cluster is being developed with this type of committee.
FIFRA	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act The federal law enacted to control application of pesticides.
GAC	Granular Activated Carbon A specially produced carbon with a high adsorption capacity used to remove a wide range of organic compounds.
GAO	General Accounting Office
GC/MS	Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer A specific type of instrument used to detect and quantify organic compounds.
IAWQ	International Association on Water Quality A professional membership association dedicated to the improvement of water management worldwide in an environmentally sustainable way. It was merged in September 1999 with IWSA (International Water Services Association) to become the International Water Association (IWA).
IBP	International Business Program
ICR	Information Collection Rule A federal regulation stipulating monitoring requirements for disinfection by-products, cryptosporidium, and giardia lamblia. The data will be used for regulation development.
IOC	Inorganic Chemical Chemical substance of mineral origin not having carbon in its molecular structure.
ISAC	Information Sharing and Analysis Center A nonprofit organization with a mission to support drinking water and wastewater utilities in their efforts to protect critical water infrastructure.
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IUP	Intended Use Plan
IWA	International Water Association An association with a vision to be the leading international membership association for the improvement of urban water management worldwide in an environmentally sustainable way; IWA's coverage includes all aspects of water supply and treatment, wastewater collection, treatment and disposal

and overall management of water quality and quantity including environmental and public health issues. A professional, international organization concerned with the public supply of water through pipes for domestic, agricultural, and industrial purposes and the control, provision, and protection of the necessary water resources. (Formerly IWSA.)

IWEM	Institute of Water and Environmental Management A British professional society.
IWO	Institute of Water Officers A British professional society.
MA	Member Associations
MAC	Manufacturers/Associates Council The AWWA council concerned with the issue of manufacturers, manufacturers' representatives, and contractors. Also develops procedures for exhibits at AWWA conference.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level The highest permissible concentration of a substance allowed in drinking water, as established by the USEPA.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal The highest permissible concentration of a substance allowed in drinking water at which no known or anticipated health effects will occur. They are health goals and are not enforceable. They replaced the Recommended Maximum Contaminant level when the Safe Drinking Water Act was amended in 1986.
MUD	Metropolitan Utility District
MTBE	Methyl tertiary butyl ether
MWRA	Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
NAS	National Academy of Sciences A private, nonprofit research organization established by a Congressional charter to be the official advisor to the government on scientific and technological matters.
NAWC	National Association of Water Companies The association representing investor owned and operated water companies. A member of the WICC.
NCWS	Non-Community Water System
NDWAC	National Drinking Water Advisory Council

NEWWA	New England Water Works Association - A Section of AWWA An AWWA section whose majority of members are in Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Massachusetts.
NGA	National Governors' Association
NGWA	National Ground Water Association An association representing groundwater professionals and dedicated to the protection and proper development of groundwater. Formerly the National Water Well Association.
NIPC	National Infrastructure Protection Center
NRDC	Natural Resources Defense Council
NPDWRs	National Primary Drinking Water Regulations The regulations, which USEPA must establish, authorized under the SDWA amendments. They replaced the Interim Primary and Revised Primary Drinking Water Regulations.
NRWA	National Rural Water Association The association representing rural water districts and systems particularly those receiving funding from the Rural Development Administration. A member of the WICC.
NSF Int'l	(formerly known as the National Sanitation Foundation) A nonprofit organization that cooperates in research and education programs and develops standards in the field of environmental sanitation and health.
NTNCWS	Nontransient Noncommunity Water System
NWRA	National Water Resources Association The association that promotes development, control, conservation, and utilization of water resources in the 17 Western states. A member of the WICC.
NZWWA	new Zealand Water & Wastes Association
OGWDW	EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
OSHA	Occupational Safety & Health Administration The federal agency responsible for regulating safety in the workplace.
PAC	Public Affairs Council The AWWA Council concerned with developing programs to assist AWWA and utilities with public affairs and public involvement.

PAC	Powdered Activated Carbon A finely ground form of activated carbon that is added directly to water as a slurry for removal of organic compounds.
PCBs	Polychlorinated Biphenyls A group of synthetic organic chemicals used for numerous purposes. Manufacture of PCB was discontinued in 1976. PCBs are still present in many electrical capacitors and transformers and have been detected in drinking water.
PDF	Portable Document Files
PIAF	Public Interest Advisory Forum This committee represents a cross-section of independent stakeholders in AWWA activities and drinking water issues, providing advice and comment to AWWA's Executive Committee on Association policies and programs. The PIAF works with the volunteer structure of AWWA to build relationships with stakeholder organizations, to provide a vital communication link, and to advance mutual goals. Formerly Public Advisory Forum (PAF).
PMAC	Products and Marketing Advisory Committee The AWWA committee, reporting to the APC, that works with staff on publications and marketing strategies.
POE	Point-of-Entry Devices A home-water treatment unit that treats water for an entire house of building.
POU	Point-of-Use Devices A home-water treatment unit that treats water from only one tap.
PSW	Partnership for Safe Water Comprised of members from AWWA, AMWA, AwwaRF, EPA, NAWC, and ASDWA who continue to move forward in promoting treatment plant performance optimization.
PWS	Public Water System Defined by the SDWA as a system for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption, providing such system has at least 15 service connections or serves at least 25 individuals.
RAC	Research Advisory Committee
RAM-W	Risk Assessment Methodology for Water
RMSO	Regional Meeting of Section Officers Informational meetings held for AWWA section officers.

SAB	Science Advisory Board A group of scientists selected to advise EPA on scientific policy, research, and the scientific basis of regulations.
SARA	Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act CERCLA as recently amended.
SC	Standards Council The AWWA council responsible for the development of AWWA standards and other related publications.
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act The federal law that authorizes USEPA to establish national drinking water regulations. Originally enacted in 1974, the Act was extensively amended in 1986. The Act was reauthorized in 1996.
SOC	Synthetic Organic Chemical Man-made organic chemicals, many of which have been detected in drinking water. This group included VOCs.
SRF	State Revolving Fund
SWTR	Surface Water Treatment Rule The federal rule mandating filtration of all surface water.
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TAG	Technical Advisory Group A group within the Water Utility Council comprised of the chairs of the Technical Advisory Workgroups.
TAW	Technical Advisory Workgroup A panel of water industry experts reporting to the Water Utility Council who address specific topics of upcoming regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act.
TEC	Technical & Educational Council The AWWA council that oversees development of annual conference technical programs, specialty conferences, workshops, and various manuals, handbooks, and software.
THM's	Trihalomethanes A group of volatile organic compounds formed when chlorine reacts with naturally occurring humic substances.
TTHMs	Total Trihalomethane A term used to designate the total concentration of chloroform, bromoform, dibromochloromethane, and bromodichloromethane in the NPDWRs.

USANC	USA National Committee
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency The federal agency created in 1970 that implements major environmental legislation.
VOC	Volatile Organic Chemical Lightweight organic compounds that vaporize, or evaporate, easily.
WASDA	Water and Sewer Distributors of America Formed in 1979, WASDA's mission is to promote the waterworks/wastewater products distribution industry, and to further improve the image and professionalism of WASDA and the industry.
WEF	Water Environment Federation The national association representing professionals in the water pollution control field. (formerly the Water Pollution Control Federation)
WERF	Water Environment Research Foundation
WFP	Water For People The organization originally founded by AWWA, dedicated to improving drinking water and sanitation in developing countries.
WHO	World Health Organization An organization representing participating countries dedication to improving world health.
WICC	Water Industry Coordinating Committee The group comprised of AWWA, AMWA, NAWC, NRWA and NWRA formed to coordinate the water industry's legislative and regulatory program.
WIDB	Water Industry Data Base Computerized collection of water utility statistics maintained by AWWA.
WIN	Water Infrastructure Network The group comprised of drinking water and waste water organizations, state and local government organizations, and private sector organizations.
WISE	Water Infrastructure Security Enhancements
WITAF	Water Industry Technical Action Fund The monies administered by the Water Utility Council to fund TAW activities and studies needed to impact the regulatory and legislative process.

WQA	Water Quality Association The trade association representing the industry supplying home water devices and industrial water treatment equipment.
WQTC	Water Quality Technology Conference A specialty conference for water quality analysts and treatment professionals.
WSO	Water Supply & Operations Series A set of books published by AWWA for use in operator training.
WUC	Water Utility Council The council responsible for the development of AWWA legislative and regulatory action programs.
WWEMA	Water & Wastewater Equipment Manufacturer's Association The association for manufacturers of equipment for water works, wastewater, and industrial waste treatment plants.