

Harnessing the Power of Change



Register Today!

**WWEMA 47th Washington Forum
Virtual Meeting
April 27 - 29, 2021**



**WATER WEEK
2021**

Program Agenda

Register Today!



WWEMA Virtual
47th Washington Forum
April 27 - 29, 2021



WWEMA Virtual 47th WASHINGTON FORUM

This year's WWEMA Virtual 47th Washington Forum will be held April 27-29, 2021 in conjunction with Water Week 2021. This is WWEMA's annual legislative, regulatory, and policy meeting that directly connects our members, attendees, and invited guests to leaders in the water industry and Government including Congress and EPA. This year's theme is *Harnessing the Power of Change*. As we slowly emerge from a long year of lockdowns and uncertainty, our work, and indeed our industry has been changed and transformed. We have learned to do business differently, learned how to navigate every known communication platform, and learned the value of personal and professional relationships and our need for face-to-face interactions. As we move forward, we need to evaluate many of these changes and assess whether some of them may become a more permanent part of our day-to-day business. We also are experiencing change with a new Administration, a new Congress, and new priorities for our economy and Nation. Everyone, members and non-members alike, are invited to join us for this year's WWEMA Virtual 47th Washington Forum as we hear from leaders in our industry and Government who are at the forefront of these changes. [Register today!](#)

Schedule of Events

(Note – all events are in Eastern Time)

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

- 10:00 – 11:00 am **Welcome and Introduction to Keynote Speaker**
Economic Trends, Global Trade, Labor, and What's Ahead
John Manzella, Founder, Manzella Trade Communications, Inc.
- 11:00 – 11:30 am **Priorities of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce - Working for U.S. Businesses**
Marty Durbin, President, Global Energy Institute, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- 11:30 am – 12:00 noon **Leading Issues and Advocacy of the National Association of Manufacturers**
Michael O'Brien, Assistant Vice President, Advocacy, National Association of Manufacturers
- 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm **Lunch break**
- 2:00 – 4:30 pm **Water Week Policy Zoom-In with EPA Officials and Members of Congress**
Joint webinar hosted by this year's Water Association Partners. Please register with separate complimentary registration at https://nacwa.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fiqmWROtRZapbKs0HymVEw

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

- 10:30 – 11:00 am **Utility Perspectives on Challenges, Opportunities, and Priorities**
Adam Krantz, CEO, National Association of Clean Water Agencies
- 11:00 – 11:30 am **Rebuilding the Nation's Infrastructure – The Political Dynamics**
Eric Sapirstein, President, ENS Resources, Inc.
- 11:30 am – 1:30 pm **Lunch break**
- 1:30 – 2:00 pm **The Post (?) - Pandemic Outlook for Construction**
Ken Simonson, Chief Economist, The Associated General Contractors of America
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm **Live Roundtable Breakout Discussions (limit 30 people per room)**
 - 1) *Strategies for Success in Today's Economy*
 - 2) *Legislative Advocacy – Infrastructure, Buy America(n), Smart Technologies*
- 3:30 – 5:00 pm **WWEMA Board of Directors Meeting**

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

(Committee Meetings - Open to WWEMA Members)

- 10:00 – 11:00 am **WWEMA Manufacturers Representative Council Meeting**
- 11:30 am - 1:00 pm **WWEMA Legislative/Regulatory Committee Meeting**
- 1:00 – 1:30 pm **Lunch break**
- 1:30 – 3:00 pm **WWEMA Marketing and Member Services Committee Meeting**

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Preliminary List of Speakers and Topics

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Keynote Speaker - Economic Trends, Trade, Labor, and What's Ahead

John Manzella, Founder, Manzella Trade Communications, Inc.

COVID-19 and volatility continue to impact U.S. and world growth, while complexities with the USMCA, Europe, and China are creating new supply chain and investment risks. Combined with new drivers of growth, and shifting demographics, these issues are shaping our future. What does this mean to you and your business? This invaluable program examines trading relationships, analyzes sectors, and explores critical issues involving labor, skills, automation, and immigration. Additionally, it offers survival strategies to improve competitiveness and reduce risk, and provides insight on what's ahead.

Rebuilding the Nation's Infrastructure – The Political Dynamics

Eric Sapirstein, President, ENS Resources, Inc.

With the November elections in the rear view mirror and the new Biden Administration closing in on its first "100 days in office", much has already been accomplished with recent passage of the \$1.9 trillion *American Rescue Plan* to provide economic relief to address impacts of the current pandemic. Next on the horizon is a \$3 trillion *Build Back Better* plan to rebuild our nation's infrastructure, get people back to work, create new social programs, implement tax changes, and address climate and resiliency issues. Eric will provide insight into how Congress and the President may move forward to address these issues of infrastructure, environmental justice, and climate resiliency and what that might mean for American business.

The Post(?) - Pandemic Outlook for Construction

Ken Simonson, Chief Economist, The Associated General Contractors of America

Like the broader economy, construction is displaying varied trends. Homebuilding is soaring, private nonresidential work is shrinking, and public spending is somewhere in between. Meanwhile, all types of projects are plagued by issues affecting workforce, materials costs, and supply chains. This session will cover each sector's progress, problems, and prospects, including a look at the post-pandemic possibilities.

Priorities of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce - Working for U.S. Businesses

Marty Durbin, President, Global Energy Institute, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is a powerful voice for manufacturers and businesses, helping them to succeed in the business environment. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy. Their members range from the small businesses and local chambers of commerce that line the Main Streets of America to leading industry associations and large corporations. The Chamber's 2021 *Policy Priorities* address economic recovery; antitrust and competition policy; capital markets and financial regulation; education and workforce; environmental affairs, climate, and sustainability; infrastructure; intellectual property protections; international trade; supply chain; and technology among others. Marty will share the Chamber's priorities and discuss how we might work more closely together as we seek to rebuild our Nation's infrastructure and economy.

Utility Perspectives on Challenges, Opportunities, and Priorities

Adam Krantz, CEO, National Association of Clean Water Agencies

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) is the nation's recognized leader in legislative, regulatory, and legal clean water advocacy - helping ensure a strong, sustainable clean water future. There is no issue more central to NACWA's advocacy than increasing the availability of infrastructure funding for public clean water utilities, which includes increased federal funding to support this critical infrastructure sector. NACWA also recognizes that discussions of infrastructure investment cannot be divorced from the critical issues related to affordability. Adam will provide keen insight into the many issues facing clean water systems today, discuss the opportunities that these challenges provide, and share the priorities of the Association as it advocates for this critical segment of the water industry.

Leading Issues and Advocacy of the National Association of Manufacturers

Michael O'Brien, Assistant Vice President, Advocacy, National Association of Manufacturers

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) is a strong voice for the manufacturing community. Michael will discuss NAM's leading issues as well as advocacy efforts and talk about some of the political dynamics that will shape the path ahead. He will also provide guidance on how WWEMA members can get more active and engaged.

Water Week Policy Zoom-In with EPA Officials and Members of Congress

Joint webinar hosted by this year's Water Association Partners

2021 Water Week
Policy Zoom-In



This webinar is hosted jointly by this year's [Water Association Partners](#) and will provide attendees the opportunity to hear directly from key EPA officials and Members of Congress on the important regulatory and legislative water policies they are working on now and in the years ahead. Don't miss the chance to hear about the important and timely federal water initiatives taking shape in

Washington, DC. Please register with separate complimentary registration https://nacwa.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fiqmWROtRZapbKs0HymVEw!



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(NOTE: Online registration link is available at <https://wwema.org/washington-forum/>)

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