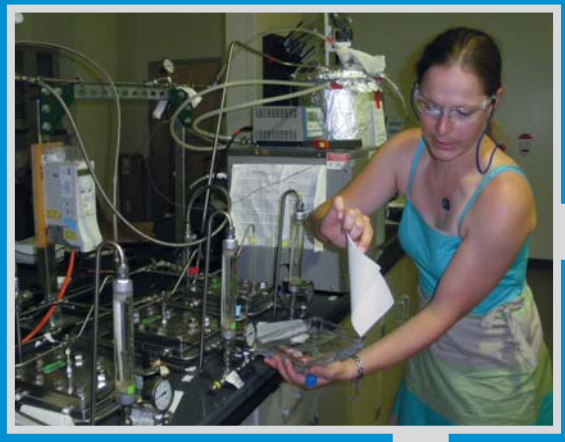
NWRI

National Water Research Institute

Creating new sources of water through research and technology and protecting the freshwater and marine environments

"Anything else you're interested in is not going to happen if you can't breathe the air and drink the water. Don't sit this one out. Do something."

– Carl Sagan



NWRI

For over 17 years, the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) has sponsored projects and programs for conserving our water resources, creating new sources of water, and protecting the environment.

Science-Oriented

NWRI is on the forefront of investing in cutting-edge, high-risk, rapid-response research to improve water quality, protect public health and the environment, and create safe, new sources of water for our communities. We excel in working with researchers across the country with the best available research facilities, such as laboratories at universities and water agencies. For example, our researchers are conducting innovative research such as developing "smart" nanotechnology to remove contaminants from water supplies.

Expert-Driven

One of the highlights of NWRI is its 40-member Research Advisory Board, which guides NWRI's research program and activities. The Board is made up of experts in water science from across the nation and represent universities, water and wastewater agencies, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and federal agencies.

Leader in Outreach and Education

NWRI specializes in promoting better science through extensive outreach and educational activities. Our efforts range from publishing guidance manuals, sponsoring conferences, awarding water research prizes, and promoting water-science education through youth programs and student fellowships.

Public-Private Partnership

NWRI is designed to promote collaboration between public agencies and private support focused on water research. With the encouragement of Athalie Richardson Irvine Clarke and her daughter, Joan Irvine Smith, NWRI was founded by a group of water and wastewater agencies in California and supported financially by the Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation. Under the guidance of founding Executive Director, Ronald B. Linsky, we expanded our research funding by collaborating with universities, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations. At present, we are focused on furthering these collaborations to support compelling research and education initiatives that address our water challenges.

Challenges

Safe, reliable sources of water are essential to maintain our quality of life by ensuring viable economies and a healthy environment.

The United States is a leader in improving water quality, addressing water scarcity, and protecting public health and the environment. We accomplish this by employing strategies such as improved treatment technologies and better water resource management planning.

However, our nation faces a number of challenges in meeting the needs of a growing population requiring more water resources and protection against emerging issues, such as water scarcity and the quality of our water supplies.

Challenges to safe, reliable sources of water include:

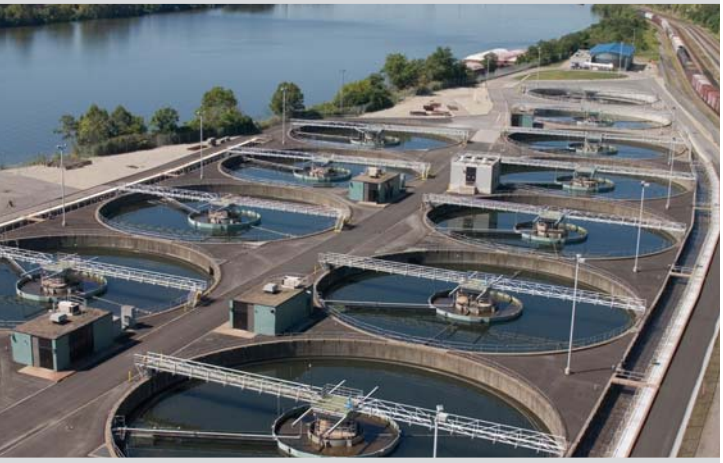
- Limited water resources.
- Increasing water scarcity.
- Meeting the water needs of the environment.
- Impacts on water quality.
- Increasing levels of salts and nutrients.
- Need for better water use efficiency.
- Aging water infrastructure.

How NWRI Can Make a Difference

- Fund fellowships and youth programs to encourage the next generation of water scientists and decision makers.
- Support research and education addressing critical needs in water resources, public health, and the environment.
- Provide workshops, conference, and publications to disseminate the latest information on issues affecting water resources and technology.

"We think of our land and water
and human resources not as static
and sterile possessions,
but as life-giving assets to be directed
by wise provisions for future days."

– Franklin D. Roosevelt



Experience

Since our founding in 1991, NWRI has collaborated with over 100 partners around the world to fund efforts in water research, education, and outreach.

Our activities include:

- **NWRI Research Program**
  We support multi-disciplinary research projects with universities, state and federal agencies, and private companies that pertain to treatment and monitoring, water quality assessment, knowledge management, and exploratory research. Our program has produced over 300 publications and conference presentations.

- **NWRI Fellowship Program**
  We award $10,000-a-year fellowships to graduate students across the U.S. to fund innovative research in water policy, science, and technology. Each year, we support between 12-18 graduate students conducting leading-edge research.

- **Independent Advisory Panels**
  We provide third-party expertise and scientific advice in reviewing projects or policies related to water, wastewater, and water resources for local and state agencies. The outcomes of these panels help decision makers develop good public policy decisions.

- **Conferences and Workshops**
  We facilitate conferences and workshops to promote new issues and technologies. For example, we hold a graduate fellowship research conference each year to bring together graduate student researchers, water resource scientists, and water/wastewater agency representatives to review and discuss graduate-level research on topics related to improving water quality, protecting public health and the environment, and creating safe, new sources of water.

- **NWRI Athalie Richardson Irvine Clarke Prize**
  We established the Clarke Prize in 1993 to award scholarly and practical achievements in water research. Awardees include over a dozen researchers who have contributed to the body of knowledge related to protecting, maintaining, treating, and reclaiming water resources. The Prize includes $50,000 and a medallion, and features a Lecture written by recipients on their areas of expertise, such as marine hypoxia, treating wastewater as a resource, and decentralized water management.

Interests

NWRI is best known for supporting innovative research, education, and outreach activities that address the challenges facing the safety and reliability of our water supplies.

At present, we are focused on addressing the following critical issues:

- Encouraging public support of better water practices, such as conservation and water use efficiency.
- Implementing strategies that better allocate and sustain water resources on regional and national levels.
- Protecting existing water resources from impacts on quality and quantity.
- Developing new water resources from non-traditional sources of water, such as wastewater and brackish water.
- Developing technologies that identify and remove new contaminants from water supplies.
- Identifying treatment technologies that are cost- and energy-efficient.
- Educating youth on water issues and future water needs.

Goals

Benefits to the community from our research and activities include:

- **Increased Public Health**
  Waterborne disease has virtually been eliminated in the U.S. — leading to longer life spans, reduced medical costs, and an improved quality of life — because of continuous advances in state-of-the-art water treatment processes. By supporting such research, we can ensure the safety of our public water supplies now and for generations to come.

- **A Healthier Environment**
  Urban runoff, agricultural runoff, and industrial discharge can impact our freshwater and marine environments, causing algal blooms, habitat loss, and other negative effects, like fish kills. By preventing and managing these impacts, we can avert beach closures and seafood contamination, while protecting wildlife populations and the natural beauty of lakes, rivers, and coastlines.

- **Drought Management**
  We can meet the needs of our growing population without experiencing water shortages by protecting the water supplies we currently have through conservation, as well as developing new sources of water through water reuse, capturing stormwater, and desalination. The use of alternative water supply options provides a broader water supply portfolio, which increases water reliability.

- **Better Water-Use Efficiency Practices**
  Historically, the majority of our water is used for agriculture to water crops and for outdoor uses, such as irrigating lawns. These areas would benefit from better water-use efficiency practices, such as conservation or the use of recycled water, to preserve our water supplies.

"Anyone who can solve the problems of water will be worthy of two Nobel prizes – one for science and one for peace."

– John F. Kennedy

Please detach here

Support NWRI

- NWRI is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501c(3) nonprofit organization (#33-0481107).
- One-hundred percent of your tax-deductable donation will be used to fund our scientific research, education, and outreach programs that improve the quality and reliability of our water supplies.
- As a supporter, you will receive NWRI's newsletters, email updates, and invitations to special events to keep you informed of our activities and progress.

National Water Research Institute

www.NWRI-USA.org

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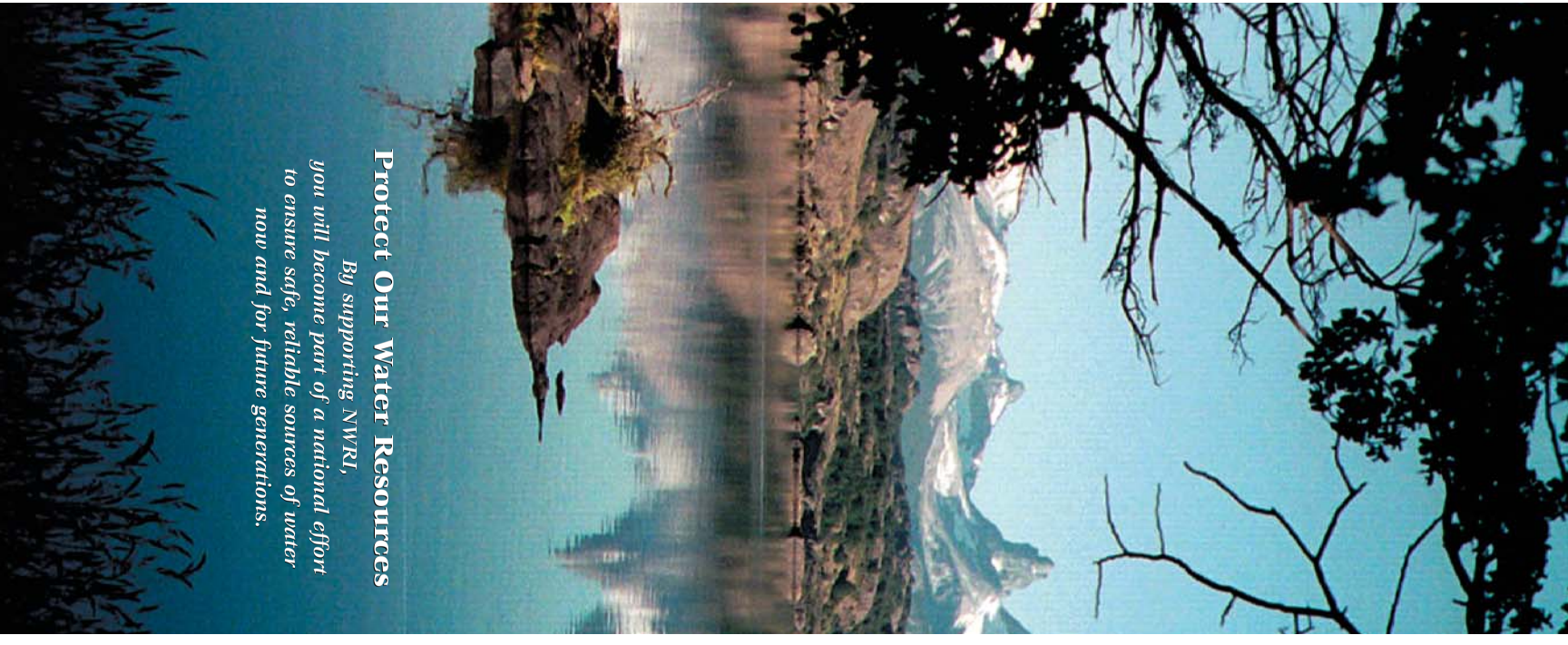

Protect Our Water Resources

By supporting NWRI,
you will become part of a national effort
to ensure safe, reliable sources of water
now and for future generations.

For more information,

visit our website at,

www.nwri-usa.org,

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