

Workshop on Trace Organics: Mapping a Collaborative Research Roadmap
May 17-18, 2007; San Francisco, CA

American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AwwaRF)

Contact Information

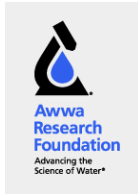
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Organization Overview

American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AwwaRF) is a member-supported, international, nonprofit organization that sponsors research to enable water utilities, public health agencies, and other professionals to provide safe and affordable drinking water to consumers. AwwaRF's mission is to advance the science of water to improve the quality of life. AwwaRF works to achieve this mission by sponsoring research, developing knowledge and promoting collaboration.

The Foundation was established in 1966 to provide a centralized, practical research program for the drinking water community. Committees and staff direct our research, serving over 900 subscribers. The Foundation is comprised of, and largely funded by, member organizations that voluntarily subscribe in order to support and benefit from the water-related research that the Foundation sponsors. In addition, more than 50 water-related consulting firms and manufacturing companies are subscribers. The majority of our subscribers are in the United States. Others are located in Canada, Australia, and Europe. Since its inception, the Foundation has sponsored more than \$370 million in research, represented by more than 600 completed research projects. Subscribers provide more than \$10 million annually to fund research. This money is supplemented by the U.S. government and is leveraged through collaborative partnerships with other research organizations. In addition to monetary support, the high level of research activity sponsored by the Foundation would not be possible without the efforts of more than 700 subscriber volunteers who serve on committees and councils, providing expertise in a variety of research topic areas. Subscribers steer the Foundation in almost every respect. The Foundation is governed by an elected board of trustees, most of whom are water utility managers. The board also includes representatives appointed by the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the National Association of Water Companies, and the American Water Works Association, as well as three members elected from the Foundation's subscriber base.



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AwwaRF's research program, which is highly respected as being one of the most scientifically credible and best-coordinated in the world, focuses on four main goal areas: (1) high-quality water, (2) efficient and customer-responsive organization, (3) infrastructure reliability, and (4) environmental leadership.

The research agenda is developed in consultation with subscribers, drinking water community experts, working professionals, and technical advisory groups. Hundreds of suggestions are examined to identify high-priority projects most crucial to the drinking water community. The final research agenda is then approved by the board of trustees. Each approved project is assigned an advisory committee of volunteer experts in a specific area of study. The advisory committees evaluate proposals, select contractors, and monitor projects through to completion.

Subscribers to the Foundation receive the following:

- Peer-reviewed and scientifically credible knowledge and technologies to apply at their organization
- Free research reports, published at the completion of each project
- Complimentary registration at conferences, workshops, and online seminars sponsored by the Foundation
- Access to the Foundation's network of researchers and drinking water experts
- Complete access to the Foundation's research information via the Web site
- The opportunity to have input into the research agenda
- The Foundation's monthly and bimonthly periodicals
- The opportunity to participate in projects or serve on one or more committees that provide ongoing peer review of research
- The opportunity to submit proposals for research projects

Previous Collaborations

AwwaRF's collaborating partners are situated all over the globe. Some past collaborations to co-fund research projects have included the following:

- Global Water Research Coalition
- Water Technology Center (TZW), Germany
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Kiwa, Netherlands
- WaterReuse Foundation
- Water Environment Research Foundation
- National Water Research Institute
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- California Urban Water Agencies
- National Research Council of Canada



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- CRC for Water Quality and Treatment, Australia
- UKWIR

Completed Projects on Trace Organic Compounds

AwwaRF has funded or is funding over 30 projects associated with the topic of trace organic compounds in drinking water and the environment. Projects have focused on analytical method development (#2997, #2642, #2914), sources (#2600), occurrence (#2617, #2914, #2788), chemistry, formation, fate and transport (#2902, #2997, #2900, #2914) and treatment (#2997, #2788, #2758, #2945). AwwaRF has also funded research associated with risk communication (#2776). AwwaRF has hosted or co-funded a number of difference water quality conferences and workshops on this topic (#2972, #4052, #3060, #2785, #3064, #2914, #2598).

Ongoing Projects on Trace Organic Compounds

Currently, AwwaRF is funding several projects associated with trace organic compounds on these same topics, including sources and formation (#2948, #3071) and human health effects of EDCs and PPCPs in drinking water (#3085). However, the majority of ongoing research is focused on the removal of these compounds during treatment processes (#3071, #3136, #2897, #2905, #4040, #3012, #4062, #4066, #4101). AwwaRF is also funding a summary of existing knowledge on EDCs, PPCPs in drinking water for utilities (#3033). AwwaRF is also funding several projects on N-DBPs - #2678, #2979, #3014. Other trace organics research includes projects #2991, #4040, #3012, #4065, #3042, and #3180. A contaminant risk management communication tool is also being funded - #4001.

Future Direction of Research on Trace Organic Compounds

AwwaRF plans to better define their short-term research priorities related to EDCs, PhACs and PPCPs with a workshop to be held in Fall 2007. AwwaRF recognizes that these issues will continue to challenge water utilities and the drinking water community. In January 2007, AwwaRF's Board of Trustees authorized the development of a strategic research initiative aimed at identifying and resolving these issues. EDCs, PhACs, and PPCPs were selected as one of the first two topics that will be addressed by AwwaRF's new strategic research initiative program. The initiative represents a commitment by AwwaRF to sustain a multi-year, multi-project research program that will significantly advance knowledge and identify solutions for key problems associated with these compounds. The initiative will begin in 2007 with the development of overarching objectives and a detailed research agenda.