

# THE FOUNDATION FOR WATER INNOVATION

The Water Research Foundation (WRF) has been the leader in cutting-edge water research and innovation for more than 50 years. As new challenges continue to impact the water sector with increased frequency, this role is more important than ever. Utilities need new technologies and processes to keep up with evolving regulations, aging infrastructure, and changing demands—and the WRF Innovation Program is key to moving these important technologies into the field where they can deliver meaningful and timely results.

This comprehensive program provides tools to help you at each stage of the innovation process, bridging the gap between new advances and the water sector—and reducing the individual risk often associated with being among the first to adopt new technologies. WRF’s forward-looking, collaborative approach supports all stages of innovation—seeking, testing, and advancing new ideas to help cultivate the most effective, scientifically sound, and sustainable solutions.

## EXPLORE NEW TECHNOLOGIES

WRF’s approach to accelerating innovation identifies and screens emerging technologies that could significantly benefit the water sector, raising awareness of available options and ensuring utilities have access to solutions that could help their facilities as soon as possible. The online platform, WRF TechLink, allows you to tap into information on more than 150 of the latest water technologies, connect with others with similar interests, collaborate on projects and demonstrations, and reach out to experts to solve your challenges.

Start exploring at: [wrftechlink.waterrf.org](http://wrftechlink.waterrf.org)

## YOUR GUIDE THROUGH THE INNOVATION CYCLE



- Discover the most timely and relevant innovations
- Explore new technologies and understand the relevance for your organization
- Evaluate applicability of innovation for your context
- Implement the innovation within the water sector
- Spread knowledge gained across the water sector

## PARTNER TO INNOVATE

WRF’s pilot projects bring together utilities, technology providers, researchers, and agencies to move new technologies off the bench and into practice. WRF facilitates these consortia, built around shared interests, so participants can collaborate on technology demonstrations and pilots—distributing the costs and risks and making access to new technology more attainable.

The WRF Innovation Program seeks to build these collaborative opportunities around emerging and high-priority needs. Current priority topic portfolios focus on energy efficiency, water reuse, nitrogen reduction, and PFAS destruction. Efforts are funded by leveraging subscriber funds with outside sources.

**Submit a pilot concept:** [www.waterrf.org/pilot-projects](http://www.waterrf.org/pilot-projects)

### NETWORK TO TEST TECHNOLOGY

WRF's extensive network of test facilities connects researchers, technology providers, and other innovators in the water sector with test sites that meet their specific needs. With more than 100 facilities that include water utilities, university and research labs, and other entities, the network offers options to test technologies at a variety of development stages and scales. This also opens the door for utilities of all sizes to be a part of the process and start integrating innovations at their own sites.

**Join the network:** [www.waterrf.org/fast-water-network](http://www.waterrf.org/fast-water-network)

### FOLLOW TECHNOLOGY TRENDS & DEVELOPMENTS

WRF's Tech Trends tool helps illustrate and follow the uptake of technologies across the water sector to better understand not only which technologies utilities are currently using, but also what is on the horizon. Regularly updated data offers a snapshot of technology use in the areas of wastewater, stormwater, drinking water, desalination, and water reuse and can help identify how innovations are progressing. Technology providers can get a better picture of water sector needs, and utilities can gain insight into which processes and technologies are moving towards becoming industry standard.

**Follow the latest trends:** [www.waterrf.org/tech-trends](http://www.waterrf.org/tech-trends)

WRF's web and social media presence is also a powerful tool for understanding the most up-to-date technology progress. Monthly webcasts featuring technology providers,

### SEE IT FIRST HAND

The Scholarship Exchange Experience for Innovation & Technology program (SEE IT) is a joint effort led by WRF, the Water Environment Federation, and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies that provides utilities first-hand exposure to water innovation in use around the world. This unique educational experience allows utility personnel to visit other facilities that have implemented new technologies and processes, which may include novel approaches to service, operations, and finance. Visitors learn directly from their peers and share their experience back at their own facilities—giving utilities the information they need to accelerate adoption. To date, the program has awarded more than 75 scholarships.

**Apply today at:** [www.waterrf.org/see-it](http://www.waterrf.org/see-it)



researchers, and participating utilities highlight the latest findings, making sure the water sector benefits from the most recent breakthroughs.

**View upcoming webcasts and past events on demand:** [www.waterrf.org/webcasts](http://www.waterrf.org/webcasts)

“Struvite formation was crippling our operations, leading to extensive maintenance and increased chemical usage. WRF TechLink connected us with other utilities who had struggled with the same issue. Their advice led us to successfully pilot MagPrex and Hydroflow technologies, which drastically decreased our chemical usage.”

**JEFF PREVATT, PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION**