



District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors

Governance Committee

April 10, 2026 / 9:30 am

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Phone Conference ID: 824 633 349#

1. **Call to Order** _____ Howard Gibbs, Chairperson
2. **Roll Call** _____ Michelle Rhodd, Board Secretary
3. **[FY'26 DC Water Works Update](#)** _____ [Korey Gray, Vice President and Chief Procurement Officer](#)
4. **[Government Affairs Update](#)** _____ [Barbara Mitchell, Director and Associate General Counsel](#)
5. **[Blue Drop Quarterly Update](#)** _____ [Chris Peot, Blue Drop President](#)
6. **Executive Session*** _____ Howard Gibbs
7. **Adjournment** _____ Howard Gibbs

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.

1The DC Water Board of Directors may go into executive session at this meeting pursuant to the District of Columbia Open Meetings Act of 2010, if such action is approved by a majority vote of the Board members who constitute a quorum to discuss certain matters, including but not limited to: matters prohibited from public disclosure pursuant to a court order or law under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(1); terms for negotiating a contract, including an employment contract, under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(2); obtain legal advice and preserve attorney-client privilege or settlement terms under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(4)(A); collective bargaining negotiations under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(5); facility security matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(8); disciplinary matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(9); personnel matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(10); third-party proprietary matters under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(11); train and develop Board members and staff under D.C. Official Codes § 2- 575(b)(12); adjudication action under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(13); civil or criminal matters or violations of laws or regulations where disclosure to the public may harm the investigation under D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(14); and other matters provided under the Act.



FY 2026 DC Water Works Program Status Update

Presented to the Governance Committee
Howard Gibbs, Chairperson
April 10, 2026



DC Water Works

Program Overview

In 2016, DC Water established its Water Works Program designed to empower local and District residents to establish a meaningful employment on DC Water construction and service projects.



Program Elements

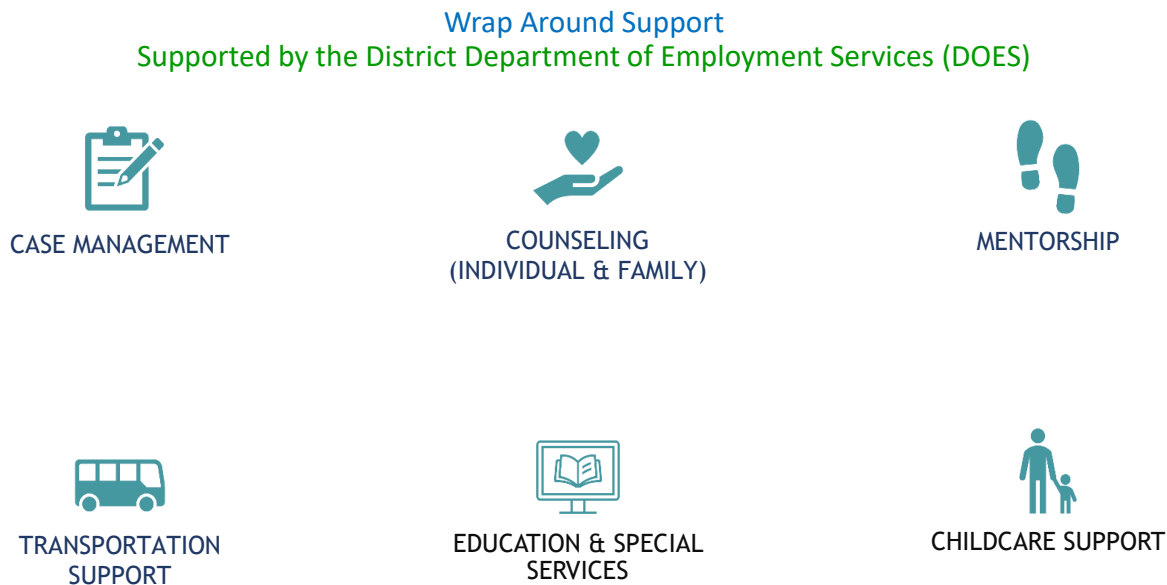
- New Hire Goals: Seventy-Five percent (75%) of new jobs created by contracts or procurements entered into by DC Water with contractors will be filled by local residents.
- Job/Candidate Referral Process
- Job Readiness and Skills Training Program
- Community Outreach



FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

Program Overview





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

New Opportunities filled through Water Works
(October 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026)

- Total Hires: 50
- Local Hiring Rate: 80% (40 User Jurisdiction Residents)
- DC Resident Hires: 11 (22% of total)
- Outside/Other: 10 (20%)

(DC Water Works New Hire Goal: 75% for User Jurisdiction)





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

Overview of DC Water Works Skills Training and Placement Programs



**DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL
ENGAGEMENT AND
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM**



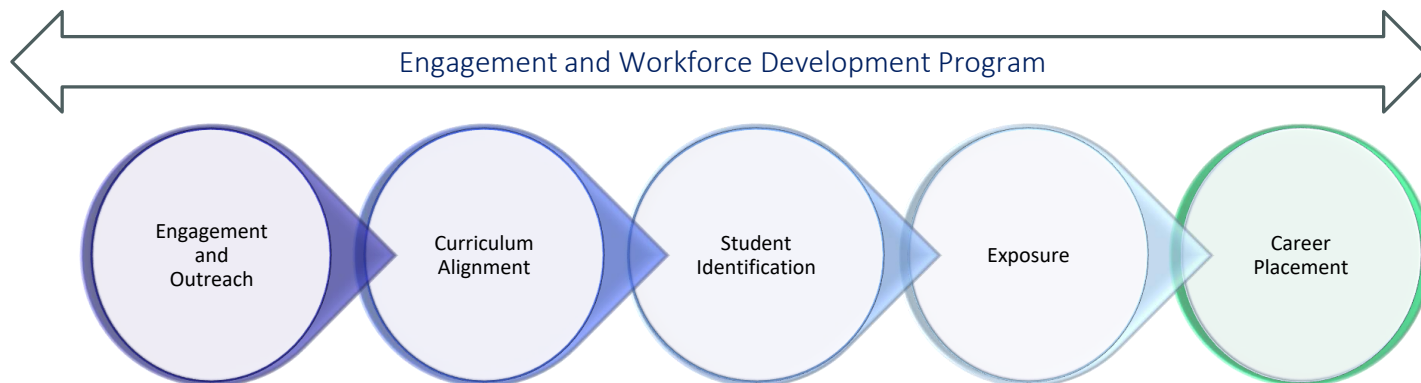
FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Purpose:

- To implement a standardized program to engage and work with high school students beginning at the 9th grade level as they prepare for careers in the utility sector. Included are internship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities to provide students with professional skill building, and career exploration opportunities to help them plan for after graduation.





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Component 1 – Outreach and Engagement

In Conjunction with OMAC's Education Ambassador Program

Component Includes:

- Career Days - DC Water to participate and/or sponsor 1 or 2 Career Days with the partnering schools. Initial conversations with schools and employers lean towards one event in the fall and a second in spring.
 - Career Days will be a combination of seminars, exhibit tables, and demonstrations
 - Open to any student 9-12
- DC Water Open House and Site Tour – Site tour offered to interested 10-12 grade students.
- Volunteer Activity



FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Component 2 – Participant Identification

Component Includes:

- Work with the schools to identify graduating students who are interested in working in (and have the acumen for) utilities.
 - Based on student eligibility and recommendations from guidance office

- Eligibility:
 - Participants must be a current HS senior or junior enrolled at the start of the Program
 - Be at least 17 at the time the Program starts
 - Successfully finish the following:
 - Program application(s)
 - Present required documents
 - Maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher



FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Component 3 – Internship Opportunities

Component Includes:

- Internships for selected participants.
 - Interns to work up to 16 hours per week
 - Internship counted towards classroom credit
 - Internships to run from February thru June
 - Interns pay rate commensurate with the District's training wage (currently \$17.50)
 - Internships will primarily focus on OJL experience.
 - Soft Skills/ Job Readiness Training to be incorporated (provided by DC Water)
 - Open to eligible Juniors and Seniors based on criteria established in Component 2

Professional Development Experience



- Conflict Resolution
- Effective Communications
- In conjunction with Safety
 - Safety (OSHA, CPR, Confined Space)
- In conjunction with DC Water Works
 - Financial Literacy
 - Resume Writing/ Interviewing



FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Component 4— Pre-Apprenticeship Opportunities

Component Includes:

- Pre-Apprenticeship Program for Interns interested in continuing the workforce development experience
 - OJL experience based on apprenticeship trades
- Pre-Apprenticeships to run from August thru February
- Pre-apprentices to earn \$20 per hour
- On-going Coaching/ Mentoring/ Wrap-Around Support in partnership with DOES





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works

DC WATER HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

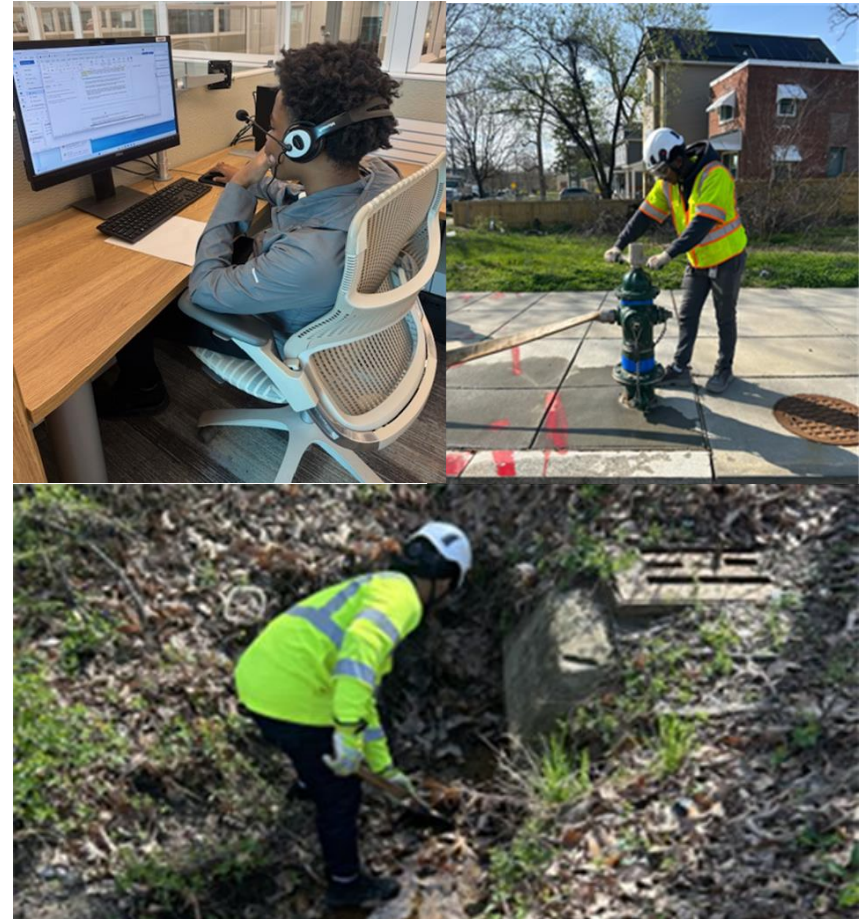
Current Status

Cohort 1

- Four (4) graduates (100%)
 - Two (2) are working full time on the LFDC Programs as activators (with the LFDC contractors)
 - Two (2) are working as pre-apprentices with DC Water Sewer Services

Cohort 2

- Two (2) Interns
 - Both are Seniors from the Idea Public Charter School
 - Earning \$17.95 per hour
 - Once successfully completed, will be offered the opportunity to stay on with DC Water as 'pre-apprentices'.





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC WATER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

In 2018, DC Water established an Apprenticeship Program designed to empower District of Columbia and local residents to establish a long-term career with DC Water. By creating new employment pipelines, we are helping the economy of the local community to grow organically and nurturing a ratepayer first mindset.

Key Components of a Registered Apprenticeship Program



DC Water Involvement




Structured On-the-job Learning



Related Training And Instruction



Rewards for Skill Gains



National Credential



FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC WATER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Current Status: Two Cohorts Launched

➤ Cohort 1

- Launched in October 2018
- Eleven (11) Enrollees
- Five Graduates
 - Two (2) are certified HVAC technicians working in the Dept of Facilities
 - Two (2) are certified Waste-Water Operators working in the Dept. of Waste-Water Operations
 - One (1) is a licensed Utility Worker working in the Dept. of Utility Services

➤ Cohort 2

- Launched in October 2022
- Fourteen (14) Enrollees
- Five Graduates
 - Three (3) are licensed Utility Workers working in the Dept. of Utility Services
 - Two (2) are licensed Maintenance Workers working in the Dept. of Facilities
- Five (5) are active apprentices
 - Three (3) are apprentices in Utility Systems Operations
 - One (1) is an apprentice in HVAC
 - One (1) is an apprentice in Maintenance





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Lead Free
DC Activators
Program





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Lead Free DC Activators Program

In 2023, DC Water launched the Lead-Free DC Community Activators Program to connect District residents with training and employment opportunities tied to Lead-Free DC (LFDC).

The program partners with the District Department of Employment Services (DOES) to provide on-the-job training in community engagement.

Key Aspects of the Program:

- **Workforce Training:** Participants receive training in community outreach, digital canvassing, customer service, and knowledge about lead service replacement.
- **Community Outreach:** Activators conduct door-to-door visits to inform residents about lead risks and help them check their service line materials.
- **Support for Lead Free DC:** The program supports the larger goal of replacing all lead pipes in DC
- **Career Pathway:** The program includes two goals:
 - 75% Graduation Rate for the Activators
 - 80% Placement of the Graduates with the Lead Free DC contractors.
- All participants are District residents and receive paid, on-the-job training through the Department of Employment Services (DOES)





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Lead Free DC Activators Program

Program Cohorts to Date:

- **Cohort I**
 - Began in May 2023 and concluded in May 2024
 - Seventeen (17) Enrollees
 - Fourteen (14) Graduated (82%)
 - Fourteen (14) Employed (100% of Graduates)

- **Cohort II**
 - Began in August 2023 and concluded in August 2024
 - Twelve (12) Enrollees
 - Eleven (11) Graduated (92%)
 - Eleven (11) participants Employed (100% of Graduates)

- **Cohort III**
 - Began in February 2026, planed completion is February 2027
 - Twelve (12) Enrollees





FY '26 DC WATER WORKS STATUS UPDATE

DC Water Works



Looking Ahead...

Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP)

- Action: DC Water will host four (4) participants in the 2026 MBSYEP, providing District youth (ages 17–24) with hands-on professional development.
- Details: Participants will be placed in Facilities and Government Affairs for the duration of the six-week program (June 29 – August 7, 2026).

College Fellowship Program (CFP)

- Action: Partnering with the DC Department of Employment Services (DOES) to support the College Fellowship Program (CFP).
- Impact: DC Water Works will host one (1) fellow in the Finance Department, providing a recent District graduate with six months of paid, hands-on experience (25–30 hours/week) starting June 2026.

Apprenticeship Program Expansion

- Strategic Focus: DC Water Works is partnering with People and Talent to scale the DC Water Apprenticeship Program.
- Goal: Establish a sustainable, local talent pipeline to reduce critical operational vacancies.



Thank You



Governance Committee Meeting

Government Affairs Update
April 10, 2026, 09:30 AM



Disconnection Hearing before the Council of the District of Columbia

March 26 | Committee on Transportation & the Environment

- Hearing focused on **disconnection notice, enforcement mechanisms including liens and receiverships, and tenant protections.**
- DC Water noted that the proposed language would **shift costs to paying customers thereby raising rates.**
- DC Water reaffirmed its strong record protecting vulnerable customers (moratoriums, assistance programs, Lead Free DC)
- DC Water noted that the Bill would create **significant operational, financial, and legal challenges** for the Authority
- Government Affairs is currently drafting alternative language for the T&E Committee's review and use.

Potomac Interceptor

- **Rolling updates** to elected officials and government entities.
- **United States House of Representatives Committee on Energy & Commerce (Committee) Inquiry**
 - Hosted Committee tour and briefing.
 - Rolling **Friday document productions underway** in response to February 20th inquiry.
- **Federal Funding**
 - Engaged MD & VA congressional offices submitted funding requests.
 - Exploring federal funding to **offset emergency repair and environmental rehabilitation costs.**
- **Water Week and Fly-In April 13**

Federal Focus

- **President's Proposed FY 2027 Budget Calls for Massive Cuts to Clean Water Funding**
- The Trump Administration released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 budget proposal on April 3, including topline details for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) budget. Similar to the Administration's budget last year, this budget again proposes severe cuts to clean water infrastructure funding, including:
 - Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF): proposed funding at \$155 million, a 91 percent reduction from current levels;
 - Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA): proposed funding at \$7.8 million, an 88 percent reduction from current levels
- **Water Week and Fly-In April 13**
 - Government Affairs will participate in the Water Week Conference and is scheduled to meet with members on the Hill.

Biosolids Virginia

- **PFAS & Biosolids Management (HB 1443 / SB 386):** As anticipated, the broad-based agreement reached mid-session held through the final vote. This bill now provides a mandatory, yet predictable, regulatory path for 2027.
- **Local Monitoring Authority (HB 1072):** Despite the expanded scope for local oversight, the final legislation establishes clear boundaries by requiring localities to self-fund any independent monitoring activities. DC Water is now transitioning to a coordination-led approach to ensure any supplemental local data aligns technically with official regional standards.
- **PFAS Monitoring Regulations (HB 880):** Successfully incorporated into the HB 1443 package. This outcome centralizes all PFAS monitoring under a single legislative vehicle.
- **Budget Status:** Monitoring the **April 23 Special Session** for the final biennial budget, which will determine state-level funding for infrastructure and sludge management.

Biosolids Maryland

Sewage Sludge - Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances - Regulation

House Bill 0925 / Senate Bill 0719 The cross-filed bills were introduced in February and received committee hearings on February 25 (House) and February 24 (Senate). Both measures successfully passed out of their respective chambers prior to crossover. The House bill passed its third reading in the opposite chamber on April 9 and now awaits the Governor's signature.

PFAS Chemicals - Product Phase Outs and Registration Requirements

House Bill 1022 / Senate Bill 0686 Introduced in early February 2026, the bills received hearings on March 10 (House) and February 24 (Senate). The House version was amended to remove the product registration requirement, as well as certain covered categories, including paint and internal electronic components, and to revise the definition of textiles. Despite initial movement, both bills ultimately stalled in committee and did not advance to the opposite chamber before crossover day. The Senate measure will likely not advance further, and the House bill was withdrawn by its sponsor on April 8.

Washington Aqueduct – Status Update

- Work on a potential Aqueduct transfer is **continuing**, but pacing has been **deliberately adjusted** given the scale and urgency of the Potomac Interceptor response.
- Feedback from Board members and external stakeholders has reinforced the need for **stronger jurisdictional engagement** before advancing next phases.
- Government Affairs is **re-engaging impacted jurisdictions**, including pursuing local leadership conversations (e.g., county executives), to strengthen regional alignment.
- DC Water also responded to **questions raised by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
- We have **renewed our request for a joint tour** as a reset mechanism to support shared understanding and re-anchor discussions around a long-term goal of **transitioning from federal to regional control**.

Thank you!



Blue Drop Quarterly Update

Chris Peot, President
Blue Drop

dc Bloom Sales Update

2

- Farm sales are up and orders continue to come in
- Soil blenders are ordering more material – we blended large quantities during winter in anticipation of spring sales
- Big resellers are ordering more blends – selling products stockpiled at the blending facility
- The new curing pad opened up substantial storage this winter, saving \$ from storing Bloom instead of paying someone to take it away and provides inventory for sales in spring
- Working to restore orders agreed upon for the three DC golf courses



Bloom Sales on pace to meet FY26 goals – 99% thru Q2

FY26 Goals	Fresh Eq Tons	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4*	Total
	Farms	7,500	18,500	17,500	3,500	47000
	Soil Blender	1,300	1,100	500	800	3700
	Contractors	900	1,200	1,200	1,300	4600
	Landscapers	450	300	300	500	1550
	Resellers	800	1,050	2,200	900	4950
	TOTAL	10,950	22,150	21,700	7,000	61,800
	FY26 Actuals	Segment	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Farms		12,686	15,998	0	0	28,684
Soil Blender		294	312	0	0	606
Contractors		9	1,200	0	0	1,209
Landscapers		432	242	0	0	674
Resellers		1,002	717	0	0	1,719
TOTAL		14,423	18,469	0	0	32,892

dc New Curing Pad Update



Curing pad is complete and we held a tour and ribbon cutting ceremony for several key customers. Also brought in a new curing turning machine to reduce processing time by 75%. Currently storing inventory for spring sales

dc Bloom Regulatory Update: PFAS

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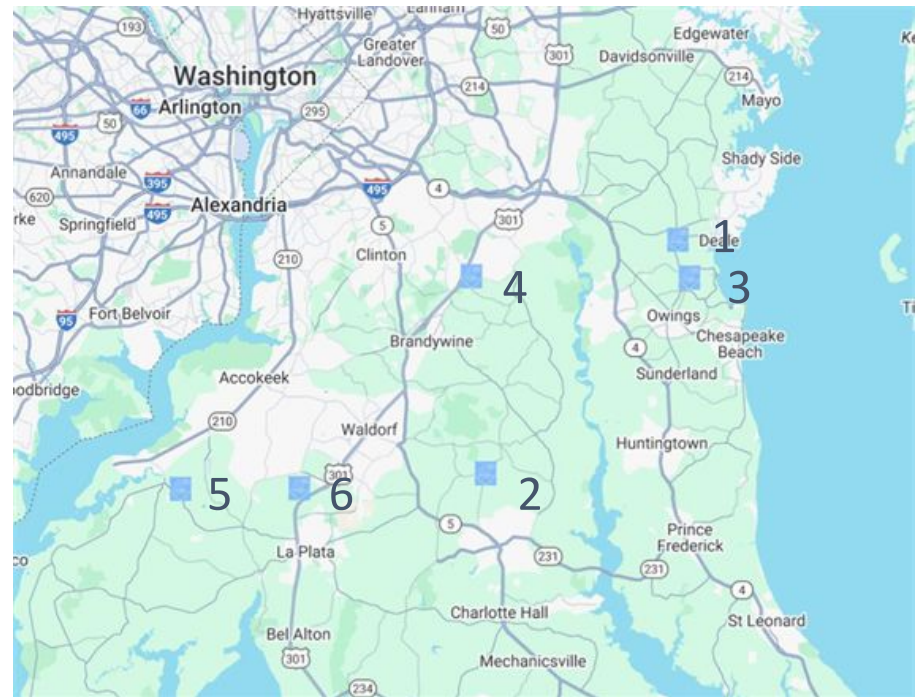
We worked proactively with legislators and regulators for the past 10-months to ensure workable, science-based limits in MD. A bill worked its way through the house and senate and is all but passed, with limits of 25 ppb combined PFOS and PFOA, for a 12-month rolling average. These limits would establish that biosolids application is unrestricted under 25 ppb. Bloom averages ~12 ppb PFOS and 2 ppb PFOA.

Virginia quickly followed suit and adopted nearly the identical parameters as in the MD bill. We will now work with DEQ to establish a new D&M permit for Class A EQ low odor biosolids products, which will open markets in VA.

dc Land Search Update

Authorized by DC Water to retain \$2.5M for Bloom program land purchase. Money to be transferred to DC Water for their purchase, resolving ownership questions from IMA partners.

Worked with a realtor specializing in agricultural land. Looked at 6 sites.

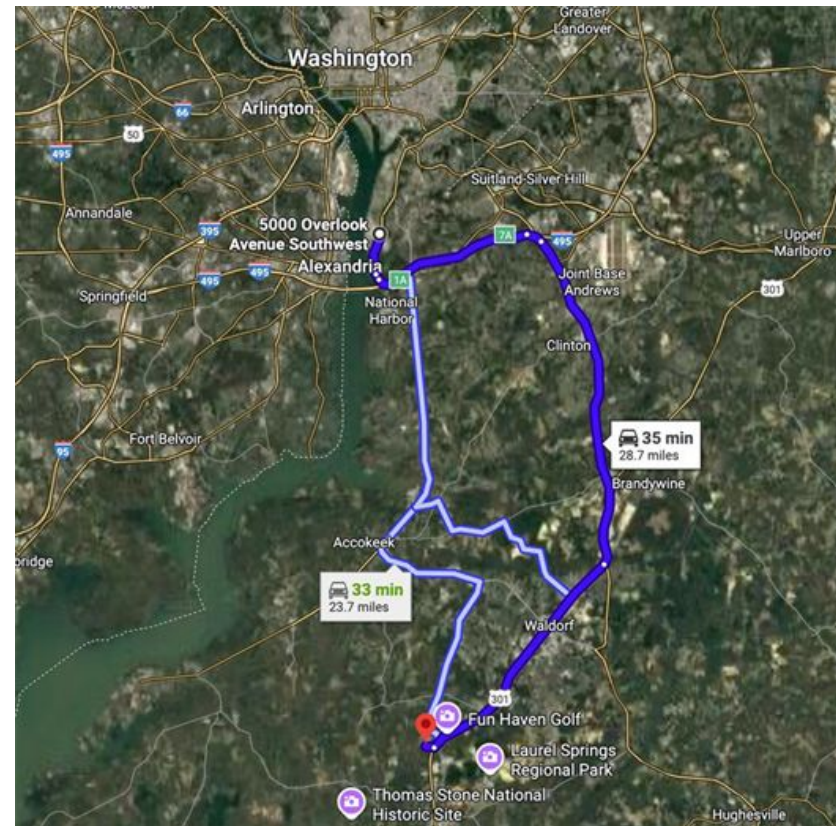




Potential site just north of La Plata

35 minutes and 24 miles from Blue Plains; within our desired radius

Made an offer on the farm with a 60-day study period, recently extended by 30 days. Expires 4/30.



dc Turkey Hill Lane Farm



We would need to cut a road to the building at Turkey Hill Road or use the existing access off Mitchell from site 2 (see stars). Power line available just to the north of the blue box.

BLUE DROP PROPOSAL

 crewcarbon.com

March 12, 2026

CONFIDENTIAL



dc Process Description

PROCESS INTENSIFICATION THROUGH DECARBONIZATION

About CREW

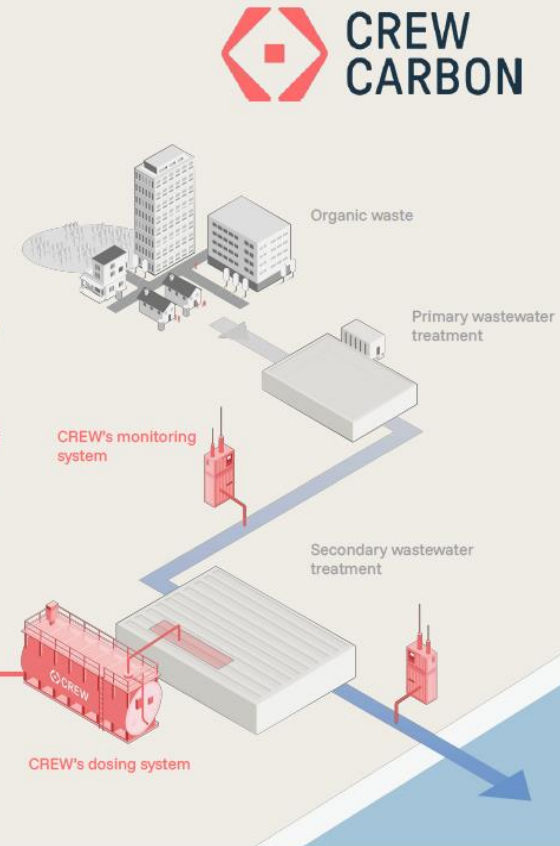
CREW provides wastewater treatment facilities with a process intensification solution that improves performance, lowers costs, and permanently removes greenhouse gasses.

Climate Impact

Our process enables the generation of high quality carbon removal credits. CREW has contracted buyers of these credits, such as Google & JP Morgan, to help offset their emissions and lower their carbon footprints.

Our Solution

CREW's technology utilizes data-enabled dosing of finely ground calcium carbonate (i.e., limestone) into secondary treatment, integrating into operators' existing processes. The result is improved biological nutrient removal, settleability, and a reduced reliance of conventional chemicals.



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crewcarbon.com

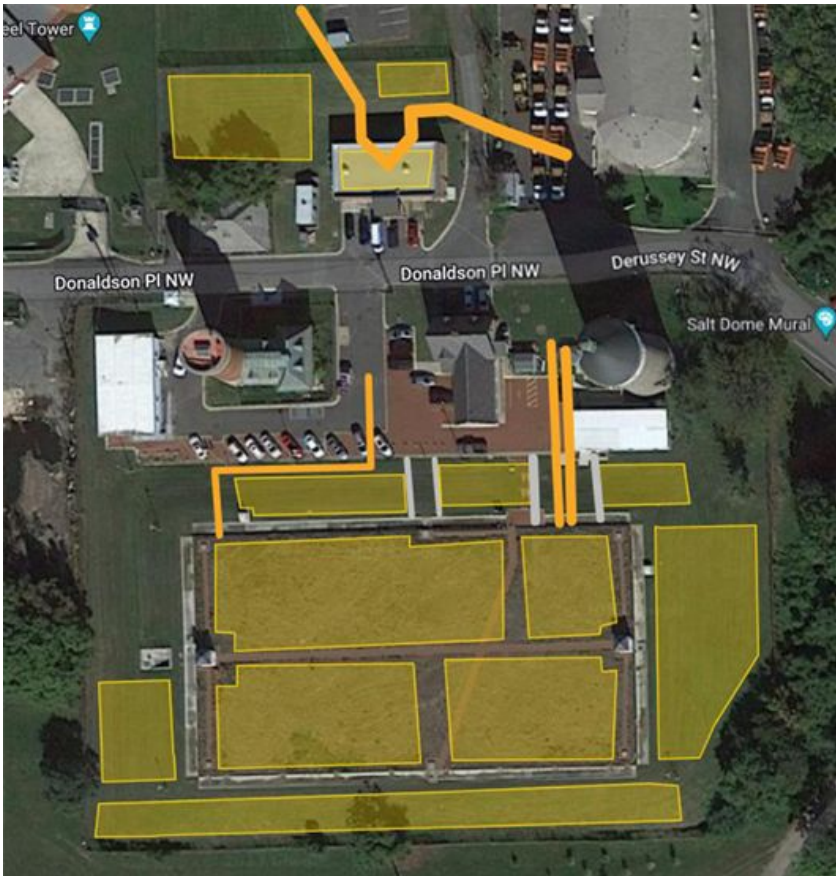
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CREW CARBON <> BLUE DROP PROPOSAL

Key Points

- **Revenue Share Model:** CREW proposes a tiered performance-based revenue share model for this demonstration → the higher the dose rate, the higher Blue Drop's revenue share %
- **CAPEX:**
 - CREW covers all CAPEX for the demonstration upfront
 - Following a ~12-month CAPEX payback period for CREW, the model flips to Blue Drop receiving a significant portion of ongoing revenues
- **Microsoft Carbon Credit Offtake:**
 - In order to deliver on a Microsoft Offtake (which commences in October 2027) together, a permanent / larger alkalinity dosing system would be required at Blue Plains. The proposed revenue share increases to 80%+ at this level of dosing (50t/ day & above)
 - A permanent alkalinity dosing system should be integrated into Blue Plains' capital planning for 2027
 - Note, HRSD is currently building a CREW/WWW permanent silo-based system at VIP (following the same CREW pilot); online this summer
- **Contract Term:** Match Blue Drop Contract with term length of DC Water MOU - 1 year with option to renew for 1 year periods

dc Ft Reno Reservoir Solar



Ft Reno Reservoir - ~ 1MW power generation, with an estimated \$450K/yr in SRECs and \$175K/yr in power savings.

RFP complete and awarded to New Columbia Solar, a local DC company.

Preliminary design work is underway.



IMA Partner FY25 Rate Payer Credit Estimate

In March, Blue Drop sent net revenue back to DC Water, and DC Water will credit the IMA partners their portion on the Blue Plains Q3 operating bill in addition to saving \$3M on biosolids contracting costs in FY25.

FY25 Net Revenue Credit Calculation					
	Bloom	RECs	total		
revenue	\$ 354,565	\$ 5,697,418			
expenses		\$ (43,128)			
net revenue	\$ 354,565	\$ 5,654,290	\$ 6,008,855	total net Bloom and REC revenue to date	
			\$ 2,500,000	Bloom land purchase budget	
			\$ 506,057	Blue Drop 6 month operating budget	
			\$ 506,057	Blue Drop 6 months reserve	
			\$ 2,496,742	transfer FY25 net revenue to DC Water	
		41.52%	\$ 1,036,647	DC credit	
		42.58%	\$ 1,063,113	MD credit	
		10.17%	\$ 253,919	Fairfax credit	
		5.02%	\$ 125,336	Loudoun credit	
		0.71%	\$ 17,727	Potomac Interceptor	

dc Blue Drop Guiding Principles

Board resolution #16-90 dated November 3rd, 2016

WHEREAS, the Board has directed the General Manager/CEO to find innovative ways to **generate revenue from new sources to help mitigate the rate of increase in rates, fees and charges** that are necessary to recover the cost of providing services; and

WHEREAS, DC Water **holds or is seeking patent rights for several inventions** in the United States and in other countries for technologies and processes that were developed from research and operation of its facilities; and

WHEREAS, DC Water makes Bloom™, a soil conditioner made from exceptional quality Class A biosolids produced from operations at Blue Plains; and

WHEREAS, DC Water conducts other operations, including but not limited to laboratory services and fleet maintenance that can be provided to other agencies, persons and entities for a fee; and

WHEREAS, DC Water is committed to **maximizing value from every element of its operations** for the benefit of the environment, its ratepayers and customers; and

WHEREAS, the General Manager/CEO has indicated that Blue Drop will be organized to achieve the following purposes:

- 1) **Provide relief from rising rates, fees, and charges** to DC Water's customers in the District of Columbia, to other participating jurisdictions as defined in D.C. Code § 34-2202.01(5), and to users of the joint-use sewage facilities as defined in D.C. Code § 34.2202.01(4);
- 2) **Advance and promote innovative strategies and technologies** in the treatment and delivery of potable water, the treatment and collection of wastewater, and related products and services;
- 3) **Improve the state of the water and wastewater treatment sectors by sharing knowledge, research, and expertise throughout the country and the world;**
- 4) **Promote resource recovery and conservation;** and

WHEREAS, the Board expects that the Blue Drop entity will be able to **respond rapidly and efficiently to changing market dynamics;** and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that Blue Drop should be part of DC Water's plan to manage its finances and to perform its statutory responsibilities.

Nonprofit LLC. The LLC shall be managed and operated as a nonprofit entity.



Questions and Discussion

Chris Peot, President
Blue Drop