

Exploring Asset Management: Key Concepts and Resources (e.g. CUPSS)

June, 2011 Troy, NY



Environmental Finance Center

- EPA Region 2: New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands
- Two offices: Syracuse, New York City

- What we do...







Presentation Overview

- What's the big idea?
- What is Asset Management
- Liquid Assets
- Asset Management Tools
 - Check Up Program for Small Systems (CUPSS)





"You cannot have a first rate community with a third rate infrastructure."

Steve Allbee, EPA



Water and Sewer System Numbers



- 850 billion gallons of untreated wastewater discharged annually
- 32 years average useful life of water treatment equipment
- \$390 billion to replace and build new wastewater systems over next 20 years





The Cost of Aging Infrastructure

- "State and federal studies indicate that thousands of water and sewer systems may be too old to function properly."
- "People pay more for their cell phones and cable television than for water. You can go a day without a phone or TV, you can't go a day without water."





Sustainability:

"Meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs"

- Brundtland Report

Local government decisions impact sustainability of the community





Liquid Assets Video

- Has anyone seen this video?
- Use as an educational tool
- Increase public awareness
- Find it at: http://liquidassets.psu.edu/





What is Asset Management?

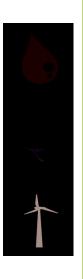
EPA definition:

- "Asset management is a process for maintaining a desired level of customer service at the best appropriate cost."
- "A planning process to ensure maximum value from each asset and the financial resources to rehabilitate and replace it when necessary"

Long term Sustainability

Desired Level of Service = What utilities want their assets to provide Best Appropriate Cost = Lowest lifecycle cost (total cost of system)

















Why do we care? Funding Incentives

- NYSEFC:
 - CWSRF → Talking about incorporating into their scoring system to be qualified for funding
 - GPR-GIGP Listed in evaluation criteria
- USDA-RD → Lookin good!



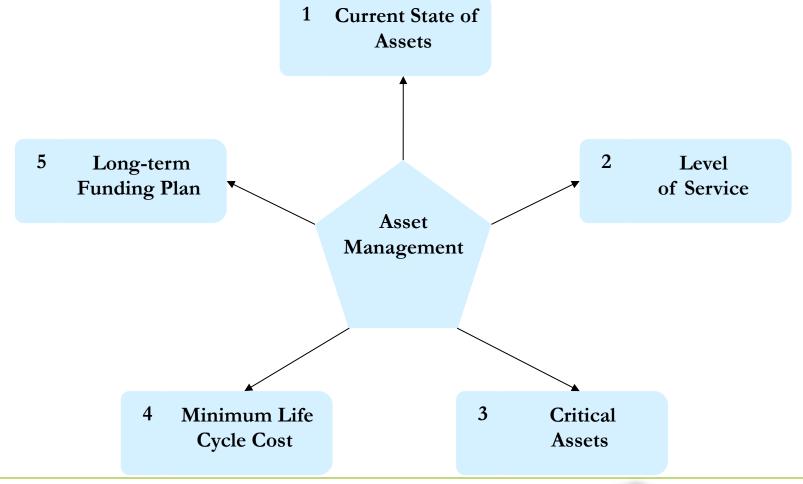


Five Core Questions

- Current State Of The Utility's Assets?
- Required Sustained Level Of Service?
- Critical To Sustained Performance?
- Best "Minimum Life-Cycle-Cost" CIP And O&M Strategies?
- Best Long-term Financing Strategy?



Asset Management Core Questions









Check Up Program for Small Systems (CUPSS)

What is CUPSS?

- CUPSS is a free, easy-to-use, AM 101 tool for small DW and WW utilities (< 3,300 persons) and medium-sized systems new to asset management.
- Input data (track inventory, tasks, and finances) to:
 - Manage Assets
 - DW/WW Asset report and financial report
 - Develop a personalized AM plan!





How can I get a copy of CUPSS?

- CUPSS is available as a free download from the EPA website.
- Alternatively, you can order a copy of the CUPSS application on CD by contacting the National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP).
- For more information on obtaining CUPSS, see epa.gov/cupss





CUPSS - Continued

How can CUPSS Help?

- Communicate effectively with decision makers!
- Decisions will be predictive, not reactive!
- Ensure funds are spent in the most appropriate manner!



Small system wellhead with hydrolank Credit Rural Community Assistance Corporation



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set



Think about the Asset Management Plan

Setting up CUPSS is the first step toward generating a customized asset management plan. This set up process allows a utility to identify key tasks and team members to keep the utility on track.





Assemble Your Team

Your team may include the following people:

Benefits to My Utility

CUPSS can help you save your team member contacts in one easy to find place. These team members will later help you prepare and implement your Asset Management Plan.

- Water system operators
- Engineers
- Local and elected officials
- Accounting staff
- Information technology staff
- Treasurer
- Other infrastructure managers and staff from other utilities
- Representatives from environmental groups
- Representatives from neighboring water districts
- Members of the community
- And anyone else you work with in your day-to-day operations.





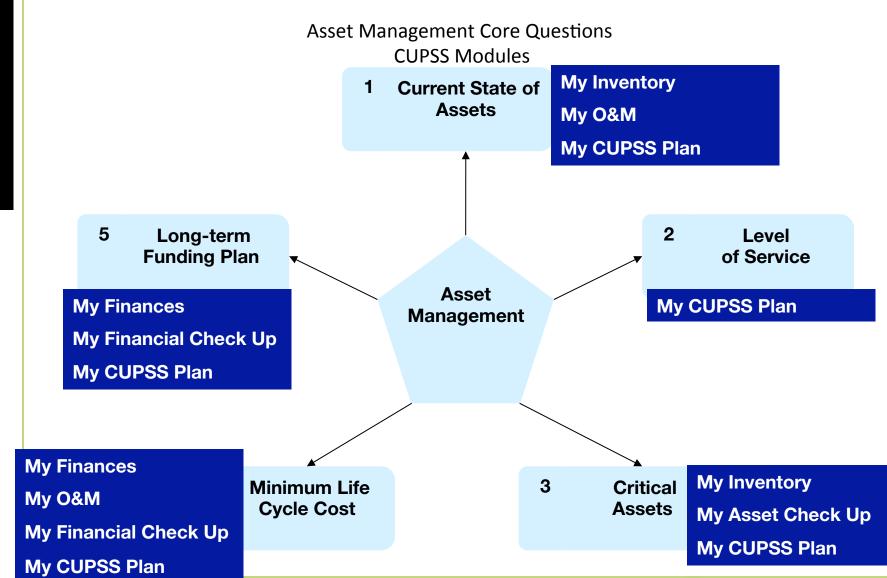
Get Started Using CUPSS

There are five steps in the Getting Started module:



- 1. Enter utility information
- Enter user information
- 3. Schedule operations and maintenance tasks
- 4. Enter information about your project team
- Review and save data





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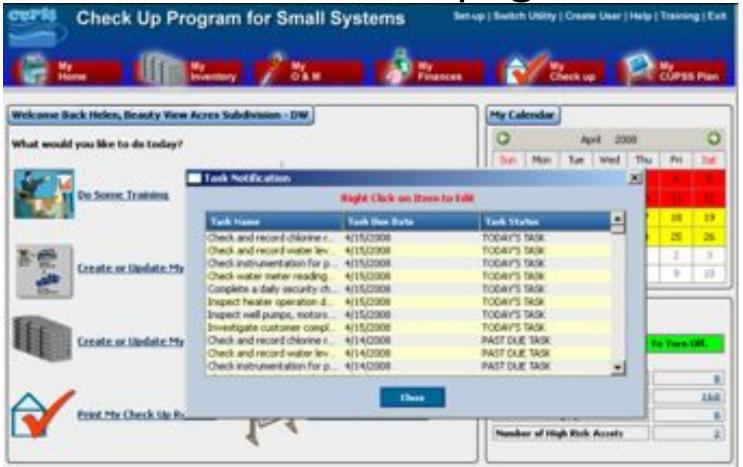




Show me CUPSS!

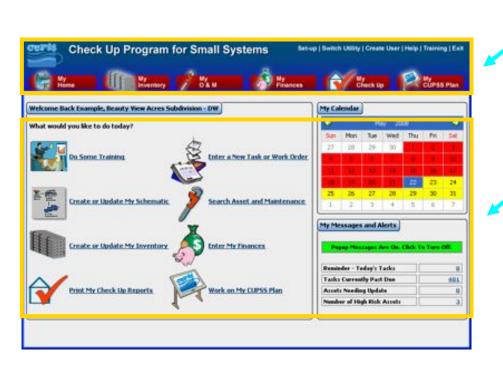


CUPSS Homepage





Navigate Through CUPSS



Navigation Area

Activity Windows



Navigation Area

Administration Menu

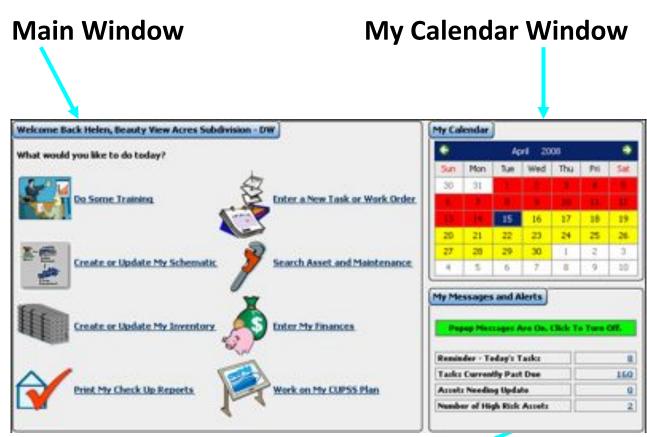




CUPSS Module Buttons



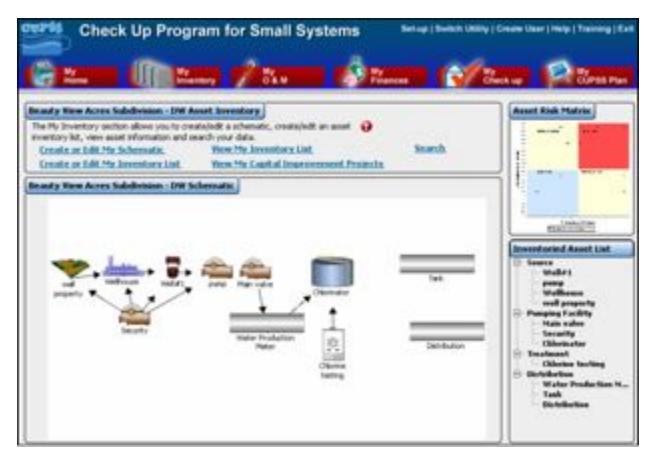
Activity Windows



My Messages and Alerts Window

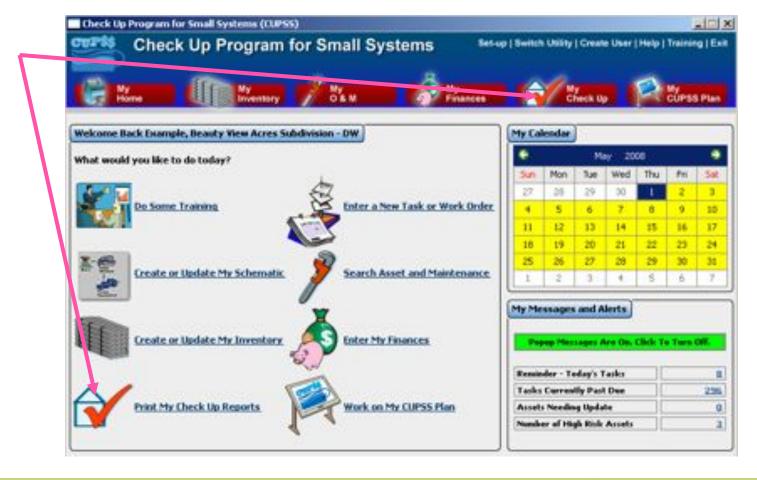


My Inventory Home



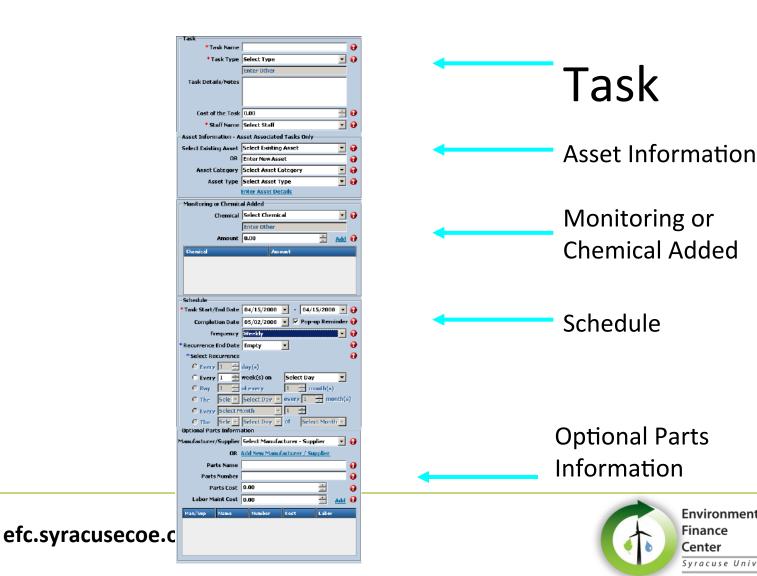


Navigate to My Asset Check Up





Task Form



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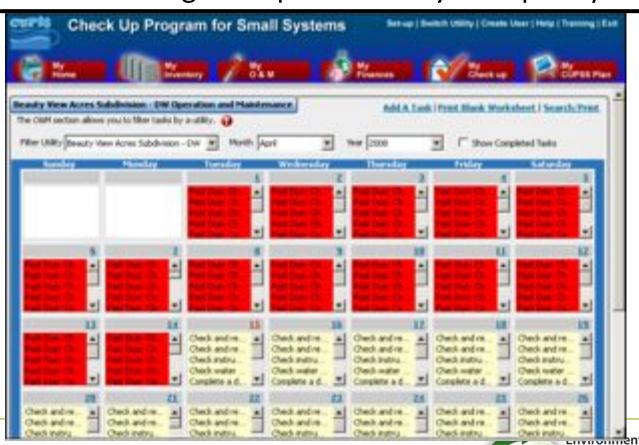
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Benefits to My Utility

CUPSS allows you to complete and print your work orders. By keeping all of your work orders in one place you can track all tasks through completion easily and quickly.



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Using CUPSS to Manage My Finances



My Finances:

- How to track annual revenues and expenses
- How to plan for the future by looking at the utility's past financial history

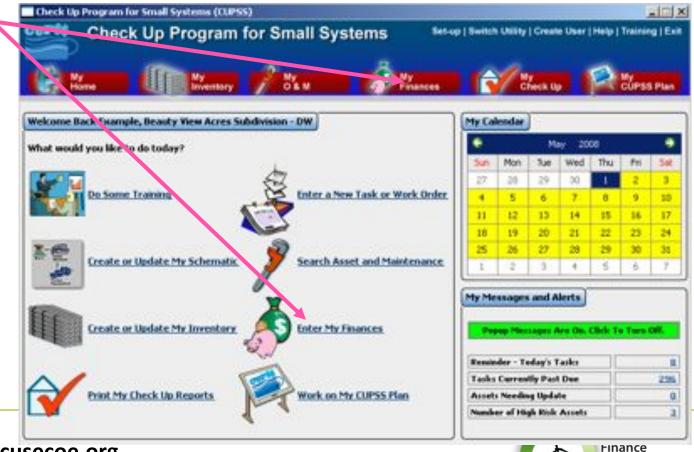


Why Manage Finances?



- See where the utility's money is going
- Identify the utility's priorities for this year and what can wait
- Determine the full costs of doing business

Navigate to My Finances

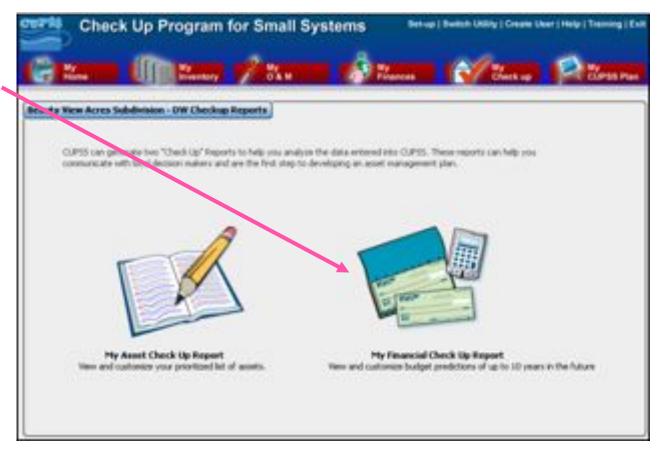


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CUPSS User's Guide - Section 7 University

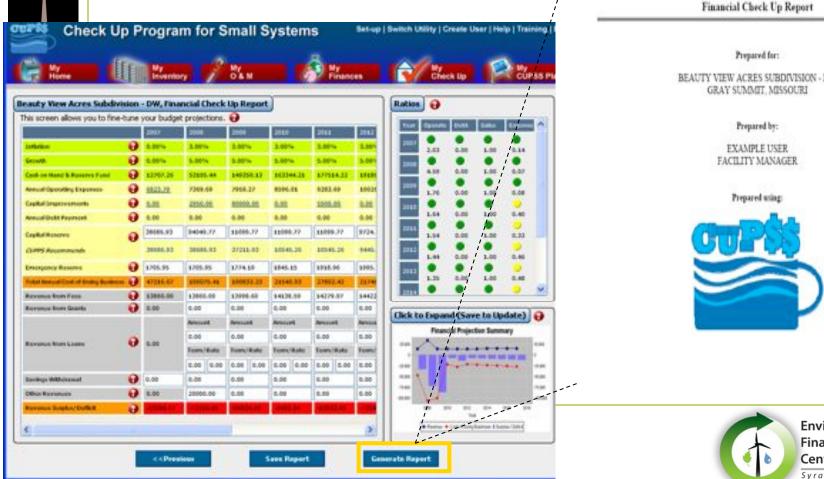
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My Check Up Page





Generate My Financial Check Up Report



BEAUTY VIEW ACRES SUBDIVISION - DW







Who Is Responsible for Creating the Plan?

Everyone:

- Operators
- Engineers
- Town Leadership (Board, Supervisor, Mayor, etc.)
- Constituents

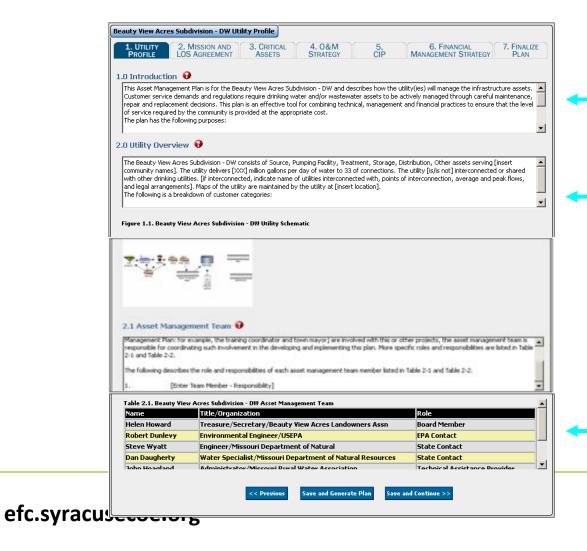
Hint:

Once you have identified the steps to creating an AM plan, break up the work early

E.g. have all employees commit to 2 hours a week to completing the inventory



Step 1: Utility Profile



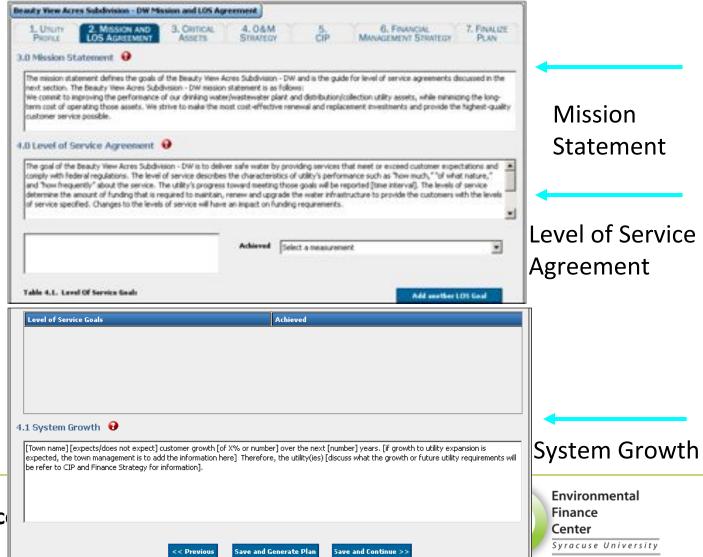
Introduction

Utility Overview

> Asset Management Team



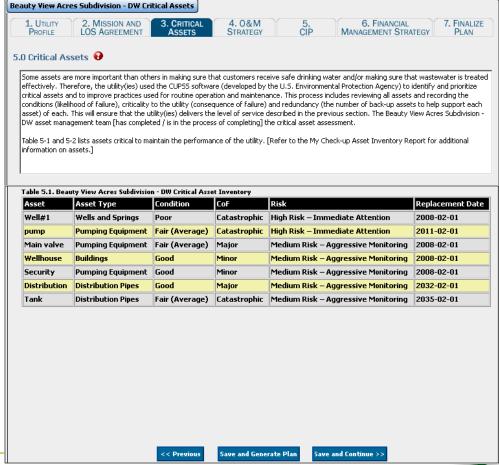
Step 2: Mission and LOS Agreement



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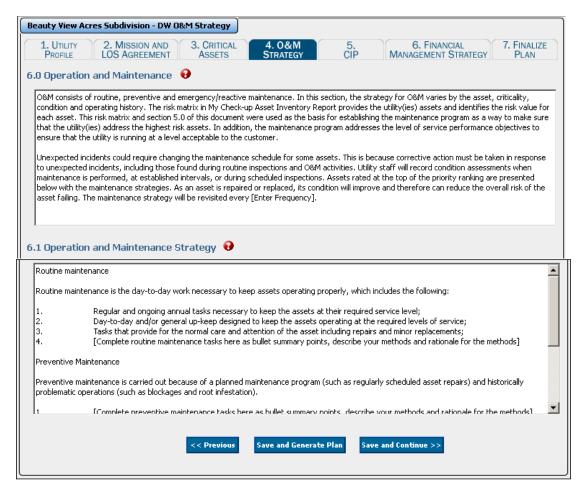


Step 3: Critical Assets



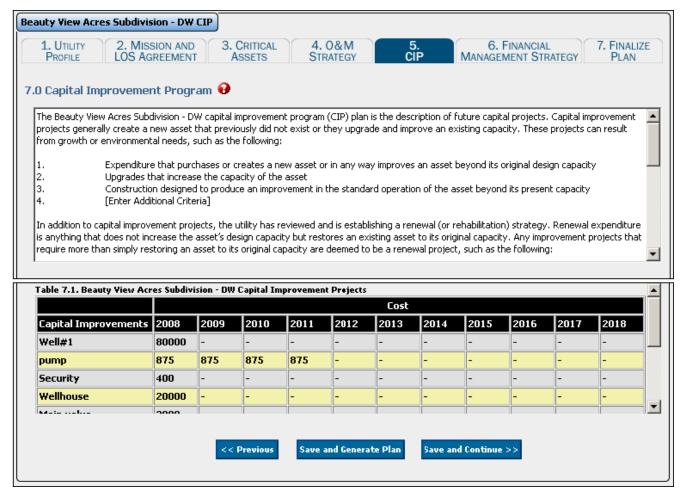


Step 4: O&M Strategy





Step 5 – Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)



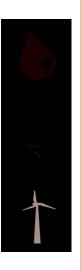




Benefits of an Asset Management Plan

- Increased knowledge of the location of the assets and which assets are most critical to the utility and which ones aren't
- Greater ability to plan and pay for future repairs and replacements
- Management and financial decisions through efficient and focused operations and maintenance
- Setting rates based on sound operational and financial planning
- Increased acceptance of rates
- Meeting consumer demands and service expectations, as well as regulatory requirements with a focus on system sustainability
- Improving security and safety of assets





Engaging Your Constituents in the AM

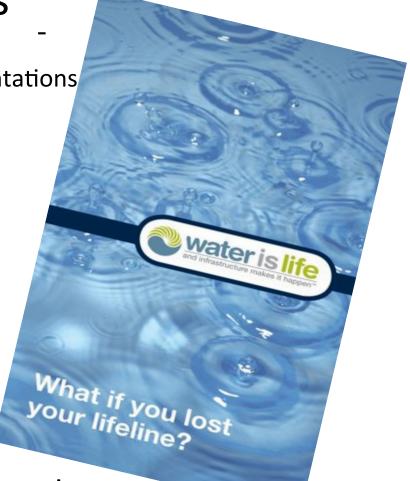
Process

WEF's Water Is Life Campaign

- Talking points and PowerPoint presentations
- Media kits
 - Sample press releases
 - Sample opinion articles & editorials
 - Bill stuffers
 - Sample display ads / PSAs
 - Topic brochures
 - Case studies
 - Bookmarks & buttons

"How-to" guide





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Asset Management Resources

- EPA: http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/pws/ cupss/training.cfm
- Water Environment Federation: Public education pamphlets, trainings, education and events
- <u>CUPSS</u>: Check Up Program for Small Systems
- <u>TEAMS</u>: Maryland Center for Environmental Training
- <u>EFC Financial Dashboard</u>: A web-based rate-setting tool.
- NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation: Community Assistance Program: Fred.Testa@efc.ny.org
- NYWEA: Trainings, Education and Conference
- NYS Rural Water: Trainings, education and Technical Assistance
- <u>RCAP</u>: Trainings, education and Technical Assistance: Chris Nill, cnill@rcapsolutions.org





Thank You!

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