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EPA Climate Change and Water News is a bi-weekly newsletter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water that covers climate change and water-related news from EPA, other U.S. Federal agencies, and partners. To learn more about climate change impacts on water resources, visit our website at: <http://www.epa.gov/water/climatechange>.

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EPA News and Featured Tool

President Obama and EPA Announce Clean Power Plan

On August 3, 2015, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan – a historic and important step in reducing carbon pollution from power plants that takes real action on climate change. Shaped by years of outreach and public engagement, the final Clean Power Plan is designed to strengthen the fast-growing trend toward cleaner and lower-polluting American energy. With strong but achievable standards for power plants, and customized goals for states to cut the carbon pollution that is driving climate change, the Clean Power Plan provides national consistency, accountability, and a level playing field while reflecting each state's energy mix.

Click [here to learn more.](#)

Advisory Committee on Water Information Announces Public Listening Session for Water Resources and Climate Change Adaptation Group, September 9, 2015

The Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI) has announced a listening session for the public to provide early input on updating priorities for collaborative efforts to manage freshwater resources in a changing climate. The Water Resources and Climate Change Adaptation Workgroup comprises over a dozen federal agencies interested in the management of the nation's water resources. The Workgroup was formed in 2009 and published the "National Action Plan: Priorities for Managing Freshwater Resources in a Changing Climate" in 2011. Much progress has been made in the climate change adaptation arena since 2011, including implementation of many of the specific actions outlined in the "National Action Plan." Click [here for more information on the public listening session.](#)

Click [here to visit the ACWI website.](#)

Climate Ready Water Utilities Releases New Videos Highlighting CREAT Tool

EPA's Climate Ready Water Utilities Program (CRWU) has developed five new videos. These short case-studies highlight utilities that CRWU has worked with to conduct risk assessments using the Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT). Videos can be found on the EPA YouTube channel.

Click on the links below to view the videos.

Fredericktown, Missouri: <https://youtu.be/acVqr7qdkMU>

Camden, New Jersey: <https://youtu.be/w9Omq3ZMQg>

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: <https://youtu.be/H-n2UVZhFbk>

Manchester by-the-Sea, Massachusetts: <https://youtu.be/MsNulgFgoso>

Faribault, Minnesota: <https://youtu.be/qhka0Xm-hNw>

Featured Tool: Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool

The Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT) is a software tool that assists drinking water and wastewater utility owners and operators in understanding potential climate change threats. The tool also aids in assessing the related risks at respective utilities. The tool helps to identify threats based on regional differences in climate change projections it then assists utilities in designing adaptation plans based on the assessment.

Click [here for more information and to access the tool.](#)

Other Federal News

Government Accountability Office Report: "Army Corps of Engineers: Efforts to Address the Impact of Extreme Weather Events"

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) considers the potential impact of extreme weather events in its planning and operations of water resources infrastructure projects by, among other things, updating and developing guidance on how to incorporate different extreme weather scenarios in its planning of

projects.. As the frequency and intensity of some extreme weather events are increasing however, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that the Corps, without performing systematic, national risk assessments on other types of infrastructure, such as hurricane barriers and floodwalls, will continue to take a piecemeal approach to assessing risk on such infrastructure.

Click [here to access the report](#).

NOAA Announces Formation of Advisory Committee for Sustained National Climate Assessment; Nominations Due September 14, 2015

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has posted a Federal Register Notice announcing the formation of the Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment. Nominations for the committee will be accepted through Monday, September 14. The Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment will provide advice on sustained assessment activities and products, including engagement of stakeholders. The Committee will be established under the Department of Commerce in 2015 and supported through NOAA.

Click [here to view the Federal Register Notice](#).

Click [here for more information](#).

Bureau of Indian Affairs Announces 2015 Climate Change Funding Awards

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has announced the Fiscal Year 2015 Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program Adaptation and Coastal Management Funding Awards. These awards, totaling \$11 million, will support adaptation and coastal planning projects and provide travel support for federally-recognized Tribes and Alaska Native Villages.

Click [here to download the list of funded projects](#).

Click [here for more information about the awards](#).

Other News

Risky Business Report: “Come Heat and High Water: Climate Risk in the Southeastern United States and Texas”

The Southeast U.S. and Texas are experiencing an economic boom, mostly due to manufacturing and energy industry growth. But that boom is at risk from unchecked climate change, which could render this region—already one of the hottest and most weather-vulnerable of the country—at significant economic risk. This report examines the economic burden of climate change impacts to the region, and explores what policymakers and business leaders could do to adapt to a changing climate. The Southeast has the potential to demonstrate to national and global political leaders the kind of strong response necessary to ensure a strong economic future.

Click [here for the executive summary](#).

Click [here to download the full report as a PDF](#).

Report Published: “Green Infrastructure: Lessons from Science and Practice”

A new report released by scientists from Syracuse University, the Cary Institute, and the Harvard Forest, in partnership with the Science Policy Exchange demonstrates the importance, as well as the limits, to green infrastructure. Green infrastructure can provide many benefits for public health, local communities, wildlife habitat, and climate resiliency. Across the U.S., cities and towns are turning to green infrastructure to provide much-needed updates to aging storm water management systems. Understanding the strengths and limits of green infrastructure is essential to impactful use.

Click [here to access the report](#).

This newsletter is produced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water (EPA). If you have questions related to the newsletter or want to submit an item, email the editor at water_climate_change@epa.gov. For past issues of EPA Climate Change and Water News, as well as further information on climate change impacts on water resources, visit www.epa.gov/water/climatechange. For more information on EPA's climate change activities, visit www.epa.gov/climatechange.