



America's water infrastructure is critically underfunded. Current funding levels are not sustainable. EPA estimates that U.S. water and wastewater infrastructure will need at least \$1.2 trillion by 2040 to meet demands and maintain aging systems.

For more information on our industry's 2026 advocacy issues, visit [WeDigAmerica.org/Issues](https://www.wedigamerica.org/issues).

NUCA'S TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE SECOND SESSION, 119TH CONGRESS

Congress Must Increase Funding For The EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) And The Clean Water SRF in FY 2027 Appropriations

- With FY 2027 being the first year without IJJA's extra appropriations, Congress must provide at least the full authorized amounts for the SRF programs.
- Any funds for earmarked water projects must be provided in addition to SRF funding. Subtracting them from SRF amounts undermines the long-term sustainability of the revolving funds.

Reauthorize Both SRFs in 2026 Legislation At Elevated Levels

- Reauthorizing at higher levels recognizes the need for more resources to address long-term underinvestment in critical public health infrastructure.

Reauthorize Federal Surface Transportation Programs and Provide At Least Baseline Investment Levels

- Congress must reauthorize surface transportation programs and provide at least baseline programmatic funding levels to meet surface transportation infrastructure needs.
- The legislation should also include permitting reforms, improved project delivery, stronger work zone safety measures, and improvements to the Buy America compliance process.

AMERICA'S UTILITY CONSTRUCTION SECTOR: FAST FACTS (NAICS 2371)

570,000 employees in 17,700 industry businesses and firms. *(Fed Reserve)*

\$189.2 billion in sector construction work during 2025. *(Ibisworld Industry Reports)*

\$46.1 billion in estimated payroll, with an average employee annual wage of \$81,000. *(BLS)*

1.6 million miles of U.S. underground pipe infrastructure, with 30-40% of it nearing the end of its 75-year lifecycle over the next 20 years. *(ASCE)*

Roughly one-half of the water utility construction workforce is eligible to retire in the next 10 years. *(EPA)*



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BY THE NUMBERS

\$630 billion needed by 2040 to maintain and replace wastewater and stormwater treatment systems. *(EPA)*

\$625 billion needed by 2040 to improve America's drinking water infrastructure. *(EPA)*

More than **\$40 billion** is needed to replace 100% of the 4-6 million dangerous lead service lines in the U.S. *(EPA/AWWA)*

Closing the total infrastructure spending gap over 20 years could support **1.4 million jobs** across the economy per year, add an **additional \$3.9 trillion** to GDP, and **\$7.3 trillion** in total economic output. *(ValueOfWater.org)*

Billions of dollars in additional private investment capital could be made available by lifting the private activity bond (PAB) state volume cap. *(Reason Foundation)*