

FOUNDATIONS OF WATER STEWARDSHIP: A FRAMEWORK FOR ADDRESSING WATER RELATED RISKS AT SITES AND WITHIN SUPPLY CHAINS



An AWS accredited training program for sustainability and water management professionals

Presented by



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Mitigating Water Risk in the Mid-Atlantic and Beyond. In its 2016 Global Risk Report, the World Economic Forum ranks water crises as one of the world's most critical business risks. The rise in concern about water has been a clear trend in recent years and this report serves to emphasize the need for more responsible management of water resources. Water risk is material to businesses throughout North America from quantity issues in the western United States to quality issues in the Great Lakes region. The need for collaborative efforts to address our water challenges is clear while at the same time the need to address company-specific water resource challenges and opportunities is critical.

The Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS). AWS is a multi-stakeholder organization dedicated to enhancing water stewardship capacity, and guiding, incentivizing and differentiating responsible water use. AWS employs three mutually-reinforcing programs to drive improved water stewardship: a standard and verification system, membership in a multi-stakeholder association, and training. Together, these programs are designed to build capacity and provide a forum through which knowledge on water stewardship can be generated, accessed and shared, helping us to address our shared water challenges. At the heart of all three programs is the stakeholder-endorsed AWS Standard.

The AWS Standard. The International Water Stewardship Standard (the "AWS Standard") is designed to support, recognize and reward collaborative efforts to manage shared water challenges while providing a strategic framework for companies to better manage water resources and associated costs and risks. The AWS Standard drives transparency and credibility through a stakeholder-endorsed framework built around four outcomes of water stewardship:

1. Good Water Governance
2. Sustainable Water Balance
3. Good Water Quality
4. Healthy Status of Important Water Related Areas

Foundations of Water Stewardship. The one day Foundation course aims to equip water management and sustainability professionals with the knowledge they need to implement, promote and optimize

site-specific water management techniques and watershed-based stewardship strategies. The Foundation course will:

- Introduce participants to water stewardship, including examples of how companies are responding to water scarcity and other water risks in North America; and
- Introduce the fundamentals of the AWS Standard, helping participants to understand how this innovative approach can support diverse water management goals and sustainability objectives.

“Foundations of Water Stewardship” is the first level of a modular program for users of the AWS water stewardship system.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Foundations of Water Stewardship course will enable participants to:

- Understand how water stewardship can contribute to their organisation’s goals;
- Gain a thorough overview of available tools to support the application of water stewardship;
- Understand how to engage with the AWS Standard;
- Grasp the core requirements of each of the six implementation steps of the AWS Standard; and
- When appropriate, prepare participants for the Advanced Training in the AWS Standard.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

“Foundations of Water Stewardship” is relevant to a broad audience of sustainability professionals, major water users, the water and wastewater industry, watershed groups and water policy makers.

PROGRAM FORMAT

This is a one-day face-to-face training program for up to 35 participants using online material and other documents that will be emailed to participants. Participant engagement will be an important component of the program through small group exercises and case studies. Upon satisfactory participation in the Foundation training, AWS will award participants a certificate of completion.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By participating in Foundations of Water Stewardship participants will deepen their understanding of:

- How water stewardship can be situated within an overall suite of business opportunities for water management;
- The key elements of stewardship systems in general and how these are implemented in the AWS water stewardship system;
- The range of risk and conformity tools that participants may be using or have heard about and show how water stewardship works with these tools;
- How water stewardship is being applied in different contexts through examples of organizations working with the system;
- How to work through the process of becoming a water steward - Steps 1 to 6 of the AWS Standard - and the role of the glossary and guidance;
- How to put this introductory knowledge of the AWS Standard into practice through case studies;
- The processes for verification of conformity with the AWS Standard; and
- Available support for water stewardship projects and compliance requirements.

ACCREDITATION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

This program is based on implementation of the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard, a standard owned by the international Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS).

COST AND REGISTRATION

Cost per participant will be \$450.00. This includes course material, lunch and refreshments. Travel or accommodation costs are not included. Reductions are available for non-profit organizations and for individuals attending a second day of training (*Advanced Training in the AWS Standard*). See registration site for additional pricing information.

Register online <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=226387&>

Contact AWS North America for more information:

(414) 988-8749

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VENUE AND LOGISTICS

Global Water Center

1st Floor Auditorium

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Free onsite parking is available.