



Water System Rates & Finance Workshop







This program is made possible under a cooperative agreement with the US EPA.



Housekeeping



About the Environmental Finance Center Network (EFCN)

The Environmental Finance Center Network (EFCN) is a university-based organization creating innovative solutions to the difficult how-to-pay issues of environmental protection and improvement. The EFCN works with the public and private sectors to promote sustainable environmental solutions while bolstering efforts to manage costs.

The Smart Management for Small Water Systems Program

This program is offered free of charge to all who are interested. The Program Team will conduct activities in every state, territory, and the Navajo Nation. All small drinking water systems are eligible to receive free training and technical assistance.

What We Offer

Individualized technical assistance, workshops, small group support, webinars, eLearning, online tools & resources, blogs

The Small Systems Program Team

- Environmental Finance Center at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Environmental Finance Center at Wichita State University
- EFC West
- New England Environmental Finance Center at the University of Southern Maine
- Southwest Environmental Finance Center at the University of New Mexico
- Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center
- Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland
- American Water Works Association (AWWA)





















Asset Management



Rate Setting and Fiscal Planning



Leadership Through Decisionmaking and Communication



Water Loss Reduction



Energy Management Planning



Accessing Infrastructure Financing Programs



Workforce Development



Water Conservation Finance and Management



Collaborating with Other Water Systems



Resiliency Planning



Managing Drought



Quick Introductions

- 1. Name?
- 2. Organization?
- 3. Responsibility?
- 4. Details on your water system
- 5. What are you most proud of at your water system?
- 6. What is your biggest issue?



Workshop Objectives

- Understand your system's current financial condition
- Learn how to plan for and finance your water system now and into the future
- Provide forum for sharing finance and management perspectives, ideas, and experiences

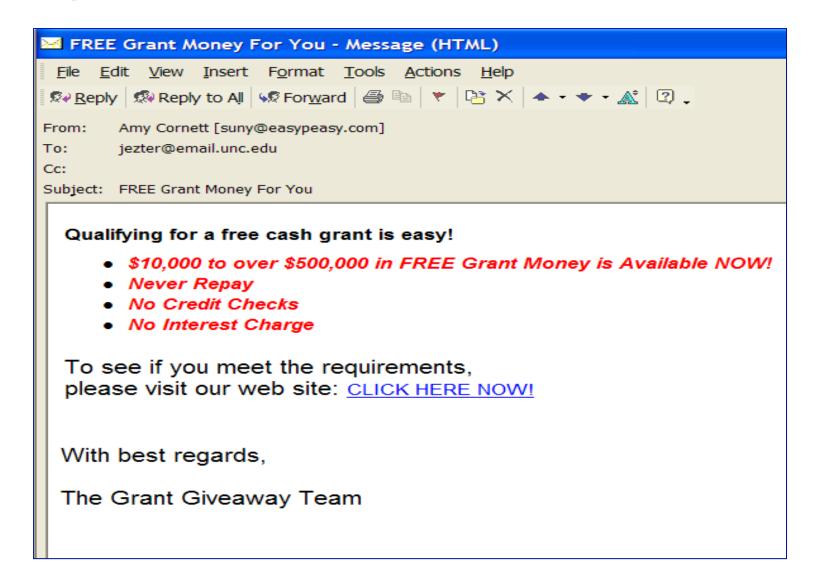


Agenda

- Water Finance 101
- Assessing Financial Condition
- Long Term System Planning
- Revenues



Topics Not Covered



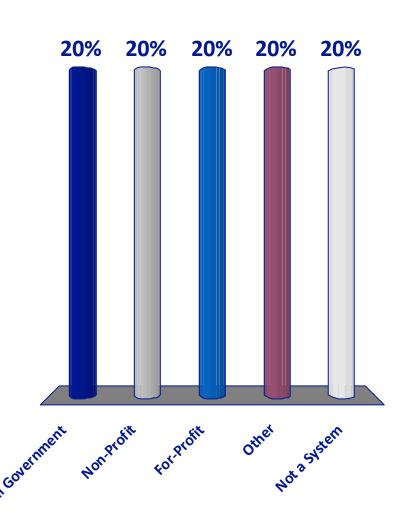


A few questions for you before we continue...



What type of system are you?

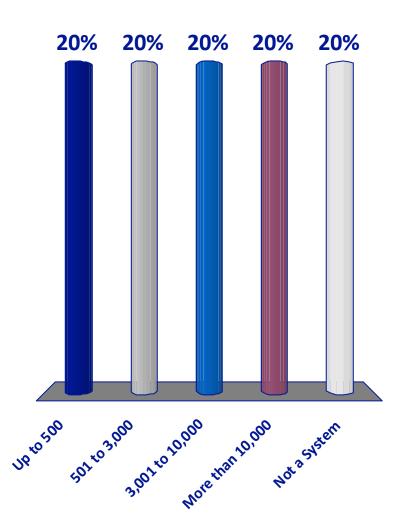
- A. Local Government
- B. Non-Profit
- C. For-Profit
- D. Other
- E. Not a System





How many people do you serve?

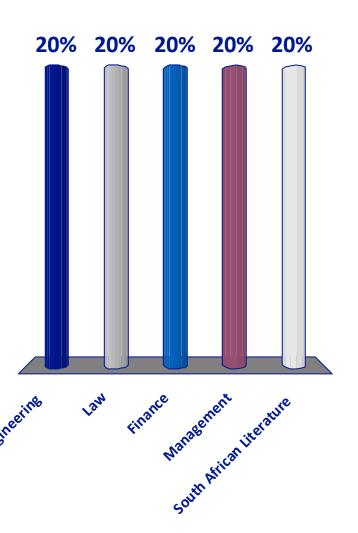
- A. Up to 500
- B. 501 to 3,000
- C. 3,001 to 10,000
- D. More than 10,000
- E. Not a System





What is your background?

- A. Science/Engineering
- B. Law
- C. Finance
- D. Management
- E. South African Literature





Water Finance 101

Glenn Barnes

Environmental Finance Center

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

919-962-2789

glennbarnes@sog.unc.edu



Session Objectives

 Learn how to think about your water system as a financial entity

 Understand some basic financial facts about water systems across the country



Let's Start With the Basics

What does your water system do?



Water Systems Serve Multiple Purposes Sometimes Those Purposes Conflict

1) System serves an important environmental and health purpose -- protecting community's water resources and supplying community with highest quality drinking water.



Dr. John L. Leal



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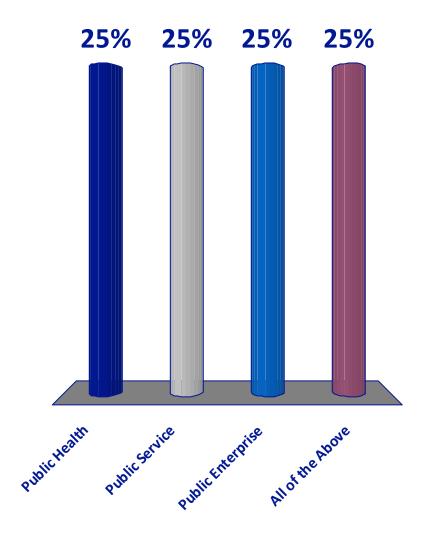
2) System serves an important **public service** – providing community with basic services that everyone in the community can afford.

3) System serves as a well managed **public enterprise** – putting into practice forward-thinking sustainable business practices.



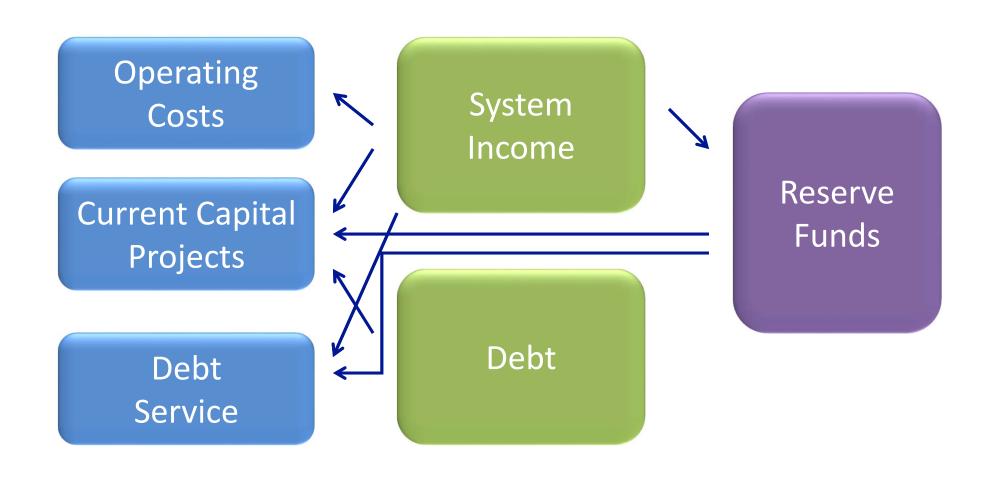
What motivates you the most?

- A. Public Health
- B. Public Service
- C. Public Enterprise
- D. All of the Above





Water System Finance Diagram





Three Types of Costs

- Operating Costs—what you need to run the system day in and day out
- Capital Costs—rehabilitation and replacement of existing infrastructure and new infrastructure
- Debt Service—what you owe on loans and bonds



Two Types of Revenues

- System Income
 —Money from rates, tap
 fees, system development charges,
 grants, penalties, other sources
 - Note: To be a true enterprise fund, not taxes!
- Debt—Money from bonds and loans



Many Types of Reserve Funds

- Capital Reserve Fund—Infrastructure rehabilitation and replacement
- Repair Fund—Known, ongoing maintenance issues
- Emergency Fund—Unknown, unanticipated maintenance issues
- Rainy Day Fund—Unexpected revenue shortfalls



How Much Do You Need In Your Reserves?

- It depends
- Enough to pay for your most expensive piece of equipment?
- Enough to cover your costs if you had no revenue for two months?
- Enough to cover the projects in your capital improvement plan?



Financial Facts About Public Water Systems



In the United States, there are

147,413

"public" drinking water systems

Confusing Terminology

 "Public" water systems are publically regulated regardless of whether they are owned by a public or private entity



EPA Divides Public Water Systems Into Three Types

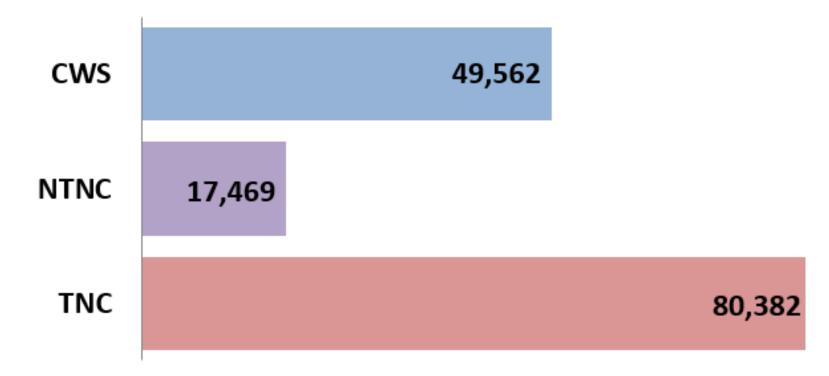
- Community Water Systems (CWS)
- Non-Transient, Non-Community Water Systems (NTNC)
- Transient, Non-Community Water Systems (TNC)

Which Type They Are Depends on Who They Serve

- CWS serve the same 25+ people/15+ connections regularly where they live
- NTNC serve the same 25+ people regularly outside of the home
- TNC serve 25+ people regularly but not the same people



Most Water Systems are Transient Non-Community Systems



EPA Also Divides Systems into Five Categories Based on Number People Served

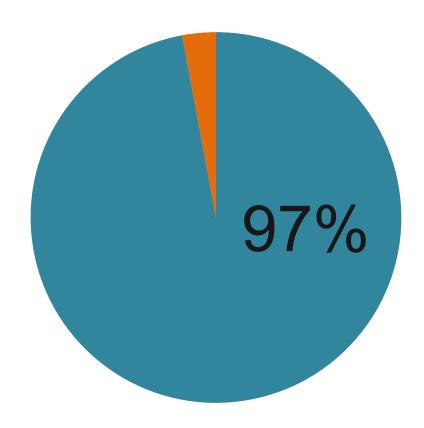
Small
 Systems
 Very Small: Up to 500
 Small: 501 to 3,300
 Medium: 3,300 to 10,000

LargeSystemsLarge: 10,001 to 100,000Very Large: More than 100,000



Most Water Systems are Small

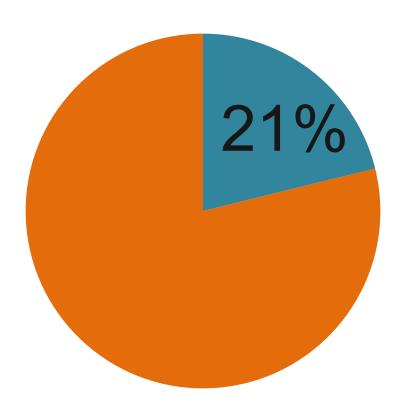
They serve 10,000 or fewer customers





Collectively, Though, Large Systems Serve Far More Total

People





 More than 99% of NTNC and TNC serve 10,000 or fewer people

At least 85% serve 500 or fewer people



Community Water Systems have the most Large and Very Large Systems



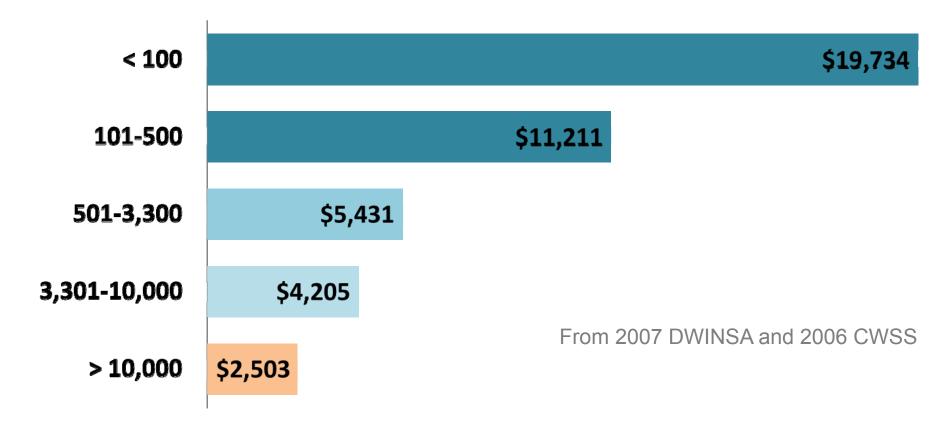


Why does system size matter?

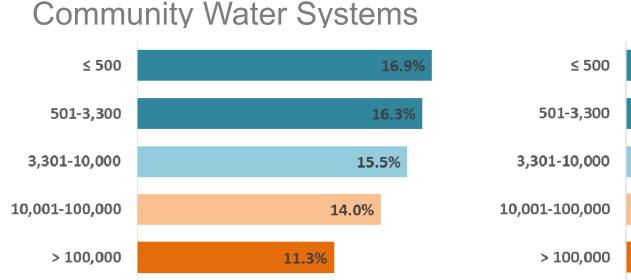
What's the issue with small systems?

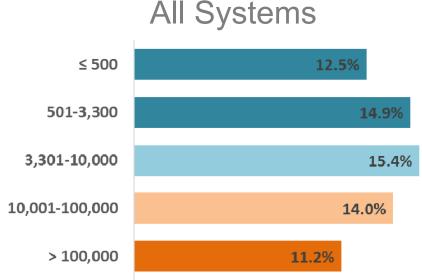


The Infrastructure Needs Per Residential Connection are Much Greater for Small Systems









From SDWIS Data, July 1st 2015- June 30th 2016



In Other Words...

 Water systems require a large amount of very expensive infrastructure and skilled staff

 And that infrastructure, skilled staff, and other fixed costs don't go away when customers use less water individually or collectively

Is My Water System Financially Healthy?

