

# WATER 101

Join our workshop to deepen your knowledge of this critical resource!  
Optional watershed tour the next day!

March 26, 2026



## Water Education Foundation's Water 101 Workshop *The Basics & Beyond*

Harper Alumni Center | Sacramento, CA

Workshop scope: A daylong course on California water with an optional one-day tour. Participants will learn about California water basics and current topics in water resources history, geography, management, law and politics.

8:30 **CHECK-IN & NETWORKING**

9:00 **Welcome & Introductions – Workshop Overview**

9:15 **California's Natural Water Endowment**

**Jenn Bowles** | *Executive Director* | Water Education Foundation

**Session details:** Overview of California's geography, hydrology & water history, including major water infrastructure projects, wild & scenic rivers, groundwater and alternative supplies.

10:00 **NETWORKING BREAK**

10:15 **Public & Private Water Rights**

**Jennifer Harder** | *Professor of Law, Legal Practice* | McGeorge School of Law

**Session details:** Overview of riparian, appropriative, tribal and groundwater rights in California, including reasonable & beneficial use, public trust law and related cases.

11:30 **Getting to Know the Water Education Foundation**

**Nick Gray** | *Programs Director* | Water Education Foundation

**Session details:** Introduction to the Water Education Foundation, including our tours & events, resources for continued learning and publications.

11:45 NETWORKING LUNCH

12:30 Sustainable Groundwater Management in California

**Tina Cannon Leahy** | *Attorney Supervisor* | State Water Resources Control Board

**Session details:** Overview of California's groundwater resources, its history of use & overuse and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, including an update on its implementation.

1:30 NETWORKING BREAK

1:45 Legal & Institutional Management Framework

**Russel Frink** | *Shareholder* | Kronick Moskowitz Tiedemann & Girard

**Session details:** Overview of the water management institutions and regulatory agencies in California and their respective roles, including a summary of governing laws at both the state & federal levels.

2:45 NETWORKING BREAK

3:00 Understanding & Working with the State Legislature

**Pablo Garza** | *Chief Consultant* | California State Assembly, Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife

**Session details:** Overview of California's legislative process, including examples of landmark water legislation, current & future water issues and priorities for the legislature.

3:45 NETWORKING BREAK

4:00 A New Era of California Water Planning

**Joel Metzger** | *Dep. Director, Statewide Water Resources Planning* | Calif. Dept. of Water Resources

**Session details:** An overview of efforts to align the goals & mandates of Senate Bill 72, passed in October of 2025, with California's Water Plan Update for 2028.

5:00 NETWORKING RECEPTION