

The American Public Works Association (APWA) serves professionals in all aspects of public works—a fact that sets it apart from other organizations and makes it an effective voice of public works throughout North America. With a membership of more than 30,000 strong, APWA includes not only personnel from local, county, state/province, and federal agencies, but also private sector personnel who supply products and services to those professionals.

Conferences

APWA has two conferences annually, and both include large exhibit programs featuring a variety of service and equipment vendors. The largest conference — the annual PWX (Public Works Expo), provides education and training in all areas of public works and is also the association's annual business meeting. The North American Snow Conference is held each spring and focuses on winter maintenance activities, equipment and materials.

By attending these conferences, public works professionals and others have access to Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

Membership & Chapters

Organized within nine regions, APWA's more than 30,000 members comprise 63 chapters, serving virtually every community, state/province and region throughout North America. The association is a highly participatory organization with hundreds of opportunities for leadership and service. Governed by a 17-member Board of Directors, elected at both the regional and national levels, APWA is an open, flexible association with diversified membership and a reputation for quality services and products.

Chapters are the essential element in APWA's service delivery system for its members. They offer one of the most immediate and cost effective opportunities to exchange information with colleagues and to keep up to date on the latest public works technologies and management trends.

The Council of Chapters is an advisory body to the APWA Board of Directors, Executive Director and staff, and is comprised of delegates and alternate delegates from each of the 63 chapters in APWA. The Council of Chapters is composed of committees, task forces and focus groups.

Advocacy and Government Affairs

APWA empowers public works professionals to be the voice for adequate investment in public infrastructure among local, state and federal policymakers. APWA's Board of Directors, the Government Affairs Committee, APWA Chapters, the APWA Advocates, and other active APWA members create partnerships with key stakeholders, establish new lines of communication with decision makers and extend outreach into the center of public policy discussions. The Government Affairs staff in the Washington, D.C. office work with Congressional leaders, the U.S. House Public Works & Infrastructure Caucus, Federal agencies, and like-minded partners, such as transportation, water, and emergency response organizations, to achieve APWA Advocacy objectives.

APWA's guiding principles on public policy priorities include:

- Support for adequate investment in public infrastructure
- Respect for local authority
- Reasonable regulations and protection from unfunded mandates
- Support for streamlining government oversight
- Support for sustainability and environmental stewardship

APWA communicates public works-related matters being considered on Capitol Hill through the "APWA Washington Report" sent out to subscribers each week Congress is in session. Working in the public interest, APWA members bring their experience, expertise and unique perspective to policy debates impacting public works and our communities.

Education and Credentialing

With a wealth of management and technical resources, APWA offers extensive professional development opportunities through timely publications, elearning courses, Click, Listen and Learn webinars, on-line and face-to-face chapter programs such as Public Works Institutes*and conferences. APWA keeps public works professionals up-to-date on trends and emerging issues with activities open to members and non-members. APWA offers certificate programs through Chapters and three certifications: Certified Stormwater Manager (CSM); Certified Public Fleet Professional (CPFP); and Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector (CPII).

** Public Works Institutes are programs offered by APWA chapters throughout the U.S., which are designed to address supervisory and management needs through 11 core areas of study, ranging from basic management skills to fundamentals of government. APWA's nationally sponsored educational programs provide Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and Professional Development Hours (PDHs) for time spent in the classroom during professional development and training activities.*

CPWA and Advocacy



The Canadian Public Works Association (CPWA), or Association Canadienne des Travaux Publics (ACTP), was founded in 1986 and is “the voice of public works in Canada.” The eight-member CPWA Board of Directors, APWA’s Director of CPWA Advocacy and a consultant in Ottawa work with Parliamentary leaders, Federal ministries and like-minded associations to advocate for public works and adequate investment in public infrastructure. CPWA communicates public works-related matters being considered on Parliament Hill through the “CPWA Ottawa Report” sent out to Canadian members of APWA every other week that Parliament is sitting.

Public Works Accreditation



The APWA Accreditation program provides a means of formally verifying and recognizing public works agencies for their compliance with the recommended practices set forth in the Public Works Management Practices Manual. It is a voluntary, self-motivated approach to objectively evaluate, verify and recognize compliance with the recommended management practices. The goals of the accreditation program are to create an impetus for organizational self-improvement and raising of standards, offer a voluntary evaluation and education program rather than government regulated activity, recognize good performance and provide motivation to maintain and improve public works performance, increase professionalism, and instill pride among an agency’s staff, elected officials and local communities.

Center for Sustainability (C4S)

APWA’s Center for Sustainability (C4S), guided by a 12-member Leadership Group, delivers resources, education, advocacy and member engagement for public works professionals to implement environmentally, economically and socially responsible projects and services, through Reporter articles, Click, Listen and Learns, ‘In the Know’ features on the APWA website, a Sustainability Toolkit, a Sustainability blog, a Twitter account, educational sessions at PWX and the North American Snow Conference and quarterly calls with chapter sustainability liaisons.

Visit www.apwa.net/sustainability to learn more about C4S, the C4S Sustainability Toolkit, Sustainability Works blog and more!



Online Tools and Social Media



The APWA Connect environment contains familiar tools, such as the infoNOW communities, as well as expanded and enhanced technical and networking resources for members. Not only is this new platform more stable and reliable, it also provides members with new features that were previously unavailable. APWA’s Members’ Library is a free, on-demand online resource for members that houses all past APWA Click, Listen and Learn webinars, e-books and other publications, podcasts and presentations from prior years’ PWX events. By removing some time, travel, and financial constraints involved in typical educational opportunities, the Members’ Library opens the door for more people, agencies, and organizations to access the educational programs APWA provides.”

Connect with APWA on the following social media networks: Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter (@APWATWEETS), YouTube (channel: APWAtv), and Instagram (@apwagram).

Monthly Magazine



The award-winning *APWA Reporter* serves as the prime communication link uniting the community of public works professionals who make up the association. Most articles are written by member-experts on subjects ranging from emergency management and water resources to transportation, fleet services and winter maintenance. The articles contain information on management techniques, research, training programs and new technologies.