

MUNICIPAL WATER LEADERS WORKSHOP

Sponsored by *Municipal Water Leader* magazine
Kimpton Rowan Palm Springs Hotel
100 W Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262
March 30-31, 2026
(March 4, 2026 DRAFT)

Monday, March 30

6:00 p.m.

Welcome Dinner

Private Dinner
Kimpton Rowan Palm Springs Hotel
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Sponsored By SePRO

Tuesday, March 31

7:30 a.m.

Networking Continental Breakfast and Coffee

7:50 a.m.

Welcome: Kris Polly
Municipal Water Leader magazine
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Introductions and Opening Comments

8:00 a.m.

Colorado River Post-2026 Guidelines Explained

Speaker: Ms. Kristen Johnson
Colorado River Programs Manager
Arizona Department of Water Resources

8:30 a.m.

PFAS and Other Emerging Contaminants

Speaker: Ms. Ana Schwab (Invited)
Partner
Best, Best, Krieger

9:00 a.m.

Navigating the Grant Funding Landscape

Speaker: Ms. Cheryl Kester
Grant Strategist
Dig Deep Research

9:30 a.m.

Making Conservation a California Way of Life

Speaker: TBD

10:00 a.m.

Networking Break

Sponsored By Wildfire Water Solutions

- 10:30 a.m. **Arizona’s WIFA: Financing New Water in the West**
Speakers: Mr. Jason Phillips
 Vice President, Water Business Group
 HDR

 Ms. Chelsea McGuire
 Director
 Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority
- 11:30 a.m. **Navigating Innovative Infrastructure Projects**
Speaker: Mr. David Gadis
 CEO and General Manager
 DC Water
- 12:00 p.m. **Networking Luncheon**
TBD
Speaker: Former Secretary David Bernhardt (Invited)
 Founder and Chairman
 The Bernhardt Group
- 1:00 p.m. **Policy Priorities of the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators**
Speaker: Mr. Kevin Letterly
 Government Affairs Manager
 Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
- 1:30 p.m. **An Invasive Threat: Golden Mussels and California’s Municipal Water Future**
Speaker: Ms. Aspen Keynon
 Western Territory Manager
 ClearChannelVM
- 2:00 p.m. **Modern Tools for Western Water Challenges**
Speakers: Mr. Chuck Hansen
 Chairman & CEO
 Electro Scan Inc.

 Mr. Augustus Doricko
 CEO
 Rainmaker

 Mr. Mike Echols
 CEO
 Wildfire Water Solutions
- 3:00 p.m. **Networking Break**
- 3:30 p.m. **Priority Issues for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**
Speaker: TBD

4:00 p.m.

Desalination and Intrastate Water Transfers

Speakers: Ms. Sandy Fabritz
Director of Water Strategy
Freeport McMoRan

Ms. Meena Westford
Director of Imported Water
San Diego County Water Authority

Ms. Leslie Meyers
Chief Water Executive
Salt River Project

5:00 p.m.

Networking Reception

Location TBD