Building Resilience to a Changing Climate: A Technical Workshop in Water Utility Decision Support and Adaptation



Key Takeaways, Reflections & Next Day Preview

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Day 1 Reflections

- Can't be prepared for everything. Can use the Guiding Principles/Do's and Don'ts to help make decisions
 despite imperfect information.
- Leading Practices in Climate Change Adaptation provides a useful framework for learning from each other about climate adaptation actions
- A One Water Management approach is important to consider in climate adaptation planning.
- Global Climate Models are the best source of information on future climate, but they are PROJECTIONS not PREDICTIONS.
- Global Climate Models rely on assumptions about future emissions which are uncertain and their resolution doesn't adequately represent local scales without downscaling.
- The questions you ask will dictate what type of climate change information you need.
- Connecting water professionals and climate scientists can help generate more actionable science at local and basin scales.

Day 2 Agenda Brief Preview

Day 1 (Oct 17)

- Provide participants a better understanding of the latest climate change projections for the Northeast Region of the US and the Delaware River Basin, specifically.
- Create a shared understanding of the context in which climate change science and adaptation leading practices are being applied at water/wastewater/stormwater utilities.

Day 2 (Oct 18)

- Enhance understanding of the capabilities and limitations associated with using climate science in long-term water agency planning.
- Understand different planning frameworks that address deep uncertainty associated with climate change.
- Highlight case studies related to adaptation leading practices and discuss opportunities, challenges and barriers related to successful adaptation.

Day 3 (Oct 19)

- Highlight case studies related to adaptation leading practices and discuss opportunities, challenges and barriers related to successful adaptation.
- Provide a forum to explore opportunities to enhance the co-creation of actionable climate change science for drinking water, wastewater and stormwater utilities in the Northeast Region.