

# One Water Delegations

One Water Summit 2025 | July 8-11, 2025 | Pittsburgh, PA Deadline to enroll your Delegation: April 18, 2025

#### What makes One Water Summit worthwhile?

One Water Summit is a one-of-a kind event that connects, inspires, and aligns those who are working to secure our nation's water future. One Water Summit includes three days of solutions-focused conversations on how the nation can better value and manage water to foster economic prosperity, community well-being, and environmental sustainability. Thought-provoking sessions, panels, workshops, Learning Labs, and site visits create opportunities for dialogue, networking, and exchange between peers and leaders with diverse perspectives from across the country.

### What are One Water Delegations?

Delegations are peer groups at the heart of the One Water movement that initially form based on common geography, topical interest, field of practice, and/or policy goals. Delegates are champions for an equitable, sustainable, and inclusive water future and are dedicated to sharing knowledge and building relationships. Some Delegations evolve into working groups that continue to collaborate beyond One Water Summit. You can read about the 2023 One Water Delegations and their Commitments to Action on our website.

### What do Delegations experience at Summit?

Attending Summit with a Delegation is different than attending alone. Delegations can help participants foster new relationships, create new collaborations, and/or build and deepen existing partnerships. Spending focused time together away from day-to-day work creates space for Delegates to discuss and more meaningfully engage with what they learn at Summit, identify and develop new strategies to tackle challenges back home, and/or explore the potential of an ongoing working group that continues to meet after One Water Summit.

### What are the other benefits of joining a One Water Delegation?

Some of the special features that members of Delegations have access to include:

- Pre- and post-Summit consultation sessions. US Water
   Alliance staff hold coordination calls with Delegations to
   connect around shared One Water issues, identify and discuss
   common challenges, plan how to strategically use Summit
   programming, and share progress on commitments to action.
- Peer Exchanges at Summit. July 8 will feature a half-day of peer-to-peer exchange sessions developed and hosted by One Water Delegations. This is a unique opportunity to network, collaborate, and dive deeper with other Delegates from across the sector and the country on pressing One Water issues.
- Commitment to action spotlight. Delegations have the opportunity to make public commitments to action during the closing plenary as well as celebrate success stories from the past year.
- **Discounted registration.** All individuals attending One Water Summit as a part of a Delegation are eligible for discounted registration.
- Access to meeting rooms. Rooms at the venue will be available for Delegations to reserve and host their own Delegation meeting during Summit or meet with other Delegations.
- A feature in the Summit program. Each Delegation will be highlighted in the Summit program with a description of their work to advance a sustainable water future.

#### How do I form a Delegation?

Delegations must be formed prior to One Water Summit. We encourage at least seven members who share a common water-related challenge, interest, or goal to participate in the group.

Delegations will need to first select a **Delegation Lead**. Initial steps for the Delegation Lead are listed below:

- 1. Complete the One Water Delegation enrollment form.
- Receive a confirmation email from the US Water Alliance with your Delegation's One Water Summit 2025 registration discount code.
- Share the One Water Summit discount code with your Delegation's members and let them know it's time to register for One Water Summit.
- Ensure all Delegation members register for One Water
   Summit by June 9, 2025.
- **5.** Look out for next steps from the US Water Alliance.

The Delegation Lead will serve as the <u>main point of contact</u> with the US Water Alliance; manage the Delegation's <u>Summit enrollment</u>; <u>communicate with other Delegation members</u> about the registration process; <u>coordinate relevant activities</u> during Summit including onsite meetings and social activities, peer exchanges, networking, and commitments to action.

## When should I register for Summit if I am in a Delegation?

Once your Delegation Lead has confirmed that your Delegation is enrolled with the US Water Alliance, they will send you the Summit registration discount code and let you know that it's time to register. Please wait to register until you receive the discount code from your Delegation Lead, as we are unable to adjust Summit registration fees retroactively if you initially registered as an individual attendee. If you think you are interested in joining a Delegation and want to receive the registration discount, please wait to register until you have the discount code.

### One Water, One Future.

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#### Can I join an existing Delegation?

It depends! Existing Delegations can indicate whether they are open to new members. Please visit the <u>Delegations tab</u> at <u>onewatersummit.org</u>, where we will periodically update the list of Delegations that are open to new members, the criteria for joining, and who to contact if interested.

### What other advice do you have on forming and leading a Delegation?

- Identify and recruit other One Water leaders. We encourage Delegations to be inclusive and recruit participants from a range of sectors and backgrounds. Depending on what your community looks like, this could include utility employees, members of local government (elected officials and staff as well as departments of planning, health, transportation, etc.), leaders from the private sector, community-based organization staff, members of academia, agriculture representatives, and environmental nonprofit team members. Continually ask yourself who isn't in the room, what the barriers are for them being present, and how those barriers could be removed.
- **Identify funding.** Be creative and plan early about ways to fund your Delegation so everyone can attend Summit.
- Map your Summit experience. After your first meeting as a
  group, identify the most pressing water needs facing your
  Delegation and strategize on how to address them. Review the
  Summit program and agenda, which will be available online
  soon. Begin to identify a goal to accomplish over the next year of
  working together. Share this goal with Alliance staff ahead of
  Summit, which will serve as your commitment to action. Plan on
  sharing this commitment during the Summit closing plenary.

### Can I be in more than one Delegation?

To maximize your Delegations experience, the Summit registration system will require you to choose a primary Delegation to fully engage with at Summit. The system will allow you to note any secondary Delegations you may be affiliated with. Please note that Delegates who participated in multiple Delegations in previous years often found that this did not allow sufficient time for connection or collaboration.

### Need more help?

Delegation Leads are encouraged to email the US Water Alliance at <u>delegations@uswateralliance.org</u> as soon as possible if interested in returning to One Water Summit or establishing a new Delegation. Alliance staff can help you design a Delegation, connect with other Delegates, and maximize your Delegation's One Water Summit 2025 experience.