



ICC NEWS RELEASE

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ICC World Water Day Events Shine the Spotlight on Growing Global Issue

Focus is the Importance of Water Conservation and Efficiency in the Built Environment

With a 100-year legacy of deploying the latest safety measures and technologies into the built environment, the [International Code Council](http://www.iccsafe.org) (ICC) is hosting and participating in several events surrounding 2016 World Water Day on March 22 to raise awareness about the importance of water conservation and efficiency.

“Scientists are now reporting that two-thirds of the world’s population faces severe water shortages,” explained Code Council Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, CBO. “Recent events in the U.S. such as the Flint, Mich., water contamination and drought in western states are shining the spotlight on a growing global issue.

“For decades, ICC’s codes and standards have addressed water-related issues,” Sims continued, “and we remain committed to working with our member jurisdictions and industry partners to bring water efficient products to market, labeling new homes and structures as more water efficient, and spreading the word about the need for safe and smart water use.”

The Code Council is supporting the [White House Water Summit](http://www.whitehouse.gov/summit) on March 22 to raise awareness of water issues and potential solutions in the U.S., and to catalyze ideas and actions to help build a sustainable and secure water future through innovative science and technology. The summit will be livestreamed on www.whitehouse.gov/live. For more information on this event, please contact env_energy@ostp.eop.gov.

On the evening of March 22, the Code Council and Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI) will host a reception at ICC’s office in Washington, D.C., for representatives from industry, federal agencies and other private sector organizations to commemorate World Water Day.

Prior to the White House Water Summit, on March 21, ICC’s [Industry Advisory Committee](http://www.iccsafe.org/iac) (IAC) meeting will be held at the National Institute of Building Sciences in Washington, D.C. With a diverse membership representing designers, planners, manufacturers, contractors and others in the industry, the IAC promotes public health, safety and welfare in the built environment by serving as a national forum for the building community to interface with the Code Council.

In response to a call from industry and in a deal nearly two years in the making, ICC and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers last year signed a final agreement that [outlined each organization's role in the future development and maintenance of the International Green Construction Code](#). On March 23, the Water Efficiency Working Group of the Standing Standards Project Committee (SSPC) 189.1 will be meeting at the American Gas Association in Washington, D.C., to discuss matters of water efficiency and conservation. Included will be Claudia Copeland, a Specialist in Resources and Environmental Policy for the Congressional Research Service, who will be the guest speaker and discuss congressional interest in water conservation issues.

“Although 70 percent of our planet is covered with water, less than one percent is drinkable,” said ICC Board of Directors President Alex Olszowy, III, with the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government in Lexington, Ky. “All of us are connected through the use of water, and the Code Council and other organizations are doing our part to ensure the building safety industry is contributing to resolving this growing crisis.”

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About the International Code Council

The [International Code Council](#) is a member-focused association. It is dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures. Most U.S. communities and many global markets [choose the International Codes](#).