



## World Water Day 2020: Water and Climate Change

### The Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) celebrates World Water Day.

Ottawa, ON – The Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) encourages all Canadians to join them in celebrating *World Water Day 2020* by recognizing the pivotal role water plays in the global climate.

World Water Day, held on March 22nd every year since 1993, is an annual United Nations Observance focusing on the importance of freshwater. Every year, UN-Water — the UN’s coordination mechanism on water and sanitation — sets the theme for World Water Day, highlighting a specific aspect of freshwater management. World Water Day 2020 is all about water and climate change – and how the two are inextricably linked. This year’s campaign shows how our use of water can help reduce floods, droughts, scarcity, and pollution, and can help fight climate change itself. The UN World Water Development Report is also released on World Water Day, focusing on the same topic as the campaign and recommending policy direction to decision-makers.

The CWRA is a national organization of water resource professionals from the public, private, and academic sectors. Members are committed to raising public awareness of the value of water and promoting responsible and effective water resource management in Canada. We have branches in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Maritimes.

CWRA believes that World Water Day is an important initiative. It provides us with an opportunity to promote the need to practice sound water management and encourage the wise use of water in Canada and around the world. Global initiatives such as World Water Day allow us to focus attention on the importance of freshwater and advocate for its sustainable management, not only on special occasions but every day. Less predictable weather conditions are projected to affect the availability and distribution of rainfall, snowmelt, river flows, and groundwater, and further deteriorate water quality. It is becoming clear that water needs to be managed with climate resilience in mind.

Throughout March, CWRA is hosting a series of webinars related to the theme of water and climate change. Though we are no longer hosting or co-hosting in-person events this year, we encourage you to learn more about World Water Day and our webinars by visiting our website ([www.cwra.org/en/events](http://www.cwra.org/en/events)), contacting your provincial CWRA branch, or visiting the UN World Water Day 2020 website (<https://www.worldwaterday.org/>). For more information about the link between climate change and water, read the UN-Water Policy Brief on Climate Change and Water (<https://www.unwater.org/publications/un-water-policy-brief-on-climate-change-and-water/>).

- 30 -

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