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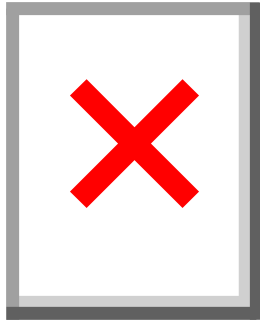
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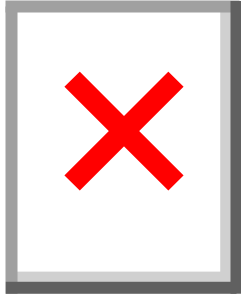


TODAY'S NEWS

Funding gap for US water systems may hit \$194B by 2030

US water systems are expected to see a \$194 billion shortfall in funding by 2030 amid aging infrastructure, rising operational costs and climate-related challenges, reports McKinsey & Co. The report asserts that state and local leaders can help address the issue by optimizing existing funding, prioritizing resilience and enabling operational efficiencies. **Full Story:** [McKinsey](#) (3/11)

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

States propose PFAS limits as EPA mulls rule

Lawmakers in California, Connecticut, New York, Vermont and Pennsylvania may set maximum contaminant levels for PFAS in drinking water amid federal regulatory uncertainty. Vermont has the strictest proposal. The goal is to stamp out six PFAS types, with remaining testable PFAS having no more than 20 parts-per-trillion total. **Full Story:** [Bloomberg Law](#) (3/10)

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CIRCULAR WATER ECONOMY

Efficient irrigation crucial for Kansas farmers amid challenges

Kansas farmers are focusing on efficient irrigation due to declining Ogallala Aquifer levels and rising costs. Jonathan Aguilar of K-State Research and Extension notes that over 50% of irrigation systems in the state are not operating efficiently, leading to water waste and yield losses. Common issues include low operating pressure and outdated scheduling. Farmers are encouraged to regularly inspect and maintain equipment, use soil moisture sensors and adjust pivot speeds to improve water use efficiency and crop yields. **Full Story:** [High Plains Journal \(Dodge City, Kan.\)](#)

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INFRASTRUCTURE WATCH

Chandler, Ariz., opens reclaimed water facility

Chandler, Ariz., has opened its \$44.6 million Reclaimed Water Interconnect Facility to treat water from the Salt, Verde and Colorado rivers and deliver it to aquifer recharge sites. Completed by

general contractor McCarthy Building Companies, the project by the city and Intel supports the company's semiconductor manufacturing. **Full Story:** [WaterWorld](#) (3/6)

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Johannesburg water crisis looms

In the South African province that hosts the nation's capital, Johannesburg, aging water infrastructure and rising water usage have led to water shortages, prompting residents to drill boreholes, often without permission. Africa's largest water utility warns of a potential system collapse unless measures like leak repairs and reducing water losses are implemented. The crisis affects 28 out of 61 province reservoirs, with storage levels dropping rapidly. **Full Story:** [Zawya \(Dubai\)](#) (3/7)

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FUNDING AND FINANCING

Illinois EPA funds Yates City water supply project

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has awarded Yates City a nearly \$1.5 million forgivable infrastructure loan to support the development of a new public well. The funding comes from the Illinois EPA State Revolving Fund Program, which supports water infrastructure projects through low-interest loans and loan forgiveness. **Full Story:** [WGIL-AM \(Galesburg, Ill.\)](#) (3/11)

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STORMWATER

Illegal dumping puts a strain on Texas stormwater system

The illegal dumping of furniture, garbage and other debris appears to be on the rise in Harris County, Texas, with the county Flood Control District reporting a two-fold increase in debris removal this year from a year ago. Cleanup efforts are costly and the debris can clog drainage channels and other infrastructure, potentially leading to increased flooding. "If a couch is in the channel, it really impedes the flow of that stormwater and that means the channel can't get that stormwater out of neighborhoods, out of our communities, and ultimately a safer place for that water to go," said Emily Woodell, chief external affairs officer for the flood control district. **Full Story:** [KHOU-TV \(Houston\)](#) (3/10)

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RESEARCH, INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

WMO: Global weather forecasting needs cooperation



(Laura Hedien/Getty Images)

International cooperation is vital to global weather forecasting, the World Meteorological Organization says, expressing concern over mass layoffs at the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which could hamper its ability to provide critical climate, water and weather data and undermine essential forecasting services. The US has reportedly also stepped back from its role at the UN's climate damage fund, which helps vulnerable nations deal with climate-related disasters. **Full Story:** [PhysOrg/Agence France-Presse \(3/7\)](#), [Reuters \(3/7\)](#)

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WORKFORCE

5 ways managers can empower neurodiverse employees

Many managers lack awareness and training in supporting neurodiverse employees, often viewing neurodiversity as a problem rather than a strength, writes Alex Partridge, the founder of LADBible and UNILAD and the host of the ADHD Chatter podcast. Creating an open and accommodating workplace culture is crucial to help neurodiverse employees feel supported and safe, as are inclusive policies and education about neurodiversity, Partridge writes.

Full Story: [SmartBrief/Leadership \(3/10\)](#)

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TODAY AT WEF



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