



CONTACT:

George Brigandi
847.650.7094

gbrigandi@Currentwater.org

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[PRESS RELEASE] 3rd Annual [Innovators Forum](#) at [WEFTEC](#) to Highlight the Intelligent Water Transformation

1ST REAL-TIME MICROBIAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROJECT IN U.S. TO UNVEIL PUBLIC PLATFORM AT NORTH AMERICA'S LARGEST WATER/WASTEWATER EXPO

(SEPTEMBER 20, 2019) Chicago, IL – More than 200 of the water sector's leading innovators, researchers, investors and end-users will gather at the Innovators Forum at WEFTEC on September 25 to explore how intelligent water management is transforming utility, service and industrial operations.

The Forum, hosted by *Current*, in partnership with the Water Environment Federation (WEF), BlueTech Research and Imagine H2O, will feature two panels and a roundtable session that will explore leading-edge topics ranging from workforce gaps in intelligent water systems, to data-science innovations in the water/wastewater sectors.

One exciting demonstration of the Intelligent Water Transformation will be the public unveiling of H2NOW Chicago's online platform (www.h2nowchicago.org). Led by *Current* with funding support from the Chicago Community Trust's Our Great Rivers Chicago program, [H2NOW](#) is a global partnership of 19 public and private sector organizations working together to create the nation's first real-time microbial pollution monitoring effort. When it is fully operational, H2NOW will have the ability to collect, analyze and publicly display real-time water quality information from a major urban waterway – the Chicago River.

"H2NOW shines as an example of Chicago's water leadership," says Randy Conner, Commissioner of the City of Chicago's Department of Water Management. "It can be difficult to get the necessary private and public sector forces together and working on the same page for a pilot project like this, but *Current* is masterful at cross-sector collaboration and has been able to make it happen."

In addition to innovations focused on water quality, technology solutions are needed for other water-related problems, like water scarcity. The World Health Organization predicts that by 2025 half of the world's population will be living in water-stressed areas, making the innovative thinking and collaborative action featured at the Innovators Forum vital on a global level.

ABOUT CURRENT. *Current* brings together an array of diverse stakeholders to build innovative and sustainable water solutions for all. www.currentwater.org