

Professional Advantage for Water Managers

The Water Management Certificate Program provides professional education and training to persons who are, or will be, managers of organizations that have governance authority and institutional responsibility to develop, store, and deliver water resources to the people they serve.

The program's objective is to help individuals become more effective managers, whether they are in public or private institutions.

This unique collaboration between the Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona and Arizona State University (ASU) has been designed by distinguished practitioners of water resources and power management who have decades of experience and are among the most knowledgeable and recognized leaders in the field.

This is Not Just a Policy or Theory Oriented Program!

All the instructors are experienced managers or technical experts whose insights are not necessarily found in text books or academic theories. The goal is to prepare the next generation of leaders who will require knowledge and skills beyond just moving water from point to point.

Class Protocol

Classes will be conducted in a class-room/television studio at the Arizona State University Polytechnic Campus. This set-up provides a sense of immediacy with the instructors and a chance to network with colleagues in the class as well as the faculty. In addition, the telecast opportunity provides an option to participate in the class via live video conferencing for individuals outside of the Phoenix area.

Occasionally, it will provide individual class members who are not able to make a particular class an opportunity to attend the class remotely.

All instructional materials or other incidentals required by the instructors are provided by the program.

Additionally, food and beverages are provided for, snacks, continental breakfast and lunch for class sessions, as well as for the program initiation and graduation dinners.

The format of the class will involve one partial weekend commitment each month - Friday from 1PM – 5PM and Saturday from 9AM – 5PM. Field trips may be included. The course of instruction will be eight months.

2025—2026 Schedule

September 26 & 27, 2025

October 24 & 25, 2025

November 21 & 22, 2025

January 23 & 24, 2026

February 27 & 28, 2026

March 27 & 28, 2026

April 26 & 27, 2026

May 22 & 23, 2026 - Graduation



Cohort XII

2025—2026



A Collaborative Effort by the
Agribusiness & Water Council
of Arizona,
Arizona State University
Morrison School of Agribusiness
&
Ira A. Fulton
Schools of Engineering

Water Management Certificate Program Curriculum—Subject Matter/Content

Management

- ◆ Strategic Planning
- ◆ Managing Limited Resources
- ◆ Organizational Planning
- ◆ Managing People and Diverse Interests
- ◆ Financial Management
- ◆ Water Supply & Pricing
- ◆ Shareholder/Stakeholder/Employee Communication
- ◆ Media Communication
- ◆ Power Purchases
- ◆ Transmission Services/Power Scheduling
- ◆ Supplemental Energy and Capacity
- ◆ Board of Relationships
- ◆ Allocating Resources (Capital: Human/Financial)
- ◆ Budget Process
- ◆ Bond Issuance
- ◆ Equipment Purchase/Maintenance
- ◆ Canal/Well Maintenance

- ◆ Water Scheduling
- ◆ Safety Procedures
- ◆ International Communication
- ◆ Media Communication

Legal Regulatory/Compliance

- ◆ Introduction to Water Law
- ◆ Groundwater Management Act
- ◆ Environmental Regulatory Compliance
- ◆ Rights of Way: Fed, St, Trib, Cnty and Local
- ◆ Contractual Agreements
- ◆ Land Laws: Federal and State
- ◆ Service Contracts
- ◆ Government Policies
- ◆ Regulatory and Legal Environments
- ◆ Governments: City, County and Tribal

Technology/History

- ◆ Water Resources Development
- ◆ Water Terminology
- ◆ Land Survey
- ◆ Federal Hydropower
- ◆ Low-Head Hydropower
- ◆ Technology
- ◆ Use & Management of Reclaimed Water
- ◆ Underground Storage and Water Banking
- ◆ CAGR
- ◆ Water and Energy Nexus
- ◆ Arizona Power Authority, SRP, APS and Hoover
- ◆ Case Studies, role playing and scenarios
- ◆ SCADA systems

Classes begin September 26 & 27, 2025 and meet once a month on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday for eight months. This cohort will conclude in May 23, 2026.

For those of you who are unable to complete the regular curriculum in eight months, you may discuss with faculty the design of a module, choosing some of the classes, to fit your needs. You may also opt to extend the program over a two year period in order to complete all requirements for the issuance of a certificate.

Intent to Participate

- ◆ Your affiliation & all contact information
- ◆ A letter of interest from the individual applicant
- ◆ A letter of support from the sponsoring agency, if appropriate
- ◆ A current résumé

The cost is \$3950.00 for the complete program.

Please return all requested information to :

The Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona

(480) 558-5301
Stephanie@agribusinessarizona.org

4455 East Broadway Road,
Suite 102
Mesa, Arizona 85206

For more information about the WMCP, visit:

www.agribusinessarizona.org

Faculty

Jack Murray

- ◆ Senior VP & Desert Southwest Regional Manager, WAPA

George Cairo

- ◆ Civil/Agricultural Engineering, Water Resources & Conveyance Design, George Cairo Engineering, LLC

Tom Davis

- ◆ President, Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona
- ◆ General Manager, Yuma Co. Water User’s Association
- ◆ Former Manager, U.S. Forest Service

Bill Plummer

- ◆ ABWC Past President & Past Coordinator of WMCP

Rhett Larson

- ◆ Professor of Law, ASU Kylr Center for Water Policy

Ken Seasholes

- ◆ Resource Planning & Analysis Manager, CAP

Donovan Neese

- ◆ Superintendent, Roosevelt Irrigation District

Charles Cowan

- ◆ Power Manager & Head of Technical Services , Yuma County Water Users’ Association

Rebecca Davidson

- ◆ Southwestern Regional & Youth Programs Director, National Forest Foundation

Cary Pfeffer

- ◆ Founder, ClearComm Consulting

Elston Grubaugh

- ◆ General Manager, Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation & Drainage District

Scott Lund

- ◆ Industry Restructuring Advisor, Western Area Power Administration

Richard Morrison, Esquire

- ◆ Attorney-Salmon, Lewis and Weldon-Retired & RNM Ranches, LLC

Wade Noble, Esquire

- ◆ General Counsel, Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation & Drainage District

Kiril Hristovski Ph.D.

- ◆ Environmental & Resource Management Program Chair, ASU

Dan Jones, Esquire

- ◆ Attorney- Salmon, Lewis & Weldon, PLC

Glen Vortherms

- ◆ Water Manager Certificate Program Coordinator
- ◆ General Manager, Maricopa Water District
- ◆ Treasurer, Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona

Tom Buschatzke

- ◆ Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources

Brian Buzard

- ◆ Operations, Power & Engineering Director, Central Arizona Project

Adam McAnally

- ◆ Senior Resource Acquisition Analyst, Salt River Project

Dominic Graziani

- ◆ Resource Planning & Analysis Manager, Bureau of Reclamation

Sarah Porter

- ◆ Executive Director, ASU Kyl Center for Water Policy

Dave Roberts

- ◆ Associate General Manager, Water Resources, SRP (retired)

George Seperich PhD

- ◆ Emeritus Professor, Arizona State University

Warren Tenney

- ◆ Executive Director-AZ Municipal Water Users Association

Ed Gerak

- ◆ Executive Director, Irrigation & Electrical Districts Association

Doug Dunham

- ◆ Water Resources Manager, EPCOR

Leslie James

- ◆ Executive Director, CREDA

Brad Strader

- ◆ Water Resources & Policy Manager, Roosevelt Water Conservation District

Danee Garone

- ◆ Arizona Ombudsman– Citizen’s Aide

Sharon Megdal

- ◆ Executive Director, UArizona Water Resources Research Center

Patrick Sigl, Esquire

- ◆ Principal Managing Attorney-Water, Land & Environment, SRP