

Guest Editors:

Emily Zechman Berglund, North Carolina State University (emily_berglund@ncsu.edu)

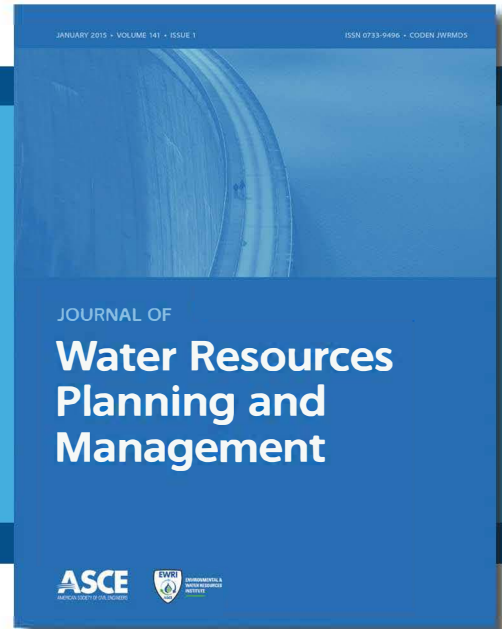
Ehsan Shafiee, Xylem Inc. (ehsanshafiem@gmail.com)

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Call for Papers

Special Collection on The COVID-19 Pandemic and Water Resources



Rationale

The COVID-19 pandemic has created new norms in daily lives for people across the globe. Due to the need to reduce transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, communities have adopted social distancing practices, such as working from home and reducing or eliminating travel. The effects of new behaviors around social distancing are felt across many economic and public service systems, including water utilities, water resources, and water infrastructure. Changes in behaviors have led to new water demand patterns that can drive changes in the hydraulic performance of pipe networks, the quality of piped water and natural resources, water system operations & management, and utility revenue/ financial stability. The availability of the workforce to maintain, operate, and monitor infrastructure and water quality may be reduced, and the ability of utilities and a population to respond to emergencies may be impaired. As utilities changed their work plan to meet the limitations of this pandemic, they may unintentionally create new problems that could influence water networks in the long term. The substantial changes in water use and the workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic create new questions around the management of all aspects of water resources systems, including supply, demand, quality, infrastructure maintenance and operation, level of service, and utility workforce.

We propose a Special Collection for publication in the ASCE *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*. The Special Collection aims to advance the understanding of practitioners and researchers to new data, questions, approaches, and solutions around the planning and management of water resources that have emerged in response to changes in water resources systems due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We encourage publications that identify lessons learned, or vulnerabilities that have been exposed and should be addressed. We invite research that generates new insight to prepare for future pandemics or related extreme events that imperil water resources infrastructure operation and maintenance.

Submission Information

Interested authors should first submit abstracts (a maximum of 200 words) summarizing their proposed submission to the Guest Editors by April 30, 2021. The Guest Editors will review the submitted abstracts and invite the submissions of full manuscripts for the selected papers soon thereafter. The full manuscript submission deadline is October 31, 2021, with a target date to complete reviews by March 31, 2022. The submission and review of the full manuscripts will be in accordance with the normal review process of the *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*.

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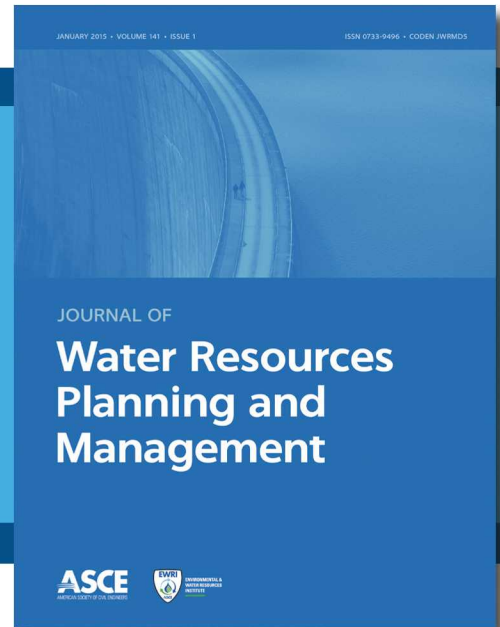
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