

ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SEPTEMBER 2024



Director's Comments:

This month the Joint American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Oversight Committee met in Montgomery to hear a report on the status of water and sewer projects that will be funded, in part, with ARPA money. In the 2022 and 2023 Alabama Legislative Sessions, lawmakers allocated \$615 million of the \$2.1 billion the state received to water and sewer projects.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) reported that \$573 million of the \$615 million is obligated toward almost 500 agreements for drinking water, clean water (wastewater treatment), and storm water projects. ADEM Director Lance LeFleur said although the money is pledged and most of the contracts are signed, the work is far from done. The bid process has been finished for 260 of the 498 projects, with about \$74 million having been spent.

Congress is requiring states to designate their ARPA funds for specific purposes by December 31, 2024, and the money must be spent by December 31, 2026. ADEM is prepared to reallocate some of the money to other projects if it is determined that a particular project won't be able to meet the deadline.

Local governments have pledged an additional \$663 million in matching funds. This brings Alabama's new investment total in water and sewer infrastructure to more than \$1 billion. The investment in these much needed infrastructure projects is greatly appreciated and should help keep our industry strong.

On October 10th, AUCA will hold our Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot at Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club in Montgomery. We are expecting a record turnout for what is always our largest event. At the meeting we will also vote on our Officers and Board of Directors to lead AUCA into 2025. If you plan to attend, and have not already sent in your registration form, please do so immediately in order to guarantee your space.

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Tim

AUCA Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot

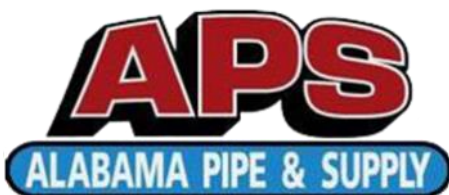
Currently Registered Event Sponsors:

(Additional sponsorship opportunities available - deadline is October 3rd)

Gold Sponsors (to Date):



Know what's below.
Contact 811 before you dig.



AUCA Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot

Silver Sponsors (to Date):



Bronze Sponsors (to Date):



Drink & Refreshment Sponsors (to Date):





AUCA 2024 Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot

Thursday, October 10, 2024

**Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club
4758 Lower Wetumpka Road Montgomery, AL 36110**

~~Morning Sporting Clay Shoot (A.M. Teams SOLD OUT)~~

General Meeting & Steak Lunch - 11:00 a.m.

Door Prizes & Raffle Drawing - 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sporting Clay Shoot - 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start



General Meeting & Steak Lunch

Guest Speaker - Sherman Williams

(Lunch Included with Clay Shoot Registration or Sponsorship)

Come network with your peers, win great door prizes, and enjoy a delicious steak lunch while listening to our special guest speaker. We will also vote on the 2025 AUCA Officers and Board of Directors, and present the AUCA "Member of the Year" Awards.

Annual Sporting Clay Shoot

(Participants must provide their own Gun and Shells)

Complete attached Registration Form and return ASAP.

Corporate Sponsorship opportunities available.

Sign up now before the event sells out!



AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle

This year we are again raffling two great prizes that anyone can use:

Prize #1: \$1,000 Cash

Prize #2: \$500 Cash

Tickets are \$10 each and allow two (2) chances to win.

(You do not have to be present to win)

All money raised from the raffle will go towards the AUCA PAC Fund to help support our continued Legislative efforts in Montgomery and Washington.



OCTOBER 10, 2024 - EVENT REGISTRATION FORM



To register, please complete this form and return to the AUCA office by fax or email. A copy of the registration form should also be submitted with payment.

Registration Deadline is October 3, 2024

Company Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email: _____

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT TEAM & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- GOLD TEAM SPONSOR - \$1,000 Includes: 4-man team, cart, lunch, company logo on AUCA website w/ link to sponsor's website, event signage, promotional materials, & four (4) station sponsorship
SILVER TEAM SPONSOR - \$750 Includes: 4-man team, cart, lunch, name recognition on AUCA website, event signage, promotional materials, & one (1) station sponsorship
4-PERSON TEAM - \$600 Includes: 4-man team, cart, lunch
BRONZE EVENT SPONSOR - \$250 Includes: Admission for two (2) company representatives to attend General Meeting Lunch, name recognition on AUCA website, event signage, one (1) station sponsorship, and may provide trappers on course to network with shooters and hand out company prizes or give-a-ways

TEAM MEMBERS:

1.) _____ 3.) _____
2.) _____ 4.) _____

MORNING SHOOT: Sold Out AFTERNOON SHOOT: _____

CART NEEDED: YES _____ NO _____

4-person golf carts provided for all teams (you may also bring your own cart/ATV)

You must provide your own shells (Factory shells only - #7-1/2 or higher shot load)

Safety rules must be followed; signed waiver required; ear plugs and eye protection required

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT TEAM PRIZES

1st Place Team: \$400 + Trophies 2nd Place Team: \$300 + Trophies 3rd Place Team: \$200 + Trophies

GENERAL MEETING LUNCH (INCLUDED w/ TEAM REGISTRATION or SPONSORSHIP)

General Meeting Lunch: \$25/Non-Shooter x Quantity () = \$ _____

PAYMENT REQUESTED BEFORE OR ON DAY OF EVENT! Return form and payment to:

Alabama Utility Contractors Association

P.O. Box 383185

Birmingham, Alabama 35238-3185

Phone: (205) 582-9436

Fax: (205) 582-9155

Email: tim@aluca.org



To pay by credit card, please contact the AUCA office at (205) 582-9436.

News & Notes:

**ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
PROPOSED 2025 LEADERSHIP TEAM**

To Be Voted On At General Meeting Scheduled For October 10, 2024

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: ROBBIE BUTLER, *CLEARY CONSTRUCTION, INC.*

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: RONNIE GOLDEN, *CG JONES, LLC*

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: RANDY BISHOP, *CONSTRUCTION LABOR SERVICES, INC.*

SECRETARY/TREASURER: GAVIN JONES, *BAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS, INC.*

BOARD MEMBERS

DOUG BLANKENSHIP, *BLANKENSHIP CONTRACTING, INC.*

JAKE BROWN, *RUSSO CORP.*

BILL CARTER, *BILL CARTER CONSULTING, LLC*

SHAUN GONZALES, *WEAVER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMPANY, INC.*

ANDY HARSHMAN, *JOHN PLOTT COMPANY*

JAY HOLCOMB, *LAMBERT, INC.**

LARRY LOGSDON, *WALLACE, JORDAN, RATLIFF, & BRANDT, LLC*

MARK MAYFIELD, *MILLER PIPELINE, LLC*

RYAN McCLENDON, *MARSHMcLENNAN AGENCY*

BILL McGOUGH, *W.R. MITCHELL CONTRACTOR, INC.*

RICHARD MURPHREE, *EMPIRE PIPE & SUPPLY*

AARON SCHMIDT, *SCHMIDT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION, INC.*

CHARLES SMITH, *VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY*

CHAD TUBBS, *FERGUSON WATERWORKS*

STEVE WALKER, *JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.*

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT*



News & Notes:

AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle:

Tickets are being distributed to AUCA member companies for the annual AUCA PAC Raffle. All money raised from the raffle will go towards the AUCA PAC Fund to help support our continued Legislative efforts in Montgomery and Washington. This year we will once again be raffling two great prizes that anyone can use - CASH:

- \$1,000 Cash - Prize #1
- \$500 Cash - Prize #2

Tickets will be \$10 each, and will allow the purchaser two (2) chances to win. The drawing will be held at our October 10th Fall General Meeting / Sporting Clay Shoot in Montgomery. You do not have to be present at the event to win.

We hope that you will consider purchasing these tickets for yourself, or provide the opportunity to your employees or co-workers. If you would like to purchase any additional tickets, please contact the AUCA office at (205) 582-9436.

Alabama 811 Committee Opportunities:

Alabama 811 is looking to renew the Advisory Council as support for the AL811 mission and member involvement. The Advisory Council will look to initially meet quarterly and will be made up of designated stakeholder representation.

The Alabama 811 Advisory Council serves as a valuable knowledge base to further the mission of Alabama 811. Members of the Advisory Council provides service to the mission by providing the organization with their professional expertise; their diverse knowledge of constituent perspectives; their connections to local, national or international resources, colleagues or peers; or other forms of needed assistance. The Advisory Council has no governing function within the organization.

If you are interested in being considered, please complete the nomination form at:

<https://form.jotform.com/Alabama811/AdvisoryCouncil>

Alabama 811 is also reinstating the Legislative Committee to review potential improvements and updates to the current Alabama Underground Damage Prevention legislation.

If you are interested in serving on the Legislative Committee, please contact:

Annette Bowman
Alabama 811 Executive Director
abowman@al811.com
205.731.3209



News & Notes:

Alabama Damage Prevention Summit:



The Annual Alabama Damage Prevention Summit was held on September 17-19 at The Lodge at Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores. The event was well attended by stakeholders from all aspects of the damage prevention industry, including AUCA, and several of our member companies.

In Memory of Lyon Crowe:

We are deeply saddened to report the passing of long-time AUCA member Lyon Crowe. Lyon was a faithful attendee of many AUCA meetings and events until his retirement last year from Alabama Pipe & Supply. He was an icon in the construction industry, especially in the Mobile area where he served as a founding member of the AGC Mobile Section, Mobile County Road Builders Association and Baldwin County Road Builders Association. In addition to helping found these organizations, he also served as an officer and on their board of directors.

AUCA New Member Companies:

Star Construction, LLC

Knoxville, TN

Company Representatives: Tom Bones and Tony Hodges

www.star-llc.net

Timewell Drainage Products

Timewell, IL

Company Representatives: Allison Koch and Shane Steed

www.timewellpipe.com



News & Notes:

U.S. Pipe Hosts Alabama Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth:



AUCA member U.S. Pipe recently hosted Alabama Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth for a tour of their Ductile Iron Pipe manufacturing facility in Bessemer. The Lt. Governor was also able to share about his workforce development initiatives.



PROTECT WORKERS IN TRENCHES

Prevent trench collapses and save lives:

SLOPE or bench trench walls,

SHORE trench walls with supports, or

SHIELD trench walls with trench boxes



U.S. Department of Labor

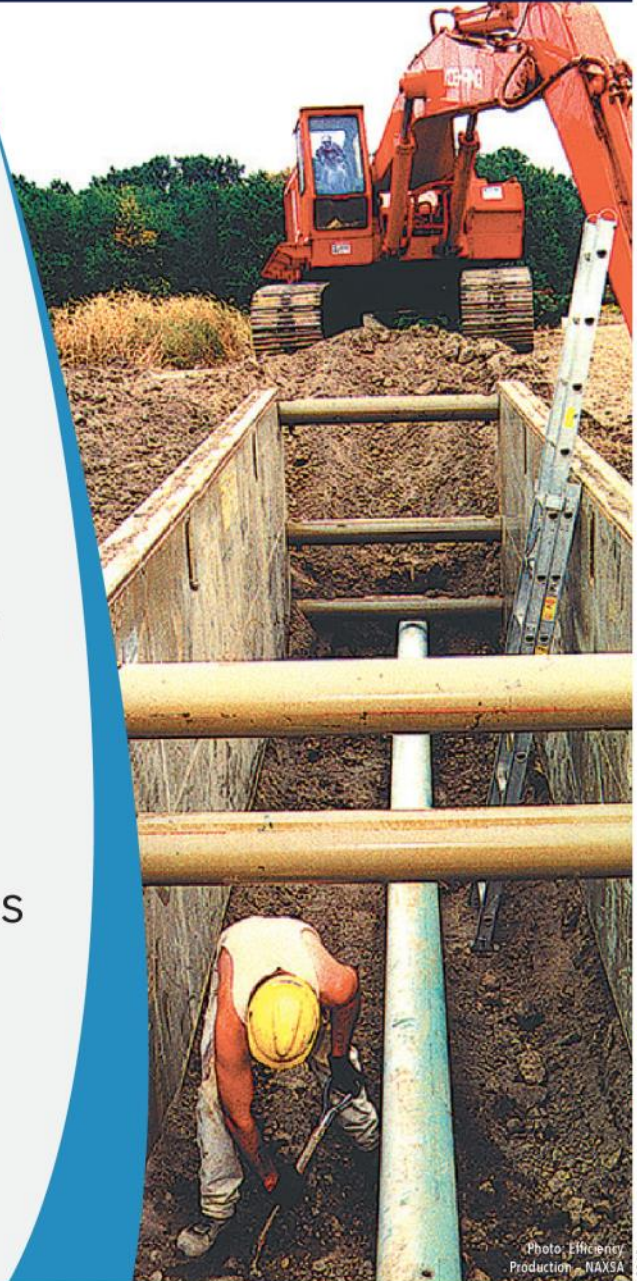


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Upcoming Meetings & Events:

***Alabama 811 Hosted October Area Damage Prevention
Coordination (DPC) Meetings***

Dates and Locations Available at the Below Registration Link:

[Alabama 811 Area Damage Prevention Meetings \(jotform.com\)](https://jotform.com)



***AUCA 2024 Fall General Meeting
& Sporting Clay Shoot***

**Thursday, October 10, 2024
Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club
Montgomery, AL**



AUCA Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, December 5, 2024

***AUCA 2025 Spring General Meeting,
Golf Tournament and Shrimp & Crawfish Boil***

**Thursday, April 24, 2025
Arrowhead Country Club
Montgomery, AL**

AUCA Industry Lunch Meetings
Dates and Locations To Be Announced



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

From Ryan Sharpe - Chairman CWCC & Sante Esposito - Key Advocates

September 3, 2024

FY25 Appropriations Status

While Congress is on recess until next week, it remains unlikely that an agreement will be reached on the Appropriations acts. In fact, discussions are underway on a Continuing Resolution that would avoid a government shutdown.

The Appropriations bills that have received approvals in the Republican-led House would cut discretionary funding while the Democrat-controlled Senate supports increasing spending to account for inflation. Funding bills have advanced in each house, but the two sides remain far apart on allocation levels.

SRF Appropriations: House vs. Senate Bills

Under the Senate bill, Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) would receive funding of \$1.6 billion while the House bill provides \$1.2 billion. The House bill included \$554 million in earmarks compared to Senate earmarks of \$363 million which would reduce overall funding Clean Water SRF allocations to \$1.3 billion in the Senate version and \$649 million in the House bill.

For the Safe Drinking Water SRFs, the Senate bill allocates \$1.1 billion compared to \$884 million in the House version. These funding levels would be reduced by earmarks, bringing the totals to \$884 million in the Senate and \$404 million in the House bill.

WIIN Grant Funding

Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation (WIIN) grants would receive \$30 million in the House Appropriations Act and \$20 million the Senate bill.

According to the Bureau of Reclamation, there is \$62 million remaining from the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law.

CWCC Position on SRF Funding, Earmarks

The Clean Water Construction Coalition (CWCC) is calling for a minimum of \$4.5 billion for Clean Water SRFs, at least \$4.3 billion for Safe Drinking Water SRFs and \$20 million for WIIN Grants.

In addition, we continue to oppose the use of earmarks as a takedown from funding allocations. If earmarks are utilized, we support the lower levels of earmarks included in the Senate Appropriations acts.



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

(Continued from page 12)

House Republican Budget Proposal

There has been no legislative action on the House Budget Resolution that would cut discretionary spending by \$2.5 trillion over the next ten years.

Other Issues

We are awaiting information from Senator Butler's office on a potential new version of the Stream Act which would provide \$750 million for surface and groundwater storage and conveyance projects, \$300 million for water recycling, \$250 million for environmental restoration, \$150 million for desalination projects and \$100 million for drinking water projects in disadvantaged communities.

Senate action is pending on H.R. 7023 which includes the CWCC-supported Garamendi Amendment. Under the amendment, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits could be issued for up to 10 years instead of the currently allowed five years.

We are still awaiting action on the Drought Act of 2024 which would increase Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) funding from 80% to 90% for projects serving historically disadvantaged communities and areas facing extreme drought.

We continue to pursue \$125 million in Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP) funding, expanded eligibility for AWSP grants and additional allocations for mega recycling water projects.



Hurricane & Flood Safety:

Provided by National Weather Service

Hurricane Safety Tips and Resources

Hurricanes are among nature's most powerful and destructive phenomena. On average, 12 tropical storms, 6 of which become hurricanes form over the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, or Gulf of Mexico during the hurricane season which runs from June 1 to November 30 each year. In the Central Pacific Ocean, an average of 3 tropical storms, 2 of which become hurricanes form or move over the area during the hurricane season, which runs from June 1 to November 30 each year. Guam, the Northern Marianas and Micronesia experience typhoons all year round but the main season is July through November with a peak from mid-August to mid-September. Over a typical 2-year period, the U.S. coastline is struck by an average of 3 hurricanes, 1 of which is classified as a major hurricane (winds of 111 mph or greater). By knowing what actions to take before the hurricane season begins, when a hurricane approaches, and when the storm is in your area, as well as what to do after a hurricane leaves your area, you can increase your chance of survival. If you, or someone you know, have been a victim of a hurricane, please share your story, including the town and state you were in and the year the event took place. Please note that NWS will then have permission to use your story for educational campaigns. Sharing this information may help save someone's life in the future.

Hurricane Hazards

While hurricanes pose the greatest threat to life and property, tropical storms and depression also can be devastating. The primary hazards from tropical cyclones (which include tropical depressions, tropical storms, and hurricanes) are storm surge flooding, inland flooding from heavy rains, destructive winds, tornadoes, and high surf and rip currents.

- Storm surge is the abnormal rise of water generated by a storm's winds. This hazard is historically the leading cause of hurricane related deaths in the United States. Storm surge and large battering waves can result in large loss of life and cause massive destruction along the coast.
- Storm surge can travel several miles inland, especially along bays, rivers, and estuaries.
- Flooding from heavy rains is the second leading cause of fatalities from landfalling tropical cyclones. Widespread torrential rains associated with these storms often cause flooding hundreds of miles inland. This flooding can persist for several days after a storm has dissipated.
- Winds from a hurricane can destroy buildings and manufactured homes. Signs, roofing material, and other items left outside can become flying missiles during hurricanes.
- Tornadoes can accompany landfalling tropical cyclones. These tornadoes typically occur in rain bands well away from the center of the storm.
- Dangerous waves produced by a tropical cyclone's strong winds can pose a significant hazard to coastal residents and mariners. These waves can cause deadly rip currents, significant beach erosion, and damage to structures along the coastline, even when the storm is more than a 1,000 miles offshore.

Heavy Rainfall & Inland Flooding

Tropical cyclones often produce widespread, torrential rains in excess of 6 inches, which may result in deadly and destructive floods. In fact, flooding is the major threat from tropical cyclones for peo-

(Continued on page 15)



Hurricane & Flood Safety:

(Continued from page 14)

ple living inland. Flash flooding, defined as a rapid rise in water levels, can occur quickly due to intense rainfall. Longer term flooding on rivers and streams can persist for several days after the storm. When approaching water on a roadway, always remember Turn Around Don't Drown.

Rainfall amounts are not directly related to the strength of tropical cyclones but rather to the speed and size of the storm, as well as the geography of the area. Slower moving and larger storms produce more rainfall. In addition, mountainous terrain enhances rainfall from a tropical cyclone.

Flood Safety

During a flood, water levels and the rate the water is flowing can quickly change. Remain aware and monitor local radio and television outlets. Avoid flood waters at all costs and evacuate immediately when water starts to rise. Don't wait until it's too late!

When flood waters recede, the damage left behind can be devastating and present many dangers. Images of flood destruction depict destroyed homes and buildings, damaged possessions, and decimated roadways. However, what you can't see can be just as dangerous. Floodwaters often become contaminated with sewage or chemicals. Gas leaks and live power lines can be deadly, but are not obvious at first glance.



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**AUCA IS A MEMBER-DRIVEN, NEEDS
FOCUSED TRADE ASSOCIATION CREATED
SOLELY TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE
UTILITY INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF
ALABAMA.**

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www.aluca.org**

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others in your company. And, if you are
receiving this for the company owner,
please print out a copy for him/her.**

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Training Needs**

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