ADVANCING
ONE WATER
IN TEXAS
PRESENTED BY
THE CYNTHIA & GEORGE
MITCHELL
FOUNDATION

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

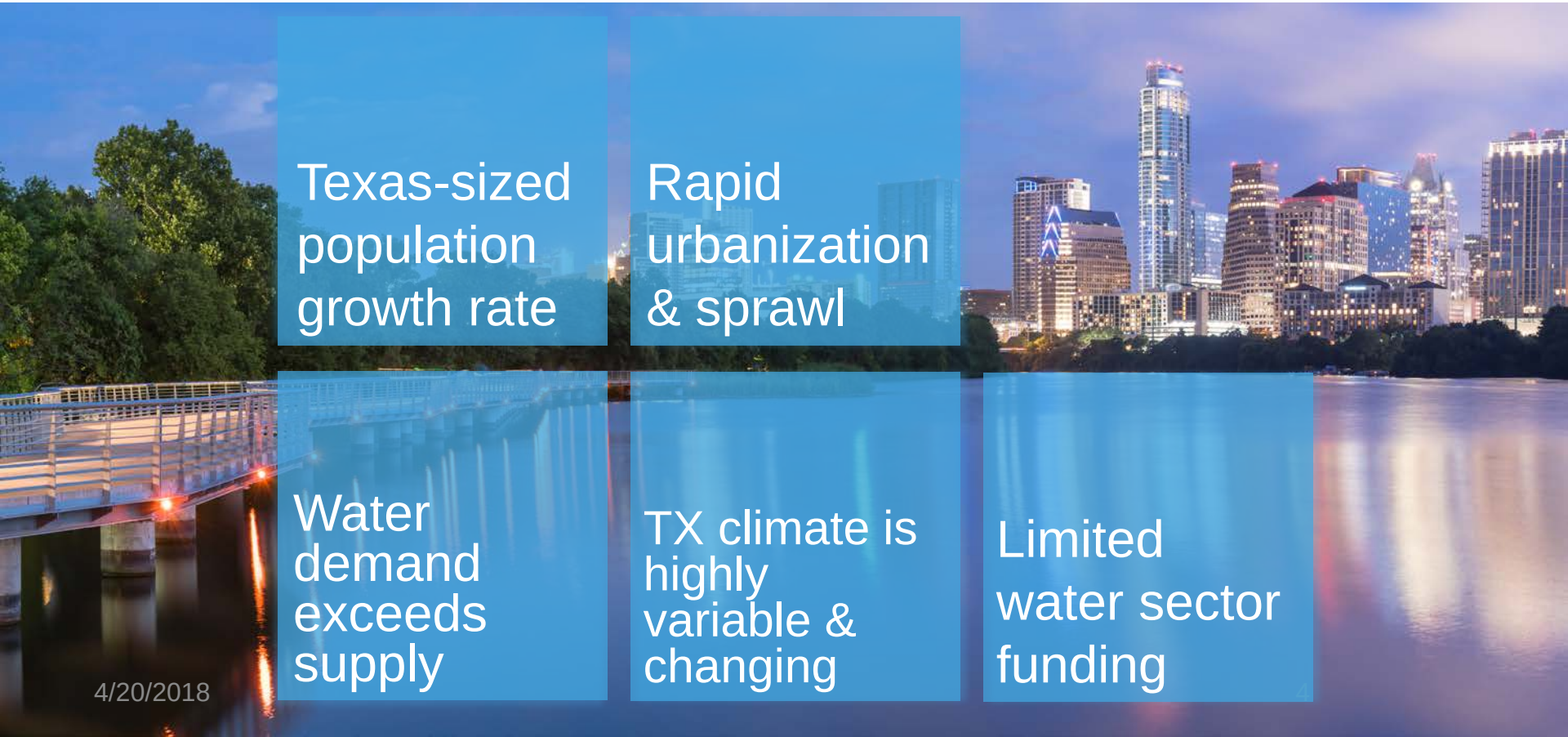
Innovative sustainable solutions for environmental problems

WATER PROGRAM

Ensuring ample, healthy waters to support diverse ecosystems

- Influence policy and management decisions
- Decrease urban dependency on source waters and advance utility business model reform
- Protect source waters and ensure ample, healthy instream flows & freshwater inflows to bays & estuaries
- Ensure water development & delivery options have a net-positive impact to the environment

THE CHALLENGES



Texas-sized population growth rate

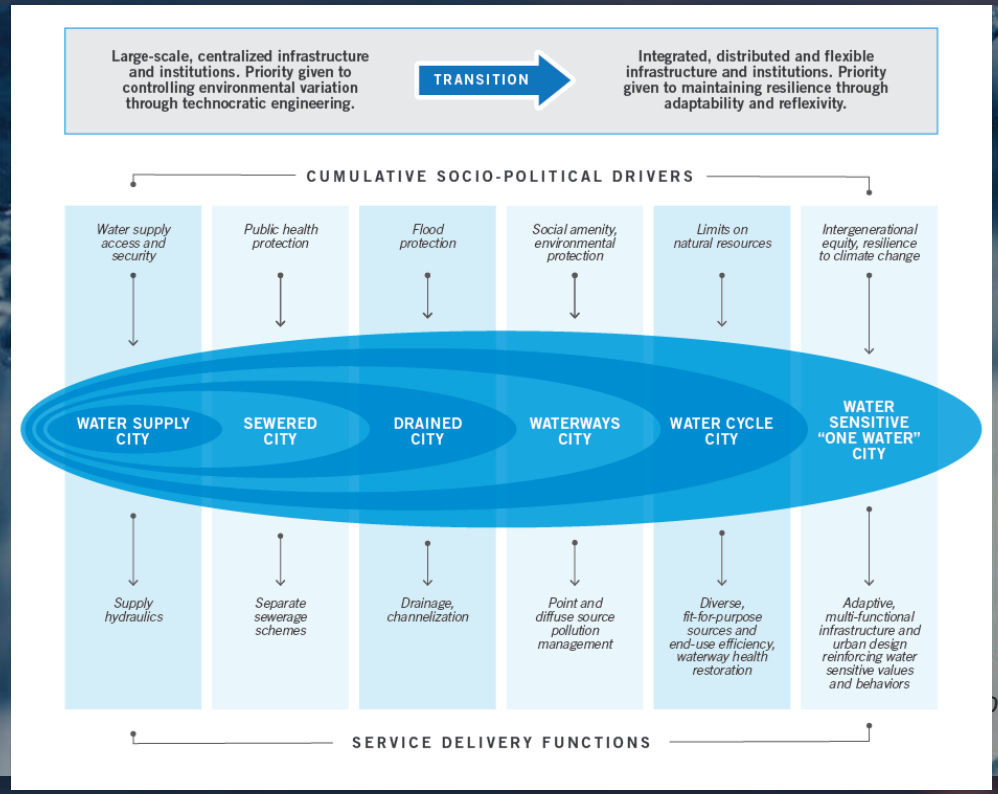
Rapid urbanization & sprawl

Water demand exceeds supply

TX climate is highly variable & changing

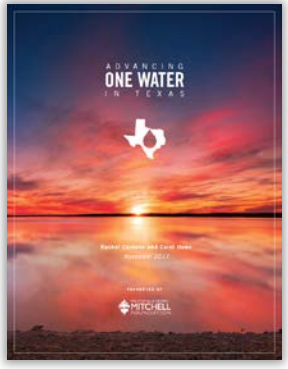
Limited water sector funding

THE SOLUTION



ut water conservation
Nov 2017

KEY RESOURCES

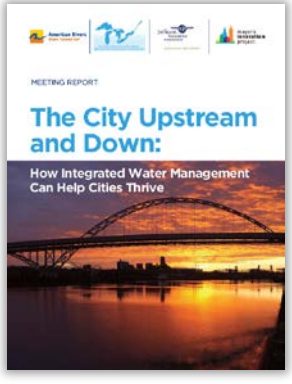


Advancing One Water in Texas

Cynthia & George Mitchell Foundation (2018)

Blueprint for One Water

Water Research Foundation (2017)



The City Upstream and Down: How Integrated Water Management Can Help Cities Thrive

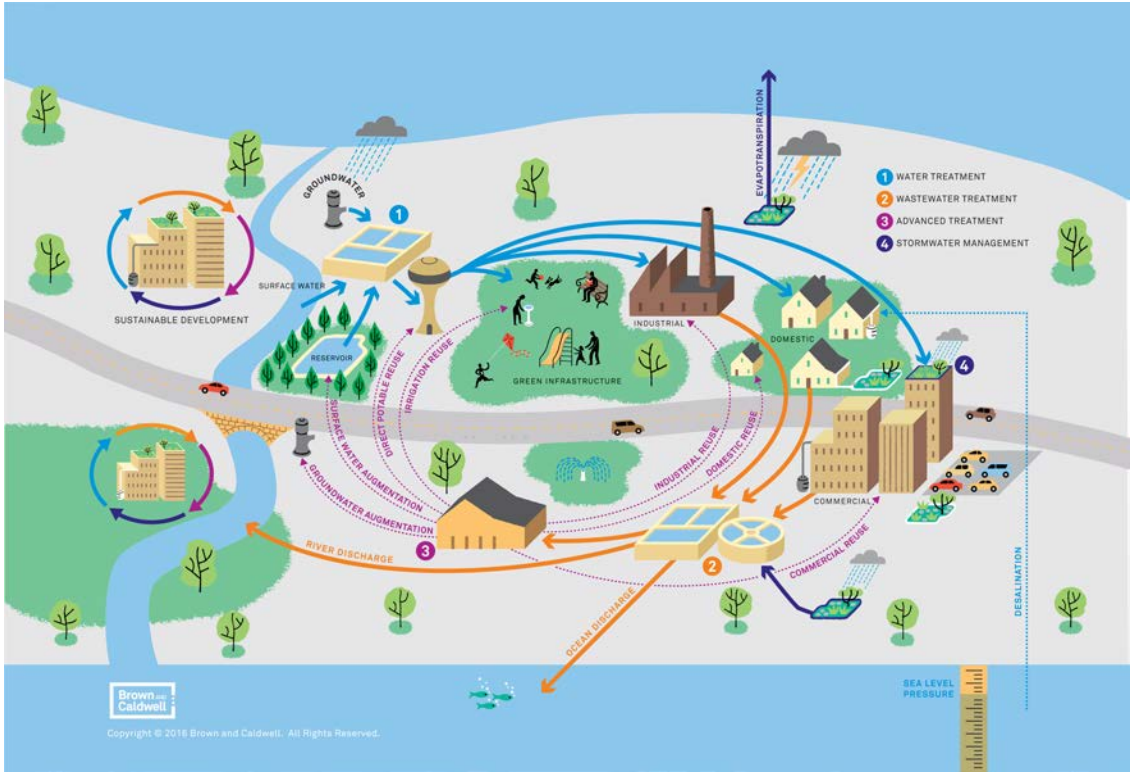
American Rivers (2016)

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

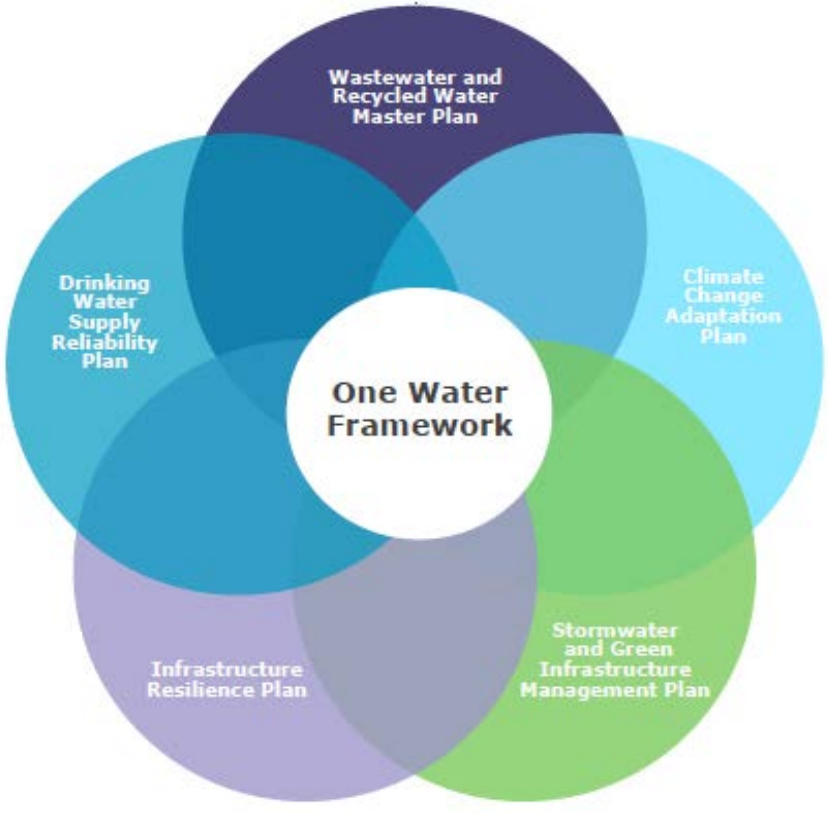
One Water promotes the management of **all water**—drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, greywater—

as a **single resource**.

A resource that must be managed holistically, viably, and sustainably.



TRADITIONAL VS. ONE WATER



Water Research Foundation (2017)

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

An intentionally INTEGRATED approach to water

Water management strategies that have multiple benefits

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT ASPECT	CONVENTIONAL APPROACH
Overall Approach	Integration by accident
Collaboration with stakeholders	Public relations – public are approached to approve pre-approved solution
Infrastructure choice	Concrete, metal or plastic
Stormwater management	Convey away as rapidly as possible
Human waste management	Collect, treat and dispose
Water demand management	Meet demand through investment in new supply sources & infrastructure
Technological solution choices	Standard engineering solutions to individual water cycle components

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

An intentionally INTEGRATED approach to water

Across types of water

Across regions/ watersheds

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

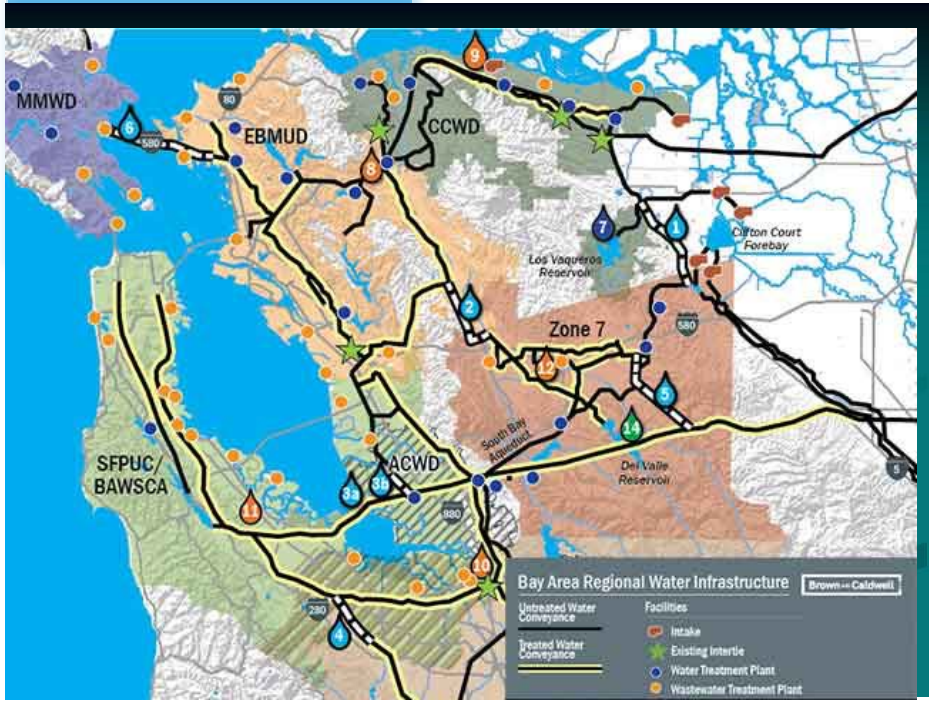
An intentionally INTEGRATED approach to water

Across city departments

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

An intentionally INTEGRATED approach to water

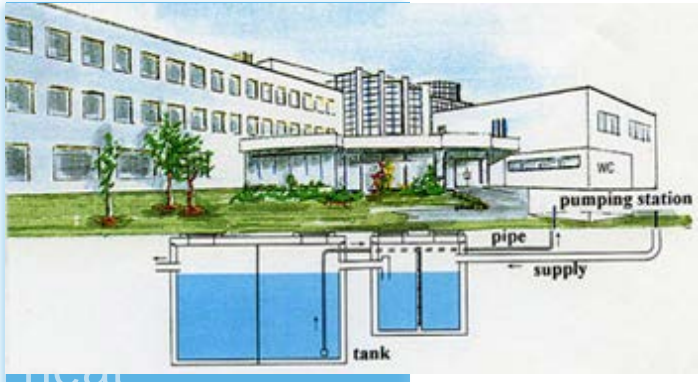
Across regions/ watersheds



WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

Water management strategies with multiple benefits

Rainwater for toilets & irrigation



Wastewater for recreation & urban heat

for energy

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

Water management strategies with multiple benefits

Stormwater for recreation, food, urban heat

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

Water management strategies with multiple benefits

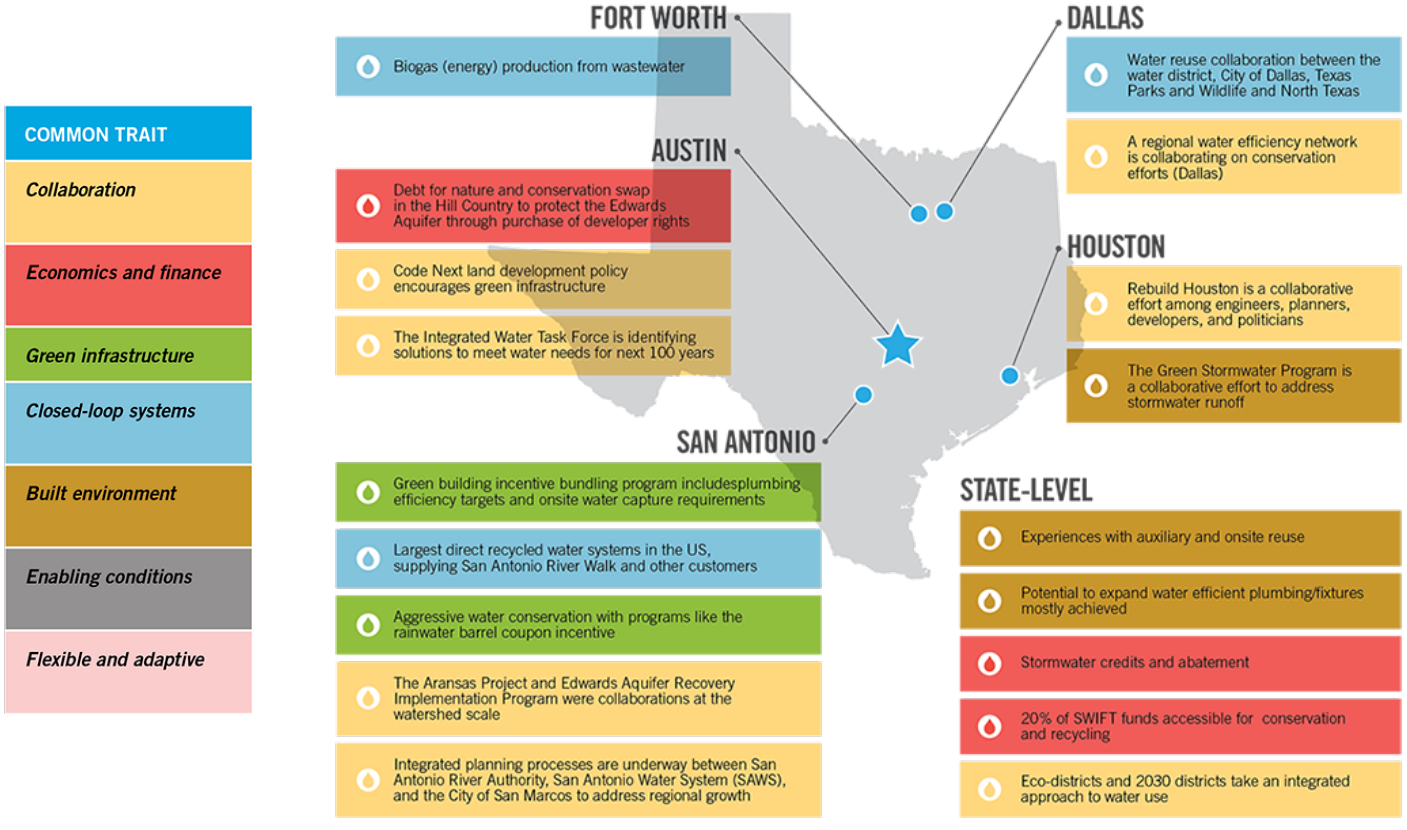
Wastewater for recreation & urban heat

WHAT IS **ONE WATER**?

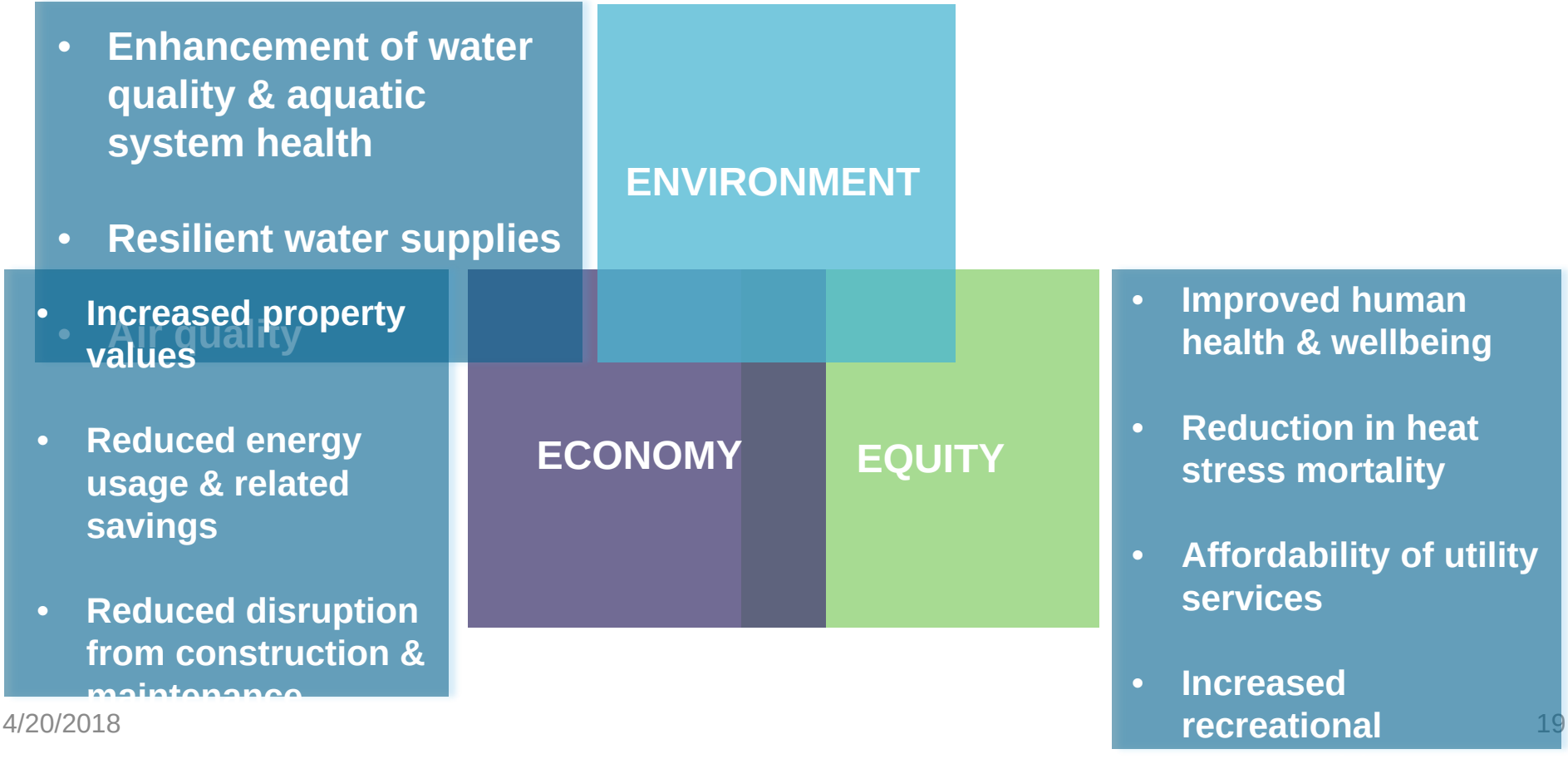
Water management strategies with multiple benefits

Blackwater for energy

ONE WATER IN TEXAS



WHY **ONE WATER** | *Triple-bottom-line benefits*



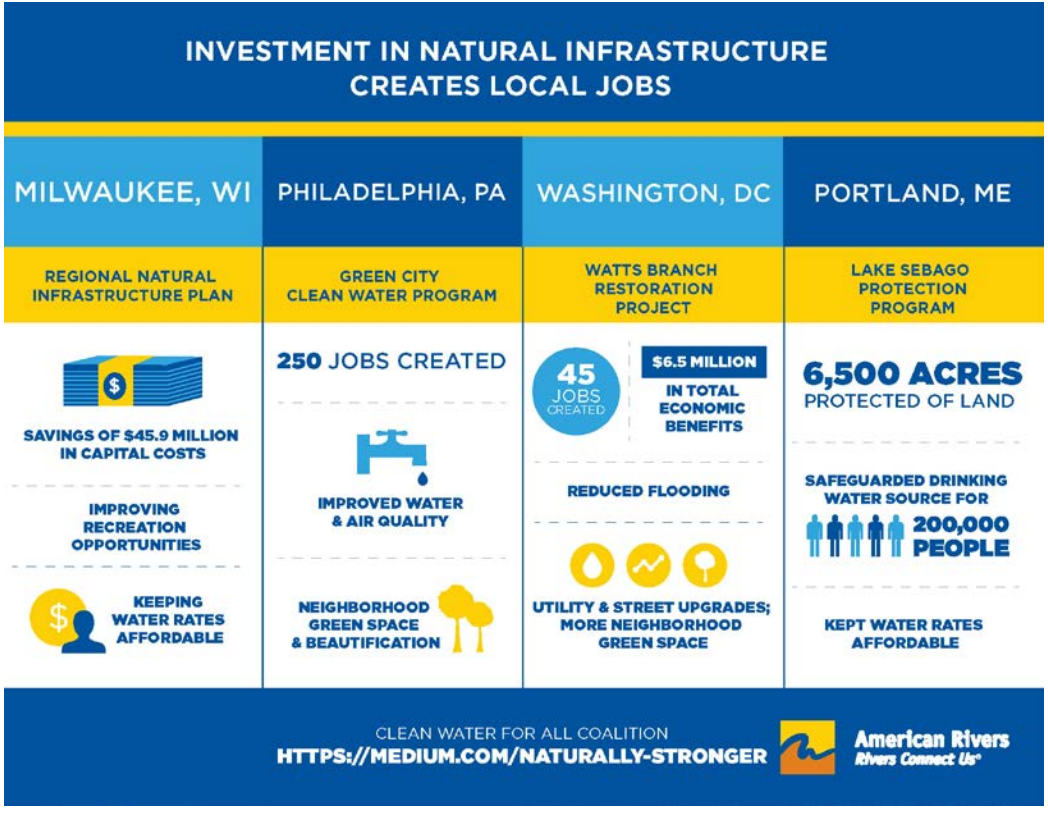
WHY **ONE WATER**

TOP REASONS

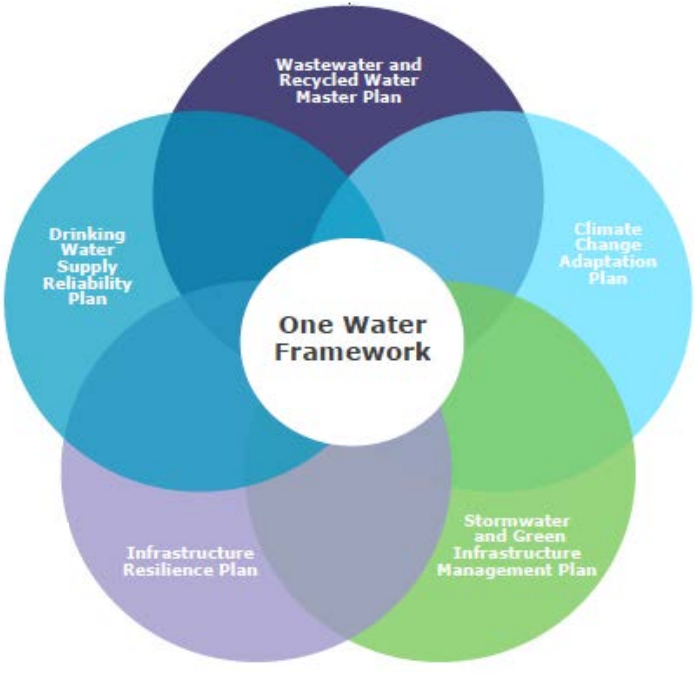
1. Greater resilience and reliabilities
2. Opportunities to optimize regional infrastructure
3. Sustainable community development
4. New regulatory flexibility or opportunity
5. Economic growth opportunity
6. Increased coordination among agencies/departments

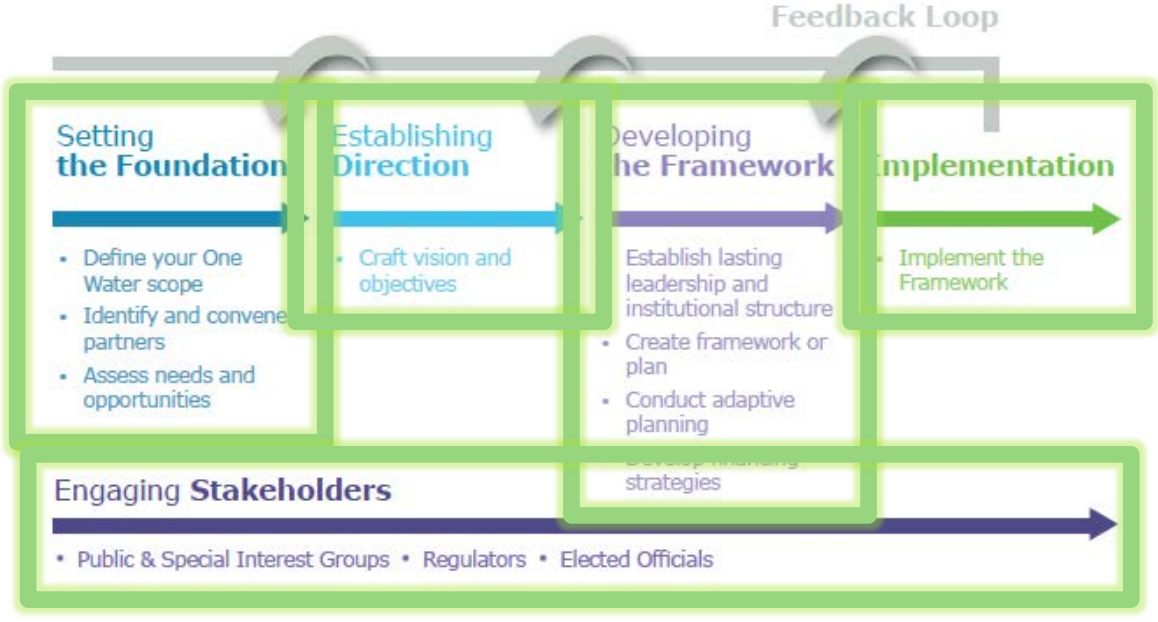
Water Research Foundation (2017)

WHY ONE WATER



HOW TO **ONE WATER**?





Water Research Foundation (2017)

HOW TO **ONE WATER**?

Advance policy at multiple levels

Build across silos, or break them down

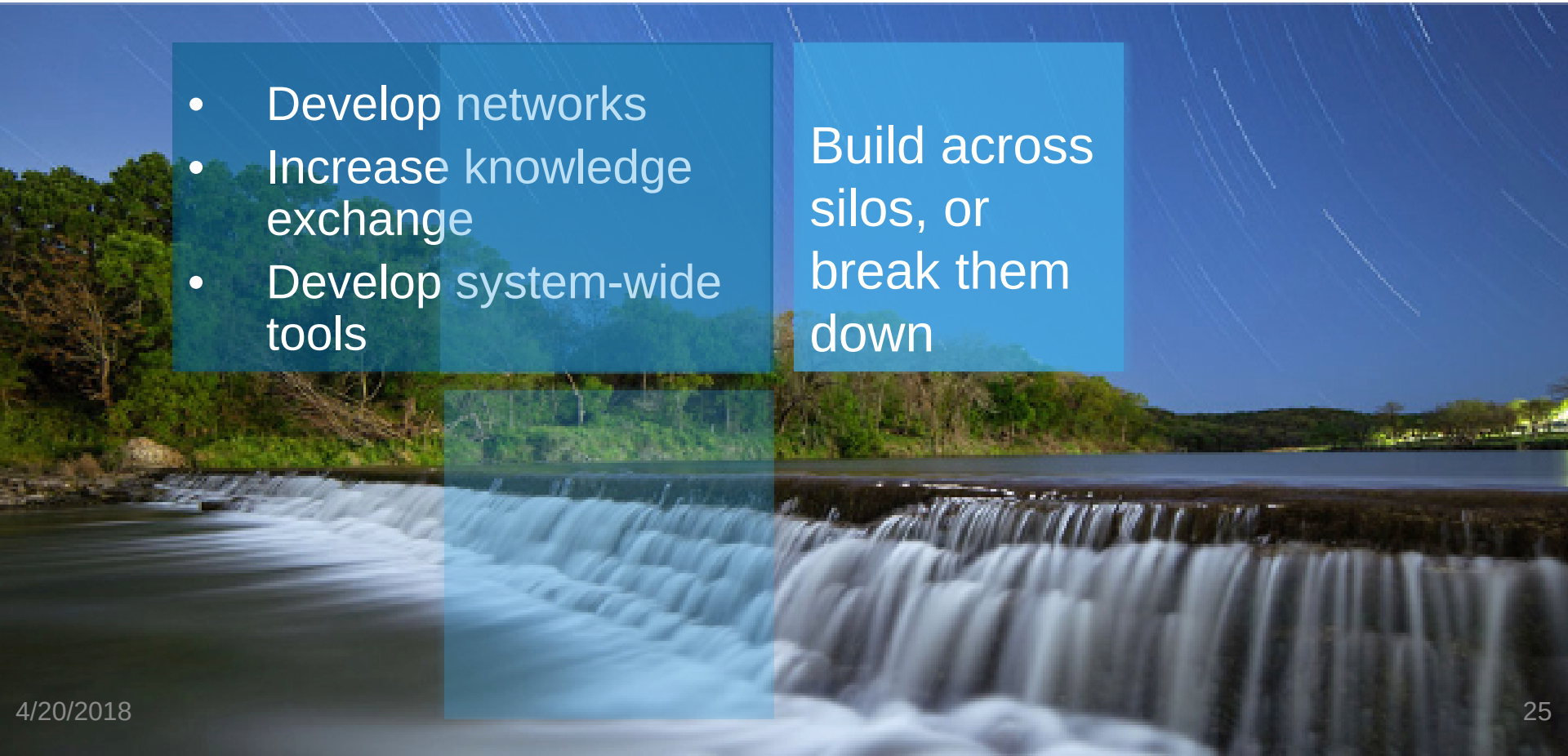
Mainstream pilots & demos

HOW TO **ONE WATER**?

Advance policy at multiple levels

- One Water projects in SWP
- Build alliances with key associations
- Increase public and private investment

HOW TO **ONE WATER**?



- Develop networks
- Increase knowledge exchange
- Develop system-wide tools

Build across silos, or break them down

HOW TO **ONE WATER**?

Mainstream pilots & demos

- Design pilots with strong business case
- Ensure marketing/ comms
- Connect with business and developer community

BE A **ONE WATER** CHAMPION

Learn more

- Check out our report
- Tune in to TLWP webinar series
- CGMF blog series @MitchFound

Get plugged in

- US Water Alliance / *One Water Summit*
- WaterNow Alliance

THANK YOU!

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