# WATER FUNDERS FORUM

October 27, 2026

Throughout the day we'll examine how water challenges can be translated into investable opportunities, explore solutions across the full water cycle, and discuss strategies for deploying capital across the funding spectrum to address critical water infrastructure needs.

**WELCOME** 10:00AM

Overview from Eli Hopson, Chief Commercial Officer at CGC

**PANEL 1** **From Water Challenges to Investable Opportunities**

Green banks are seeing growing interest in and demand for multi-benefit resilience investments that connect energy, water, and other local resilience priorities. What does it take to turn that demand into financeable projects? Leaders from green banks who participated in the two CGC Water Cohorts will share emerging opportunities and lessons from the field that will help move resilience and water infrastructure projects from concept to investment.



Moderator
**Shalini Vajjhala**
PRE Collective



**Emily Leveille**
New Mexico Climate Investment Center



**Gwen Yamamoto Lau**
Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority



**Jennifer Weiss**
Clean Energy Fund of the Carolinas

**CASE STUDY** **A New Model for Investing in Resilient Affordable Housing**

How can we move resilience investments from a collection of "nice to have" ideas to a proactive pipeline of financeable investments for affordable housing owners? Montgomery County Green Bank's Resilience Dedicated Fund offers a successful model for providing flexible, low-cost capital to help affordable housing owners proactively plan and finance resilience improvements across their portfolios. This session will share the RDF's approach, early results, and lessons for building scalable resilience financing solutions for affordable housing nationwide.



Moderator
**Tracy Kaufman**
PRE Collective



**Laura Mondragón**
Montgomery County Green Bank



**Rachel Cluett**
Victory Housing

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**PANEL 2** **A Full Water Cycle Aperture: From Nature Based Solutions to Green Infrastructure**

Most water capital enables what comes out of the tap, financing pipes, plants, and treatment. An underleveraged area enables fixes that sit upstream, on the working lands where agriculture uses 70% of our freshwater and drives much of its pollution. Three funders - private, nonprofit, and philanthropic - will get specific about how they finance clean water at its source.



Moderator
**Kyle Rudzinski**
CGC



**Morgan Snyder**
Walton Family Foundation



**Jason Lee**
Blue Forest



**Chris Larson**
Alder Point Capital Management

**LUNCH** 12:30 to 1:30PM

**CASE STUDY 2** **Green Bank Funding for Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Washington D.C.**

Explore how DC Green Bank and Rain Plan are working together to expand access to financing for green stormwater infrastructure projects in Washington, D.C. Through a $2 million lending facility, the partnership is supporting a diverse portfolio of residential and commercial projects designed to manage stormwater runoff, reduce flooding risks, and provide environmental and community benefits. Panelists will discuss how the partnership works, the types of projects it is helping to advance, lessons learned through implementation, and the potential for similar financing approaches to expand green infrastructure investment elsewhere.



Moderator
**Gary Belan**
American Rivers



**Gabriela Kluzinksi**
DC Green Bank



**Greg Cannito**
Rainplan



**Barbara Hopkins**
Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange

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**PANEL 3** **Financing Water Infrastructure Across the Capital Stack**

Financing water infrastructure often requires more than a single source of capital. It takes creative coordination across philanthropy, public funding, catalytic capital, and private investment. This panel will explore how different forms of capital can be deployed across the capital stack to meet the financing needs of critical water infrastructure, from upgrading essential municipal systems to scaling innovative water solutions.



**Moderator**
**Adrian Rodrigues**
CGC



**Ksenia Koban**
Estian Partners



**Tom Ferguson**
Burnt Island Ventures



**George Hawkins**
Moonshot Missions

**BREAKOUTS** Small group discussions to facilitate broader conversation related to the entry points that exist for investments in water and the challenges faced.

**RECEPTION** 4:30 to 6:00PM

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