



# e-Source

## CARIBBEAN WATER UTILITIES OBSERVE WORLD WATER DAY

### LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

Whoever you are, wherever you are, water is your human right.



# Water for all



**“OUR BODIES, OUR CITIES AND OUR INDUSTRIES, OUR AGRICULTURE AND OUR ECOSYSTEMS ALL DEPEND ON IT. WATER IS A HUMAN RIGHT. NOBODY SHOULD BE DENIED ACCESS.” — UN SECRETARY-GENERAL ANTÓNIO GUTERRES**

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**Editorial**

# Thank You, Water!



On March 22, Caribbean water utilities joined the rest of the world to observe World Water Day.

The United Nations declared the observance of an annual World Day for Water 26 years ago, to create more awareness for sustainable management of freshwater resources.

World Water Day is today part of a global campaign to provide clean water for everyone. It is also a day for better understanding the value of water, to engage in self-reflection and to find ways to preserve it and turn those intentions into action.

Leaving no one behind is this year's theme, a timely reminder of the UN's sustainable development goal No. 6: "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all."

We are also reminded that access to water is deemed a Human Right by the United Nations, but the stark reality of access to water as a human right falls terribly short.

It is estimated that nearly 700 million people do not have access to safe drinking water, while 2.4 billion people lack access to reliable sanitation.

Whilst most countries in the Caribbean have made very good progress towards the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) target of water for all by 2030 by attaining over 90 percent access, the Caribbean has had significant reductions in availability of fresh water resources.

During this year's commemoration of World Water Day, regional utilities seized the opportunity to educate young people about the fundamental sacredness of water for all and the importance of science and technology to addressing the increasingly complex environmental issues that will face our world in the future.

In this edition of E-Source, we have captured some highlights of World Water Day events held by our member-utilities.

We all connect with water multiple times a day and therefore water deserves a celebration every day.

We therefore move a lifelong toast to this incredible compound that gives us life and sustains our planet.

By saying Thank You to water, we are helping to connect with and protect Water For All.

Above all, we salute the people who work night and day, 24/7 and for 365 days and 12 months per year, to ensure that we all have access to reliable and safe water supplies, from source to our taps.

Big-up Water!

## Grenada's Minister of Public Utilities Visits NAWASA



Minister of Public Utilities Honourable Gregory Bowen held his first official meeting for the New Year with members of NAWASA's Board of Directors on Thursday January 31st 2019.

The meeting engaged the Board and General Manager Mr. Christopher Husbands on NAWASA's plans and projects for 2019, and spoke to Government's continued support for the development of the island's water sector.

Also in attendance was the Permanent Secretary with responsibility for Public Utilities & Energy Ms. Patricia Clarke.

NAWASA's Board is chaired by Mr. Anthony Mc Leish with Mr. Ferron Lowe as his Deputy.

## NAWASA in Drought Mode

The National Water and Sewerage of Authority (NAWASA) in Grenada has hit the ground preparing the public for the adverse effect of the drying season on water supply. This water conservation campaign is led by the NAWASA's General Manager supported by his Team NAWASA which includes Mrs. Jamila Samuel, Communications Supervisor, Mr. Joel Thomas, Manager, Transmission and Distribution Department, Engineer Mr. Damian Bruno and Valve Operator, Mr. Alexis Penny.

NAWASA's message for the dry season is STORE, STORE, STORE, 35 gallons of water, per person, per day for minimum of 3 days.

Team NAWASA has taken the campaign to the public and private sector including the high command of the Royal Grenada Police, the Fire Service Department and the Grenada Prison Service.

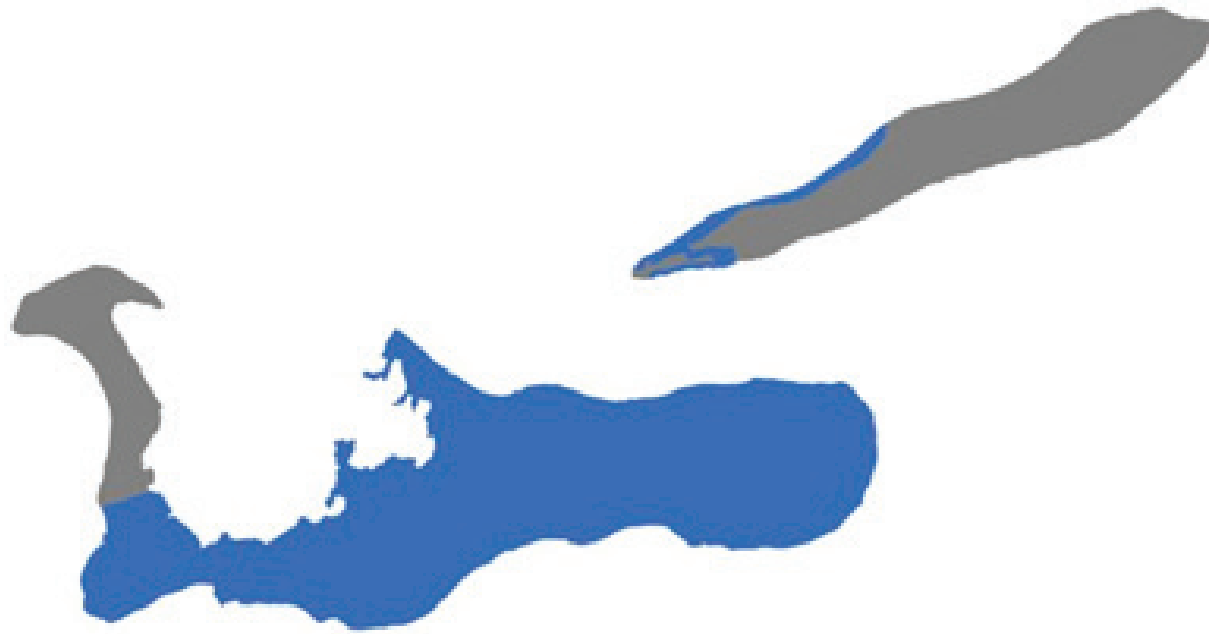
Team NAWASA has also engaged the Board of Directors of the Grenada Hotel and Tourism Association (GHATA) to discuss the development of the water sector in the south particularly as it relates to the dry season.

During the meeting with the hoteliers, the General Manager, Mr. Husbands shared information on two of NAWASA's major concessionary funding projects that will address the challenges being faced by their consumers within the next two years - Grenada's water project entitled: Climate-Resilient Water Sector in Grenada (G-CREWS) to the tune of EC \$125 Million and the UK CIF 40 million dollar project.



# WORLD WATER DAY

## CELEBRATED BY THE WATER AUTHORITY OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



*Water for all*



**By Joe Avery**  
of Cayman 27 TV

In 2010 the United Nations recognised access to safe and clean drinking water as a human right, but more than two billion people worldwide are still living without. Here in Cayman, where reverse osmosis ensures our fresh water supply, Water Authority Cayman is joining this year’s World Water Day call to leave no one behind.

“The Water Authority’s objective and mission is to ensure that we have clean, safe, potable water accessible to all of

our population,” said Water Authority Director Gelia Frederick-van Genderen.

Ms. Frederick-van Genderen told Cayman 27 supplying water to 18,500 Grand Cayman-based customers requires considerable infrastructure.

“We have about 480 km of pipeline, and we have a storage capacity of about almost 63,000 m<sup>3</sup>, four pumping stations, and our production capacity has about 23,000 m<sup>3</sup> per day,” said Ms. Frederick-van Genderen.

The Water Authority produces its fresh water by abstracting sea water from the ground, in a process called reverse osmosis, but Ms. Frederick-van Genderen says that’s not to say it’s unimportant to practice good environmental stewardship.

“If we have contamination of our abstraction wells, we could have more issues and more expense to ensure that the water is clean,” she explained.

That’s where laboratory technologist Jerry Banks and the staff of the Water Authority’s accredited lab come in, running a plethora of scientific tests to ensure Cayman’s tap water meets the grade.

“I get great satisfaction knowing that when I go home and get a glass of water, I helped contribute to that, you know. There’s two-billion-plus people on this earth that doesn’t have that luxury of having a clean glass of water when they turn the tap on,” said Mr. Banks.

“We have to keep up with the growth in population,” said

Ms. Frederick-van Genderen.

She told Cayman 27 meeting the challenge of future demand for clean, safe water requires foresight.

“It takes years to construct the infrastructure and have it ready, so we have to make a prediction or a forecast based on the information that is available, population growth,” said Ms. Frederick-van Genderen

And that’s something she says the Water Authority is actively undertaking.

The Water Authority owns five reverse osmosis plants, four in Grand Cayman and one in Cayman Brac



# WORLD WATER DAY OBSERVED BY DOWASCO

DOWASCO hosted not one but 2 exhibitions on March 22, World Water Day; one was held at the forecourt of the Windsor Park Stadium and another at the Portsmouth Office.

Several schools attended the exhibitions. The events were supported by Dominica's Forestry, Wild Life and Parks Division: Environmental Education Unit, and the Dominica Meteorological Services.

The exhibition highlighted the importance of Dominica's fresh water resource and various operational processes involved in the delivery of potable water to the public - from source to tap.

DOWASCO also hosted a town hall meeting at the University of the West Indies (UWI) School of Continuing Studies on Thursday 21st March, 2019. A presentation of the development of the local water sector was delivered by historian, Dr. Lennox Honeychurch and General Manager of DOWASCO, Bernard Ettinoffe.



# GWOPA's Annual International Steering Committee Meeting



GWOPA celebrated a decade of bringing operators together to help one another at its 11th annual International Steering Committee meeting held on March 27 - 28 in Madrid. Representatives from all regions and sectors of the alliance were present at this annual gathering to provide UN-Habitat with guidance for supporting GWOPA's work.

The Alliance was founded in 2009 after the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) recommended such a mechanism to help the world's public water utilities improve and extend access to water and sanitation services. Ten years on, Water Operators' Partnerships - a unique partnering approach in which strong utilities help their peers on a not-for-profit basis - have expanded significantly, with over 320 partnerships on record and a growing number of countries, development banks and other development organizations adopting the approach.

UN-Habitat's Executive Director, who is also Chair of the Committee, congratulated the Alliance for its decade of achievements and thanked the Government of Spain, City of Barcelona, the Government of Netherlands (DGIS), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Energy of Abu Dhabi for their financial support to this collective effort to strengthen utilities' capacity to deliver safe essential services to all and help achieve the SDGs.

A key decision at the meeting was to open a competitive bid for Hosting the GWOPA Secretariat for a further 5-year period in order to implement the GWOPA 2019- 2023 Strategic Plan. A call for Expressions of Interest to host this UN office will be opened to all UN member states in the coming months. Furthermore, the Committee members welcomed the endorsement of GWOPA's new 5-year strategy with view to ensuring

that, 1. WOPs are scaled up and 2. WOPs are effectively supporting operator capacity to realize the SDGs to the benefit of all. To bolster this strategic transition, ISC members agreed that a GWOPA Governance Task Force will be established to oversee the review and revision of the GWOPA Charter.

Cari-WOP was represented by Mr. Ignatius Jean, Executive Director of the CAWASA.

Cari-WOP is the regional platform for WOPs in the Caribbean and is embedded under the larger geographical WOP platform for Latin America and the Caribbean (WOP-LAC). The permanent Secretariat of Cari-WOP is co-hosted by the two professional water associations in the region: CAWASA and CWWA.

## Inauguration Ceremony - UAE/BWA Solar Photovoltaic Project



On Friday, March 22, at 1000 a.m., the inauguration ceremony for the United Arab Emirates Solar Photovoltaic Project took place at the Barbados Water Authority's Bowmanston pumping station in St John.

In January 2017, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Government launched a US \$50 million Caribbean Renewable Energy Fund at its International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Conference. The fund was established to assist Caribbean Small Island Developing States to promote the increase use of renewable energy within their countries.

Through a number of its Ministries, the Government of Barbados submitted five project proposals to the UAE for funding and in November 2011 an agreement was signed between the UAE Government and the Government of Barbados, which awarded BOS \$7million in grant funding from the UAE through MASDAR for two of the project proposals submitted by the Barbados Water Authority.

Those projects were for the supply and installation of a 500kw ground mounted solar photovoltaic farm on 1.5 acres of land adjacent to the Bowmanston pumping station; and the supply and installation of a 350 kw solar photovoltaic carport at the Bridgetown sewage treatment plant.

As part of the agreement, the BWA has to fulfil the UAE MASDAR social commitment which includes building awareness of renewable energy projects within schools and communities; the involvement of women in renewable energy; strengthening teachers in renewable energy education & awareness, and as part of this aspect, the Lodge School was chosen for the implementation of a renewable energy project, particularly given its close proximity to the Bowmanston location and the easy adoption of the students and teachers there for learning.

## NAWASA G-CREWS PROJECT



NAWASA has a major concessionary funded project that will certainly address the challenges of the dry season faced by our consumers within the next two years.

NAWASA with the support of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) will commence shortly with work under the Green Climate Fund for Grenada's water project entitled: Climate-Resilient Water Sector in Grenada (G-CREWS)

This transformational project valued at EC \$125 Million is the single largest investment in the island's water sector to date, and will ensure that there are significant upgrades to certain systems throughout the island with the total budget financed as follows:

The Green Climate Fund - EC \$105 million (Grant)

Government of Germany - EC \$7.5 million (Grant)

Government of Grenada/NAWASA -EC \$12.5 million (in kind and cash)

This MAJOR win presents a wonderful opportunity to comprehensively mainstream and implement climate resilience throughout Grenada's entire national water sector addressing two main climate risks and vulnerabilities of Grenada: freshwater availability and disaster preparedness.

Overall, we will see replacement of a number of aged infrastructure with improvements in water quality and quantity and include:

- A new ground water programme, redrilling and rehabilitation of existing wells
- New dam and storage tank at Les Avocat
- New dam, raw water storage reservoir and treated water storage tank at Petite Etang.
- New storage tank and transmission lines for Mirabeau.
- New storage tank in Ahoma.
- New storage tank in Morne Rouge.
- Line replacement from Tivoli to the Town of Grenville
- New storage Tank for Chantilly, Vendomme Water System.
- New storage tank in Mt. Moritz and installation of new pipelines from Vendomme to this storage Tank.
- New storage tank in Dr. Belle and associated pipelines from the Health Center to Dr. Belle in Gouyave, St. John.
- New storage tank and associated pipelines in Mt. Craven, St. Patrick.
- New storage tank and associated pipelines in Diego Piece in St. Mark for the Fountain Water System.
- New Storage Tank and transmission lines for the Tufton Hall Water System.

We are working as we have finally received the support that we need to make these challenges a thing of the past.

# CAWASA and The Chlorine Institute hosted Safety Workshops in Saint Lucia

The Caribbean Water and Sewerage Association (CAWASA) and the Chlorine Institute successfully hosted two training workshops for water and sewerage operators from the Caribbean.

The training sessions were held at the Bay Gardens Inn, Rodney Bay and at WASCO's T.R. Theobalds Water Treatment Plant at Ciceron, Castries on March 13 and 14, 2019.



The Chlorine Institute members Raphael Fernandez (Allied Universal), Ray Racha (Indian Springs Manufacturing), along with Robyn Brooks (CI Staff) presented on chlorine properties, preparedness, the use of the A-kit, and accidental mixing prevention.

Those in attendance came from Antigua (APUA), Barbados (BWA), Dominica (DOWASCO), Grenada (NAWASA), St. Vincent and the Grenadines (CWSA), and Saint Lucia (WASCO, WLBL, DBL, Sandals Grande, Windjammer Landing, CHEMICO, St Lucia Fire Service, St Lucia Red Cross); approximately 50 people attended over the two days of training.



All participants received a Chlorine Institute challenge coin, copies of training presentations and certificates of completion, as well as Continuing Education Credits.



The two workshops were preceded by an evening seminar on First Aid, Medical Evaluation and Treatment for Chlorine Exposure presented by Robyn Brooks of CI to the Saint Lucia Medical and Dental Association (SLMDA) on March 12, 2019 at the Auberge Seraphine Hotel.

The presentation, which drew an audience of 62 persons including 10 nurses and 52 medical doctors, was well-received.

Chlorine is a powerful disinfectant and bleaching agent, a toxic substance that presents a number of hazards.

If proper precautions are not taken while working with or around pure chlorine -- or even death -- can result.



In order to prevent injury and to assist water utilities and their staff with improving Occupational Health and Safety at the work place, CAWASA partnered with the Chlorine Institute to host these training activities, which is also the first Chlorine Institute event in the Caribbean.

The Chlorine Institute (CI), founded in 1924, is a technical trade association that exists to support the chlor-alkali industry in advancing safe, secure, environmentally compatible, and sustainable production, distribution, and use of its mission chemicals.

The Caribbean Water and Sewerage Association (CAWASA) is an association of Caribbean water utilities established to provide training services, operator certification, institutional strengthening, and networking for its members.

CI wants to remind everyone how important the distinction between bleach versus chlorine is. Remember, bleach is NOT liquid chlorine! Here is an infographic that highlights the main differences between the two substances:

## BLEACH VERSUS CHLORINE

 Chemical name: <b>sodium hypochlorite</b> Bleach odor Household use - typically < 6% aqueous solution Industrial use - typically 10 - 30% aqueous solution Corrosive & irritant risk Liquid at room temperature	 Chemical name: <b>chlorine</b> Strong, pungent bleach-like odor Industrial use - shipped as compressed liquefied gas Lethal exposure risk Gas at room temperature and atmospheric pressure
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# CAWASA's 6th Water Operators Conference 2019

CAWASA's 6th Water Operators Conference will be held at the Bay Gardens Hotel in Saint Lucia from June 26-28, 2019 in collaboration with host Utility, the Water and Sewerage Company (WASCO).

The theme for this year's conference: "Teaming with Water Operators: Building Climate Resilient Water Utilities". This is in partial fulfillment of CAWASA's contribution to the implementation of Component 5: Capacity building and public education for climate resilience of the **Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) for Governance and Climate Resilience in the Water Sector in the Caribbean**<sup>1</sup>.

This is the first time that the conference will be held in Saint Lucia and the WASCO Team plan to make it a memorable event. The conference and exhibition venue is the Bay Gardens Hotel at Rodney Bay. The water operators' competition will be held at the WASCO Sewerage Treatment Plant at Beausejour, Gros Islet.

Another first for the conference is a tour of some of WASCO's facilities and ongoing projects on the final day of the conference. This includes visits to the Dennery North Water Treatment Plant, The John Compton Dam and the T.R. Theobalds Water Treatment Plant.

The keynote speaker for the conference is Mr. Bernard Ettinoffe, general manager of the Dominica Water and Sewerage Company (DOWASCO).

The list of speakers will include operators from each of the member utilities, as well as guest speakers from regional and international partners.

<sup>1</sup>RSAP presented at the 14th High Level Forum of Caribbean Ministers Responsible for Water (HLF 14) at the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association 27th Annual Conference and Exhibition at Montego Bay, October 9-10, 2018.

Photos of some guest speakers:



Mr. Andrew Houlihan, Commissioner of Water Treatment with ABC/C2EP

Mr. Bernard Ettinoffe General Manager, DOWASCO



Ms. Mary Howell, Co-President, Backflow Management Inc (BMI)

## CAWASA at ABC Conference 2019

The Executive Director of CAWASA, Ignatius Jean, participated in the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) Conference 2019, held in Savannah, Georgia, January 9-11. In attendance were over 100 participants from public and private institutions across the United States and Canada involved in training and education, certification and licensing.

ABC Innovation Certification Annual Conference is a forum for ABC members to use their expertise in the water and wastewater industry to share ideas, network with peers, and learn about current issues. This year the presentations included educational standards, regulation, technology and course delivery.

The conference highlight was the "train-the-trainers" workshop which was facilitated by the Mr. Joe McClary, chief executive officer of the International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET). This interactive workshop provided insights and strategies to enhance adult learning, identify and teach different personality types.

The ABC is an international organization of environmental control certifying authorities. The ABC has designated the CAWASA Inc as the certifying authority for the administration of its environmental certification programme in the Caribbean region. As the regional Test Administrator, CAWASA is authorized to conduct periodic inspection and classification of the collection and distribution systems of water and wastewater utilities and to administer annual certification examinations for Operators/Analysts in the Caribbean region.



Ignatius Jean, CAWASA Executive Director and Paul D. Bishop, ABC President & CEO



## APUA Renames Shelby DeSal Plant after Ivan Rodrigues

On March 22, 2019, the Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) renamed the Shelby desalination plant in honour of former Water Manager, the late Mr. Ivan Rodrigues, who passed on June 9, 2018.

Mr. Rodrigues held the positions of Secretary on the Board of the Directors of the Caribbean Water and Sewerage Association (CAWASA), and Vice President of the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA).



# IWEco Governance Partnership Meeting: March 18-19, 2019



The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), through its Environmental Health and Sustainable Development Department (EHSD), and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, hosted the first meeting of the Governance Partnership for the Global Environment Facility-funded Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (GEF-IWEco) Project, on March 18-19, 2019, at the Bay Gardens Hotel in Saint Lucia.

Mr. Jan Betlem, Project Manager of the IWEco outlined the project components and the current status of the project implementation.

The Governance Partners proposed areas of contribution to IWEco Component 3 Mandate, synergies, complementarity and expertise. The Governance Partners include: CWWA, CAWASA, TNC, CARICOM, CTO, GWP-C, CARPHA CNIRD, CATS, OECS, CLEAR.

This meeting sought to define approaches under the Project to support “Strengthening of the policy, legislative and institutional reforms and capacity building for Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and ecosystem services management, taking into consideration climate change resilience building”.



## GIZ WASCO Technical Cooperation



The project, “Institutional and Organizational Strengthening of WASCO Saint Lucia and Regional Water Utilities” which formally started on November 1, 2018, is progressing on schedule. The project team from Germany has already completed three missions to Saint Lucia. This project is a Water Operator Partnership (WOP) between Hamburg Wasser and WASCO, funded by the GIZ under their Caribbean Aqua-Terrestrial Solutions (CATS) programme.

It is being implemented through a joint venture between CONSULAQUA Hamburg, which is a 100% subsidiary of Hamburg Wasser, the Water Utility of Hamburg, Germany, and COMO Consult, also from Germany. The firms VAG and SEWERIN are involved as sub-consultants for the project.

The first mission last year was the kick off mission, the second mission in February 2019 focused on network management and the third mission focused on GIS and asset management. During the third mission, a half day training workshop on Demand Analysis and Forecasting was facilitated by project team leader, Mr. Jan W. Overbeek, for middle managers and supervisory staff of various departments at WASCO.

The Regional component of the project will include training workshops for senior operations personnel of WASCO, Saint Lucia, DOWASCO, Dominica, NAWASA, Grenada, and CWSA, St Vincent and the Grenadines. The first of these workshops is scheduled for July 1-5, 2019 in Saint Lucia. CAWASA is responsible for coordinating the participation of regional water utilities.





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**6th Caribbean Water Operators Conference**  
**June 26-28, 2019**  
Bay Gardens Hotel  
Rodney Bay, Gros Islet, Saint Lucia

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# BWA to help in water-saving drive

**BARRY ALLEYNE,**  
**barryalleyne@nationnews.com**

Householders will soon be getting help from the Barbados Water Authority (BWA) to save money through special interest-free loans to have water-saving devices installed.

And the days of business owners paying the same water rates as householders will soon be over.

Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Mia Mottley, in the Financial Statement And Budgetary Proposals on Wednesday, said Government found it prudent to help people conserve water.

"We believe the Barbados Water Authority should make available, interest-free loans for a 24-month period to allow those households that want to change out their toilets, faucets and shower heads to water-saving devices." Mottley said a family of four with such devices could save \$769 per year.

"For those who don't have the cash up front, we're going to put a system in place where you can register with the Barbados Water Authority, have it done and then added to your bill, and you can pay, interest-free, up to two years."

She was also concerned that businesses were not paying rates like householders.

She was also concerned that businesses were not paying rates like householders.

"Companies in Barbados pay \$7.66 per cubic metre for water, irrespective of how much they use. Households pay \$4.66 when they

use between 20 and 40 cubic metres, but \$7.78 when they use over 40 cubic metres, which has existed for nine years.

"It cannot continue. Water is still a scarce commodity.

"Businesses should pay more for water than households. It is not an increase in rates, but simply applying to businesses, the rates they should have been charged to keep it at the same rates of households," she told a packed House of Assembly in her first full Budget presentation.

Effective May 1, the commercial rate will move from a fixed \$4.66 per cubic metre for all water levels up to 40 cubic metres and then \$7.78 for usage in excess of 40 cubic metres, with a monthly cap of 12 000 cubic metres, after which the rate reverts to \$4.66.

This tariff change is expected to result in a net revenue increase of \$2.1 million per month for BWA.

Mottley said the BWA has more than \$200 million in urgent investment needs, half of which will be dealt with repair of the South Coast Sewerage Project, and it is clear a review and change in the country's infrastructure is needed.

She added Government would target that change with a three-pronged approach.

"We have already started to reduce some of the inflated contracts. We will continue the urgent financing requests with the CDB (Caribbean Development Bank) with respect to projects, and we have to correct this anomaly with the tariffs." (BA)

<http://www.nationnews.com/nationnews/news/239016/bwa-help-water-saving-drive>

# WORLD WATER DAY 2019 AT WASCO

Ms Cherry Ann Williams, Communications and Marketing Officer at WASCO reported that WASCO hosted a series of activities to observe World Water Day in Saint Lucia.

The first activity was a televised panel discussion on the National Communication Network (NCN). The panel comprised Mr. Jason Ernest, Acting Director at the Water Resource Management Agency (WRMA), Mr. Jim King, Water Services Manager at WASCO, Mr. Mr Donatian Gustave--Acting Assistant Forest Chief and the moderator, Mr. Ignatius Jean, Executive Director of CAWASA. The discussion focused on the World Water Day theme: 'Leaving no one behind'.

In addition to the panel discussion which formed only part of the international observance, was the Customer Appreciation Day event and the Schools Science Showcase which was dubbed the WASCO Water Challenge.

According to Ms. Williams, "customer appreciation took place simultaneously at all our locations providing customers and staff an opportunity to get awareness and information material on conservation, hurricane and drought preparedness, leak detection and so much more. We used the opportunity to also update our customer information, by asking customers to fill out a form. The information received is currently being uploaded into our system and matched to our customers. This is because over time the information taken from account holders inevitably changes over time especially in the case of telephone numbers and email addresses."

The World Water day also showcased the innovation and creativity of students. Through a partnership with the Ministry of Education and some of WASCO's largest consumers they were able to draw students from four schools who presented five submissions for the WASCO Water Challenge. Among the entries were the Beanfield Secondary School, The Vieux Fort Comprehensive Secondary School, the Millet Primary School, and Gordon and Walcott Methodist Primary School.

Their submissions were judged by a team of adjudicators (WASCO staff) and the Millet Primary School's showcase of the storm tracker was adjudged the winner. Based on their demonstration, their robotics system can be used to remove silt from the John Compton Dam and other water sources especially post disaster.

The Gordon and Walcott Methodist Primary School came in at second place with their display of the DIY home filtration system. The objective is to recycle grey water for cleaning purposes especially post disaster/hurricane or storm. The Gordon & Walcott Team believe that taking this project a step further could result in less dependency on WASCO for water supply distribution following a storm.

The Vieux Fort Comprehensive Secondary School came in third place with a submission of a motorized irrigation system which farmers can use to decrease water wastage.

The other entries were from the Beanfield Secondary School. They included a water powered battery charger and a research project that sought to detail the level of contaminants in the sea along the southern coast.

All the participants received certificates of participation. Tokens and other prizes sponsored by FLOW, KFC, The Cell, Bay Gardens Resorts, and The Trophy Centre were awarded.

