URBAN Waters
LEARNING NETWORK

GROUNDWORK USA
CHANGING PLACES CHANGING LIVES

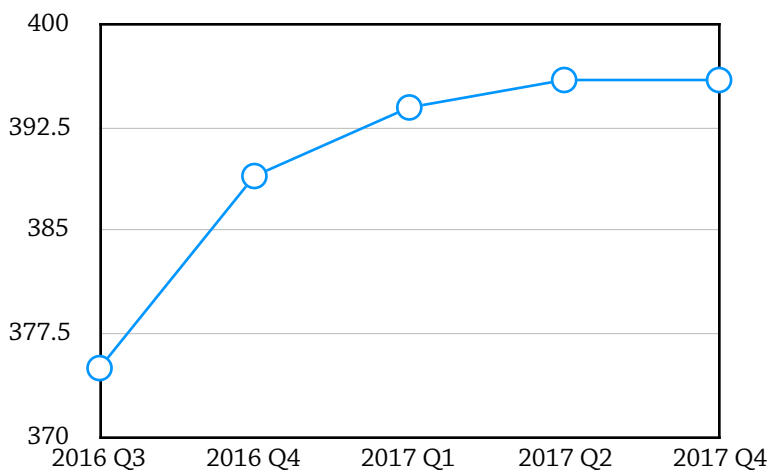**river NETWORK**
connecting people·saving rivers

The Urban Waters Learning Network is a peer-to-peer network of people and organizations that share practical on-the-ground experiences in order to improve urban waterways and revitalize the neighborhoods around them. Groundwork USA and River Network are partners in coordinating the Learning Network, providing support and opportunities for members to share successes, challenges, and technical resources.

UWLN engages its members through workshops and activities at **the annual River Rally conference**, the **UWLN website** (*urbanwaterslearningnetwork.org*), a **quarterly newsletter**, and **webinars**.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: JULY-DEC 2017

MEMBERSHIP and OUTREACH

* UWLN comprised 396 members.

* Basecamp participation included sixty-six posts and five new files uploaded.

* The quarterly Newsletter reached 115 members (25% of 454 recipients).

* The Newsletter mailing list comprised 201 NGOs; 173 government agencies (federal, state, municipal, county, and regional); nineteen academic contacts; seventeen businesses; and forty-four other/unknown, totaling 454 recipients.

* UWLN hosted two peer calls and posted one video, reaching an estimated 21 UWLN members.
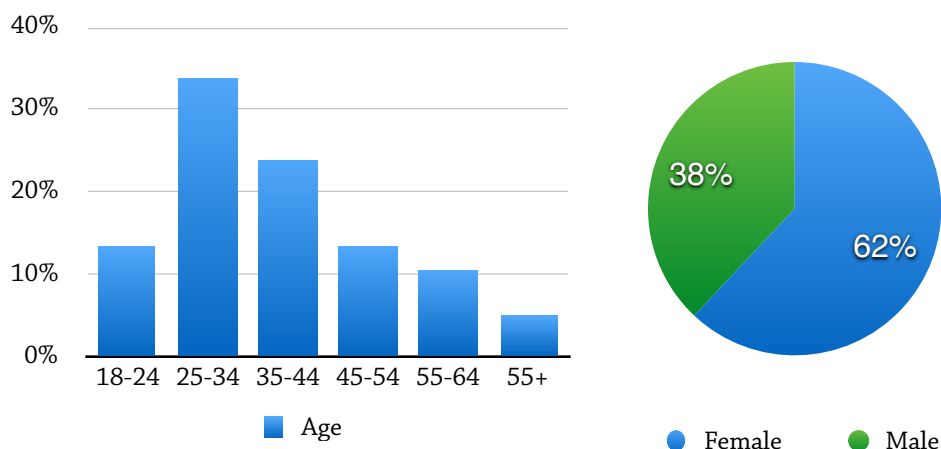
PREPARING FOR RIVER RALLY 2018

* UW practitioners submitted over 70 proposals for Rally 2018 sessions. The UWLN administrative team made recommendations to the decision committee for Urban-Waters-themed Rally sessions.

* EPA staff from Regions 5 and 6 collaborated with UWLN staff to prepare for River Rally 2018 Learning Forum.

* UWLN issued the Call for Nominations for 2018 Urban Waters Learning Network Awards.

IMPACT STORIES AND BLOGS

* UWLN published five Impact Stories and six blog entries.

* New Impact Story titles included **"Proyecto ENLACE del Caño Martin Peña: Restoring an Ecosystem and Building Resilient Communities in Puerto Rico"** and **"Raising Awareness: Microplastic Pollution in the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary"**.

* Blog posts featured guest authors, including Laura Cattell Noll from the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF), and Gabrielle Roffe of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW).

WEBSITE

* 1,500 people visited the UWLN website from July-December 2017, an increase of 12.7% for that duration of time. 67% were new visitors and 33% were returning.

* 47% of visitors arrived at the website through bookmarks or other direct means, while 42% found the site via a search engine.

* Throughout the year of 2017, there were approximately 16,000 individual page views.

Age: 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 55+

Female 62% / Male 38%

* The UWLN website reaches approximately 300 people per month. In total, over 2,000 people from over 600 American cities have visited the website. Visitors are of all ages, and mostly women.
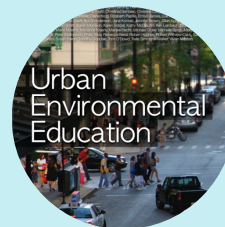
Impact Stories

Forty-five stories highlight successful Urban Waters restoration projects and EPA-funded initiatives around the country. Each Impact Story is reviewed by the EPA Project Officer assigned to the EPA Region.

Network Blog

To encourage more consistent engagement among peers, the Urban Waters team recently started a blog where users can contribute their personal stories and experiences.

Resources

The UWLN team maintains an online searchable database of up-to-date reports, manuals, studies, and other informational and training resources. There are now 150 resources and growing.