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## The Water Council Receives Leadership Award for Water Technology Innovation

Great Lakes Protection Fund Lauds Pioneering Efforts to Improve Water Quality

**MILWAUKEE** (*May 20, 2019*) – The Water Council was named a winner of the 2019 Great Lakes Leadership Awards for Water Technology Innovation. The Great Lakes Protection Fund today named six organizations from the U.S. and Canada as recipients of the award, which highlights water technology innovation that addresses current threats and anticipates future challenges to water quality in the Great Lakes. In announcing the award, the Fund praised The Water Council for its efforts to spur innovations for the benefit of the Great Lakes Basin's people and environment.

"We are honored to receive this award in recognition of the support we offer promising, innovative entrepreneurs that are tackling global water challenges with cutting-edge solutions," stated Dean Amhaus president and CEO of The Water Council. "These entrepreneurs can be the feeder of new technologies into the market place and an engine for creating jobs."

The Fund—an innovation endowment established by the Great Lakes governors—created the Leadership Awards to celebrate efforts that accelerate new actions for protecting and improving the Great Lakes and have the potential to improve water quality on a global scale. Winners were selected for their entrepreneurial spirit and ability to bring an influx of creative ideas, citizen involvement, private capital, and collaboration to benefit the Great Lakes.

"Connecting hundreds of technology businesses and industries from throughout the globe all focused and dependent on access to plenty of clean water, The Water Council is serving not only its membership, but all of us by addressing key threats to freshwater health," said David Rankin, executive director of the Fund, in naming The Water Council as a recipient of the 2019 Great Lakes Leadership Award for Water Technology Innovation. "Its journey has been impressive and its board, industry members, supporters, and supported companies should be proud of what they have accomplished. These leaders have built new technologies and businesses that reduce run-off, improve monitoring of resource health, and make us more water secure."

As the leading U.S. cluster, and one of the most powerful water technology hubs in the world, The Water Council convenes global water leaders and supports small and mid-sized businesses and large global

corporations to engineers, entrepreneurs, utilities, government agencies, education programs and non-profits, with valuable services, programming and networking opportunities.

"The Water Council serves as a connector between large corporations, small businesses, universities and utilities in an effort to spark innovations and collaborations that result in improved water quality in the Great Lakes and across the world," said Dean Amhaus. "We hope to continue growing support for these innovators to help bring their technologies to the industries and markets where they are needed most."

With the award, The Water Council received a \$15,000 prize to advance its work. The Great Lakes Protection Fund plans to work with each of the winners to identify opportunities to collaborate and promote clean water technologies and solutions that will defend the Great Lakes from future threats.

The six winners of the 2019 Great Lakes Leadership Award for Water Technology Innovation are: AquaHacking, The Cleveland Water Alliance, Current, The Everglades Foundation, Imagine H2O and The Water Council.

For more information about the Great Lakes Leadership Awards for Water Technology Innovation, please visit <a href="http://glpf.org/">http://glpf.org/</a>.

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## About The Water Council

Headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA next to the world's largest freshwater system and home to one of the most influential freshwater technology hubs in the world, The Water Council (TWC) is recognized as a global center for advancing water technologies and stewardship. At its heart, TWC is a non-profit, membership organization that connects, convenes and showcases the hub comprised of more than 238 water technology businesses and the diverse water leadership network of 200 members it is linked to from around the world. While TWC's mission is centered on driving economic development, attracting and connecting world-class talent and supporting water-focused technology innovation, its larger goal is to help secure freshwater resources for the world by driving solutions to the numerous industries that need and use a large amount of water. Learn more by visiting www.thewatercouncil.com.