



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT WELL, SPRING IS HERE

John O'Connell, III | NYRWA President

As I write this article, it is the first week of April and everyone is looking forward to the good weather to come and stay with us for the next seven months. As for many, including myself, I'm ready for the nicer weather to start projects and to enjoy our warmer temperature. As we move forward in the water and wastewater arena, there are multiple problems that are looming. One is under the President's budget. The Rural Development budget is primarily wiped out, which means that rural water and wastewater projects that have counted on those funds and grants to help with upgrading their plants are in jeopardy. NYRWA, along with all the rural water organizations across the country, are calling on our congressional representatives to help and support our

efforts on restoring funds to Rural Development and to continue the support to rural communities in their upgrades to their water and wastewater systems. This will be an ongoing mission for the next several weeks and some of you may be asked to help in this effort.

Another issue is the EPA budget which also stands to lose billions of dollars. Some, or most, of us would say great news, however as most don't realize there are some important monies that come from EPA to help with the mandates that are already in place. So time will tell and maybe by my next article I will have more information to share. In closing, I hope everyone has a productive summer. 💧💧