

Dr. Matthew Ries serves DC Water as the Director of Sustainability and Watershed Management. He works with the Strategy and Performance group in the Office of the CEO. Dr. Ries is responsible for providing strategic direction, technical information, and stakeholder engagement to develop DC Water's sustainability and innovation programs and catalyze watershed-scale improvements. He works extensively with local and regional partners such as the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, and the District Department of Energy and Environment.

Dr. Ries has 25 years of professional experience in environmental engineering and management. Prior to DC Water, he worked for 12 years as Chief Technical Officer at the Water Environment Federation (WEF). His work at the Federation included outreach and knowledge transfer within the water sector, working with WEF's 34,000 global volunteer members on the topics of nutrient management, sustainability, innovation, utility management, stormwater, resilience, and energy, among others. He helped stand up WEF's Stormwater Institute and the National Green Infrastructure Certification Program. Before WEF, he worked as a consultant in the planning, design, construction, and startup of municipal water, wastewater, and stormwater facilities, primarily in the Mid-Atlantic states.

Dr. Ries recently served as a Director at Alexandria Renew Enterprises, the wastewater utility in Alexandria, VA, and as a Director at the Alliance for Water Stewardship, helping develop V1.0 of the International Water Stewardship Standard. He is currently a Director at the Anacostia Watershed Society and DC Water's alternate representative to the Leadership Council for a Cleaner Anacostia River.

Dr. Ries has a BS in Civil Engineering from Valparaiso University, an MS in Environmental Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, and a PhD in Civil Engineering at the University of South Florida. His dissertation focused on the development of an urban water sustainability index and the connection between U.S. urban water utility organizational attributes and sustainability. He is a registered, licensed Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia and a member of WEF and the American Society of Civil Engineers. Dr. Ries resides with his family in Falls Church, VA.