

## 11TH ANNUAL IRRIGATION LEADERS WORKSHOP: “Employment Pipeline”

Sponsored by *Irrigation Leader Magazine*  
Crowne Plaza Phoenix–Chandler Golf Resort  
1 San Marcos Place  
Chandler, Arizona 85225  
January 23-25, 2024  
**(DRAFT November 13, 2023)**

**IRRIGATION LEADER magazine**, is sponsoring our 11th annual “*Irrigation Leaders Workshop*”. This year’s theme “Employment Pipeline” will focus on employee hiring, retention, and succession planning. Competitive wages, benefits, and training will be discussed. What are managers being paid? Water rates and other fees, as well as alternative revenue streams will be discussed. The purpose of the workshop is to provide an opportunity for general managers and directors of irrigation districts to discuss ideas and exchange information on a variety of district operations- and management-related issues, and to build out-of-state working relationships. **(NOTE: The below DRAFT agenda is subject to change prior to the workshop as issues and topics are suggested by general managers and board directors.)**

### TUESDAY, January 23

5:00-6:00 p.m. Welcome Reception

### WEDNESDAY, January 24

7:00 a.m. **Networking Continental Breakfast and Coffee**  
8:00 a.m. What are Managers Paid? An Anonymous Comparison of Compensation Packages and Pay Ranges of Key Irrigation District Positions  
8:30 a.m. Setting Boundaries on After-Hours Communications  
9:00 a.m. The Successful Board Member  
10:00 a.m. **Networking Break**  
10:30 a.m. General Manager Succession Plans Case Studies  
12:00 p.m. **Sponsored Lunch** Pumping Plants and Direct Piped Irrigation Projects  
1:30 p.m. Finding and Keeping Good People and Working with Reduced Labor Through Automation: A U.S. and New Zealand Comparison  
3:00 p.m. **Ice Cream Sundae Break**  
3:30 p.m. Rate Forum: Each attendee will be asked to share their district’s per acre water rate and other fee charges.  
2:30 p.m. A New Perspective on Irrigation District Budgeting  
4:00 p.m. Shark Tank Technology Presentations  
5:00 p.m. **Sponsored Reception**

### THURSDAY, January 25

7:00 a.m. **Networking Continental Breakfast and Coffee**  
8:00 a.m. Grant Writing: How to Get Started and Vendors that Provide Grant Writing Assistance  
9:00 a.m. Saving Money Through Bulk Purchases  
10:00 a.m. **Networking Break**  
10:30 a.m. Alternative Revenue Streams  
12:00 p.m. **Sponsored Lunch** Controlling Your Pumping Costs  
2:00 p.m. Bus departs for floating solar project at Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District (TBD)  
4:30 p.m. Bus departs for Copper State Consulting offices

5:00 p.m.

**New Zealand Wine Tasting Reception Sponsored by “What’s the Story Old Glory” a New Zealand American Politics Podcast, Assura, and Copper State Consulting**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION:** You can register for the *Irrigation Leader* Operations and Management Training Workshop at [www.IrrigationLeaderMagazine.com](http://www.IrrigationLeaderMagazine.com) Please complete and submit the online form as soon as possible, as space will be limited. Should you have a particular topic you would like discussed during the Open Forum at the meeting, or have any other ideas for the workshop, please add that information to the registration form in the space provided. Updates to the agenda will be provided as registrations are received.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** We have reserved a block of rooms at the Crowne Plaza Phoenix-Chandler Golf Resort, located at 1 San Marcos Place, Chandler, Arizona 85225. The rate is \$189.00 per night plus tax of 11.67%, plus a \$7.50 Historic Preservation Fee. A Dailey Resort Fee of \$10.00 will be charged (reduced from %20.00) and includes 2 - \$5.00 drink cards at 1912 Lounge, 24-hour access to fitness center, phone calls, self-parking, 2 bottled waters (replenished daily), 15% off published rates at San Marcos Golf Course, booked up to 30 days in advance through golf course directly, 10% discount on Vaya Salon Services and Massage, (Located on site).

To make or confirm your reservations at the pre-arranged *Irrigation Leader* workshop rate, please go to [www.CrownePlaza.com/ChandlerAZ](http://www.CrownePlaza.com/ChandlerAZ) or call (877) 685-5594 and identify yourself as being with the *Irrigation Leaders Workshop* no later than **Saturday, December 23, 2023**.

For personalized hotel registration assistance, please phone Paula Currie at (916) 616-0286 or [Paula@pcevents.net](mailto:Paula@pcevents.net) .

**QUESTIONS:** Please contact Kris Polly at (703) 517-3962 or [Kris.Polly@waterstrategies.com](mailto:Kris.Polly@waterstrategies.com).

*Thank you for your time. We hope to see you in Chandler.*