

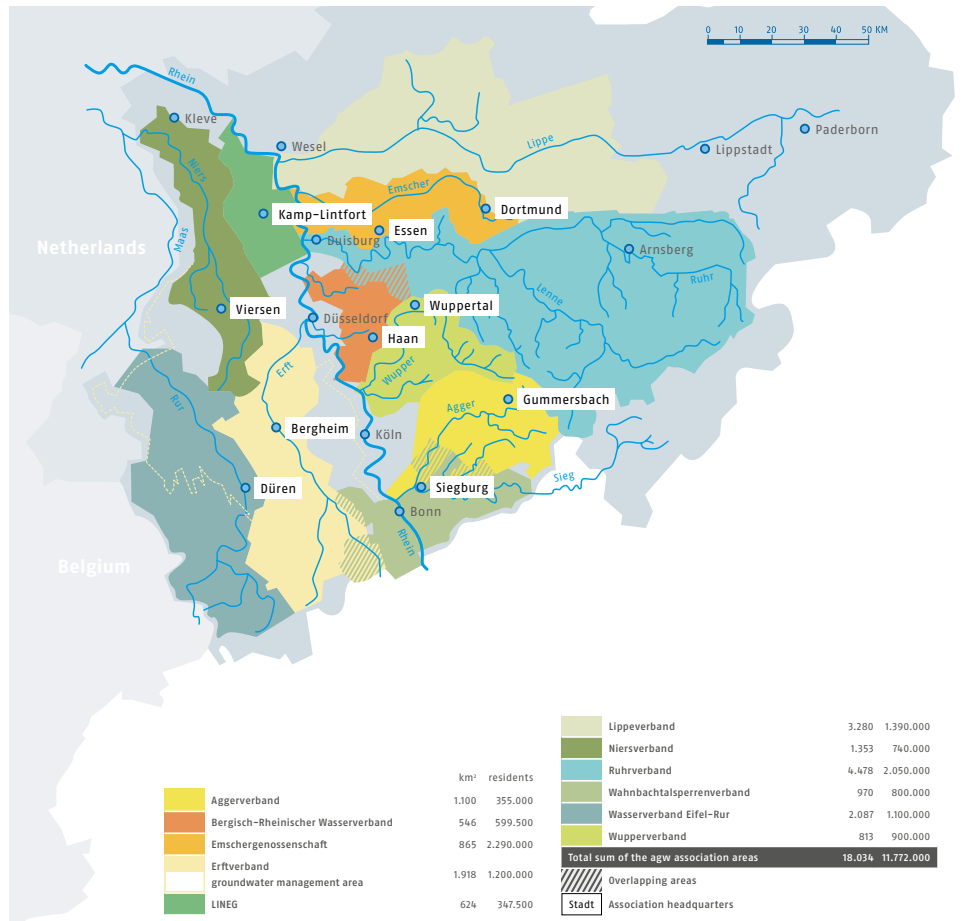
Public responsibility for water management – the associations at a glance

Water is the most important basis of life for humans and nature. Access to clean drinking water, the treatment of wastewater and the conservation of water bodies are part of the provision of services of general interest. The water management associations in North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) make a significant contribution to this. In large parts of NRW, the water management associations are responsible for the treatment of wastewater and the management of ground and surface waters. They also supply raw water for treatment into drinking water, provide treated drinking water or process water and operate reservoirs.

In this issue of „agw in focus“, we would like to introduce you to our member associations: Holistic river basin management across municipal boundaries is practiced by our associations. Let us discover the fascinating world of water management in North Rhine-Westphalia!



Dr. Uwe Moshage,
Director Aggerverband
Chairman of the agw



Status 2024, figures rounded

River basin management waste water | rivers | drinking water

The agw is an association of eleven large water management associations in North Rhine-Westphalia: Aggerverband, Bergisch-Rheinischer Wasserverband, Emschergenossenschaft, Ertftverband, LINEG, Lippeverband, Niersverband, Ruhrverband, Wahnbachtalsperrenverband, Wasserverband Eifel-Rur and Wupperverband. Together, they cover around two thirds of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and operate 282 wastewater treatment plants with a population equivalent of around 17.3 million. Their responsibilities include

managing 17,700 km of watercourses, 227 flood retention basins and 32 reservoirs.

The water boards in NRW are institutions with democratic legitimisation and work on a public-law basis for a solidary, sustainable and holistic water management in the interests of the general public. The majority of the associations are organised under a special legal status. As non-profit organisations, they are self-administrated and act to support the state.

Aggerverband

Comprehensive supply thanks to a high level of expertise

The Aggerverband is a corporation under public law based in Gummersbach. In its 1,100 km² association area, it covers all areas to safeguard water management issues. With around 400 employees, it is the only one of water associations serving all tasks of water management.

The Aggerverband maintains three reservoirs, two of which are drinking water reservoirs (Genkel and Wiehl reservoirs) with the waterworks at Erlenhagen and Auchel. Drinking water treatment of 22 million m³/year for approx. 500,000 people takes place here. The drinking water supply is ensured by 45 elevated tanks, 218 km of long distance water pipelines with 86 transfer points to 20 individual supply companies. In addition, there are eleven drinking water pumping stations and one raw water pumping station. The Aggertalsperre is used for flood protection, compensating low water levels downstream, recreational use and the provision of process water for energy generation.

3,000 kilometers of river are maintained. 30 wastewater treatment plants provide adequate treatment for the sewerage of around 350,000 inhabitants as well as industrial and commercial wastewater.

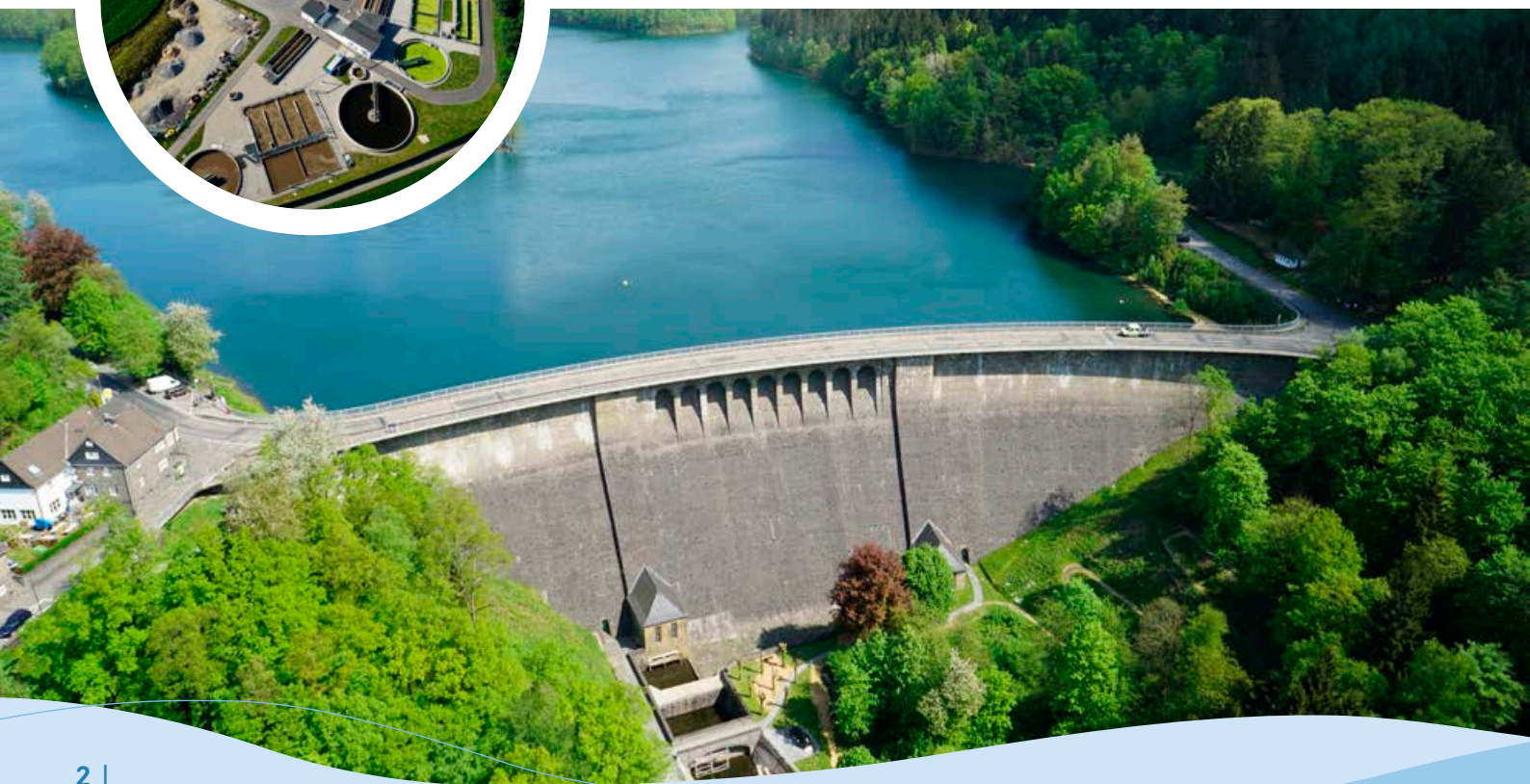
The Aggerverband has been active as a water management company for the region for more than 100 years now. With so its experience, the slogan can rightly be emphasized: „Water, we know how it flows“.

Under this motto, the Aggerverband is facing up to the challenges of the time to come: a future that will be characterized by even higher national and international demands on the use of water as a resource. A future that demands special consideration for the environment. A future that will ensure that ecologically valuable landscapes enrich the quality of life and leisure activities of future generations. That is why the Aggerverband is already there for you today for the inhabitants of the region and for its members, the towns, municipalities and districts in the region, the utility companies, commercial and industrial plant owners. The Aggerverband sees itself as your service provider and partner and, as a water association under public law in North Rhine Westphalia, covers all areas to safeguard water management interests.

Dialog with you is particularly important to us, as this is the only way we can work for you effectively and ensure an environment worth living in!



Left: Donrath wastewater treatment plant (Lohmar) with a expansion size of 37,500 inhabitants
Below: The Aggertalsperre





Bergisch-Rheinischer Wasserverband (BRW)

We are responsible for our water bodies

As a key player in regional water management, the BRW is dedicated to serving the interests of the community. As a public-law corporation, it is committed to the public good, balancing the protection of water resources with their broad range of uses by residents and businesses. Serving more than 500,000 people across its area, the BRW operates 22 sewage treatment plants to treat waste water, enhance water bodies, and regulate water flow. Its water-management operations contribute substantially to protecting and strengthening biodiversity across interconnected aquatic ecosystems.

In its area of 550 square kilometres, the BRW is responsible for approximately 970 kilometres of water bodies, thereby securing the vital resource of water. In the northern part of the association's territory, responsibilities are shared with the neighbouring Ruhrverband: here the Ruhrverband oversees waste water treatment, while the BRW is responsible for the maintenance and development of local water bodies.

Investments, energy management and flood protection are key priorities for the BRW's future development

The primary objective is to continuously improve waste water treatment performance and water quality. By implementing **a preventive investment strategy in the waste water area**, the BRW is safeguarding the sustained reliability of its waste water operations through early, technology-driven upgrades. In doing so, it keeps an eye on the expected water management requirements for waste water treatment.

In light of climate protection and rising energy costs, the BRW is committed to the sustainable **optimisation of its energy balance**. Renewable energy, enhanced energy efficiency and cost optimisation through strategic energy procurement form the three pillars of the BRW energy management.

By developing a **flood protection strategy**, the BRW takes a clear position on addressing the impacts of heavy rainfall and the associated flood risks. Here, thanks to its supra-municipal territorial jurisdiction, the BRW sees itself as a connecting element that is able to pool expertise and take a broad view.

The BRW is a partner to local authorities and supports disaster control and hazard prevention. So-called green flood protection is being rapidly advanced as part of ecological redesigns (in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive). With structural flood protection, the BRW is prioritising the modernisation of its 42 existing flood-retention basins and the construction of additional facilities where required.

***Above:** Goal: a good ecological water quality*

***Below:** modern technology saves water*

Scan for more:
brw-haan.de





EGLV

Emschergenossenschaft
Lippeverband



Emschergenossenschaft

Safe - clean - economical

The Emschergenossenschaft was founded on December 14, 1899 as the first water management association in Germany. As a corporation under public law, it is supported by its members cities, municipalities, mining companies and commercial enterprises. It provides reliable services as part of public services of general interest without profit orientation and in the interests of the common good. The most important tasks include wastewater treatment, care and maintenance of water bodies, near-natural restructuring of open sewers, flood protection, regulation of water drainage, management of groundwater as well as stormwater and returning industrial river landscape to nature.

Around 2.2 million people live in the 865 square kilometer catchment area of the Emscher between its source in Holzwickede near Dortmund and where it flows into the Rhine in Voerde.



Together for a blue-green future

The Emscher forms the central water management axis of the most densely populated region in Germany. Through the Emscher conversion over 80 km of a river have returned that for a long time existed in large parts as an open wastewater channel. The Emscher conversion is one of the largest infrastructure projects in Europe and has changed the face of an entire region: Not just through converted, near-natural bodies of water with high leisure value, but through a wide variety of projects initiated in adjacent areas as a result of the Emscher conversion.

To ensure an eco-friendly blue-green vision for our cities, we need to work together in order to meet the challenges of climate change. To mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change, cities in the Emscher-Lippe region have joined forces with Emschergenossenschaft in the Zukunftsinitiative Klima.Werk.

Above: On the city borders between Castrop-Rauxel and Recklinghausen, the Emschergenossenschaft has implemented the „Emscherland“ project together with the two municipalities: an inter-municipal nature and water adventure park has been created on an area of around 30 hectares, right where the Emscher river, the Suderwicher Bach an Rhine-Herne Canal meet.

Left: At PHOENIX Lake in Dortmund, urban development, flood protection and climate-resilient redevelopment go hand in hand. The 24-hectare lake can hold a total of 835,000 cubic meters of water in the event of flooding. As a result, it protects the residential and commercial development downstream on the banks of the Emscher.

All stakeholders work together interdisciplinary on a common goal - a liveable and climateresilient region and with the vision of a bluegreen future.

Facts and figures

- Watercourses: 352 kilometers
- Sewers: 427 kilometers
- Wastewater treatment plants with a total capacity of approx. 4.8 million population equivalents: 5
- Central sludge treatment plant: 1
- Drainage pumping stations: 169
- Wastewater pumping stations: 42
- Proportion of the association area drained by pumping stations: 37.8
- Flood retention basins: 24
- Stormwater retention basins: 41
- Treatment plants: 178

(as at: 30.06.2025)

Scan for more:
eglv.de



Erftverband

As a water association under public law in the „Rheinische Revier“, the Erftverband is committed to the River Erft’s habitat and holistic water management. The „Rheinische Revier“, a major lignite mining region in western Germany, is undergoing profound transformation. With more than 150 years of experience, the Erftverband creates the basis for species-rich river landscapes and treats wastewater for over 1 million people. With over 600 water-enthusiastic employees, the Erftverband plans, builds and operates groundwater measuring points, wastewater treatment plants, sewer networks, rainwater overflow and flood retention basins. It also maintains and renaturalizes the Erft and its tributaries. The association’s core area covers the catchment area of the Erft, which is around 110 km long and 1 939 km² in size. Covering 4 216 km², the entire area of activity also includes the catchment area of the „Rheinische Revier“ lignite mining industry.

Lignite phase-out – water at the heart of the change

The phase-out of lignite mining is associated with far-reaching changes to the water balance. Some of the largest lakes in Germany will be created in the „Rheinische Revier“ once mining ends, the groundwater level will rise again, some surface watercourses will carry less water, others more. Water will shape the former mining area.

The Erft was widened and straightened in the last century, particularly in the middle reaches up to its estuary. In 2005, the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, RWE Power AG and the Erftverband cooperated on a project called „Perspektivkonzept“ that looked at the Erft section between the river mouth in Neuss and the sump water discharge point at the Hambach open-cast mine in Bergheim-Kenten. The aim was to redesign the Erft for the long-planned lignite phase-out in 2045 in such a way that it can develop in a

near-natural way with a changed water balance once it stops receiving sump water. The lignite phase-out, which has been brought forward to 2030, also means that the Erft transformation as a key element of structural change in the „Rheinische Revier“ must happen 15 years earlier. To date, five sections have been restored to a near-natural state. The “Erft conversion 2030” comprises over 20 renaturation measures.

Erftverband wins award

One of these projects, the “Erft-Verlegung Gnadental” in Neuss, was named one of the TOP 3 winning projects of the UN Decade for the Restoration of Ecosystems. A jury of experts has selected three winners in each of the categories ‘Waters and Floodplains’ and ‘Moors and Wetlands’.

Scan for more:
erftverband.de



Right: renaturalized section of the Erft
Below: Central wastewater treatment plant in Bergheim-Kenten



LINEG

We ensure safe and clean water management in the left Lower Rhine region

LINEG - the abbreviation with five letters - stands for Linksniederrheinische Entwässerungs-Genossenschaft. The name refers to the association's area in the left Lower Rhine region between Krefeld and Xanten. It covers around 620 square kilometers and is home to more than 340,000 people. The landscape is characterized by coal and salt mining, which presents LINEG with one of its main tasks: compensating for the consequences of mining by regulating the groundwater level in the affected areas. Other tasks are defined in the LINEG Act, for example the cleaning of wastewater, the regulation of water runoff and the development of water bodies in a near-natural way. LINEG's administrative headquarters is located in Kamp-Lintfort and operates six wastewater treatment plants, a workshop, a central laboratory and a waste disposal warehouse. In accordance with our LINEG motto, 320 employees continually take "responsibility for the environment". As a corporation under public law, LINEG does not have to generate any corporate profits; our aim is to strike a balance between social and cooperative interests. For 111 years, LINEG has stood for water management that is safe, clean, affordable and sustainable.

We are a climate protection company taking responsibility for the environment

Water is our element, blue is our color, green is our claim and our workforce is colorful, which means: as diverse as our responsibilities. We work within the cycle of nature and take action to protect the environment in compliance with the EU Water Framework Directive and other legal requirements. As a state-recognized climate protection company with an independently audited EMAS seal, we are constantly adapting our work to accommodate issues brought about by advancing climate change. LINEG is a water management association deeply involved in the development and conversion of a blue-green infrastructure; we also advise and support local authorities in implementing any necessary modifications due to climate impact. Our concept for regional water management strengthens the surrounding area, making it more resilient to increasing weather extremes such as local heavy rainfall or longer periods of drought. We manage more than 400 kilometers of watercourses, which we network digitally to maintain an intelligent system of outflows and inflows. When implementing our goals, we learn from our past in order to shape our present and our future across generations.



Right: Biologist Nina Felgenhauer and Ecologist Anna Keller (right) offer environmental training for young and old in LINEG's "water class".
Below: Professional development at LINEG: employees practice emergency operations in the event of flooding once a year.





EGLV

EmscherGenossenschaft
Lippeverband



Lippeverband

Safe - clean - economical

The Lippeverband was founded on January 19, 1926 as a water management association for the Lippe. The Lippeverband is a public sector entity, paid for by its members - which include cities, municipal administrations, mining organisations and businesses. It provides reliable services as part of public services of general interest without profit orientation and in the interests of the common good. The most important tasks include wastewater treatment, care and maintenance of waterways, nearnatural restructuring of open sewers, flood protection, regulation of water drainage, management of groundwater as well as stormwater and returning industrial river landscape to nature of river landscapes.

Of the 4,882 square kilometer catchment area of the Lippe, the Lippeverband is responsible for the middle and lower sections with an area of 3,280 square kilometers. Around 1.39 million people live here.



Together for a blue-green future

The Lippe river has its source in Bad Lippspringe and flows into the Rhine at Wesel after around 220 kilometers. It drains large parts of the Münsterland region in the Westphalian Bay and in its lower reaches of the Lower Rhine lowlands. Since 2013, the Lippeverband has been working towards a common goal with the „Lebendige Lippe program“ on behalf of the state of North-Rhine-Westphalia: the Lippe should become the most beautiful river in NRW! The bluegreen transformation can already be experienced in many places for example at Haus Vogelsang in Datteln and Olfen or at the estuary of the Lippe in Wesel.

To ensure an eco-friendly blue-green vision for our cities, we need to work together in order to meet the challenges of climate change. To mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change, cities in the Emscher-Lippe region have joined forces with Lippeverband in the Zukunftsinitiative Klima.Werk. All stakeholders work together interdisciplinary on a common goal - a liveable and climateresilient region and with the vision of a bluegreen future.

Above: The Lippe estuary in Wesel is a successful example of bluegreen infrastructure development: A 142-hectare river landscape has been created here with numerous alternating wetlands that are flooded or dry depending on the water level - an Eldorado for numerous animal and plant species.

Left: The Seseke had to serve as an open wastewater course for many years, the 32-kilometer-long tributary of the Lippe has been recovering since the renaturation measures completed in 2014. The banks of the Seseke are clearly recognizable: Nature is reclaiming the river.

Facts and figures

- Watercourses: 424 kilometers
- Sewers: 1,135 kilometers
- Wastewater treatment plants: 54
- Drainage pumping stations: 193
- Sewage pumping stations: 145
- Proportion of the association area drained by pumping stations: 15.7%
- Flood retention basins: 34
- Stormwater retention basins: 124
- Stormwater treatment plants: 174

(as at: 30.06.2025)

Scan for more:
eglv.de





Niersverband

Our Water – Our Path

With around 490 employees, the Niersverband is actively committed to improving water quality and protecting water bodies in the Niers region, thereby strengthening quality of life and climate resilience in the region.

To this end, the association has been developing holistic and comprehensive solutions that promote the ecological development of the River Niers and ensure a forward-looking, sustainable use of our resources – especially our most valuable asset: water. One of the Niersverband’s most important resources is its well-trained and dedicated workforce. As a result, a large share of planning and construction services is carried out by in-house Niersverband-teams.

The association’s responsibilities include wastewater treatment, regulation of water runoff, the restoration of water bodies, maintenance and management of the River Niers, as well as stormwater treatment and retention.

The Niersverband is well connected and works in interdisciplinary expert teams on holistic, future-oriented approaches. In all strategies and action plans, the protection of the element of water – the River Niers – remains the central focus. In doing so, the Niersverband consistently takes into account the impacts of planned measures on water balance and climate.

The projects that are implemented both support adaptation to climate change and strengthen the natural water cycle. In this way, they safeguard and further improve the high quality of the water bodies while conserving resources.

There are many project examples illustrating this approach to water management at the Niersverband. In a recently completed, pioneering river restoration project in the Bresgespark in Mönchengladbach, approximately 3.7 kilometers of the river were newly constructed and designed in a nature-based approach. This project returned a floodplain area to the River Niers

equivalent to around 13 soccer fields, creating new habitats and flood retention areas for high-water events. Through this transformation in the heart of an urban area, the Niersverband strengthens biodiversity and species conservation, supports the natural water cycle and contributes to the climate resilience of the River Niers and its surrounding environment.

Our „Blauer Fußabdruck®“ (Blue Footprint)

This important and sustainable work of the Niersverband, which contributes to a positive future, is symbolized by the „Blauer Fußabdruck®“. The new Niersverband brand expresses that with every action taken by our employees and with every measure implemented, a new „Blauer Fußabdruck®“ – and thus a contribution to healthy water bodies and an intact environment – is created.

Scan for more:
niersverband.de



Above: Example of our „Blauer Fußabdruck®“: the watercourse redesign in Bresgespark in Mönchengladbach-Rheydt

Left: Wastewater treatment plant in Mönchengladbach-Neuwerk

Ruhrverband

Serving water and people

The Ruhr is the lifeline and namesake of one of Europe's largest conurbations, the Ruhr region. Around 4.6 million people obtain their water from the Ruhr and its tributaries. Due to the high population density and the many commercial and industrial enterprises, water consumption per unit area in the region is seven times higher than the national average.

Since its foundation in 1913, the Ruhrverband has ensured that the Ruhr – a comparatively small river – can supply water to an entire region. Based on the Ruhrverband Act, it guarantees a future-oriented water management infrastructure in the 4,478 square kilometres Ruhr catchment area. The Ruhrverband operates around 1,000 water management facilities, including eight dams, five reservoirs and over 60 sewage treatment plants.

Corporate goals are developed in close dialogue with its association members, i.e. cities, municipalities, districts, waterworks and commercial enterprises. As a public water management company with a cooperative organisational structure, the Ruhrverband always considers the region as a whole. After all, environmental protection, innovation and sustainability do not stop at city limits.

Future-oriented river basin management based on tradition

Taking a holistic view of the river basin, overcoming small-scale thinking, ensuring that all users of water resources contribute to the costs in proportion to their consumption: For over 110 years, this approach has proven to be a successful model for managing the Ruhr, making sure that we have high quality water available in sufficient quantities at all times.

As a self-governing public-law corporation, the Ruhrverband is well equipped to deal with climate change and all other challenges facing water management in the future.

Impressive proof of this is the energy neutrality that the Ruhrverband achieved in 2023 – one year earlier than planned in the corporate strategy – as the first major water management company in Germany. In the annual balance sheet, more electricity was generated from renewable energies than was consumed in the same period. The next step will be to achieve self-sufficiency every single day of the year, mainly by further expanding photovoltaic capacities.



Facts and figures

(as of 2026)

- Catchment area: 4,478 km²
- Length of the Ruhr: 219 km
- Total length of watercourses in the catchment area: approx. 7,000 km
- Reservoir system (consisting of 8 dams) with a storage capacity of 462.9 million m³
- More than 60 sewage treatment plants
- Around 550 rainwater treatment plants
- 17 hydroelectric power stations
- Over 120 pumping stations
- Several sewer networks and waterway maintenance systems

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ruhrverband.de



Above: In 2024, the Ruhrverband operated 13 photovoltaic systems, mainly on the open spaces of its sewage treatment plants. Currently, additional systems with an annual electricity generation of 8 to 10 gigawatt hours are being added. This contributes significantly to achieving energy neutrality in the annual balance sheet and, in the future, self-sufficiency every single day of the year.

Below: The Ruhrverband's reservoir system (pictured: Möhne dam and reservoir) ensures the water supply for 4.6 million people. In cooperation with the NRW Ministry of the Environment and the Association of Ruhr waterworks (AWWR), the Ruhrverband has set the course for increasing the resilience of the reservoir system to the challenges of climate change.

Wahnbachtalsperrenverband

The drinking water of the Wahnbach Reservoir Association

The Wahnbachtalsperrenverband (Wahnbach Reservoir Association, WTV), a public corporation, supplies around 800,000 citizens in the Bonn/Rhein-Sieg/Ahr region with high-quality, soft drinking water in a safe and cost-effective manner. The association obtains the coveted water from the Wahnbach Reservoir and groundwater wells along the River Sieg (Hennef Siegbogen and Sankt Augustin-Meindorf).

The water extraction, drinking water treatment and drinking water distribution facilities are state of the art, and a broad-based quality and comprehensive risk management system ensure consistently high water quality and availability. To ensure protection and safety in the extraction, treatment and distribution of high quality drinking water, WTV has implemented a multi-barrier system.

Around 230 kilometres of transmission pipelines, 16 elevated drinking water tanks, 17 pumping stations, and 74 transfer stations—a complex infrastructure for a 970 square kilometres supply area.

Our main supply pipelines transport the drinking water via intermediate pumping stations to higher level distribution reservoirs with a storage capacity of around 110,000 cubic metres. In transfer stations such as pumping stations, water tanks or shaft structures, drinking water is delivered to municipal and regional water supply companies, which distribute it to households, businesses and industry within their supply areas.

Our building blocks for the future – resource protection, research, cooperation, climate neutrality

WTV ensures a long term, reliable and high quality drinking water supply. Water, species and environmental protection play a major role in this and are key elements of the association's strategic orientation – this also includes addressing current and future challenges related to climate change.

WTV relies on a wide range of measures, such as

- preventive protection of catchment areas within the Cooperation for Agriculture, Water and Soil (KLWB) exceeds legal requirements,
- continuous development of sustainable treatment processes and purification of water at the reservoir inlet through the phosphorus elimination plant (PEA) to limit algae growth (eutrophication),
- comprehensive fisheries management that contributes to water quality in addition to the phosphorus elimination plant,
- nature oriented forestry with the central objective of protecting and preserving the forest ecosystem and
- certified energy management to continuously improve energy efficiency as a key contribution to climate neutrality.

Another building block for the future is the WTV's research activity. The current DIWA project (Digital, Networked and Interactive Water Quality Monitoring) is a concept for autonomous early warning systems for water protection. It combines AI and water protection and demonstrates how digitalisation contributes to sustainable solutions.



*left: Wahnbach Reservoir
below: Phosphorus elimination plant*



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Wasserverband Eifel-Rur

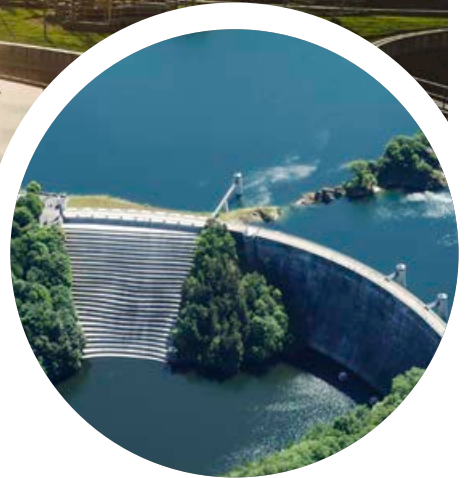
The service area of the waterboard 'Wasserverband Eifel Rur (WVER)' is the German catchment area of the Rur, which stretches from the Eifel low mountain range to the Heinsberg flatlands and from Düren (the waterboard's headquarters) to Aachen. The main tributaries of the Rur are the Olef and Urft, Vicht and Inde as well as the Wurm. The water board is responsible for wastewater treatment in 43 sewage treatment plants and approx. 800 associated special structures, the maintenance of approx. 1,900 km of watercourses and the near-natural development of water bodies. It also operates six reservoirs in the Eifel and uses them to support the drinking water supply and the raw water requirements of industry. The reservoirs are also used for flood protection: The waterboard also carries out flood protection measures on the watercourses and has flood retention basins and dykes. It works closely with its European neighbors and is in constant exchange with teaching and research.

The waterboard employs approx. 800 people from various fields of engineering and natural sciences, as well as lawyers, skilled workers, people in skilled trades and data processing specialists. It deals intensively with the consequences and issues of climate change and energy self-sufficiency.

The WVER sees itself as a modern water management service provider for its members. With its work, it lays the foundations for municipal and commercial development. It also contributes to the preservation of natural resources for people, for example through its commitment to climate protection. Its aim is to keep its facilities in a technically up-to-date condition. Significant investments are made to this end. The waterboard also seeks economic solutions in favour of reasonable fees. Transparency towards its members and the public is also an important principle.

The waterboard creates a good working environment in terms of a healthy work-life balance for its employees. This includes company health management and the creation of leisure activities, for example through a companies' sports club.

The waterboard aims to become one of the most attractive employers in its region. In view of demographic change, it wants to be a top address for qualified job seekers in order to close future staffing gaps. It offers young people demanding training opportunities, for example at its modernly equipped training center in Aachen.



Above: Aachen-Soers wastewater treatment plant
Below: Urft reservoir

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wver.de





WUPPERVERBAND
für Wasser, Mensch und Umwelt



Renaturated section of the Wupper in Wuppertal

Wupperverband

Managing the Wupper region

Our mission: Water management in the Wupper region spanning some 813 km² from the river source to the river mouth

- We treat the wastewater of more than 900,000 people as well as local businesses.
- We regulate the flow of the Wupper during dry periods and provide flood protection.
- We supply raw water for drinking water treatment from three drinking water reservoirs.
- We maintain and develop the Wupper and its tributaries – more than 2,000 km in total.
- We collect and analyse hydrological data on, for instance, precipitation levels and water gauges.

We operate 14 reservoirs, 11 wastewater treatment plants, a sewage sludge incineration plant and other facilities, such as stormwater tanks and flood control basins. A total of around 450 people work at our sites “on behalf of water, mankind and the environment.” We use our expertise and commitment to protect and sustainably manage water, the basis of life, for future generations. As a river basin manager, we adopt a holistic approach to our responsibilities, cover all relevant topics and involve stakeholders. Our work is financed by contributions from our members –local authorities and municipalities, water supply companies as well as industrial and commercial enterprises in the Wupper region.

Meeting challenges

Society and, by extension, the water industry face major challenges: the impacts of climate change ranging from dry periods to floods and heavy rainfall; the protection and preservation of habitats and biodiversity; resource conservation; energy management; cyberattacks on critical infrastructure; supply bottlenecks due to conflicts or wars; a shortage of skilled workers; demographic change and increasing legal requirements, to name just a few.

As a water management company, we share our expertise and develop solutions with stakeholders and partners. We modernise our infrastructure, thereby securing the provision of public services. We help municipalities in the Wupper region to manage their sewer networks. Together with other stakeholders, we have put in place a future-oriented flood protection programme to advance climate change adaptation projects. We are restoring the Wupper and its tributaries as more natural river courses. We contribute to climate protection through our energy management and are committed to biodiversity in cooperation with the individuals and bodies with biological expertise in the Wupper catchment area. In research projects, we work with the scientific community to develop the technologies and concepts of tomorrow.

We are continuing to grow as an organisation and offer our employees diverse career opportunities and attractive working conditions.

Kohlfurth treatment plant



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wupperverband.de

