

THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI LEADERS NETWORK

The Mighty Mississippi Leaders Network seeks to mobilize local and Tribal leaders to inform the development of policy and collaborative solutions that will build a vibrant Mississippi River watershed that supports the communities and businesses who rely on it.

The Mississippi River is a vital artery of the United States—flowing through 10 diverse states and touching thousands of communities across 31 states. The Mississippi River is critical to the economic, environmental, community and water security of the United States. This year, the Mississippi River was listed as America's most endangered river by American Rivers. Despite the importance of the river and the threats to its future, a unified space for local and Tribal leaders within the watershed to discuss, define, and collaborate around the future of the watershed and the communities who rely on it has not existed—until now.

The Center for Water Security and Cooperation (CWSC) has created that space—a unique, locally-led Mighty Mississippi Leaders Network to build a shared future for the Mississippi River watershed. This Network, founded on an Agreement between local leaders to steward the future of the river together, creates a shared commitment to preserve the river and the communities, jobs, and people who rely on it.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Join us as a Local or Tribal Leader

—To become a Mighty Mississippi Leader, sign the Mississippi River Local and Tribal Leaders Agreement, submit your simple Implementation Plan, and join the Mighty Mississippi Leaders Network.

Join us as a thought partner

—Join as a Future of the River Advisor, where you will meet like-minded visionaries and support the CWSC and local and Tribal leaders in building a future for the Mississippi River.

Join us as a financial sponsor

—Show your support for communities in the watershed by making a financial contribution to the CWSC. Sponsoring the Watershed's Leaders will identify you as a key protector of the most important watershed in the country.

THE OPPORTUNITIES

Leaders who have joined this Network first sign the **Mississippi River Local and Tribal Leaders Agreement**. The agreement contains a pledge to collaborate to protect the watershed and to share their existing efforts to protect the watershed. **When leaders join this vibrant group by signing the Agreement, they can:**

Participate in the Leaders Roundtable to define the future of the watershed.

Local and Tribal leaders will participate in a short series of discussions organized by the CWSC about the future of the Mississippi River watershed with the purpose of creating a set of shared values and principles for the Mississippi River watershed which will be used to inform future policy work at the local, state, watershed, and federal levels, including an interstate water compact.

Join a unique river and watershed wide network of Mississippi River watershed leaders.

Local and Tribal leaders will have a forum and space to discuss challenges and opportunities, allowing members to learn about what other communities are doing, exchange experiences and ideas, and build a network of leaders with whom you can collaborate and partner.

Be eligible for the Mighty Leader of the Year award and be recognized for their leadership.

Local and Tribal leaders will be eligible for the Local Leader of the Year award. The award will celebrate the work leaders are doing to protect and celebrate the Mississippi River.

Tell the story of the Mississippi River.

Local and Tribal leaders will work with the CWSC to tell the story of the Mississippi River, enabling communities to showcase their communities and relationship with the river and elevate challenges, solutions, and a shared connection to the watershed through videos and vignettes to inspire national attention and mobilize funding for the watershed.

Receive a community grant.

Local and Tribal leaders will be eligible for community grants and other opportunities as they are created to support community projects to protect and celebrate the Mississippi River.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [HTTPS://THECWSC.ORG/MISSISSIPPIRIVER/](https://thecwsc.org/mississippiriver/) OR CONTACT ALEXANDRA CAMPBELL-FERRARI AT ALEXANDRA@THECWSC.ORG.