AWRRC, through research, is committed to meeting the many and varied challenges presented to water quality by Arkansas' burgeoning urban, agricultural, and recreational water demands.

Hands on, practical experience gained through participation in AWRRC projects helps future scientists, engineers and technicians better understand this dynamic and complex natural resource.
A WRRC
Dedicated to Water Resources

The Arkansas Water Resources Research Center (A WRRC) has helped local, state and federal agencies learn to manage Arkansas' water resources since 1964.

In that year, Congress passed the Water Resources Act, establishing water research institutes similar to A WRRC at land-grant universities throughout the United States. Today, the water institute program is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey.

A WRRC has contributed substantially to our knowledge of the state's water resources. Through the years, projects have included topics concerned with irrigation, ground water modeling, erosion, water quality and ecosystems. Recent A WRRC studies include determining the suitability of Arkansas River water for municipal, industrial and agricultural use; assessing the water quality of the Illinois River; septic tank and sludge disposal studies; determination of irrigation scheduling and water-use efficiency; and development of a geographic information system (GIS) database and models for use with Arkansas' water.

Information on water research and other water-resource information is disseminated by the Center through public presentations, conferences and publications.

Since 1980, an average of more than 15 principal investigators a year have participated in A WRRC projects. In addition, approximately eight undergraduate students and 15 graduate students gain valuable training and experience through A WRRC projects each year. Many of these students participate in environmentally related work across the state. An advisory committee, composed of representatives from state and federal agencies, industry and academia, provides guidance for the Center.

A WRRC research helps ensure pure, adequate water for Arkansas today and tomorrow.

AWRRC's Statewide Mission

Plan and conduct component research, either basic or applied, with respect to water resources.

Promote the dissemination and application of research results.

Provide for the training of scientists and engineers.

Cooperate closely with colleges and universities within the state that have demonstrable research capabilities.

Cooperate with other institutes to effectively confront regional water and land related challenges.

To formulate a research program responsive to state water issues, the Center works closely with state and federal agencies and academic institutions. Priority research categories are:

- Water quality—protection of surface and ground water.
- Water management—legal, institutional and financial aspects.
- Water quantity—water use, surface-water flow, aquifer characterization and modeling.
- Aquatic and environmental assessment—ecological system studies, fish and other animal and plant life.
- Engineering issues—studies not included in other priority areas but which are directed toward meeting critical water-quality challenges.

A WRRC maintains a technical library consisting of more than 260 titles dealing with water topics in Arkansas. A nominal copying charge is required for out-of-print titles. Call or write to receive the Center's quarterly newsletter.

Research, training and information dissemination is supported partially with institute program funds. The Center, however, obtains and administers grants from state and federal agencies and foundations. Research affiliations usually involve a cooperative partnership focusing on a water topic requiring near-term answers.

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