

Barge-In FAQ

The annual Barge-In is a chance for AWO members to gather in Washington, DC and educate key lawmakers and their staff on issues critical to our industry. This year's Barge-In will take place on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 during AWO's Spring Convention.

Why Participate in Barge-In?

Each year, AWO convenes its Spring Convention during a week when Congress is in session specifically for the purpose of direct member contact with lawmakers. The Barge-In is the most prominent advocacy event of the year because AWO members offer their expertise to Congress. That means you and your employees provide a much-needed outside-the-Beltway perspective on the impact of laws and regulations. AWO will help you and your employees tell your story.

Who Should Participate in the Barge-In?

Any employee of an AWO member company is eligible to participate. In fact, we encourage members to send as many company representatives as they can spare. A large turnout helps us increase our visibility on Capitol Hill and broadens our reach across a wide spectrum of Congressional offices.

How Will I Know What to Say?

This year, AWO plans to enhance the preparation process in several ways. Background information on key policy issues will be sent out earlier. The "asks" for lawmakers will be clearer and more defined. We will host webinars to run to discuss objectives for the 2020 Barge-In. And we will convene a prep session one day prior to give you an opportunity to ask questions and meet with your Barge-In teammates.

How Do I Sign Up?

If you have an existing AWO profile, you can register for the Barge-In on the member side of the AWO website. Simply log in and go to your Membership Dashboard page to register. If you do not have an existing AWO profile, email afazzini@americanwaterways.com for assistance.

Why is My Zip Code Important?

Providing the zip code of your company location allows AWO to ensure members meet with legislators from as many congressional districts as possible. If your company has multiple physical locations, please email additional company location zip codes to cmontesano@americanwaterways.com to ensure you are deployed where you are most needed.

Additional Conference and Hotel Information

The Barge-In is part of our Spring Convention, Annual Membership Meeting, & Board of Directors Meeting that take place every year in Washington, DC. If you come for the Barge-In, we encourage you to participate in these other meetings as well. More information on the Convention is located on the AWO Event Calendar [online here](#). Please pay attention to the cutoff for the [hotel group rate](#), which expires March 18 or until all rooms are reserved.