NUCA's commitment to providing the best membership experience continued throughout 2025 with several new and exciting NUCA events, and a successful Washington, D.C. advocacy program that delivered big industry wins on Capitol Hill.

Accomplishments 2025

NUCA Workforce Development Legislation Signed Into Law. NUCA celebrated a major workforce development policy victory in the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" (H.R. 1) signed July 4th, capping off years of NUCA advocacy for increased educational and training opportunities for the American utility construction industry and those seeking a fulfilling career within it. The new law establishes the Workforce Pell Grant program, allowing students without a higher education degree or not already enrolled in a program to receive Pell Grants for attending career and technical education (CTE) programs that provide between 150 to 600 clock hours of instructional time over 8 to 15 weeks.

Catastrophic Water Infrastructure Cuts Averted. NUCA's lobbying on Capitol Hill prevented massive cuts to the EPA State Revolving Fund programs contained in FY2025 federal appropriations bills. House Republican appropriators originally slashed almost 20 percent from two critical water infrastructure construction funds, but months of work by NUCA Government Affairs lobbyists and our strong advocacy program reversed these cuts before the package was signed into law by President Trump on March 15.

Water Infrastructure And NUCA In Congress. Past NUCA Chairman Dan Buckley testified on March 11 at the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee hearing on water infrastructure. At this hearing, titled "Water Infrastructure Financing: WIFIA and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund," Chairman Buckley expertly discussed FY2025 SRF funding shortfalls. With his testimony and NUCA's advocacy throughout the process, the final bill restored most of the SRF funds, but this recurring resource shortfall demands this industry's constant attention.

Safety Education Programs Flourish In 2025. The Safety Damage Prevention Conference held Jan. 23-24 in San Antonio, Texas, brought together safety experts to explore the latest safety and damage prevention trends. The 100 attendees participated in several educational sessions and networking events. Over the year, our Train-the-Trainer and Crew Trainer courses were held in several regions, and NUCA continued to work with OSHA on improving safety for the industry.



In March, former NUCA Chairman Dan Buckley testified to Congress about the FY2025 State Revolving Fund shortfalls and what should be done to address this recurring issue.

Dozer Day Program. NUCA's exciting Dozer Day program continued throughout 2025, thanks to our Chapters and their dedication to industry workforce development. NUCA of Washington held the first one in early April, with their second one taking place in May, along with NUCA of E. Washington & N. Idaho's event that same month. More Dozer Day events in Colorado, Tennessee, Nebraska, Kansas City, and Washington were held in 2025. Check out **dozerday.org** for the dates and event locations for 2026.

NUCA Chapter Network Expansion. The NUCA Southern Idaho Chapter was inducted as the organization's first newly chartered chapter of 2025 at the NUCA National Convention in March. Two months later, NUCA New York received its' new chapter charter at the 2025 Washington Summit. The growing network of NUCA chapters continues to provide members with regional networking and business building events, state-level advocacy, and connection to municipalities and utility operators.

Thanks to our 2025 National Partners for their generous support throughout the year!

Washington Summit Advocacy Program. NUCA's annual Washington Summit once again delivered real results for our association and the industry. The 106 attendees on May 13-14 discussed key legislative issues such as FY2026 SRF funding and workforce development legislation in a record-setting 120 meetings with House and Senate lawmakers and staffers. NUCA's booth on the National Mall during the Celebration of Construction held immediately after Summit drew many guests and lawmakers to learn about our workforce development program and Dozer Day.

NUCA 2025 National Convention. The NUCA National Convention was held in Orlando, Florida at the sunny Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress on March 18-21. Former Navy SEAL Jason Redman delivered his inspirational keynote address, and our many workshops and roundtables helped deliver business advice to our over 200 attendees all designed to help their company's bottom line. Nine teams participated in our first-ever National Equipment Operators Championship sponsored by NUCA National Partner U.S. Pipe, with winners enjoying cash prizes awarded by NUCA National Partner Assignar.

NUCA Membership Growth. Around the utility construction industry, it is seen to be a poor business decision not to be a NUCA member. Over 2,000 companies are now part of NUCA and strengthening the American utility construction industry.

On The Road With NUCA. NUCA's presence at trade shows and advocacy events continues to grow. Besides our booth on the National Mall in May, NUCA staff manned our booth at The Utility Expo held October 7-9 in Louisville, Ky. Our staff discussed our safety programs and our advocacy wins with attendees. At our Kentucky event, attendees were able to experience our equipment operator skill championship program, giving them a chance to show off our industry employees' skills with mini-excavators and backhoes.

NUCA Benefits Program Continues To Expand. Delivering business benefits whose savings far surpass a member's annual dues, our association member benefits program expanded again in 2025. Individual member benefits are now enhanced to include a travel suite that offers exclusive discounts on car rentals, hotels, and GE products. Plus, members can take advantage of discounts on auto, home, pet, renters, travel, and more!

We're glad you're part of America's premier utility contractor industry association!

2025 Trench Safety Stand Down (TSSD) Week. Safety never takes a rest, so the results of the 2025 TSSD Week, June 16-20, sponsored by NUCA, United Rentals, National Trench Safety, and Sunstate Equipment, remained encouraging as this popular NUCA program continues to emphasize our industry's message of safety. 24,207 employees received training during this year's safety event, with 330 company submissions for 461 jobsites participating in NUCA's premiere safety event.

New Staff Hire. Cheryl Walston was hired in June as NUCA's senior membership coordinator. Cheryl assists the membership department with their numerous administrative and coordination tasks. We're very glad she's part of our NUCA National staff!

Scholarships. NUCA awarded four scholarships in 2025 to students of industry members through its Foundation for Education and Research.



Nine company teams competed in the first-ever National Equipment Operators Championship held at the 2025 National Convention in Orlando. Jesse Carpenter of Carolina Grading & Utilities won first place and the $5,000 prize.

As a NUCA member, you have access to a vast amount of industry news and information. Please visit our Website, **www.nuca.com.** We're also on Twitter (@NUCA_National), Facebook (NUCA1964), LinkedIn (NUCA National), Instagram (NUCA_National), and YouTube (NUCA National).

NUCA's membership department can be reached via 703-358-9300, or by e-mail to Lauren Hensley, **lauren@nuca.com.** We want to make sure you get the most out of your NUCA National and Chapter membership in 2026 and the years beyond. Share our accomplishments with your industry colleagues and help NUCA grow!