

Thank You, Groundwater Family

by Jane Griffin, Groundwater Foundation



With so much change going on in our lives it has been easy to not think about the big upcoming change in my life—leaving the Groundwater Foundation after 12 years with the organization.

It is overwhelming and impossible to individually thank everyone who has been a part of this journey for 12 years, so I am going to thank you in groups. Many of you are part of more than one group, which actually speaks volumes to one common element that has really stood out to me over the 12 years: dedication.

I have been completely wowed by your dedication to protect and educate

people about groundwater. And each of you has shown your dedication by crossing the lines to make sure the work is done.

First, I would like to thank Susan Seacrest and the board that had the faith in me to follow in her amazing footsteps. I honestly can say that over the years my admiration for Susan's work grew as I learned of the work she had accomplished. Susan wanted me to not feel overshadowed by her, so she only spent one day in the office with me for the "transition period" for the organization. That day consisted of her going through her filing cabinets and briefly explaining the things she had

done—such as presenting to Bill and Melinda Gates and the United Nations, being nominated as a Hero of the Planet by *Time Magazine*, and being awarded the Heinz Award for the Environment. Needless to say, her shoes could never be filled, but I was honored to do my very best to keep moving her efforts forward.

Next, I would like to thank the partners and supporters that I have had the privilege to work with over the past dozen years. I have met so many amazing people who truly want to make this world a better place for our children and grandchildren. Thank you to every person who has partnered with the Groundwater Foundation in our work; those who supported our work financially through memberships, sponsorships, and grants; and those who keep us smiling with random acts of kindness. The world needs more of you.

Last, but not least, I want to thank the staff and volunteers who have been at my side. Some of you have been there for every step and some have moved on to different things. Please know that each of you have given me guidance, support, a reason to smile, and mostly a reason to be grateful. Thank you for making my life better.

And thus, my chapter with the Groundwater Foundation draws to an end, but I will carry each of you and everything I have learned over the past twelve years with me.

Let's raise one last toast to groundwater together—cheers and best wishes to each of you. 💧

▼ Below, left: Jane Griffin, Susan Seacrest, Program Communications Manager Jennifer Wemhoff, and Program Manager Sara Brock in September 2019. Below, center: Jane Griffin and members of the Groundwater Foundation Board of Directors following an annual meeting in October 2015. Below, right: Jane Griffin poses with Susan Seacrest and selection committee members when Seacrest was awarded the Maurice Kremer Groundwater Achievement Award in 2015.

