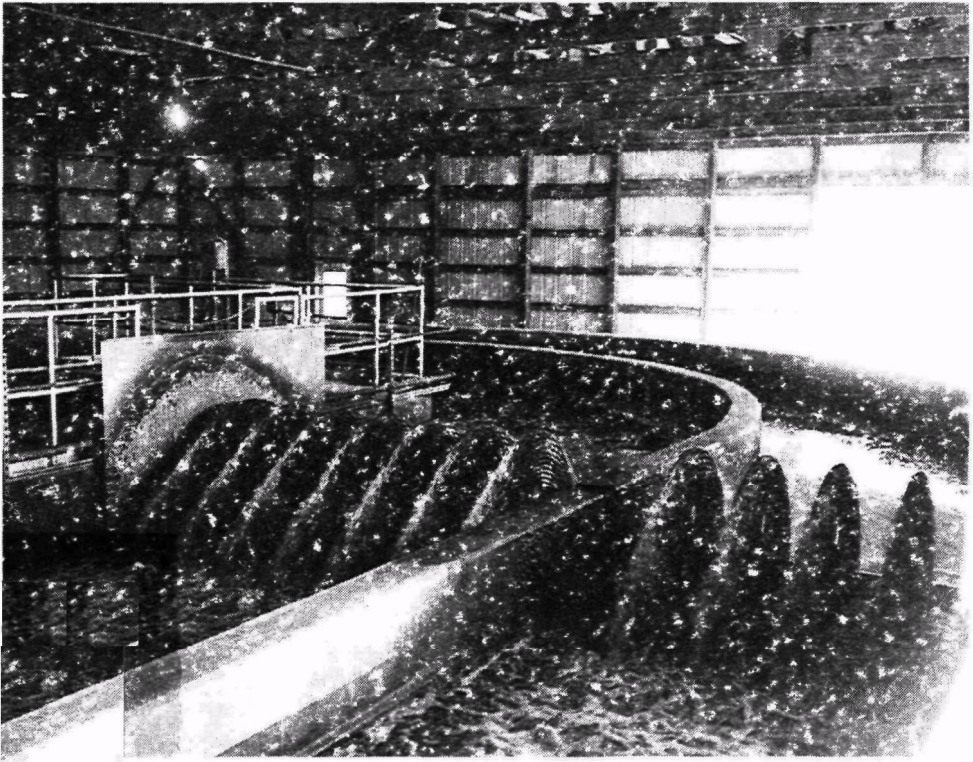




1999 National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards Ceremony



**United States
Environmental Protection
Agency**

Office of Water

October 1999

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1999 National Wastewater
Management Excellence
Awards Ceremony**

**Water Environment Federation Conference
New Orleans, Louisiana
Monday, October 11, 1999**

US EPA National Awards Program Managers

**Maria Campbell, Operations and Maintenance Awards
John Walker, Beneficial Biosolids Use Awards
Patricia Campbell, Pretreatment Awards
Betty West, Storm Water Awards
Tim Dwyer, Combined Sewer Overflow Awards**

The Program

Welcome

**C. Dale Jacobson
Past-President
Water Environment Federation**

Opening Remarks and Presentation of Awards

**J. Charles Fox
Assistant Administrator for Water
U.S.EPA**

Announcement of Award Recipients

**Michael Cook
Director
Office of Wastewater Management
U.S.EPA**

National Award Recipients

**Operations and Maintenance Program Winners
Beneficial Use of Municipal Biosolids Program Winners
Pretreatment Program Winners
Storm Water Program Winners
Combined Sewer Overflow Program Winners**

Refreshments, compliments of WEF, will be served following the ceremony in room 225.

National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards Programs

History

In 1986, by authority of Section 501(e) of the Clean Water Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) implemented an annual National Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Excellence Awards Program to recognize outstanding O&M at publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities. The O&M Awards Program was an immediate success and was widely acclaimed as a way for EPA to honor plant personnel and local officials for their commitment to clean water.

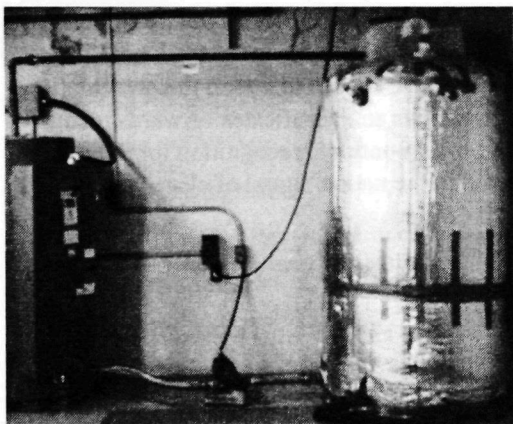
In 1988 due to that success, the awards program was expanded to include the Beneficial Use of Biosolids Awards to recognize exemplary biosolids operating projects, technology development, and research, and later public acceptance efforts. In 1989, the Pretreatment Excellence Awards Program was added to recognize municipal implementation and enforcement of local pretreatment programs. In 1990 a new awards category for Most Improved Plant was added to the O&M awards program to recognize the efforts of the plant operator, the town, and the operator trainer who helped return the plant to compliance under a technical assistance program designed to help small communities. In 1991 the Combined Sewer Overflow and the Storm Water Excellence Awards Programs were added to recognize programs and projects that implemented outstanding combined sewer and storm water control programs and projects.

Each year since the program's initiation, national awards have been presented at the Water Environment Federation (WEF) National Conference. There are over 16,000 publicly owned and 60,000 industrially owned wastewater treatment plants in the United States. The EPA awards program recognizes select wastewater treatment plants or programs which have achieved excellent compliance results and have demonstrated an outstanding technological achievement, method, or device in their waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. Award winners' representatives are invited to attend this presentation ceremony. WEF has generously supported the awards program by co-hosting the awards ceremony and by providing excellent coverage in its publications. EPA is grateful to WEF for its continued help in making this awards program a success.

National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards

The Program

This is the fourteenth year of the EPA's National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards program that recognizes plant personnel and local officials for innovative and outstanding O&M activities at publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities.



Large capacity hot water system used to melt grease from the inside of the primary sludge piping

O&M 1st Place L-A
Category
York City WWTP
York, Pennsylvania

The Award Categories

Winners are recognized in nine award categories: small, medium, and large secondary treatment plants; small, medium, and large advanced treatment plants; small and large non-discharging plants; and most improved plant. For the purpose of the awards program, small is defined as a design flow capacity of less than one million gallons per day (mgd), medium is 1 to 10 mgd, and large is greater than 10 mgd, except in the non-discharging plant category where large is greater than 1 mgd.

The "Most Improved Plant" category, a favorite of the O&M program, recognizes exceptional efforts by treatment plant personnel, local officials, and the onsite operator trainer to return a facility to compliance under a technical assistance program authorized by Section 104(g)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

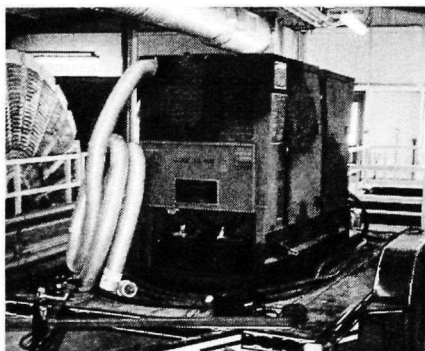
This year there are two second place winners in the medium advanced category and two second place winners in the Most Improved Plant category. There is no second place winner in the large secondary category and no first or second place winner in the large non-discharging plant category.

The Regional Award Process

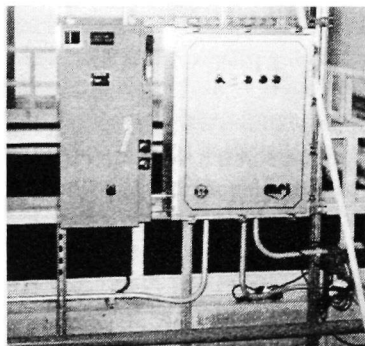
State water pollution control agencies solicit nominations from wastewater treatment facilities in their State. After completing compliance screenings, the EPA Regional Offices use selection panels to choose the facilities to receive annual Regional awards. These Regional winners then become eligible for national awards. Many State and Regional awards presentation ceremonies are coordinated with the local associations of WEF.

The National Award Process

Awards nominations received from EPA Regional Offices undergo additional screenings and are evaluated by a national selection panel based on Headquarters issued criteria. Award winners are invited to attend the presentation ceremony where they receive flags, plaques and certificates. Awards recognize the staff of these facilities and provide national recognition for their contributions to their community and to the nation's goal of clean water.



a) Standby Power Generator



b) Clarifier and Pump Control Panel

O&M 2nd Place S-ND Category
Breckenridge Sanitation District-South
Blue River WWTP,
Breckenridge, Colorado

The Criteria

Treatment facilities are judged based on their achievements within the following areas:

- Best Management Practices
- Biosolids Handling and Disposal
- Collection System Controls
- Collection System Maintenance Management
- Compliance
- Equipment Maintenance Management
- Financial Management
- Innovative O&M Practices
- Laboratory Management
- Personnel Training Programs
- Plant Automation
- Pollution Prevention
- Process Control and Field Monitoring
- Public Education
- Safety Education
- Septage Management
- Toxic Waste Controls

National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards Winners and Categories

Large Advanced Plant

- 1st Place: York City Wastewater Treatment Plant
York, Pennsylvania
- 2nd Place: South Columbus Water Resource Facility
Columbus, Georgia

Medium Advanced Plant

- 1st Place: Sweetwater Creek Water Pollution Control Plant
Douglasville, Georgia
- 2nd Places: Westborough Wastewater Treatment Facility
Westborough, Massachusetts
- Inland Empire Utilities Agency-Regional Plant #2
Chino, California

Small Advanced Plant

- 1st Place: Elk Mound Wastewater Treatment Plant
Village of Elk Mound, Wisconsin
- 2nd Place: Swedesboro Wastewater Treatment Plant
Borough of Swedesboro, New Jersey

Large Secondary Plant

- 1st Place: Appleton Wastewater Treatment Plant
Appleton, Wisconsin

Medium Secondary Plant

- 1st Place: Escanaba Wastewater Treatment Plant
Escanaba, Michigan
- 2nd Place: Brattleboro Wastewater Treatment Plant
Brattleboro, Vermont

Small Secondary Plant

- 1st Place: Oak Park Conservancy District
Jeffersonville, Indiana
- 2nd Place: V. A. Togus Wastewater Treatment Facility
Togus, Maine

Small Non-discharging Plant

- 1st Place: Edgartown Wastewater Treatment Plant
Town of Edgartown, Massachusetts
- 2nd Place: Breckenridge Sanitation District
South Blue River Wastewater Treatment Plant
Breckenridge, Colorado

Most Improved Plant

John H. Samson National Award

- 1st Place: Town of Cedaredge Wastewater Treatment Plant
Cedaredge, Colorado
- 104(g) Trainer: Jon B. Evans, Department of Utilities
Carbondale Wastewater Treatment Plant
Carbondale, Colorado
- 2nd Places: Lyndonville Wastewater Treatment Facility
Lyndon, Vermont
- 104(g) Trainer: Paul Olander, Vermont Department of
Environmental Conservation
- Canal Winchester Wastewater Treatment Plant
Canal Winchester, Ohio
- 104(g) Trainer: Ohio EPA Compliance Assistance Unit
Columbus, Ohio

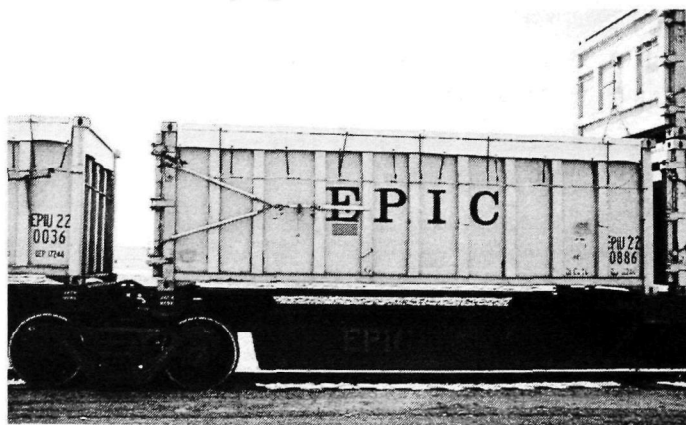
National Beneficial Use of Municipal Wastewater Biosolids Excellence Awards

The Program

This is the twelfth year of the EPA's National Biosolids awards program that recognizes outstanding operational projects, research studies, technological advances, and public acceptance efforts for promoting beneficial uses of municipal wastewater biosolids. EPA presents national awards and may present regional awards.

Creative and widely applicable biosolids techniques are vital to the nation's efforts to protect and improve our soil and water resources. These awards focus attention on the critical need to develop and implement management practices that use wastewater biosolids beneficially and that are environmentally safe, economical, and acceptable to the public. The nomination process is very productive, even if the nominee is not selected as a winner, due to the recognition and transfer of information on the beneficial uses of biosolids that occurs.

Many municipalities, individuals, and groups have worked for years to make significant contributions to the study and practice of safe, beneficial use of municipal biosolids. This awards program recognizes their professional efforts. We congratulate this year's award winners, and encourage nominations of worthy candidates for next year's regional and national beneficial biosolids use award programs.



Transportation mechanism for Biosolids from New York City to Colorado.

Biosolids 1st Place Public Acceptance - Other
Prowers County Land Application Program
Limon, Colorado

The Award Categories and Criteria

The beneficial use of municipal wastewater biosolids award candidates are evaluated using the following criteria:

For Operating Projects

Two Categories: 1) **Less Than or Equal to 5 mgd**; and
2) **Greater Than 5 mgd**

- Compliant with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations.
- Consistent, cost-effective operation.
- Excellence in project management.
- Public acceptability.
- Significant recycling/reuse of natural resources (e.g., nutrients, organic matter, and energy).
- Sustained (several years), full-scale, proven operation.

For Technology Development Activities

- Operationally proven.
- Resolved previous biosolids management or utilization problems.
- Sustained excellence in advancing our knowledge of technology (e.g., improved design criteria or operational practice).
- Technology has potential for use in many areas of the country.

For Research Activities

- Greater public acceptability of biosolids beneficial use.
- Greatly improves the understanding of the environmental effects of beneficial use of biosolids.
- Key information generated for development of improved biosolids regulations and guidance.
- Substantial contribution toward the development of improved design and operation.

For Public Acceptance Efforts

Two Categories: 1) **Municipal**; and,
2) **All Others**

- Characterized by dedicated successful individual and team efforts.
- Demonstrated increase in public acceptance.
- Demonstrated willingness to share information and approaches for gaining public acceptance.
- Proactive approach for successfully working with such entities as the press and cultivating and gaining allies to explain the benefits and diffuse alarmist stories that might arise.
- Program with excellent information transfer and training efforts that have made a positive difference locally.

The Award Process

Candidates for the six categories of national awards may be nominated by anyone including EPA Regions, States, municipalities, consultants, researchers, or other interested parties. Some EPA Regions are sponsoring their own awards programs. Applicants must complete a standard nomination form with identifying information, executive summary, facility/activity information, and additional supporting information. Nomination guidance for the year 2000 awards will be available from EPA Regional Offices in early 2000.



Land application of biosolids for growth of alfalfa.

Biosolids 1st Place Public Acceptance-Other
Prowers County Land Application Program
Limon, Colorado

National Beneficial Use of Municipal Wastewater Biosolids Excellence Awards Winners and Categories

Operating Projects Less Than or Equal to 5 mgd

- 1st Place:** Lower Creek Water Reclamation Facility
City of Lenoir, North Carolina
- 2nd Place:** Water Resources Department of Public Works
City of Washington, North Carolina, and
Synagro Southeast
- Honorable Mention:** Pepper's Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment
Authority
Radford, Virginia

Operating Projects Greater Than 5 mgd

- 1st Place:** Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, and
United Water Services Milwaukee, LLC
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 2nd Place:** Bureau of Environmental Services
City of Portland, Oregon
- Honorable Mention:** Village Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant
City of Fort Worth, Texas

Research Activities

- 1st Place:** Littleton/Englewood Wastewater Treatment
Facility, Englewood, Colorado, and
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado

**National Beneficial Use of Municipal Wastewater
Biosolids Excellence Awards
Winners and Categories**

Public Acceptance Efforts

1st Place: Municipal	Natures Blend Water Pollution Control Center City of Warren, Ohio
1st Place: Other	Prowers County Land Application Program, Parker Ag Services, LLC, Limon, Colorado, EPIC of Denville, New Jersey, and New York City Dept. of Environmental Protection

SPECIAL AWARD

**For Development of an Outstanding Biosolids Education
and Training Program**

Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies
and Oregon State University Extension Service

National Pretreatment Program Excellence Awards

The Program

This is the eleventh year of EPA's National Pretreatment Excellence Awards Program. The awards recognize publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) with exemplary local pretreatment programs that reduce the risk of pass through of toxic pollutants and the operational interferences caused by toxic discharges. Through their pretreatment efforts with local industry, POTWs achieve additional benefits such as improved biosolids quality and reduced risks to treatment plant worker health and safety.

The Pretreatment Excellence Awards Program is designed to recognize POTWs for outstanding efforts in the control of industrial discharges and to heighten overall public awareness of and support for these local wastewater treatment-related programs. An awards committee made up of pretreatment experts from EPA Headquarters, EPA Regions and States recommends POTW award recipients in five categories. Members of the committee evaluate all aspects of the implementation of the nominees' pretreatment programs, as well as the environmental benefits of the programs. The judges also seek to recognize innovations that are transferable to other cities' programs.



**Steve Starner, Environmental Services Manager
inspecting truck wash facility at local trucking company.**

Pretreatment 1st Place 0-10 SIUs
City of Wilsonville, Oregon

The Award Criteria

POTWs are judged on their performance in the following areas:

- Enforcement
- Environmental Achievements
- Industrial User Monitoring
- Industrial User Permitting
- Innovations in Program Implementation
- Legal Authority
- Local Limits
- Public Outreach

The Award Categories

Awards are given in five categories based on the number of significant industrial users (SIUs):

0 - 10 SIUs; 11 - 20 SIUs; 21 - 50 SIUs; 51 to 100 SIUs; and Greater than 100 SIUs. This year there are first place awards in all categories. Second place awards are in the 0 - 10 SIUs, 11 - 20 SIUs, and 21 - 50 SIUs categories.

The Award Process

The selection of POTWs for Pretreatment Program Excellence Awards begins when EPA Headquarters solicits nominations from the 10 EPA Regions. Nominated POTWs are asked to complete an awards application. An Awards Review Committee, comprised of pretreatment experts from across the country, evaluates applications to judge the local pretreatment programs and to choose National Pretreatment Program Excellence Award winners.

National Pretreatment Program Excellence Awards Winners and Categories

0 - 10 SIUs

- 1st Place:** City of Wilsonville, Oregon
- 2nd Place:** Merrimack Wastewater Treatment Facility
Merrimack, New Hampshire

11 - 20 SIUs

- 1st Place:** South Valley Water Reclamation Facility
West Jordan, Utah
- 2nd Place:** City of San Marcos, Texas

21 - 50 SIUs

- 1st Place:** Littleton/Englewood Wastewater Treatment Facility
Englewood, Colorado
- 2nd Place:** City of Elkhart, Indiana

51 - 100 SIUs

- 1st Place:** City of Albuquerque, New Mexico

Greater than 100 SIUs

- 1st Place:** Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District
St. Louis, Missouri

National Storm Water Program Excellence Awards

The Program

In 1991 EPA established the National Storm Water Excellence Awards program. Two award categories recognize municipalities and industries that are demonstrating their commitment to protect and improve the quality of the nation's waters by implementing outstanding, innovative and cost-effective Storm Water control programs and projects. This awards program heightens overall public awareness of storm water measures and encourages public support of programs aimed at protecting the public's health and safety and the nation's water quality.

An Awards Review Committee comprised of storm water experts from EPA Headquarters and Regions selects the award recipients. Members of the committee evaluate all aspects of individual projects or programs.

The Award Categories

Awards are given in two categories: Municipal Storm Water control program and project; and the Industrial Storm Water control program and project. This year there is a first place winner in the municipal and industrial categories, a second place winner in the municipal category and two second place award winners in the industrial category.

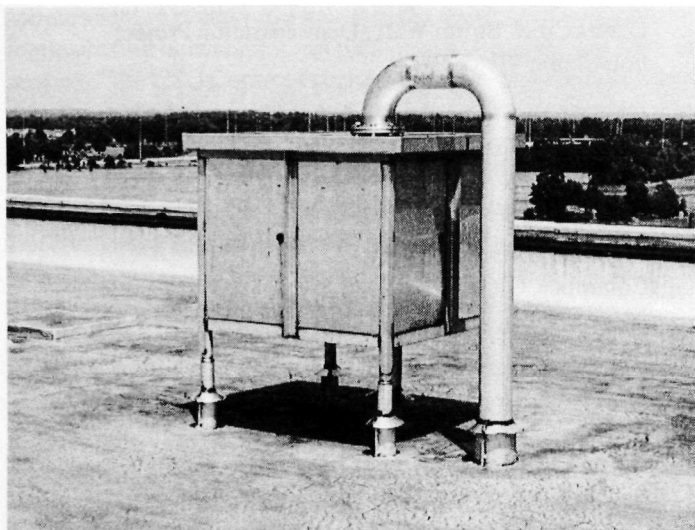


Dual purpose infiltration bed. Roof run-off (zinc free roof) discharges to the rock bed from pipe on the right and parking lot (dirty) water flows into the cut in the concrete curb on the left corner.

Storm Water 2nd Place Municipal Category
Lowes Creek Demonstration Project
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

The Award Process

The selection of award winners begins when EPA Headquarters solicits nominations from EPA Regional offices, States and territories. After an initial screening of these nominations at EPA Headquarters, the nominees are asked to complete an awards application. The Awards Review Committee uses these applications to judge the individual programs and projects, then selects the National Storm Water Control Program Excellence Award winners.



Examples of roof vent collectors which capture potential liquid flows from roof vents associated with brewing process vessels and divert them to the process sewer system.

Storm Water 2nd Place Industrial Category
Anheuser-Busch Brewery
Columbus, Ohio

National Storm Water Program Excellence Awards Winners and Categories

Municipal Category

- 1st Place: Tanners Lake Water Quality Improvement District
Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
Oakdale, Minnesota
- 2nd Place: Lowes Creek Storm Water Demonstration Project
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Industrial Category

- 1st Place: Ciba Specialty Chemicals
Newport, Delaware
- 2nd Places: Anheuser-Busch Brewery
Columbus, Ohio
Coca Cola USA Fountain
Columbus, Ohio

National Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program Excellence Awards

The Program

This is the eighth year that awards are presented for National Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Program Excellence. This year's National CSO award is presented to one first place winner and two second place winners. The National CSO awards recognize municipalities which demonstrate their commitment to protect and improve the quality of the nation's waters by implementing outstanding innovative and cost-effective CSO programs and projects. The CSO Control Program Excellence Awards heighten overall public awareness of CSO measures and encourage public support of programs aimed at protecting the public's health and safety and the nation's water quality.

An Awards Review Committee comprised of CSO experts from EPA Headquarters and Regions selects the award recipients. Members of the committee evaluate all aspects of individual projects and programs.

The Award Categories and the Award Process

First and second place awards are given in the Municipal CSO category. The selection of award winners begins when EPA Headquarters solicits nominations from the 10 EPA Regions. After an initial screening of these nominations at EPA Headquarters, the nominees are asked to complete an awards application. The Awards Review Committee then uses these applications to judge the individual programs and projects and select the National CSO Control Program Excellence Award winners.

National Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program Excellence Awards Winners and Category

Municipal Category

1st Place: Department of Public Utilities
City of Richmond, Virginia

2nd Place: City of Auburn, New York
Columbus Water Works
Columbus, Georgia