



2002 National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Ceremony



**2nd Place, O&M, Large Advanced Plant: Lancaster Area Sewer Authority, Susquehanna
Water Pollution Control Plant, Lancaster, Pennsylvania - Chlorine Contact Tank.**

**United States
Environmental Protection Agency**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
2002 National Clean Water Act
Recognition Awards
Ceremony**

Water Environment Federation Technical Exposition & Conference
Chicago, Illinois
Monday, September 30, 2002

US EPA National Awards Program Managers

**Maria Campbell, Operations and Maintenance Awards
John Walker, Biosolids Management Awards
Patricia Campbell, Pretreatment Awards
Wendy Bell, Storm Water Management Awards
Tim Dwyer, Combined Sewer Overflow Control Awards**

The Program

Welcome

Joe Stowe Jr.
Past-President
Water Environment Federation

Opening Remarks
and
Presentation of Awards

Benjamin Grumbles, Deputy Assistant
Administrator for Water
U.S. EPA

Announcement of Award Recipients

James A. Hanlon, Director
Office of Wastewater Management
U.S. EPA

National Award Recipients

Operations and Maintenance Awards
Biosolids Management Awards
Pretreatment Program Awards
Storm Water Management Awards
Combined Sewer Overflow Program Awards

Following the ceremony, compliments of WEF, refreshments will be served in Room S406A.

National Clean Water Act Recognition

Awards Programs

History

In 1985, by authority of Section 501(e) of the Clean Water Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated an annual National Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Excellence Awards Program to recognize outstanding O&M at publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities. The first national awards were presented in 1986. 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.

Due to that success, the awards program was expanded in 1988 to include Sludge Awards, now referred to as Biosolids Exemplary Management Awards to recognize outstanding 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 Control Awards and the Storm Water Management Awards programs were added to recognize outstanding wastewater management programs and projects. In 2002, EPA issued a rule, 40 CFR Part 105, establishing a framework to implement these awards recognition programs as the Clean Water Act Recognition Awards (formerly the National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards).

To be eligible for a CWA Recognition award, a facility, project or pollution abatement program must:

- be in total compliance with all applicable water quality requirements, and otherwise have a satisfactory record with respect to environmental quality; and,
- have written documentation as evidence of an outstanding technological achievement or an innovative process, method or device demonstrated in the preceding year, which resulted in environmental benefits, cost savings and/or public acceptance.
- be recommended by the State and/or EPA region.

The Awards Process

EPA headquarters issues annual guidance memoranda to administer each year's awards process and to request nominations for the awards programs. Forms to apply for the five awards program categories are available at the State level, and can be obtained through the Internet at www.epa.gov/own. Candidates may be nominated by EPA Regions, State water pollution control agencies, municipalities, consultants, wastewater treatment facilities or other interested parties in their State. After completing compliance screenings, the EPA Regional Offices use selection panels to choose the facilities, projects or programs which may receive annual Regional awards. These Regional winners then become eligible for national awards. Participation may not be in all states or EPA regions. Many State and Regional awards

presentation ceremonies are coordinated with local associations of WEF.

Awards nominations received from EPA Regional Offices undergo additional screenings and are evaluated by a selection panel of expert judges in the wastewater treatment industry. Award winners are invited to attend the presentation ceremony where they may receive flags, plaques and certificates. The 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.

Each year since the program's initiation, national awards have been presented annually at the Water Environment Federation's Technical Exposition & Conference (WEFTEC). There are more than 16,000 publicly owned and 60,000 industrially owned wastewater treatment plants in the United States, as well as facilities subject to National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) general permit coverage. The National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program recognizes select wastewater treatment plants, programs or projects which have achieved outstanding compliance results and have demonstrated an exceptional technological achievement, method, or device in their waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. Award winners' representatives are invited to attend this awards presentation ceremony. WEF has provided generous support for 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 Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program

Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards

The Program

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

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 one to 10 mgd, and large is greater than 10 mgd, except in the non-discharging plant category where large is greater than one mgd.

The "Most Improved Plant" category, a favorite of the O&M program, recognizes extraordinary 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. There are no awards in this category this year.

The Criteria

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

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

2002 National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards Winners by Category

Small Advanced Plant

- 1st Place: South Berwick Sewer District
South Berwick, Maine
- 2nd Place: Town of Gorham Wastewater Treatment Plant
Gorham, New York

Medium Advanced Plant

- 1st Place: City of Louisville Wastewater Treatment Plant
Louisville, Colorado
- 2nd Place: Dale Mabry Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant
Tampa, Florida

Large Advanced Plant

- 1st Place: City of Dallas (Southside) Wastewater Treatment Plant
Dallas, Texas
- 2nd Place: Lancaster Area Sewer Authority
Susquehanna Water Pollution Control Facility
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Small Secondary Plant

- 1st Place: Village of Amherst Wastewater Treatment Facility
Amherst, Wisconsin
- 2nd Place: City of Lineville Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant
Lineville, Iowa

Medium Secondary Plant

- 1st Place: City of Hamilton Wastewater Treatment Plant
Hamilton, Montana
- 2nd Place: Escatawpa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant
Moss Point, Mississippi

Large Secondary Plant

1st Place: Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners
Newark, New Jersey

2nd Place: Evansville Eastside Treatment Facility
Evansville, Indiana

Large Non-Discharging

1st Place: Selma-Kingsburg-Fowler County Sanitation District
Kingsburg, California

2nd Place: City of Sturgis Wastewater Treatment Facility
Sturgis, South Dakota

National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program

Biosolids Exemplary Management Awards

The Program

This is the fifteenth year of the EPA's National Biosolids Exemplary Management 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.

Innovative and widely applicable biosolids techniques are vital to the nation's efforts to protect and improve our land 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 that occurs.

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

The Award Categories and Criteria

The Biosolids Exemplary Management award candidates are evaluated using the following criteria:

For Operating Projects

Two Categories: 1) Less Than or Equal to 5 dry tons/per day; 2) Greater than 5 dry tons/per day

- , Compliance with Applicable Federal, State and local regulations
- , Consistent, cost-effective operation
- , public acceptance of beneficial uses of biosolids.
- , Significant recycling/reuse of natural resources (e.g., nutrients, organic matter and energy)
- , Sustained (several years), full scale, proven operation

This year, there is a tie for second place in the large operating projects category.

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

2002 National Biosolids Exemplary Management Awards Winners by Category

Operating Projects Large

- 1st Place: Merrimack, Wastewater Treatment Facility
Merrimack, New Hampshire
- 2nd Places: Roanoke Regional Water Pollution Control Plant
Roanoke, Virginia, and

City of Largo, Wastewater Reclamation Facility
Clearwater, Florida

Operating Projects Small

- 1st Place: City of Hood River Wastewater Treatment Plant
Hood River, Oregon
- 2nd Place: Lower Colorado River Authority
Burnet, Texas

Honorable Mention: City of Port Huron Wastewater Treatment Plant
Port Huron, Michigan

Public Acceptance:

- 1st Place: WNET, PBS Affiliate Television Station
New York, NY. and US EPA Region III, Water Protection Division
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards

Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards

The Program

This is the fourteenth year of the EPA's Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards. 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 dischargers. Through their pretreatment efforts with the local industry, POTWs achieve additional benefits such as improved biosolids quality and reduced risks to treatment plant worker health and safety.

The Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards 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.

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 three categories based on the number of Significant Industrial Users (SIUs): 0 - 25 SIUs; 26 - 100 SIUs; and greater than 100 SIUs.

2002 National Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards Winners by Category

100 and greater SIUs:

1st Place: Subregional Operating Group (SROG)
Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale and
Tempe, Arizona

2nd Place: San Antonio Water System
San Antonio, Texas

26 - 100 SIUs:

1st Place: Chesterfield County Utilities Department
Chesterfield, Virginia

2nd Place: Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant
Palo Alto, California

0 - 25 SIUs:

1st Place: Texarkana Water Utilities
Texarkana, Texas

2nd Place: City of Bangor Wastewater Treatment Plant
Bangor, Maine

National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program

Outstanding Storm Water Management Program Awards

The Program

The Storm Water Management Program Awards 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.

The Award Categories

Awards are given in two categories: Municipal Storm Water control program and project; and Industrial Storm Water control program or project. There is no national winner in the industrial category.

The 2002 national winners are in the municipal category as follows:

1st Place: Greater Battle Creek Area Watershed Management Project
 Battle Creek, Springfield and Calhoun County, Michigan

2nd Place: Jefferson Parish Department of Environmental Affairs
 Jefferson, Louisiana

National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program

Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program Awards

The Program

This is the twelfth year for EPA's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Awards Program. The 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 Awards program heightens overall public awareness of CSO measures and encourages public support of programs aimed at protecting public health and safety and the nation's water quality.

This year there are two first place winners for the National CSO Awards Program as follows:

Lincoln Sanitary District
Lincoln, Maine

Sanitary District of Michigan City
Michigan City, Indiana

For more information on the Clean Water Act Recognition Awards program visit www.epa.gov.own, and contact your State water pollution control agency, the U.S. EPA offices or WEF at the following locations:

Region 1

Office of Ecosystem Protection
JFK Federal Building, One Congress Street
Boston, MA 02114-2023
(617) 918-1764

Region 2

Division of Environmental Planning and Protection
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866
(212) 637-3836

Region 3

Water Protection Division
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
(215) 814-5788

Region 4

Water Management Division
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303-3104
(404) 562-9280 Ext. 29248

Region 5

Water Division
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507
(312) 353-5784

Region 6

Water Quality Protection Division
Fountain Place, 12th Floor, Suite 1200
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
(214) 655-6525

Region 7

Water, Wetlands, & Pesticides Division
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101
(913) 551-7453

Region 8

Office of Partnerships and Regulatory Asst.
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, CO 80202-2466
(303) 312-6280

Region 9

Water Division
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 744-1949

Region 10

Office of Water
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 553-8575

Headquarters

Office of Wastewater Management
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW (4204M)
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-0628

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Attn: Technical Services
601 Wythe Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 684-2400

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