

For Immediate Release
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Local Water Utility Recognized For Excellence

Spartanburg Water was among 15 public drinking water systems honored by The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) on October 20th. Spartanburg Water received AMWA's Platinum Award for Utility Excellence, along with 11 other utilities. Four systems earned Gold Awards for Exceptional Utility Performance. The awards, which were presented in ceremonies at AMWA's Annual Meeting in New Orleans, recognize outstanding achievement in implementing the nationally recognized Attributes of Effectively Managed Utilities. Newt Pressley, Director of Finance for Spartanburg Water, accepted the award on the utility's behalf.

Winners of the 2008 AMWA Platinum Awards for Utility Excellence are:

Chesterfield County Department of Utilities (Virginia)
Columbus Water Works (Georgia)
Contra Costa Water District (California)
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority
Green Bay Water Utility
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
City of Norfolk Department of Utilities (Virginia)
Northern Kentucky Water District
Spartanburg Water (South Carolina)
Tualatin Valley Water District (Oregon)

Gold Awards for Exceptional Utility Performance were presented to:

Fairfax Water (Virginia)
Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority
Prince William County Service Authority (Virginia)
City of Salem Public Works Department (Oregon)

“AMWA’s 2008 award winning water agencies are industry pace-setters, systems where management vision and employee commitment create sustainable utilities producing ample supplies of clean, safe water for their communities,” said AMWA President Brian Ramaley, Director of Newport News Water Works. “These systems have implemented a full range of successful initiatives that address all of the industry-recognized attributes of effectively managed utilities.”

The Attributes of Effectively Managed Utilities were developed by a blue-ribbon panel of water and wastewater utility executives, commissioned by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, AMWA and other water industry associations. The attributes they identified include: product quality, customer satisfaction, employee and leadership development, operational optimization, financial viability, infrastructure stability, operational resiliency, community sustainability, water resource adequacy, and stakeholder understanding and support.

Through its continuous improvement program, Spartanburg Water became a strategy-focused organization. Benefits included a more knowledgeable, diversely skilled work force; streamlined management structure; increased service area and revenue base; improved customer service; expanded water supply to meet 100-year projections; reduced environmental compliance exposure; enhanced debt service coverage and reserve funding; improved bond ratings; and a more resilient organization.

AMWA is the organization for the nation’s largest publicly owned drinking water utilities. Its members provide safe and clean drinking water to more than 130 million Americans. More information is online at www.amwa.net.

Spartanburg Water – An Award Winning Utility