

The logo features a stylized blue graphic of a bird or a wave on the left, followed by the text "NATIONAL Environmental Achievement AWARDS" in a serif font. "NATIONAL" is in all caps and smaller, "Environmental" is in a larger, more prominent serif font, and "Achievement AWARDS" is in all caps and smaller, stacked below "Environmental".

NATIONAL Environmental Achievement AWARDS

Honoring Environmental Excellence in the Clean Water Community

NACWA Recognizes Member Agencies with National Environmental Achievement Awards

NACWA recently recognized eighteen of its Member Agencies with *National Environmental Achievement Awards* (NEAA) on February 13, 2012 – during the Association's Winter Conference, *Watershed Moment in the Making...Conquering the Challenges of the New Regulatory Frontier*, in Los Angeles, California. The NEAA Awards recognize Agencies in four categories – Research & Technology, Operations & Environmental Performance, Public Service, and Public Information & Education.

NACWA Awards Three Agencies for Outstanding Research & Technology Projects

NACWA's *Research & Technology Award* is given to member agencies for their contributions to the field of wastewater treatment or biosolids utilization and disposal.

[East Bay Municipal Utility District, CA](#) was recognized for their *New (First-Ever) PSRP-Equivalent Anaerobic Digestion Process Increases Digestion Capacity by Fifty Percent* project. This innovative process uses a thermophilic anaerobic digestion process to meet all federal requirements – and increase digester capacity by 50%.

[Orange County Sanitation District, CA](#) won for their *Fuel Cell Demonstration for Energy and Hydrogen Production* project – cutting-edge project converts renewable gas from wastewater treatment to electricity, heat, and hydrogen in a highly efficient and clean stationary fuel cell. It is the first in the country to achieve production of all three of these components.

[DC Water, DC](#) was honored for their *Innovation of External Carbon Based Suspended Growth Technology for Enhanced Nitrogen Removal*. As a result of extensive and innovative research and development, DC Water improved denitrification technology effectively reducing the risk of permit non-compliance.

Six Agencies Receive NACWA's Operations & Environmental Performance Award

NACWA's *Operations & Environmental Performance Award* is presented to member agencies for outstanding operations initiatives that are both cost-effective and environmentally-sound.

[Emerald Coast Utilities Authority, FL](#) received recognition for its *Main Street Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement Project*. The Authority replaced their largest and most problematic treatment plant with an improved facility that was the result of detailed planning, innovative financing and the successful coordination of a complex construction program.

[Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, MA](#) was honored for the implementation of the *North Dorchester Bay CSO Storage Tunnel and Related Facilities*, an extensive initiative that utilized innovative operational techniques to ensure the project eliminated CSOs, stormwater and dry weather infiltration discharges, resulting in water quality improvements and some of the cleanest urban beaches in the nation.

[Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties, NJ](#) received an award for their *Cogeneration* project. The *Cogeneration* project embodies the development of a highly efficient facility that resulted in significant savings to rate payers, limited air pollutants, and reduced use of hydrocarbon fuels for the production of electricity and heat payers as well as reducing pollutants discharged into the air and reducing the use of hydrocarbon fuels for the production of electricity and heat.

[Bureau of Environmental Services, City of Portland, OR](#) won for their *Willamette River CSO Tunnel Program* – an extensive 20-year program accomplished a 96% reduction in annual CSO volume to the Willamette River and Columbia Slough, and decreased CSO events from 50 to 5 per year, improving the health of this highly-recreational watershed.

[Clackamas County Water Environmental Services, OR](#) was recognized for their *RiverHealth Capacity Management Program* – a comprehensive program that effectively incorporated consensus building and sustainability into a cost-effective program that achieved environmental compliance objectives.

[King County Wastewater Treatment Division, WA](#) was honored for its *Brightwater Treatment System* initiative – a model for how clean water projects can not only add effective treatment and conveyance capacity, but also enhance the environment through technology, habitat restoration, progressive stormwater management, green design and public education.

Renewable Water Resources Earns NACWA Public Service Award

NACWA's *Public Service Award* recognizes significant contributions in public service related to wastewater treatment, public utility operation or environmental protection.

[Renewable Water Resources, SC](#) received recognition for *Project Rx: A River Remedy* – an innovative and proactive drug take-back program featured community collaboration led by REWA to help keep South Carolina rivers clean and residents safe.

Public Information & Education Awards Recognize Creativity & Community Involvement

NACWA's *Public Information & Education Awards* honor agencies for inventive efforts to inform and involve their communities. This year four agencies were recognized for outstanding video presentations.

[Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, CO](#) was recognized for their video, *50th Anniversary/NTP Groundbreaking DVD*, an illustration of the utility's history and vision for the future as a leader in protecting public health and the environment.

[Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, MD](#) won for their video, *Feasty Boys promote "Can It, Cool It and Throw It Away"*, a catchy PSA to educate customers on proper disposal of fats, oils and grease and reduce sewer and basement backups.

[Oak Lodge Sanitary District, OR](#) was honored for *Protecting our Community's Watersheds and Streams*, an informational look at the District's current initiatives and future goals to improve water quality and protect community watersheds has led to overall public acceptance in the face of a 16% increase to surface water program fees.

[Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewer District, WI](#) received recognition for their video, *Reducing the Risk of Basement Backups*. Utilizing the District's website and various social media outlets this video is part of a \$151 million project to educate the community and reduce the risk of basement backups caused by excess ground water in sanitary sewers.

Four agencies were also recognized in the Public Information & Education category for excellence in public education.

[Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, NJ](#) was recognized for their program teaching students the importance of preserving and protecting our waterways through the *PVSC Wildlife Habitat Education Program*.

[Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati, OH](#) won for their *Lick Run and Communities of the Future Community Engagement* initiative – a proactive educational program engaged and informed the community about the upcoming *Lick Run Alternative* project and garnered overwhelming support and attendance at informational workshops about the initiative.

[Narragansett Bay Commission, RI](#) was honored for their *2010 World Toilet Day Exhibit*. The Commission's exhibit in a local art gallery showcased student created 'artistically-enhanced' toilet seats that represented both the global – and local – importance of clean water.

[Western Virginia Water Authority, VA](#) received recognition for their *Partnership to Educate the Public about Improper Disposal and Abuse of Prescription Drugs* program. This extensive public education initiative improved the community's knowledge about the health and environmental risks involved with the improper disposal and misuse of prescription drugs, and ultimately helped protect the quality of local waterways.

NACWA congratulates all of these *National Environmental Achievement Award* winners on their clear commitment to clean water and a safe, sustainable environment. *National Environmental Achievement Awards* will be presented to individual honorees in April at the Association's *National Environmental Policy Forum*. Visit NACWA's [awards page](#) on the website for more information.

