

To: Members & Affiliates
From: National Office
Date: January 15, 2015
Subject: 2014 PEAK PERFORMANCE AWARDS
Reference: MU 15-01

Action Please By:
April 3, 2015

NACWA's [Peak Performance Awards Program](#) has been enhanced! We continue to recognize member agency facilities for excellence in NPDES compliance and have expanded eligibility to include facilities that operate under a Federal or state equivalent NPDES permit, an underground injection control permit, or a state control mechanism that regulates effluent quality and reuse of reclaimed flows. Recognition is for compliance in the 2014 calendar year.



The Peak Performance Award program has honored thousands of NACWA member agency facilities since its inception in 1987. We fully anticipate that this year, with the program's enhancements, recognition will eclipse last year's record number of honorees.

Three Categories to Recognize Facility Achievement

NACWA's *Peak Performance Awards Program* consists of three categories – *Platinum*, *Gold* and *Silver*. The criteria for each category are as follows:

- ***Platinum Awards*** recognize 100% compliance with permits over a consecutive five-year period. *Platinum Awards* will be given to facilities with a consistent record of full compliance for a consecutive five year period (calendar years of 2010 through 2014). If 100% compliance is maintained beyond the initial award, *Platinum Award* status is continued. Should 100% compliance not be maintained, member agency facilities must receive four consecutive *Gold Awards* to again be eligible for another *Platinum Award* in their fifth year of compliance.

Included in the application packet is a list of facilities that, based on NACWA's records, are eligible for a *Platinum Award* this year, if full compliance was attained for the entire 2014 calendar year. If your agency has a facility that you believe is eligible for a 2014 *Platinum Award*, but is not included on the enclosed list, please fax a copy of your *Gold Award* certificates from the past four years (2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013) to Christian Howard at NACWA's National Office, Fax: 202/833-4657.

- ***Gold Awards*** are presented to facilities with no permit violations for the 2014 calendar year.
- ***Silver Awards*** are presented to facilities with no more than five violations for the 2014 calendar year.

All treatment facility applicants must be publicly owned by a current NACWA member agency and be in operation for at least one month or more during 2014. Treatment facilities must provide, at minimum, secondary treatment, or advanced primary treatment with a 301(h) waiver. Additionally, there are no facility capacity minimums for *Peak Performance Award* eligibility.

How to Apply for 2014 Peak Performance Recognition

The [Peak Performance Award Application Packet](#) provides you with complete details and information to apply for recognition. Applications for the 2014 *Peak Performance Awards Program* are due by **April 3, 2015**. Applying for *Peak Performance* recognition is easy– facilities may complete and submit their applications in the following ways:

1. **Online Application on CleanWater Central™** – Visit www.cleanwatercentral.org to complete and submit an online application. (Please see page 2 & 3 of the application packet for detailed instructions.)
2. **Download Application Materials and E-mail** – Visit NACWA's website, www.nacwa.org, and download the application form. Complete and submit the application form to Mark Hoeke at mhoeke@dfinet.ch
3. **Via U.S. Mail** – If your utility is submitting a significant number of pages and/or several applications, please submit the application(s) via regular mail to Christian Howard, at NACWA's National Office, 1816 Jefferson Place, NW, Washington, DC. 20036.

Applicants must provide a copy of the applicable Federal or state equivalent NPDES permit, an underground injection control permit, or a state control mechanism that regulates effluent quality and reuse of reclaimed flows or a copy of these requirements must already be on file with NACWA. Please review the "What to Submit" section, which can be found on page 2 of the application packet carefully to determine what your facility must submit to be eligible for a Peak Performance Award.

If the survey form is not adequate to show all permit requirements and discharge results, it may be modified or a separate table may be submitted by e-mail to Mark Hoeke at mhoeke@dfinet.ch. Please use an Excel spreadsheet where possible and include monthly flow data even if flow is not a permit limit.

Peak Performance Award Recognition

NACWA's 2014 *Platinum Peak Performance* honorees will be recognized at an *Awards Ceremony & Reception* during NACWA's 2015 Summer Conference & 45th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Providence, RI. First-time *Platinum Award* recipients (Platinum5) will be invited to accept their award in person, while *Multi-Platinum* honorees will be recognized as a group in a multimedia presentation. All award winning facilities will be showcased in the July/August edition of NACWA's bi-monthly e-newsletter, the *Clean Water Advocate*. Certificates for all *Platinum*, *Gold* and *Silver* honorees will be distributed to the NACWA primary contact in early August 2015. Additionally, the opportunity to purchase *Peak Performance* wear will be provided for all honorees.

Questions?

Please contact Mark Hoeke via e-mail: mhoeke@dfinet.ch, or phone: 202/361-7446, with any questions you may have regarding completion of the *Peak Performance* application form. General questions about the *Peak Performance Award Program* and/or the awards ceremony should be directed to Christian Howard, at NACWA's National Office, phone: 202/533-1805 or e-mail: choward@nacwa.org.

**This Member Update is provided to Affiliate Members for information only.*

Links

- [2014 Peak Performance Application Packet](#)
- [2014 Peak Performance Application \(MS Excel\)](#)