

NEWS



For Immediate Release

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Photos attached, also can be obtained courtesy of McGoodwin, Williams & Yates: <http://mwyusa.com/news.html>

GERALD PLANK RECIEVES WEF HATFIELD AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Arkansas Water Works & Water Environment Association (AWW&WEA) 2015 Conference

PHOTO: Gerald Plank, on right, receives award from Sandra Ralston, past president of the Water Environment Federation.

Hot Springs, Ark. – Gerald Plank is year’s recipient of the Water Environment Federation’s Hatfield Award presented annually to wastewater treatment operators for outstanding service and professionalism. The award was presented at the annual AWW&WEA meeting in Hot Springs on April 27.

Plank is the wastewater supervisor for the city of Fort Smith’s two wastewater treatment plants. He was recognized with this award in-part because of his sense of duty to the position which has included volunteering his time to provide wastewater licensure training for his staff of about 30 employees and other Utility Department personnel as well as other individuals seeking licensure. He is also responsible for operating two high-rate clarifiers used to attenuate peak wet weather sanitary sewer flows; this system is often studied and emulated by other utilities as a successful method to combat sanitary sewer overflows.



The Hatfield Award was established in honor of Dr. William D. Hatfield, former superintendent of the Decatur, Illinois Sanitary Sewer District and President of the Central States Sewage Works Association in the mid-1940s and president of the WEF in the late 1950s.

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