



NEWS

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PINE BLUFF WASTEWATER UTILITIES HONORED WITH THREE AWARDS

Hot Springs- Pine Bluff Wastewater Utilities employees Vincent Miles, Stacey Carpenter, and David Poe were honored with awards at the Arkansas Water Works & Water Environment Association (AWW&WEA) Conference on May 1. Miles was named Laboratory Analyst of the year while Carpenter was named Arkansas Water Environment Association's Pretreatment Professional of the Year, and Poe was named this year's recipient of the Author Sidney Bedell Award for extraordinary personal service.

This is the second occasion at which Miles has been recognized for the quality of his work by the AWW&WEA, having received the Wastewater Pretreatment Professional of the Year Award in 2015. Miles oversees all analysis for the Boyd Point Wastewater Treatment Facility and has worked for the Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility for 28 years where he has been instrumental in developing and implementing revisions to the utility's pretreatment program that ultimately resulted in the 2013 National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) Platinum Award. Pine Bluff was the only city in Arkansas to receive this award. He has also worked closely with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to institute new guidelines for industrial users for discharging into the city's wastewater system. He operates the largest municipal wastewater lagoon treatment facility in the United States.

Carpenter has been a pretreatment professional for 19 years and a Class IV Wastewater Treatment Operator since 2008. Carpenter is responsible for coordinating the utility's field staff and conduction inspections of industrial users. The award acknowledges a pretreatment professional in an industry or utility who has demonstrated outstanding professionalism and performance and has made significant contributions to the pretreatment profession.

Poe was recognized with his award for his active participation as a member of the Arkansas Water Environment Association for which he has served on committees and as a board member continuously since 2011. The Bedell Award was established to acknowledge extraordinary personal service to a WEF member association. The award is named for Arthur Sidney Bedell, WEF's second president, for his long devotion and service to the New York Sewage and Industrial Wastewater Association.

Each year, Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility treats approximately 5.1 billion gallons of wastewater and maintains 450 miles of wastewater lines, along with 50 pumping stations to move wastewater through the system.

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