

GAWP Awards Description and Nomination/Presentation Schedule

Conference Presentation	Award	Submission Deadline
Industrial Conference Awards (Every other year)	Industrial Safety Award <i>The GAWP Safety Award is an annual award presented to a facility that promotes, encourages and produces a safe working atmosphere for each employee. Each plant is inspected on safe operations in areas such as, chemical handling, electrical, site safety and personal protection of the workers.</i>	Late January
	Industrial Plant of the Year <i>The Industrial Wastewater Plant of the Year Awards are given annually to facilities whose performance is indicative of extraordinary effort to properly manage, operate, and maintain their facility. There are 8 categories.</i>	Early January
	Industrial Facility Gold/Platinum Awards <i>The Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year Awards recognizes facilities operated by Corporate and Utility Members. Corporate and Utility Members with facilities that had no NPDES or pretreatment permit violations during the preceding calendar year. After 5 consecutive years the facility Platinum.</i>	Late January
Spring Conference Awards	Water Treatment Plant of the Year <i>Annually recognize Municipal Water Treatment Facilities that have been operated in an outstanding manner (categories based on facility size). This award is given to the best managed, best operated facilities in the state of Georgia. To win this award not only is the score considered, but all aspects of the facilities, such as safety, maintenance operations, documentation, lab operations and industrial monitoring.</i>	Late January
	Water Reclamation Facility of the Year <i>Annually recognize Municipal Water Reclamation Facilities that have been operated in an outstanding manner (categories based on treatment type and facility size). This award is given to the best managed, best operated facilities in the state of Georgia. To win this award not only is the score considered, but all aspects of the facilities, such as safety, maintenance operations, documentation, lab operations and industrial monitoring.</i>	Late January
	Water/Wastewater Gold/Platinum Awards <i>The Gold/Platinum Awards recognizes water facilities that have had no permit violations for MCLs or no NPDES permit or pretreatment violations during the preceding calendar year. Only GAWP Corporate and Utility members are eligible for these awards.</i>	Late February
	Top Op Awards – Water, Wastewater, Distribution and Collections <i>A TopOp Award is presented to a member from each of the eight districts in each category. A TopOp is presented to a certified operator that has excelled in his/her duties and sets an example for others. Receipt of this award is a high honor.</i>	Late February
	Drinking Water Taste Test Competition <i>A regional (District-level) drinking water taste tests, culminating with a “taste-off” to determine the State Champion. All Utilities welcome.</i>	Early April
	Fox McCarthy Water Wise Award <i>This award will be given to project or program implemented by a water provider (even years) and a water user (odd years) on alternating years. The evaluation criteria is based on planning, execution, effectiveness, innovation, transferability, and assurance of longevity.</i>	Late January
	Biosolids/Residuals Program of Excellence <i>This award is presented in multiple categories to recognize excellence in biosolids management and are graded on the excellence of: recycling or reuse of natural resources such as nutrients and organic matter found in biosolids or other sludges; demonstration of energy efficiency and/or cost effectiveness; demonstration of excellence in program/project management; and technical innovation in the management of biosolids/residuals.</i>	Late January
	Education Award <i>The purpose of these Awards is to annually recognize superior public education program. Education Awards of Excellence will be given in two categories: 1- Education Program of Excellence – submission is for single topic area (i.e. water conservation/water supply, wastewater/sewer or watershed/stormwater). 2- Comprehensive Education Program of Excellence – submission is for comprehensive program of two or more topic areas.</i>	Mid January
	AWWA Meritorious Operator <i>This AWWA award recognizes special performance in one or more of the following: 1) continuous compliance with public health standards in finished water; 2) consistent and outstanding contribution to plant maintenance thereby prolonging the useful lives of equipment; 3) development of new and/or modified equipment or significant process modifications to provide for a more efficient or effective treatment, 4) special efforts in the training of treatment plant operators; 5) special acts not directly related to water treatment but which demonstrate dedication to the public beyond the normal operating responsibilities; and 6) consistent and</i>	Early April

<p style="text-align: center;">Annual Conference Awards</p> <p><i>All other Annual Conference awards are selected by a nominations committee made up of GAWP Board positions.</i></p>	<p><i>outstanding contribution to operation and/or maintenance of distribution lines, pump stations and reservoirs.</i></p>	
	<p>WEF William D. Hatfield Award <i>This award may be presented annually to a member of the WEF Section for outstanding performance and professionalism in the operation of wastewater treatment plants. Criteria include a successful system of reports from the operator to his or her superiors that fulfill the information requirements of the superiors and provide the operator with a forum for suggestions for improvements, a good public relations program, and contribution to the dissemination of information concerning advancements in the field.</i></p>	Mid-March
	<p>GAWWA Champion of Diversity Award <i>The purpose of this Award is to recognize an individual, group, or organization member of AWWA that has created, promoted, and maintained diversity by establishing an environment that recognizes, encourages, and effectively utilizes each individual's talents.</i></p>	Mid April
	<p>Master Planning Spotlight Award <i>The Master Planning Spotlight award recognizes a member for their dedication to planning for the future, as demonstrated by the development of a master plan and the implementation of it.</i></p>	Late April
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Fall Conference Awards</p>		
	<p>Customer Service Award <i>The Customer Service Award is presented to an individual who has distinguished themselves by demonstrating excellence in customer service or who utilized innovation to develop an efficient operational process which resulted in a positive and memorable experience for the customer.</i></p>	Late September
	<p>Top Technician Award (Golden Wrench) <i>This award recognizes a mechanic that performs at a level of excellence that is above and beyond.</i></p>	Late September
	<p>Collection System of the Year <i>The purpose of this award is to recognize those utilities that strive to continually improve their systems through proper management, maintenance, and operation. The criteria follows the practices set forth in the CMOM program including preventative maintenance, system evaluation, rehabilitation programs, and training among many others. To obtain the GOLD Award, a utility must receive a score of 95% or higher. Those utilities with a score of 90% to 94.9% receive the SILVER Award. The Collection System Excellence Award also includes a PLATINUM Award. This award is given to the utilities that have scored gold level for 5 consecutive years. The utility will maintain its platinum level as long as the utility scores gold level each subsequent year.</i></p>	Late August
	<p>Water Distribution System of the Year <i>The purpose of these Awards is to annually recognize water distribution systems that have been operated in an outstanding manner. The Water Distribution System Awards are awarded in the following categories by customers served: Large System (> 50,000), Medium System (10,000 – 50,000), Small System (< 10,000). To obtain the GOLD Award, a utility must receive a score of 95% or higher. Those utilities with a score of 90% to 94.9% receive the SILVER Award. The Collection System Excellence Award also includes a PLATINUM Award</i></p>	Late August
	<p>WEF Outstanding Laboratory Analyst Award <i>This WEF award recognizes individuals for outstanding performance, professionalism, and contributions to the water quality analysis profession. The candidate must be employed at an educational facility laboratory, industrial, commercial or municipal laboratory which performs wastewater-related analyses, and must have direct analytical responsibilities.</i></p>	Late July
	<p>Laboratory QA/QC Awards <i>The purpose of these awards is to encourage the professional advancement of laboratories within Georgia. The process provides an avenue for peers to exchange ideas, circulate technical expertise, and offer productive feedback. In so doing, the committee ultimately recognizes those laboratories who are demonstrating outstanding quality assurance programs.</i></p>	Late July
	<p>CCR Competition <i>This award recognizes water systems' hard work putting together the Consumer Confidence Report. CCR's are selected for effectively educating Georgia citizens about the exceptional water services provided across the State. A 1st place winner is chosen in 3 size categories from all entries received. CCR's are categorized based on the total population and/or customers served by the community water system.</i></p>	Late September
	<p>Golden Manhole Society <i>Recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the art and science of Collection System operations through the operation, maintenance, design, construction, management, planning, education, training, or certification of collection systems, as well as, through service to GWEF and GAWP.</i></p>	Late September
	<p>Ira C. Kelley Award <i>The Ira C. Kelley Award encourages and promotes advancements and achievements in the environmental laboratory field.</i></p>	Late July

	<p>Safety Award (Water and Wastewater) <i>The GAWP Safety Award is an annual award presented to a facility that promotes, encourages and produces a safe working atmosphere for each employee. Each plant is inspected on safe operations in areas such as, chemical handling, electrical, site safety and personal protection of the workers.</i></p>	<p>Late August</p>
<p>Water Resources Conference</p>	<p>Innovative Stormwater Project of the Year <i>This award is intended to recognize an outstanding stormwater project, a unique approach to a stormwater issue, or an innovative method for addressing stormwater runoff, water quality, environmental protection, etc. While the award may recognize a construction project, the award is not limited to in-the-ground structural measures. It may be given to a project demonstrating an inventive collaborative effort, a new educational program, or a way of advancing stormwater awareness etc. The intent is to recognize cities, counties, utilities, or other entities that have pioneered new stormwater methods so that others can learn from them and apply similar techniques elsewhere.</i></p>	<p>Mid March</p>