

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Greg Baker  
Communications Chair  
RMSAWWA  
303.739.7081  
[communications@rmsawwa.org](mailto:communications@rmsawwa.org)

### **Greeley Water Wins National Taste Test**

**June 14, 2017 (Philadelphia, PA)** – The City of Greeley, Colorado, has won the thirteenth annual “Best of the Best” Tap Water Taste Test. Greeley was representing the Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association (RMSAWWA). This is the first national win by a RMSAWWA participant.

The event, composed of regional winners from water-tasting competitions across North America, was held at American Water Works Association’s (AWWA) Annual Conference and Exposition (ACE17) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Second place in the taste test went to Montpelier Municipal Utilities, Montpelier, Ohio with last year’s winners, the City of Bloomington, Minnesota taking third place.

The People’s Choice award winner, as determined by the conference attendees, was also awarded to the City of Greeley.

The City of Greeley has two conventional water treatment plants that provide drinking water for the 103,000 citizens of Greeley and surrounding communities.

Bellvue Water Treatment Plant was completed in 1907 with a capacity of 32 million gallons per day (MGD) and the Boyd Lake Water Treatment Plant was completed in 1974 with a capacity of 38 MGD.

With the adoption of the 1958 City Charter, Greeley citizens created a Council-appointed Water Board with the duty to "acquire, develop, convey, lease, and protect water and sewer assets, supplies, and facilities." Consequently, Greeley has one of the most robust water systems in Colorado, says AWWA.

An esteemed judging panel rated each water system on its flavor characteristics. Judges included Andrea Dietrich Monique Durand, engineer with Hazen and Sawyer P.C., and AWWA Public Affairs Council member, Cliff Shrive.

Previous competition winners are Bloomington, Minnesota (2016), Big Sky, Montana (2015), Boston Water and Sewer Commission (2014), Oklahoma City Water and Wastewater Utility (2007 and 2013), Fremont, Nebraska (2012), Greenville, South Carolina (2011), Stevens Point, Wisconsin (2010), Macon (Ga.) Water Authority (2009), Louisville (Kentucky) Water Company (2008) and Illinois American Water, Champaign District (2006 and 2005).

Other “Best of the Best” participants in the competition included: Aqua Illinois – Kankakee Plant, Kankakee, Ill.; Brewster Water Dept., Brewster, Mass.; City of Ann Arbor, Mich.; City of Bozeman, Mont.; City of Canandaigua, N.Y.; City of Carrollton Waterworks, Carrollton, Ga.; City of El Dorado, Kan.; City of Lethbridge Water Utility, Alberta, Canada; City of Mandan, N.C.; City of Miramichi, New Brunswick, Canada; City of Montreal Drinking Water Direction, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; City of North Miami, Fla.; City of St. Cloud, Minn.; City of Saint Louis Water Division, St. Louis, Mo.; City of Salisbury, Md.; City of Sioux Falls, S.D.; City Utilities Commission of Corbin, Ky.; Georgetown County Water & Sewer District, Pawleys Island, S.C.; Green Bay Water Utility, Green Bay, Wis.; Huntsville Utilities, Huntsville, Ala.; Lehigh County Authority, Allentown, Pa.; Marshalltown Waterworks, Marshalltown, Iowa; Merchantville – Pennsauken Water Commission, N.J.; Neuse Regional Water & Sewer Authority, Kinston, N.C.; Philadelphia Water Dept., Philadelphia, Pa.; Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority, San Juan, Puerto Rico; San Jacinto River Authority, GRP Division, Conroe, Texas; Spotsylvania County Utilities, Fredricksburg, Va.; Union Hill Water Association, Redmond, Wash.; Village of Cortland, Neb.; and West Virginia American Water, Charleston, W.V.

###

*Photo l-r: (all from City of Greeley Water and Sewer Department)*

*Bob Neal, Operations Manager, Randy Mitchell, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent and Adam Prior, Chief Engineer.*

*The Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association (RMSAWWA) is a non-profit, scientific and educational membership association dedicated to managing and treating water. Our vision is to provide for a better world through better water. Our mission is to provide solutions for the Rocky Mountain Region (Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming) to effectively manage water, the world’s most important resource. As a local section of the American Water Works Association, we strive to connect our local membership with the opportunities and resources of AWWA. Information on RMSAWWA can be found at [rmsawwa.org](http://rmsawwa.org)*