This award is to recognize an individual(s) who has shown extreme dedication to the area of sewer collection systems. The dedication is evident by the focus on training and promotion of collection systems personnel to enhance the personnel’s knowledge and ability to operate and maintain collection systems. A strong leadership role has been evident by presentation of collection system papers and the advancement of new technology in the collection systems field. The individual has shown continued interest and work in the local WEF Association in the collection systems field.

The Golden Manhole Award is a method to recognize those individuals who are significant contributors to the advancement of the Systems Design, Education, Training, Certification, Construction, Operations, Maintenance, and Management of Wastewater Collection Systems. This award will provide a permanent recognition of efforts that promote professionalism and pride among those involved in Collection Systems activities.

This Award has been approved by the Water Environment Federation as a way to recognize those who have contributed to the development and professionalism of the Collection System Industry on a national level. It is the desire of the Federation that each Member Association adopt this award, which would be given on the Member Association level. The State criteria for the award will reflect the WEF approved criteria.

Nominations are due June 6th of each year.

Criteria for the Golden Manhole Award will be three or more of the following:
1. Years of experience and significant accomplishments in the Design, Education, Training, Certification, Construction, Operations, Maintenance, Safety, or Management of Wastewater Collection Systems
2. Innovative solutions to problems
3. Presentations and/or participation at conferences
4. Involvement in promoting the professional recognition of the Collection Systems field
5. Papers or articles accepted by state, regional or national publications
6. Membership in WEF national collections system committee
7. Membership in good standing with the VWEA
8. Active involvement with the VWEA Collection and Stormwater Committee
9. Any other reason why the Nominee deserves recognition