

**DRINKING WATER PRIMACY AGENCY  
CONTACTS for the Operator Certification  
Program**

**Delaware**

[Edward Hallock](mailto:Edward.Hallock@state.de.us) (Edward.Hallock@state.de.us)  
Program Administrator, Office of Drinking Water  
Delaware Health and Social Services  
Blue Hen Corporate Center - Suite 203  
Dover, DE 19901  
302-741-8590

**District of Columbia**

Washington Aqueduct Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
5900 MacArthur Boulevard, NW  
Washington, DC 20016-2514

[Lloyd Stowe](mailto:lloyd.d.stowe@wad01.usace.army.mil) (lloyd.d.stowe@wad01.usace.army.mil)  
Chief, Plant Operations Branch  
202-764-2702

[Tom Jacobus](mailto:thomas.p.jacobus@wad01.usace.army.mil)  
(thomas.p.jacobus@wad01.usace.army.mil)  
General Manager  
202-764-0031

**Maryland**

[Nancy Reilman](mailto:nreilman@mde.state.md.us) (nreilman@mde.state.md.us)  
Division Chief, MDE-SDWA Implementation  
Montgomery Park Business Center  
1800 Washington Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
410-537-3710

**Pennsylvania**

**Contact for Award Program ONLY:**

[Alison Shuler](mailto:ajs28@psu.edu) (ajs28@psu.edu)  
Environmental training and Small Public  
Water Systems  
Technology Assistance Centers at  
Penn State Harrisburg  
777 W. Harrisburg Pike, TL 170  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6399

**Contact for Operator Certification Program:**

[Veronica "Nicki" Kasi](mailto:vbkasi@state.pa.us) (vbkasi@state.pa.us)  
Chief, Technical Assistance and Outreach Division  
PA Department of Environmental Protection  
P.O. Box 8467  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8467  
717-772-4053

**Virginia**

[Mark Anderson](mailto:MarkC.Anderson@vdh.virginia.gov) (MarkC.Anderson@vdh.virginia.gov)  
Training & ERG Coordinator  
Virginia Department of Health  
Madison Building  
109 Governor Street, Room 632  
Richmond, VA 23219  
804-864-7514

**West Virginia**

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources  
Capitol and Washington Streets  
1 Davis Square, Suite 200  
Charleston, WV 25301-1798

[Bill Toomey](mailto:wtoomey@wvdhhr.org) (wtoomey@wvdhhr.org)  
Manager, Source Water Assessment Program/Training  
Certification Section  
304-558-6746  
[Dawn Newell](mailto:dawnnewell@wvdhhr.org) (dawnnewell@wvdhhr.org)  
Assistant Manager, Training & Certification Section  
304-558-6993

**2008 AWARD RECIPIENT for Small System Category  
Mr. Ralph Huges, Felton Water Department in Felton, DE**



Mr. Huges and  
wife, Deborah

The Award was presented at the  
Felton Town Hall in Felton, DE

**2008 AWARD RECIPIENT for Large System Category  
Mr. Michael Whitley, Hanover County Dept. of Public  
Utilities in Mechanicsville, VA**



Mr. Whitley and  
wife, Colleen

The Award was presented at the Hanover  
County Administrative Building in  
Hanover, VA

**U.S. EPA REGION III  
PROFESSIONAL OPERATOR  
EXCELLENCE AWARD  
PROGRAM**

Are **YOU** the crème de la crème in your  
professional field of certified operators?



Do **YOU** have a top notch operator at  
your drinking water facility or in your  
community that deserves this prestigious  
recognition??



Want to know how to get them  
nominated or submit a self nomination  
for this award???



Well **READ ME** and I'll tell you how!



## Purpose

The Professional Operator Excellence Award promotes professionalism of the operator, acknowledges and encourages leadership and innovation of operators in the protection of drinking water here in Region III (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia).

## Award Description

This is an individual regional award given to an operator(s) who exemplifies exceptional work practices on the job and in their community. Contributions advance the health and safeness of potable water for customers. The selected nominee(s) for this award will receive a suitable plaque, properly engraved during an award ceremony organized by the drinking water primacy agency.

## Award Categories

Nominations are solicited for two (2) categories for this award: (1) small water system operators serving less than 3,300 customers and (2) large water system operators serving over 3,300 customers. This category may be revised in the future, if needed, based on discussions between EPA RIII and its States.

## Eligibility

The award is open to individuals in Region III that represent certified operators striving for excellence in providing healthy, safe potable water for community and non-community water supply systems. Nominees must have been a certified operator in good standing for five (5) years or more with no lapse in certification renewal. Winners of this award will not be eligible for another nomination for three (3) years.

**Frequency of Award:** Once a year.

## Award Criteria

- a) Rule compliance – work being done in preparation for new rule implementation (i.e., ST2/LT2, GWR); work reflects consistent compliance of regulatory requirements at the public water system;
- b) Innovative approaches to cost reduction (e.g., asset management; water conservation (e.g., energy & efficiency); environmental management systems and optimizing treatment plant performance);
- c) Community outreach – e.g., public tours of water plant, visit schools, utilizing media to spread message about healthy, safe, potable water;
- d) Educational efforts – internal training of standard operating procedures;
- e) Peer recognition – speaks to the integrity, ethical and technical level of the nominee (e.g., previous awards received);
- f) Other special efforts or significant achievements.

\* Special consideration for meeting this criterion will be given to small system operators only.

## Selection Process

- a) Candidates for this regional award must be endorsed by both the applicable drinking water primacy agency and EPA RIII (with the exception of PA see contact info.);
- b) Candidates for this regional award will be nominated by the applicable drinking water primacy agency to EPA RIII for selection (with the exception of PA see contact info.).
- c) All nominations shall be forwarded to Wanda F. Johnson via email ([johnson.wandaf@epa.gov](mailto:johnson.wandaf@epa.gov)) or post:

U.S. EPA, Region III  
Office of Drinking Water & Source Water  
Protection  
1650 Arch Street (3WP21)

Philadelphia, PA 19103

- d) Nominations will be evaluated and ranked by an EPA RIII awards panel based on input from each State to select the candidate that best meet the award criteria.
- e) The selected candidate will be notified by EPA and/or the drinking water primacy agency (with the exception of PA see contact info.)
- f) The deadline for state nominations will be March 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- g) The selection process may be revised in the future based on discussions with EPA Region III and its States if needed.

## Award Process

EPA and the drinking water primacy agency will present the award to the winner in the winner's community or the award will be presented in conjunction with a community event. The event will be publicized. EPA, State and local officials, local citizens and citizen groups will be invited to participate.

## Publicity

States will promote this Award Program in the same capacity that the Operator Certification Program is promoted (e.g., articles, newsletters, web posting, etc.). The Award Program may be announced and this brochure may be given out at conferences and meetings of industry representatives, government associations, civic groups, etc.

You can also view this information and print out a nomination form at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/reg3wapd/drinking/awards.htm>