

Water System Operations Specialist of the Year –

1. Must be currently employed as a water treatment system operator and have been employed by that system for at least 2 years at the time of nomination.
2. Must hold a valid Indiana Water Works Operator Certificate.
3. Examples of reason for nomination include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Length of service and experience
 - b. Exceptional effort and dedication in performance of duties
 - c. Special project or program instituted at the suggestion of, or under the supervision and oversight of the nominee in the past year that has improved the system or its efficiency of operation.
 - d. Demonstration of creative problem solving skills and attitude.
 - e. Outstanding efforts in system operations under difficult circumstances during the past year
4. May be nominated by any system representative peer, supervisor or superior of the nominee.

Wastewater System Operations Specialist of the Year –

1. Must be currently employed as a wastewater treatment system operator or collection system operator and have been employed by that system for at least 2 years at the time of nomination.
2. Must hold a valid Indiana Wastewater Operator Certificate.
3. Examples of reason for nomination include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Length of service and experience
 - b. Exceptional effort and dedication in performance of duties
 - c. Special project or program instituted at the suggestion of, or under the supervision and oversight of the nominee in the past year that has improved the system or its efficiency of operation.
 - d. Demonstration of creative problem solving skills and attitude.
 - e. Outstanding efforts in system operations under difficult circumstances during the past year
4. May be nominated by any system representative peer, supervisor or superior of the nominee.

Manager of the Year –

1. The Manager of the Year Award may be awarded to an office manager, distribution system manager, water treatment plant manager, wastewater treatment plant manager, etc.
2. Examples of reason for nomination include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Length of service and experience.
 - b. Exceptional effort and dedication in performance of duties.
 - c. Special project or program instituted at the utility that improved the system or its efficiency of operation.
 - d. Demonstration of creative problem solving skills and attitude.
 - e. Outstanding efforts in system operations under difficult circumstances during the past year.
3. May be nominated by any system representative peer or by a superior of the nominee.

Administrative Professional of the Year (office clerk, secretary or administrative assistant) –

(This award has been designed to recognize the importance of office staff.)

1. The Administrative Professional of the Year award may be awarded to a billing office clerk, secretary, office clerk, receptionist, administrative assistant etc.
2. Examples of reason to nominate include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Length of service and experience
 - b. Outstanding customer service skills
 - c. Exceptional effort and dedication in performance of duties
 - d. Demonstration of creative problem solving skills and attitude
3. May be nominated by any system representative peer or by a superior of the nominee.

Associate Member of the Year –

1. Nominees must not be directly employed by a water or wastewater system.
2. Must be a business not directly involved in the day-to-day operation or management of a water or wastewater system.
3. Must have demonstrated a commitment to the goals, programs, activities and services of the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water in some fashion, through either financial, program, legislative, regulatory or training support.
4. Examples of reason for nomination include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Dedication to AIRW goals, programs and activities
 - b. Specific contribution(s) over the past year to AIRW activities or objectives
 - c. Publicly stated support for AIRW OR active promotion of AIRW and its goals and services
 - d. Outstanding assistance to AIRW in the past year
 - e. Outstanding performance in promotion, sponsoring, lobbying or influencing the passage (or failure) of legislation affecting rural water systems and/or in agreement with rural water goals and objectives
5. May be nominated by AIRW Staff and Board Members.

President's Choice Award –

The President's Choice Award recipient(s) will be decided by the President of the Board of Director's. The President may choose to seek the advice or opinion of the Executive Director for a possible recipient or recipients.

The President's Choice Award may go to any individual, agency, vendor or vendor employee, AIRW staff member.

Examples of reasons one might receive the President's Choice Award are, but are not limited to:

1. Going above and beyond in the promotion of AIRW
2. Assisting the President with special projects
3. Going above and beyond with financial assistance (advertising, sponsorships, etc.)
4. Length of service

NOTES: Award recipients will also receive a shirt with their plaque. The shirt might say: Alliance of Indiana Rural Water Manager of the Year, Water / Wastewater System Operations Specialist of the Year, etc.