

# Water Professionals Earn Industry Awards

Clayton County Water Authority (CCWA) earned several awards from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) at the annual Fall Conference in Jekyll Island, Georgia:

- Distribution & Conveyance Director Lamar Hamlin was inducted into the Golden Manhole Society.
- Distribution maintenance staff earned a Distribution System Platinum Award. Water distribution system programs focus on maintenance of the water lines that deliver potable water from CCWA's system to homes and businesses.
- Conveyance maintenance staff brought home the Collection System Platinum Award. Wastewater collection (or conveyance) system programs
- focus on maintenance of the sewer lines that collect sewage from homes and businesses and safely transport it through a network of pipes to the treatment plants.
- The Water Reclamation Central Wastewater lab earned the Gold Award. This is awarded to laboratories earning a score of 95 or higher.



Distribution & Conveyance Maintenance Staff



Nathan Turner, WB Casey WRRF Central Wastewater Lab

# **CCWA Awarded HR Team of the Year**

CCWA's Human Resources team was recently recognized as the HR Team of the year by the Georgia Council for Human Resources at the conference in Jekyll Island, GA. The award submission includes several of the team's contributions to the organization including The HR Drip Podcast and Going the Extra Mile employee recognition program. "I am honored that CCWA's Human Resources Department has joined the ranks of other CCWA Award-Winning Departments! This is a testament to the hard work, long days/nights, and abundant project initiatives that our team so eagerly accepts," says HR and Risk Management Director Anguilla Henderson.

In addition to their HR Team of the Year Award, the CCWA Human Resources Team recently received two additional awards:

- Georgia Local Government Personnel Association 2022 HR Agency Award of Excellence
- HRO Today 2022 Innovation in HR Award, HR Team of the Year (finalist)

These awards recognize the overall quality, accomplishments, and contributions of an agency human resource program that exceeds the normal operation of a "good government human resource program."

# New Rates Take Effect in 2023

Every year, we review our water and wastewater rates to ensure that we can fund our ongoing operations while making continuous investments and improvements in our facilities, our systems, our people, and our community based on our 10-Year Strategic Master Plan. We receive no tax dollars and rely entirely on water, sewer and stormwater revenues to fund operations.

New rates for water and wastewater will take effect beginning on January 1, 2023. The change will appear on your February bill. For the average residential customer\* this means an additional \$1.63/month or about a nickel a day. We're pleased that for the second year in a row, the change is less than we forecasted and still allows us to meet the community's needs.



We take our responsibility to the community seriously and appreciate the trust our customers place in us to wisely invest rates back into Clayton County. Each dollar we put into CCWA now contributes to the overall economic development and quality of life in Clayton County for families today and tomorrow.

# **CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS**



Invoice Cloud Pay online (ccwa.us), or by phone (770.960.5200), using our payment processing partner Invoice Cloud. A \$2.15 convenience fee is charged for each transaction.



Go Paperless Cut the clutter and go paperless. Visit www.ccwa.us to sign up for Paperless Billing.





Just take our current water bill to any Walmart location.
Make a payment in cash or with a pin-based debit card.

Once the transaction is processed, the customer receives a receipt as proof of payment.



Quality Water, Quality Service

Human Resources Team

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WATER

Highlights

# Water & Your Health

### The Latest on Lead and How CCWA is Responding

Information about lead in the environment has sparked concerns and greater focus on how to minimize or avoid risks from lead exposure. Lead is a natural element and has been used in the past in a variety of products, such as paint, hunting/fish gear, ceramics, batteries, and more. Because it can remain in the environment, we can all do our part to reduce exposure.

As your water provider, we are on the frontline of public health in Clayton County and committed to providing safe drinking water that meets all state and federal requirements, which are reported annually in our Water Quality Report. This includes any findings of lead, and we want to make sure our customers understand how we're doing our part to limit exposure.

It's important to share that lead does not naturally occur in treated drinking water. However, many utilities across the country may have lead service lines (line that goes from the water meter to a home or business) and/or there may be lead pipes or fittings in the plumbing inside a private home or business.

To help reduce the public health challenge of lead exposure, the US EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) issued its final Lead and Copper Rule revisions (LCRR) in late 2021. The rule regulates how water utilities monitor for sources of lead in treated water and how to respond if a sample exceeds established action levels.

There is an October 2024 deadline to meet the LCRR, and our efforts are already underway. Please visit our website https://www.ccwa.us/lead-awareness/ (or scan the QR code) to learn more and know that we'll continue to update you as our efforts evolve.

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### Heard about PFAS lately?

PFAS compounds are another emerging concern when it comes to water quality. PFAS are man-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide in non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, some cosmetics, some firefighting foams, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. They don't break down and can remain in the environment in soil, water, and air.

We are proactively monitoring for PFAS compounds in the water system along with our other watery quality tests. We've posted information on PFAS and what we're doing about it to the website and encourage you to visit www.ccwa.us/pfas/ to learn more. The important thing to remind customers is that their water is safe to drink. CCWA Communications & Community Relations is currently working on creating resources for employee use.

# Thank you For a Wonderful Outreach Season!

CCWA would like to thank our community for a record-breaking community outreach season! We enjoyed educating customers on our key messages. From our Signature Events such as Rivers Alive and our Wetlands and Watershed Festival to the dozens of events we were invited to throughout the county, we were happy to be out in our community!

Want to see CCWA Water Professionals at your school event? Check out our resources for teachers and students at: https://www.ccwa.us/educational-resources/

We are now accepting requests for the 2023 Tap on the Go Season beginning in March 2023. To fill out our request forms, visit our website at: https://www.ccwa.us/totg/

For questions regarding community engagement, contact the Communications & Community Relations Department at CCWA\_CommunityRelations@ccwa.us



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1600 BATTLE CREEK ROAD, MORROW, GA 30260 // CUSTOMER SERVICE 770.960.5200 // WWW.CCWA.US