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Five Western Carolina Employees Receive Environmental Awards

Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority is proud to recognize five employees, Larry Needham, Calvin Howard, Perry Ashmore, Samantha Bartow, and Ann Sims, who recently received awards at the state level of the Water Environment Association of South Carolina (WEASC). The Blue Ridge Foothills District also recognized Needham and Howard for their outstanding performances in 2005.

Larry Needham received the honor of the Maintenance Person of the Year at the state and regional levels. Needham, an employee of Western Carolina since 1991, currently serves as the Electrical/Instrumentation Maintenance Supervisor. He is a licensed Master Electrician qualified with a D biological Wastewater certification.

Calvin Howard was awarded the Wastewater Operator of the Year Award at the state and regional levels. He has served as Operator for the past five years, but has been with Western Carolina for almost two decades. Howard holds a class A Biological Wastewater Treatment license and is currently the Lead Operator at Western Carolina's Mauldin Road facility.

Perry Ashmore was presented the Hatfield Laboratory Analyst Award at the state level for his outstanding service. With 33 years of experience at Western Carolina, Ashmore has completed various tasks ranging from operational duties to managing multiple treatment facilities.

Samantha Bartow was awarded the Noel M. Hurley Membership Award for outstanding achievements for recruiting new members to WEASC. Samantha is the administrative assistant of Western Carolina's Collection Systems Department. Her duties include event coordination, budgeting and purchasing, and database administration.

Ann Sims was presented the Crystal Crucible Award which recognizes individual for significant contribution for her innovative laboratory operations. Simms, Laboratory Manager at Western Carolina since 1990, is responsible for organizing and implementing Western Carolina's plant, industry, water quality sampling, analysis, QA/QC, NPDES reporting and record archiving programs.

Western Carolina congratulates these employees for excellent service to the organization and to the community. WCRSA celebrates 75 years of environmental stewardship. The organization provides wastewater treatment services to over 400,000 industrial, commercial and residential customers in Greenville County and parts of Anderson, Spartanburg and Laurens Counties. WCRSA operates and maintains 300 miles of major sewer trunk lines and 11 major wastewater treatment facilities. For more information about Larry Needham, Calvin Howard, Perry Ashmore, Samantha Bartow, Ann Simms or Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority, please contact Ray T Orvin, Jr. Executive Director, at 864-299-4000.

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