

## 2022 Public Water Systems Awards Program

Compliance 28 and Nominated 11; total awards 39

Listed in alphabetical order per category

### **Compliance Awards - 28**

#### **NTNC - 1**

4239003 The New Testament Church - Plymouth

#### **Small Community - 8**

3051021 Benfield Farms - Carlisle  
4285007 Bishops Landing Condominiums – Stoughton  
2037006 Centre Village Apartments - Boxborough  
3269032 Fields at Sherborn Condo Trust – Sherborn  
3051022 Garrison Place - Carlisle  
4052074 Pine Ridge Condominiums at Sampson’s Pond - Carver  
4172033 Sea Oaks Condominiums - Mashpee  
4197001 Siasconset Water Department

#### **Medium and Large Community – 11**

4020000 Barnstable Fire District  
2103000 Gardner Water Department  
4126000 Harwich Water Department  
3163000 Lynn Water and Sewer Commission  
6000000 Massachusetts Water Resources Authority  
3056002 North Chelmsford Water District  
4036002 North Sagamore Water District  
4224000 Orleans Water Department  
4265000 Seekonk Water District  
2278000 Southbridge Water Department  
4307000 Walpole Water Department

#### **Consecutive – 8**

4003000 Acushnet Water Department  
3030000 Beverly Water Department  
3046000 Brookline Water and Sewer Division  
3164001 Lynnfield Water Dist. (MWRA)  
3207000 Newton Water Dept. (MWRA)  
3243000 Quincy Water Dept. (MWRA)  
3308000 Waltham Water Department  
4338000 Whitman Water System

## **Nominated Awards -11**

### **Water Conservation – 3**

2002000 Acton Water Supply District  
2077000 Douglas Water Department  
2101000 Franklin Water Department

### **SERO Regional Recognition**

Foxborough Water Department

The Foxborough is a municipal Community Public Water Supply that has 13 groundwater wells, four treatment plants, three storage tanks, 5904 service connections plus the Gillette Stadium and Patriot Place shopping complex.

The system operators are hard-working and enthusiastic professionals who are dedicated to the current and future ability of the system to provide a safe, fit, and pure supply of drinking water to their customers. Their team has undertaken an impressive long-term effort to almost completely re-build their sources and treatment infrastructure. Projects completed just in the last five years include the construction of the new Chestnut Street Treatment Plant, construction of the new Hill Street #2 tank, complete replacement of eight wells, rehabilitating one well, and the refurbishment of both the Route 1 potable water tank, and the re-use water tank. To enhance the system's maintenance capabilities, a new garage has been constructed at the Chestnut Street Plant, and new vehicles, leak detection, and valve exercising equipment was procured. Planned work in the next 5 years includes a new multi-mile raw water transmission main, and several large-scale water main replacement projects.

The system maintains all of its records in excellent order, and all required submittals are made to MassDEP in a well-organized and timely fashion.

MassDEP's Southeast Regional Office is pleased to award its 2022 Regional Award to the Foxborough Water Department in recognition of its professionalism and its continuous efforts to maintain a reliable water supply.

### **SERO Distinguished Operator**

Linda Correia 4T-7528 and 4D-7653 Fall River

After many years as a Grade 4T operator for the City of Fall River and then the Inima-Aquaria desalination plant in Dighton, Linda "retired" in 2021 and is now operating about 40 small public water systems. The small systems are COM's, NTNC's and TNC's. The small systems benefit greatly from Linda's professional experience running much larger surface water systems. Linda can be counted on for maintaining compliance with water quality reporting requirements and sage advice for operating water systems.

## **CERO Regional Recognition**

2287000 Sturbridge Water Department

The Sturbridge Water Department is a Community PWS serving 4,597 residents of the Town of Sturbridge. The town contracts out its water supply operation to Veolia North America, who oversees the operation of four wells, two water treatment plants, three atmospheric water storage tanks, and two booster stations as well as water quality monitoring and compliance. Water is treated for iron and manganese removal, pH adjustment, corrosion control, disinfection, and fluoridation. Wells 1, 3, and 5 receive 4-log inactivation of virus treatment at the well stations and at the primary Iron Removal Plant. The maintenance of the water distribution system is handled jointly by Veolia and Sturbridge DPW, where the town supplies equipment, Veolia supplies parts, and both provide labor. The PWS is classified as a Class III-T Treatment and Class II-D Distribution system.

## **CERO - Distinguished Operator**

Barry Smith T1-22346, D2-24914 Town of Medway

Barry Smith is the Medway Water and Sewer Superintendent serving a population of 9,654. Barry has established daily, weekly, and monthly procedures to ensure that the Medway Water System operates in compliance. The well pump stations and storage areas are very clean, clearly labeled, and if a spare part is used, it is noted, and replacement parts are ordered to maintain inventory. Barry's efforts regarding unaccounted-for-water were reflected in them going from 25.9% in 2013 to 5.6% in 2020, through meter replacement, leak detection, and valve exercising and maintenance efforts.

Barry is very proactive and has proceeded with installing replacement wells to assure ongoing capacity for the Town of Medway and has also pursued installing a greensand treatment plant for removal of iron and manganese from three of their four wells. Barry has been very involved in the design of the treatment plant and made sure the design engineers took operator safety into account and capable of accommodating additional treatment, if necessary. MassDEP approved the Water Treatment Plant on March 1, 2022, and construction is anticipated to begin by the Fall of 2022.

## **WERO Regional Recognition**

1047002 Woolman Hill – Deerfield

This PWS sought compliance with DW requirements when undertaking an expansion. It now has a fully compliant source not needing treatment. This is a public health and safety improvement over prior conditions with a noncompliant source which had bacteria issues requiring treatment.

## **WERO Distinguished Operator**

Linda Tims VS12511, VT 23552, DA 25046, TB28974 Sheffield

Linda is an operator for several public water systems as a contract operator with RH White. She has conscientiously addressed problems when they occur, taking the required actions and communicating with MassDEP about the risks presented, the options the PWS has, and reporting on corrective actions taken or to be taken with MassDEP approval. She is a

professional with attention to public health and safety, as befits an individual holding a license from the Commonwealth.

### **NERO Regional Recognition**

3259000 Salisbury Water Department

Salisbury Water Department is a large groundwater system whose population balloons from just over 9,000 in the winter to 20,000 in the summer. In 2020, Governor Baker signed legislation authorizing Salisbury to take control of the Ring's Island Water District in Salisbury. In addition to improving the overall capacity to the Ring's Island PWS, the bill allowed Salisbury to move forward with upgrades to the aging Bridge Road water main which was constructed in 1938. The main, which feeds Ring's Island, has been subject to frequent main breaks in past years. Salisbury has continued to show leadership initiative and is now preparing for the Public Works Department to take over direct operation and maintenance of their system, which has contracted operations historically. Salisbury Water Department officials have been proactively communicating with MassDEP to ensure a smooth operational transition that maintains all regulatory requirements and continues to improve upon its system capacity and resiliency to meet its users' needs well into the future.

### **NERO Distinguished Operator**

Paul Colby      C4 1099      Ipswich, MA

Paul Colby serves as the operator for multiple non-community PWSs in the northeast region and consistently maintains accurate and timely reporting requirements while also being exceptionally responsive to various PWS needs. In particular, Paul has well managed the assessments required and repair to the well for a PWS in Ipswich (Micro-Mech ID #3144008), which had persistent total coliform issues followed by a Do Not Drink Order issued in January 2021 due to *E. coli* contamination. Paul has also been instrumental in response actions as a result of the implemented PFAS regulations, which can provide unique treatment challenges to small systems. In addition to ensuring compliance with required PFAS public education and notification, Paul ensures that the multiple PFAS-impacted PWSs under his guidance meet all additional deadlines including NON response and short- and long-term corrective action plans. Paul's attention to details and responsiveness to both PWSs and MassDEP makes him the ideal choice for a regional operator award.