

Awards For City Engineer And Water Supply Bureau Manager

City of Akron Press Release

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Akron City Engineer and Water Supply Bureau Manager

Recipients of National and State Awards

Akron, Ohio (October 28, 2015) – James Hewitt, PE, City Engineer for the City of Akron was recently recognized as a national award recipient by the Water Environment Federation (WEF) at their annual technical exhibition and conference in Chicago. This award, called the National Golden Manhole Award, is issued to individuals for distinguished and meritorious service for significant participation in one or more of the following areas: operations, maintenance, design, education, training, certification, management, and planning of sewer collection systems.

The WEF national conference saw a record-setting 25,048 registrants from Sept. 26-30 at McCormick Place in Chicago and is the largest conference of its kind in North America. It offers water quality professionals from around the world water quality education and cutting-edge technology training.

Hewitt, also a 2009 State of Ohio Water Environmental Association award winner, expressed gratitude for the national recognition, stating that this could not have been accomplished without the great support he has received throughout his career with the City of Akron.

Hewitt has been employed by the City of Akron for 27 years, holds a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering Technology from the University of Akron as well as an Associate Degree in Applied Science in Surveying and Construction Technology. He has worked his way up from being an Engineering Projects Coordinator, Sewer Maintenance Superintendent, Water and Sewer Systems Manager, and Public Utilities Bureau Manager, to being named the City Engineer in 2012. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Ohio, is an Ohio EPA Wastewater Collection Class II and Ohio EPA Water Distribution Class II operator, as well a member of various state and national professional organizations.

The City of Akron is equally proud of Jeffrey Bronowski, the City Water Supply Bureau Manager. Jeff was awarded the American Water Works Association's (AWWA) Ohio Section 2015 Water Treatment Operator Meritorious Award at their annual gala dinner of more than 500 people held in Cleveland on September 17, 2015. The award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated consistent and outstanding contribution to water treatment plant operations and maintenance, installation of new equipment and training of water treatment plant operators. Bronowski said he was very honored and humbled by the entire event stating: "I lead an amazing group of water professionals at Akron and get credit for their hard work and dedication. This award goes to Akron's 125 drinking water employees who provide high quality drinking water to our nearly 300,000 customers."

Bronowski holds a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Akron, is a licensed Professional Engineer, and is a Class IV Water Supply Operator. He has been with the City of Akron for 21 years, starting as an Engineering Co-op, a Civil then Senior Engineer, Water Plant Superintendent, and now as Bureau Manager supervises 125 people in the Water Bureau and three division managers.

This year marks the 100th year that the City of Akron's Water Supply Bureau has been treating drinking water at the existing water treatment plant. Today, the Bureau provides approximately 35 million gallons a day of drinking water to customers in the City of Akron and neighboring communities throughout Summit County. The Watershed Division is a division of the Water Supply Bureau with Lake Rockwell as Akron's primary drinking water source and LaDue and

East Branch reservoirs the secondary sources. Mogadore Reservoir is used for flood control and recreation while Lake Pippin is a wildlife preservation area.