



WATEREUSE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Community Water Champion

Awardees in this category showcase exemplary water reuse projects, systems, and/or facilities that demonstrate the value of water reuse to the community served by the nominee.

Who is eligible for this award?

This award recognizes utilities and/or local government entities that ensure a safe, reliable, locally-controlled water supply through the development of water recycling treatment facilities, infrastructure, and/or other water reuse projects.

What are the requirements for the award?

Nominees should demonstrate the value of water reuse in their communities in any or all of the following categories:

- Drinking water
- Wastewater
- Recycled water
- Stormwater management

How long must the facilities/projects be in operation to be considered?

At least six months.

How many awards in this category are given?

Up to three awards may be given.

Does the nominee have to be a WateReuse member to be eligible?

Yes. The utility or local government entity must be a member of the WateReuse Association to be eligible for this award.

Excellence in Action

Awardees in this category showcase exemplary water reuse projects, systems, and/or facilities that demonstrate the value of water reuse to the community served by them.

Who is eligible for this award?

Consumers of recycled water, including utility customers, commercial enterprises, government agencies, NGOs, or partnerships between utilities and their customers, including:

- Recycled Water Consumer/Customer (Industrial Facility or Operation, Commercial Building, Residential Building, Farm or Livestock Operation and Landscape Irrigator)
- Onsite Decentralized System (Industrial Facility or Operation, Commercial Building, Residential Building, Farm or Livestock Operation and Landscape Irrigator)
- Commercial Enterprise, Business or Industry
- Public-Private partnerships between utilities and customers

What are the requirements for the award?

Nominees need to showcase how recycled water is used for commercial operations, watershed restoration projects, irrigation, or other projects.

How long must the facilities/projects be in operation to be considered?

At least six months.

How many awards in this category are given?

Up to three awards may be given in this category.

Does the nominee have to be a WateReuse member to be eligible?

Yes. The sole nominee or at least one partnering organization must be a member of the WateReuse Association.

Transformational Innovation

This award recognizes technological advances, research breakthroughs, and/or innovative practices that advance the adoption, implementation and/or public acceptance of recycled water.

Who is eligible for this award?

Awardees in this category can be a pilot, a full-scale project, or research for which demonstration projects are planned. Nominees in this category can be:

- Reuse Related Businesses
- Equipment / Product Manufacturers
- Demonstration/pilot projects
- Drinking water, wastewater, recycled water, or stormwater management utility

What are the requirements for the award?

Awardees in this category should be spearheading innovations/research that has the potential to transform the water recycling industry.

How long must the project(s)/research be underway to be considered?

There is no required time frame, but a pilot or initial research must be in motion in order to be considered.

How many awards in this category are given?

Up to two awards may be given in this category.

Does the nominee have to be a WateReuse member to be eligible?

Yes. The sole nominee or at least one partnering organization must be a member of the WateReuse Association.

Advocacy Achievement

This award recognizes significant achievements in advancing policy reform that facilitate greater adoption, implementation, or acceptance of recycled water.

Who is eligible for this award?

Individuals and/or organizations who advanced policy reforms (including legislative or/and regulatory) that facilitate greater adoption, implementation, or acceptance of recycled water. Additionally, the advocacy achievement award recognizes individuals and/or organizations that have provided exemplary service to the water reuse sector. These people and entities may include:

- Individuals (employed/affiliated with a member organization)
- Federal, State and Local lawmakers (WRA membership not required)
- Individuals employed by government agencies (WRA membership not required)
- WateReuse State Sections

What are the requirements for the award?

Individuals and/or organizations nominated for this award should have demonstrated leadership, creativity, and persistence in supporting recycled water projects.

How many awards in this category are given?

Up to three awards may be given in this category.

Does the nominee have to be a member to be eligible?

Lawmakers and government agencies do not need to be members to apply, but membership is required for individuals working at a business or utility.

Outreach and Education

This award recognizes significant success in advancing public acceptance of recycled water including short-term campaigns, educational programs, and events.

Who is eligible for this award?

Nominees should have spearheaded water reuse public education programs including curriculum, classroom instruction, tours, onsite participation, peripheral materials developed, or any other education and outreach efforts. Nominees in this category may be:

- Individuals (employed/affiliated with a member organization)

- Drinking water, wastewater or recycled water, or stormwater management utility (membership required)
- Local, State and Federal Government Agencies (WRA membership not required)
- WaterReuse State Sections
- Water reuse-related Business (membership required)
- Recycled Water Consumers (WRA membership not required)
- NGOs (membership required)

What are the requirements for the award?

The award application should include specific details on the who, what, where, when, and how of the educational and outreach effort. Including a curriculum and supporting materials as part of your application is highly advised.

How long must the project/program be in operation to be considered?

The program should be in operation for a minimum of one year.

How many awards in this category are given?

Up to two awards are given in this category.

Does the nominee have to be a member to be eligible?

Please see “Who is eligible for this award?” for the details of when membership is required.

Up and Comer

This award recognizes a professional with less than 10 years of experience in the recycled water industry for his/her leadership in the industry and commitment to pursuing water recycling as a career path.

Who is eligible for this award?

Individuals with less than 10 years of experience in the recycled water industry.

What are the requirements for the award?

The nominee must be an individual who has worked in the water reuse field for less than a decade.

How many awards in this category are given?

One award is given in this category.

Does the nominee have to be a member to be eligible?

No.