

RESOURCES

Serving the South and Southwest Philadelphia Communities

The Southeast and Southwest Water Pollution Control Plants have each won Gold Awards for the year 2001 from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA).

AMSA's Peak Performance Awards program recognizes member agency facilities for excellence in wastewater treatment as measured by their compliance with their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. There are three types of awards within the Peak Performance Awards program.

Platinum Awards pay special tribute to agency facilities that have received Gold Awards for five consecutive years.

Gold Awards honor treatment works that have achieved 100 percent compliance with their NPDES permit for an entire calendar year.

Silver Awards recognize facilities that are nearly perfect in compliance.

The employees of our Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant were honored with a Platinum Award in 1999, and are now on their way to winning a second consecutive Platinum Award.

AMSA represents the interests of the country's wastewater treatment agencies, true environmental practitioners that serve the majority of the sewered population in the United States and collectively treat and reclaim more than 18 billion gallons of wastewater each day.



Resources is brought to you by the Philadelphia Water Department for our neighbors in South and Southwest Philadelphia, where two of our three water pollution control plants as well as our Biosolids Recycling Center are located. Our third water pollution control plant is in the Bridesburg section of the city. Resources provides you with information about what is happening at the Water Department facilities located in your neighborhood.

Southeast and Southwest Plants Receive Awards for Excellence

AMSA maintains a key role in the development of environmental legislation and works closely with federal regulatory agencies in the implementation of environmental programs. AMSA is a nationally recognized leader in environmental policy. AMSA's members consider the protection of water quality to be their mission and their mandate.

Southeast WPCP Gets All Hypoed Up and Makes the Community Safer

Sodium hypochlorite, which is similar to concentrated household bleach, has replaced chlorine as a disinfectant at the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant since March, 2002.

The greatest advantage of sodium hypochlorite, or "hypo", as it is known in the industry, is that it is safer to handle and easier to use. It's safer for the employees and the community.

The employees of the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant changed their disinfection system over to sodium hypochlorite in 1998.

Since the expansion of the plants in the 1980's, the facilities used liquid chlorine, which was delivered by rail to the plants in 90-ton tank cars.

Sodium hypochlorite is currently stored in a temporary facility at the Southeast Plant. This has allowed for the removal of the liquid tank cars from the plant a year prior to the completion of a permanent sodium hypochlorite facility, which is under construction.

After treating wastewater, our trained personnel at the water pollution control plants disinfect the water prior to discharging it into the Delaware River. They do this in order to kill remaining

bacteria and other microorganisms before the reclaimed water enters the river. Sodium hypochlorite now gets the job done for the Philadelphia Water Department's Southeast and Southwest Plants.

Southwest Plant Employees Hosted Annual Meeting

The staff of the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant hosted the annual meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Water Pollution Control Operators Association on November 22. The nearly 300 members in attendance were treated to tours of the Southwest Plant, presentations and 60 vendor displays showcasing the latest technology available for the wastewater industry. A technical presentation and association meeting were held in the afternoon.

The Eastern Pennsylvania Water Pollution Control Operators Association represents thousands of wastewater professionals in the central and eastern regions of Pennsylvania. The Southwest Plant's excellent achievements and award-winning operations year after year made it a fine showcase for all attendees.

Happy Holidays!



We, the staff and management of the Philadelphia Water Department, extend our best wishes to all of our neighbors during this holiday season, and we hope that you have a joyous, prosperous, healthy and happy New Year.

