
News Release

October 20, 2008

Janet Carter

605 394-3215

jmcarter@usgs.gov

Mark T. Anderson

605 394-3220

manders@usgs.gov

Editors: A photograph of Larry Putnam is available at <http://sd.water.usgs.gov/public/newsroom.html>

Department of the Interior honors local USGS scientist

Larry Putnam, a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) hydrologist with the South Dakota Water Science Center in Rapid City, received the Department of the Interior's Superior Service honor award on October 6, 2008, from Mark Anderson, Director of the South Dakota Water Science Center. The Superior Service Award was awarded to Mr. Putnam for his scientific contributions in water-resources programs in South Dakota and North Dakota.

Mr. Putnam has made fundamental contributions to the science of hydrology through development of techniques for describing and quantifying the complex hydrogeology of the Black Hills area. Part of his research has been to better understand and model the complex Madison and Minnelusa aquifer systems in the Black Hills area as recently published for the Spearfish area (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2007/5001/>) and for dye testing in the Rapid City area (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2007/5137/>). Mr. Putnam has conducted research on taste-and-odor organisms and onsite-wastewater disposal systems in the Rapid City area and on hydrocarbons in North Dakota. He currently is conducting ground-water research in the Aberdeen area in South Dakota.

Michael Burr, a hydrologic technician in the Huron Programs Office of the South Dakota Water Science Center, also received the Superior Service award for contributions to the U.S. Geological Survey's surface-water program.

The Superior Service Award was established in 1971 as a Department of Interior honor award. Employees are granted the Superior Service Award based on significant acts, services, or achievements that materially aid or affect successful accomplishment of the Department of Interior's mission.

Additional information about USGS water-resources studies in South Dakota can be obtained by visiting the USGS South Dakota Water Science Center home page at <http://sd.water.usgs.gov>.

USGS provides science for a changing world. For more information visit www.usgs.gov.

Subscribe to USGS News Releases via our [electronic mailing list](#) or [RSS](#) feed.

www.usgs.gov