

2024 Alabama/Mississippi Section of AWWA Awards Announcement

Request for Applications and Nominations

RECOGNIZE MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR EXCEPTIONAL WORK AND CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE WATER INDUSTRY

The AL/MS Section will select a Plant, Distribution System, Operator, and Young Professional from Alabama and Mississippi whose outstanding performance during the preceding year merits special recognition by the Section. All forms are available for download under the Awards Section of our website (www.alsawwa.org).

Submission Deadline is January 31, 2025.

Distribution System of the Year Award

Eligibility Requirements:

- The Distribution System must be operated by a Utility OR employee of a utility that is a member and in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.
- The Distribution System must be in compliance with all regulatory agencies.
 - points will be deducted for water quality violations.

Operator of the Year Award

Eligibility Requirement:

- The Operator must be a member OR employed by a member Utility and in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.

Treatment Plant of the Year Award

Eligibility Requirements:

- The Treatment Plant must be operated by a Utility OR employee of a utility that is a member and in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.
- The Treatment Plant must be in compliance with all regulatory agencies.
 - points will be deducted for water quality violations.

Young Professional of the Year Award

Eligibility Requirements:

- The Nominee must be under 35 years of age OR have less than 10 years of experience in the water industry.
- The Nominee must be a member OR employed by a member utility/company and in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.

Completed Applications are to be submitted ELECTRONICALLY on or before **January 31, 2025**, to Lindsay Wright at the following email address: almssection@gmail.com
If you **DO NOT** receive confirmation of receipt of this application within one week, please contact Lindsay at 334-538-4706.

Deadline to Submit Nominations is January 31, 2025

Water Distribution System of the Year Award 2024 Requirements

Purpose:

The Awards Committee is charged with the selection of one distribution system from Alabama AND one from Mississippi whose outstanding performance during the preceding year merits special recognition by the Section. Recipients of the award will have demonstrated that it performs quality water system maintenance procedures through the efficient use of labor, materials, equipment, and innovative methods to keep its distribution system in good working condition to minimize health hazards.

Eligibility:

In order for your Utility to qualify for the **Water Distribution System of the Year Award**, it must meet the following minimum requirements:

- The Utility OR an employee of the utility must be a member in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.
- The Utility must be in compliance with all regulatory agencies.
 - points will be deducted for water quality violations.

Procedure:

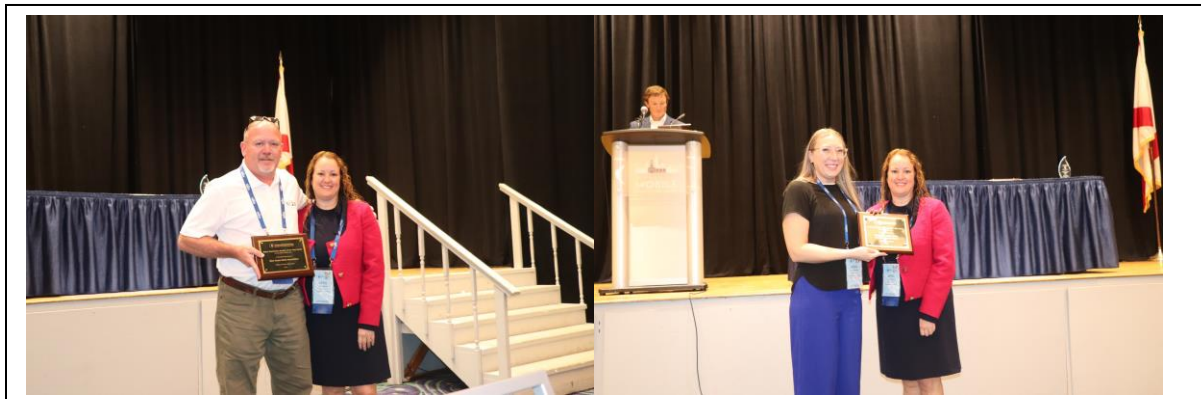
The Committee will receive applications until **January 31, 2025**. The **ENTIRE** application **cannot** exceed **10** pages, otherwise **penalty points** will be **deducted**. Following the application deadline, the Committee may evaluate each applicant through requests for additional information and/or an evaluation of the utility by way of a site visit. The Committee shall make their own selection, using their best judgment of the utility, based on additional information requested and/or the evaluation completed while visiting the utility. The award shall be presented at the **2025 AL-MS Water Joint Annual Conference**.

Distribution System Evaluation Criteria

Systems will be graded on the criteria below. Site visits may be required for obtaining portions of the criteria listed below. Please remit the following information in essay form or a brief description for consideration. Pictures may be attached as deemed necessary. Additional pages may be added to the application as needed. However, the **ENTIRE** application **cannot** exceed **10** pages, otherwise **penalty points** will be **deducted**.

- Performance Measures (including, but not limited to, water quality; main breaks/leaks; service breaks/leaks; water loss; incidents of pressure loss within system/boil water notices; record of NOV's; and response procedures)
- Operational Recordkeeping/Regulatory Compliance
- System Maintenance Program
- Operator/Personnel Training Program
- Safety Program/Safety Guidelines
- Cross Connection/Control Program
- Meter Testing Program
- List of Milestones or Accomplishments in the past year

2023 WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OF THE YEAR WINNERS



Bear Creek Water Association
(Madison County, Mississippi)

Montgomery Water Works and Sanitary Sewer
Board (Montgomery, Alabama)

Water Treatment Plant of the Year Award 2024 Requirements

Purpose:

The Awards Committee is charged with the selection of one treatment plant from Alabama AND one from Mississippi whose outstanding performance during the preceding year merits special recognition by the Section. Recipients of the award will have demonstrated proficiency in providing exceptional quality drinking water to its customers, through the practices of utilizing efficient O&M procedures; use of labor, materials, equipment; personnel training programs; and innovative methods to maintain or improve the overall condition of the plant to minimize health hazards.

Eligibility:

In order for your Utility to qualify for the **Water Treatment Plant of the Year Award**, it must meet the following minimum requirements:

- The Utility OR an employee of the utility must be a member in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.
- The Utility must be in compliance with all regulatory agencies.
 - points will be deducted for water quality violations.

Procedure:

The Committee will receive applications until **January 31, 2025**. The **ENTIRE** application **cannot** exceed **10** pages, otherwise **penalty points** will be **deducted**. Following the application deadline, the Committee may evaluate each applicant through requests for additional information and/or an evaluation of the utility by way of a site visit. The Committee shall make their own selection, using their best judgment of the utility, based on additional information requested and/or the evaluation completed while visiting the utility. The award shall be presented at the **2025 AL-MS Water Joint Annual Conference**.

Treatment Plant Evaluation Criteria

Treatment Plants will be graded on the criteria below. Site visits may be required for obtaining portions of the criteria listed below. Please remit the following information in essay form or a brief description for consideration. Pictures may be attached as deemed necessary. Additional pages may be added to the application as needed. However, the **ENTIRE** application **cannot** exceed **10** pages otherwise **penalty points** will be **deducted**.

- Performance Measures (including, but not limited to, overall water quality; optimization and improvements implemented; O&M activities; energy efficiency; NOV's recorded; conformance to regulatory/permit requirements)
- Operational Recordkeeping / Regulatory Compliance
- Facility Maintenance Program
- Operator Training Program
- Safety Program / Safety Guidelines
- Plants Instrumentation and Calibration
- Facility Appearance
- List of Milestones or Accomplishments in the past year

2023 WATER TREATMENT PLANT OF THE YEAR WINNERS

No applications from Mississippi



CT Perry Treatment Plant
Montgomery Water Works & Sanitary Sewer Board
(Montgomery, Alabama)

Alabama/Mississippi Section of AWWA
Operator of the Year Award
2024 Requirements

Purpose:

The Awards Committee is charged with the selection of one operator from Alabama and one from Mississippi whose outstanding performance during the preceding year merits special recognition by the Section.

Eligibility:

In order for an Operator to qualify for the **Operator of the Year Award**, the nominee must meet the following minimum requirement:

- The Operator must be a member OR employed by a member Utility, in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.

Procedure:

The Committee will receive applications until **January 31, 2025**. the Committee may evaluate each applicant through requests for additional information. The Committee shall make their own selection, using their best judgment of the nominated operator. The award shall be presented at the **2025 AL-MS Water Joint Annual Conference**.

Operator Evaluation Criteria

Operators will be graded on the information provided in the application along with to accomplishments in the following areas:

- Continuous compliance with public health standards in finished water.
- Consistent and outstanding contribution to plant maintenance thereby prolonging the useful lives of equipment.
- The development of new and/or modified equipment or significant process modifications to provide for a more efficient or effective treatment.
- Special efforts in the training of treatment plant operators.
- Special acts not directly related to water treatment but which demonstrate dedication to the public beyond the normal operating responsibilities.
- Consistent and outstanding contribution to operation and/or maintenance of distribution lines, pump stations, and reservoirs.

2023 OPERATOR OF THE YEAR WINNERS



Amy McLeod
Lead Operator
JXN Water/Jacobs



Brittany Reynolds
Lead Operator, Western Filter Plant
Birmingham Water Works Board

Young Professional of the Year Award 2024 Requirements

Purpose:

The Awards Committee is charged with the selection of one young professional from Alabama and one from Mississippi whose outstanding performance during the preceding year merits special recognition by the Section.

Eligibility:

In order to qualify for the **Young Professional of the Year Award**, the nominee must meet the following minimum requirements:

- The Nominee must be under 35 years of age OR have less than 10 years of experience in the water industry.
- The Nominee must be a member OR employed by a member utility/company, in good standing with the AL/MS Section of AWWA.

Young Professional Evaluation Criteria

Young Professionals will be graded on the information provided in the application but not limited to:

- Accomplishments which entitle him/her to receive this award
- Education/Certifications
- Professional Awards or Honors received
- Community/Civic Contributions

Procedure:

The Committee will receive applications until **January 31, 2025**. the Committee may evaluate each applicant through requests for additional information. The Committee shall make their own selection, using their best judgment of the nominated operator. The award shall be presented at the **2025 AL-MS Water Joint Annual Conference**.

2023 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR WINNERS



Whitney Zirkle, P.E.
Jacobs Engineering
Alabama



Destiny Redmond
City of Meridian
Mississippi