



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Patrick Lehman
plehman@regionalwater.org
Mike Coates
mcoates@regionalwater.org
941-316-1776

AMWA Recognizes the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority for Utility Management Achievement

The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) presented its 2020 Sustainable Water Utility Management Award to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority on October 13 at its 2020 Executive Management Conference. The award represents the highest level of water utility management achievement and was presented to only nine public drinking water systems across the U.S.

“In an unprecedented year for this nation, these systems are at the forefront of providing innovative solutions to the multiple challenges a global pandemic, extreme weather events, and infrastructure gaps are creating,” said AMWA President Steve Schneider, General Manager of Saint Paul Regional Water Services. “By supplying their communities with clean, safe, and affordable drinking water, these water utilities are helping to safeguard the nation’s health.”



AMWA awards recognize the exceptional performance of public drinking water utilities where management vision and employee commitment create sustainable utilities producing ample supplies of clean, safe drinking water. The Sustainable Water Utility Management Award

spotlights efforts of water utilities implementing long-term and innovative economic, environmental, and social endeavors.

In presenting the award AMWA proclaimed that the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority has created a reliable, sustainable, and affordable water supply in southwest Florida and provides the infrastructure for business development and economic growth. Through partnerships the Authority invested in alternative water supply (AWS) and interconnecting the major water supply systems. The utility is a model in AWS development, implementing surface water storage by off-stream reservoirs and aquifer storage and recovery systems. Limiting water withdrawal to occur only during high flow periods provides the sustainability of the downstream estuary and Charlotte Harbor while meeting demands for public water supply.

In accepting the award, Patrick Lehman, Executive Director of the Authority responded, “this award is a tribute to the dedication of our staff to provide a safe and reliable water supply to the region around the clock – and especially during these unprecedented times of a pandemic. They have been front-line responders maintaining uninterrupted water service to our member counties essential to protecting the public health in our communities.”

The Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority is comprised of Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota Counties to provide cooperation and collaboration to create, maintain and expand a sustainable, interconnected regional water supply system.

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