

The Water Utility Energy Challenge Team Celebrates the Dedication and Outstanding Accomplishments of Its Five Winning Utilities

Top Honors Awarded to Water Utility Energy Challengers



Michael Culpepper represented the City of Ann Arbor and accepted top WUEC honors as the **Water Utility Emissions Champion**, along with a \$20,000 check.



Sarah Mather and Josh Pearson from the City of Bayfield accepted the **Water Utility Green Champion Award**, along with a \$10,000 check



Left, Debra Shore, Commissioner for the Chicago-based Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, and Dave Rankin, Vice President of Programs for the Great Lakes Protection Fund, addressed finalists, partners and guests at the May 21 WUEC awards celebration at Greenhouse Loft in Chicago, IL.

The Great Lakes Protection Fund and American Water Works Association are thrilled to announce the winners of the inaugural Water Utility Energy Challenge (WUEC), an innovative program which engaged water operators in a competition to reduce the emissions sourced in their energy generation. The inaugural 2017-2018 competition, focused on the Great Lakes Basin, was aimed at connecting the utilities with new innovative software that reduces mercury and other emissions while reducing the utility's operations and management costs. The winners are:

Water Utility Emissions Champion, \$20,000 Prize

[City of Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor, Michigan](#)

Water Utility Green Champion, \$10,000 Prize

[City of Bayfield, Bayfield, Wisconsin](#)

Best Pilot Project

[Great Lakes Water Authority \(GLWA\), Detroit, Michigan](#)

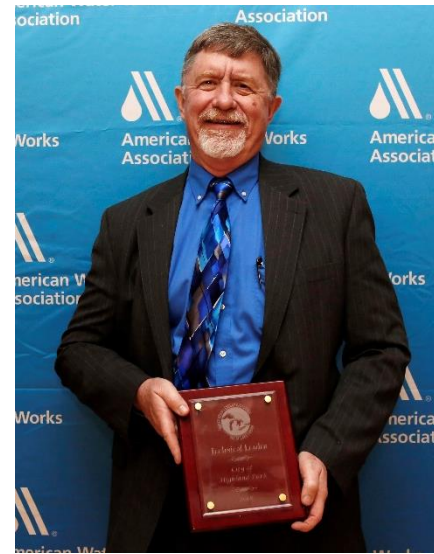
Technical Leader

[City of Highland Park, Highland Park, Illinois](#)

Carbon Reduction Leader

[Onondaga County Water Authority \(OCWA\), North Syracuse, New York](#)

"We're really excited with the breadth of the WUEC winners. They represent a wide range of communities, from small towns to large urban area, and epitomize the next generation of cutting edge water utilities. The winners proved that all utilities can use the cleanest energy to deliver safe drinking water to their customers and significantly reduce the associated emissions of lead, mercury, carbon and nitric oxide." noted David LaFrance, AWWA CEO.



Three other utilities accepted WUEC honors and awards of \$2,000 each on behalf of their respective utilities. *From left to right:* Shaker Manns, Great Lakes Water Authority (**Best Pilot Demonstration**), Donald Jensen, City of Highland Park (**Technical Leader**), and Mike Oemcke, Onondaga Central Water Authority (**Carbon Reduction Leader**).

