



# Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

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# 117

Partners in PA

64 Phase I & II Plants

52 Awarded Phase III

1 Phase IV



## The SPOTLIGHT is on: Carlisle Borough Municipal Authority

*Carlisle Water Treatment Plant Achieves Highest Level of Plant Performance*



### Carlisle Borough Municipal Authority Only Eighth Utility in Nation to Reach Pinnacle of Performance



Carlisle Borough Municipal Authority's Water Treatment Plant received the rarely achieved Phase IV "Excellence in Water Treatment" recognition from the *Partnership for Safe Water*.

This program is a national volunteer initiative developed by the USEPA and other water organizations representing water suppliers striving to provide their communities with drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards. Phase IV is the highest possible level of performance that can be achieved in the four-phased *Partnership* program, and signifies optimized plant performance. Only seven other water utilities in the nation have reached this performance level.

"Reaching Phase IV status is a very significant achievement in our ongoing work to meet stringent performance goals," said Director of Public Works Mike Keiser. "Improving the quality of our water remains a goal we continually strive to meet and exceed."

The Partnership currently includes more than 200 water utilities, collectively serving more than 85 million people. This represents over 60% of the U.S. population served by surface water. Each utility has committed to the enhancement of drinking water quality and operational excellence in water treatment. As members of the Partnership, utilities make a pledge to their communities to improve



Staff Photo, Above: Shown are (left to right): Kevin Anderson, PA DEP; Nick Tymchenko, EPA; Peter Selan, Scott Hart, Mike McFadden, Carlisle Borough's Bureau of Water; and Ed Chescattie, PA DEP.



Don Hershey (far left) presents Carlisle with the Phase IV award on behalf of AWWA National.

their treatment operations to reduce the risk of exposure to microbial contaminants, namely *Cryptosporidium*, a parasite that can cause illness. By making this commitment the member utilities' treatment practices undergo a rigorous review developed by national experts, and includes a four-phased self-assessment and peer review process.

## Blossburg Water Authority Receives National Award for Ongoing Safe Water Practices

*Five Year Status in Program Receives National Recognition*

Blossburg Water Authority has received a national award for maintaining the Directors Award of recognition from the Partnership for Safe Water, a national volunteer initiative developed by EPA and other water organizations representing water suppliers striving to provide their communities with drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards. The Directors Award is presented to water systems who have completed a successful review in the Partnership's Self-Assessment and Peer Review phase, a phase in which utilities examine the capabilities of their treatment plant operation and administration and then create a plan for implementing improvements.

Blossburg Water Authority has maintained the Directors Award for five years, an honor achieved by only 166 water utilities across the country. Developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other water organizations striving to provide



Blossburg Water Authority staff display their Directors Award.

optimum quality drinking water, the Partnership currently includes more than 200 water utilities, collectively serving more than 85 million people. This represents 60% of the U.S. population served by surface water systems. Blossburg Water Authority's ongoing participation in the program includes a rigorous review of treatment practices developed by national experts, and also includes a four-step, self-assessment and peer-review process.

"Maintaining Directors Award status for five years demonstrates our philosophy of constant vigilance to improve water quality," said Authority Chairman Frank Wasowicz. "We are thrilled to receive national recognition for this ongoing commitment."

Blossburg Water Authority was recognized at the National Conference on Water System Optimization in Hershey, PA, October 18 - 20, 2010.



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## Aqua Pennsylvania-Roaring Creek Plant and Western Berks Water Authority also honored at National Conference on Water System Optimization



*Shown Left to Right: Robert Cheng, Partnership Chair; Lee Roberts, AWWA Treasurer; Richard Kotwica, Production Mgr. Aqua PA-Roaring Creek Plant; Karl Kyriss, Aqua America NE Region President; Bill Lauer, Partnership Program AWWA; Kate O'Neill and Guy Woodard Partnership Representatives.*



*(Shown left to right): Nick Tymchenko, EPA; George Torak Jr., Matt Walborn, Western Berks Water Authority; and Ed Chescattie, PA DEP.*

## The First National Conference on Water System Optimization Draws 215 Attendees

This conference devoted to the latest treatment plant and distribution system optimization techniques was a success. PA-AWWA was honored to host this historic event.

215 attendees from 30 different States and 2 Provinces helped celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Partnership for Safe Water Program. The conference featured over 30 presentations focusing on Optimizing Tools and Strategies, Treatment plant and Distribution optimization, and Products and Services for System Optimization.

One of the highlights of the event was Carlisle Borough Municipal Authority was receiving the prestigious Phase IV Award. There are only seven other water systems in North America that have achieved this status.

The conference featured over 30 presentations focusing on Optimizing Tools and Strategies, Treatment plant and Distribution optimization, and Products and Services for System Optimization. The keynote speaker on October 19 was Karl Kyriss, Aqua America and his speech focused on Infrastructure Utility Sustainability.

Special thanks to the following for their assistance with this event: Bill Lauer, Debby Qualls, Robert Cheng, Ed Chescattie, Kevin Anderson, Kevin Linder, Nick Pizzi, Steve Hubbs, Paul Handke, Kate O'Neill, Guy Woodard, Bob Donnelly, Nancy Dinger, Patty Chila and Mike Snyder. Also, Special thanks to: Pennsylvania American Water for hosting additional Partnership meetings at the Conference.

## Update Your Partnership Information

Send any changes to your Partnership contact information to Debby Qualls at [dqualls@awwa.org](mailto:dqualls@awwa.org). If we don't have the correct information you may miss out on upcoming program improvements. Be sure to include current e-mail address if available.

## Plants Seeking Phase IV – Register with AWWA!

ALL plants that are actively pursuing the requirements of Phase IV to achieve the "Excellence in Water Treatment Award" MUST register prior to submitting an award application. It is highly recommended that plants register before they even begin to collect the documentation needed to attain Phase IV. Registration must occur at least three months prior to submitting a Phase IV application. The registration is free and the form is included with the Phase IV application on the *Partnership* website at [www.partnershipforsafewater.org](http://www.partnershipforsafewater.org).

## Would you like to participate in a Fall Conference?

E-mail PA-Section AWWA at [nancydinger@paawwa.org](mailto:nancydinger@paawwa.org) or [donhersey@paawwa.org](mailto:donhersey@paawwa.org) to let us know your thoughts/feedback.

## Partnership Distribution System Optimization Program • Status Update

The Partnership for Safe Water Distribution System Optimization Program is patterned after the Partnership's Water Treatment Program. The Partnership partially funded a project conducted by the Water Research Foundation to develop criteria for optimization of water distribution system operation. Based on the criteria established for optimized distribution systems, the Partnership is preparing guidance on how to achieve a more optimized system with minimal capital investment. The optimization criteria define excellence in distribution system operation in terms of processes, systems, procedures, and metric measures.

### Be the First!

Improve the quality of water delivered to your customers and ensure system reliability by using operational optimization methods instead of costly capital improvements. The Partnership has proven that this approach is successful in its water treatment plant optimization program started in 1995. Since that time, more than 500 treatment plants of all sizes have used these methods to improve performance. Many treatment plants that joined in the first year are still actively participating in the program.

You can be a CHARTER member in the

Distribution System Optimization program. Applications are now being accepted.

1. Join the Partnership for Safe Water Distribution System Optimization Program by March 31, 2011. Complete the application from the AWWA Partnership for Safe Water website and return to Debby Qualls at [dqualls@awwa.org](mailto:dqualls@awwa.org), or mail the application to Debby at the following address: Debby Qualls, AWWA, 6666 W. Quincy Ave., Denver, CO 80235
2. Provide baseline disinfectant residual data from the last 12 months or start collecting this data for the next year before sending it to the Partnership. The Partnership provides software to use for this purpose. This is data from your system that you are already collecting.
3. Charter members can begin this assessment immediately using the draft guide and beta versions of the software. Upon satisfactory review of a self-assessment summary report systems will be eligible for the Partnership Directors Award. The Partnership will solicit input from utilities completing the self-assessment regarding improvements to the process and the guidance.
4. You can elect to perform the self-assessment at a future date. The program

is self-paced so this is up to you! Charter members can still be involved in the evaluation of the baseline data collection software and process.

The Partnership for Safe Water welcomes the following Charter Members to the Distribution System Optimization Program and applauds your commitment to superior water quality! \* indicates membership in the Partnership Treatment Plant Optimization Program as well as the Distribution System Optimization Program.

- Long Beach Water Dept. Long Beach, CA
- El Paso Water Utilities – Public Service Board \* El Paso, TX
- Oak Creek Water and Sewer Utility \* Oak Creek, WI
- Orange Water and Sewer Authority \* Carrboro, NC
- City of Goose Creek Goose Creek, SC
- City of Aurora – Aurora Water \* Aurora, CO
- City of Houston – Public Works and Engineering\* Houston, TX
- Kentucky American Water \* Lexington, KY
- Palm Bay Utilities Palm Bay, FL
- Louisville Water Co. \* Louisville, KY
- Denver Water\* Denver, CO
- Salt Lake City Dept. of Public Utilities\* Salt Lake City, UT
- North Penn Water Authority\* Lansdale, PA
- Monroe County Water Authority\* Rochester, NY
- City of Olathe, KS