

TOGETHER AGAIN

2021 CWWA/CTAWWA FALL CONFERENCE RECAP

More than 150 water industry professionals attended the 2021 CWWA/CTAWWA Fall Conference at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT, on October 22. Attendees were encouraged to wear masks, use hand sanitizers, and practice social distancing. The event was also live-streamed to give people the opportunity to attend remotely.

CWWA's President, Dan Lawrence of Aquarion Water Company and CTAWWA's Chair, Scott Bonett of Hazen and Sawyer, kicked things off with welcoming remarks, both noting their appreciation for the water sector's tireless efforts to provide residents and businesses with safe, high quality drinking water throughout the pandemic.

Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering for the Metropolitan District, updated attendees on the construction of MDC's South Hartford Conveyance and Storage Tunnel, a four-mile long deep rock tunnel from Hartford to West Hartford. The tunnel is a major component of the MDC's Clean Water Project, a multiphase wastewater system upgrade that will cost over \$2 billion and take decades to complete to address serious sewer overflows.

"Wet weather events contribute a significant amount of flows to the MDC's sewer collection system, which includes the eight towns," Negrelli explained. "This increase in stormwater, combined with the wastewater, can overwhelm MDC's Water Pollution Control Facility. This project will help address these concerns."





Join the CTAWWA Young Professionals

The Connecticut American Water Works Association would like to invite Young Professionals in the water industry to join the Young Professional Committee (YPC).

AWWA defines Young Professional as someone 35 and under OR with less than 10 years of experience in the industry – but the CTAWWA YPC encourages water professionals of all ages and experiences to participate! The primary goal of the YPC is to bridge the gap among professionals

from all parts of the water world and all experience levels.

Events and committee participation are open to Engineers, Lab Analysts, Operators, Students and all others in between! Committee initiatives, driven by YPs, encourage professional development and networking through Tour and Pours, Community Outreach Programs, Social Events, and Career Development Awareness Programs.

Tour and Pours are a well-liked combo that pairs together educational tours in

various sectors of the water industry with casual networking opportunities. Catch us at any of our annual events, such as the Hartford Yard Goats Baseball, Bowling Night, Hartford Wolfpack Hockey game (March 25, 2022), and numerous other events throughout the year!

For more information, please contact the Young Professionals Committee Chairs: Steven Ignatowich at sji@envpartners.com or Priyanka Sonone at priyanka.sonone@ctwater.com. 

MDC Video Series Recognized by American Water Works Association

The Metropolitan District (MDC) was recently recognized by the largest national water industry organization in the country for a series of video shorts produced about the functions of the Hartford region's water and sewer provider. The MDC was chosen as recipient of the 2021 Public Communications Achievement Award, administered annually by the American Water Works Association (AWWA). Established in 1881, the AWWA is the largest nonprofit, scientific and educational association dedicated to managing and treating water.

The Public Communications Achievement Award recognizes AWWA water industry organizations for significant accomplishments in communication, including educating the public, promoting awareness and understanding of water issues, establishing media relations, implementing community involvement programs, and inspiring others to model behavior with the public that builds trust and credibility.

The videos, each between one to two minutes and available via the MDC's website and social media pages, explore aspects of the MDC that directly affect customers. The animated 'whiteboard' style videos cover topics such as MDC's drinking water services, wastewater services, the Clean Water Project, what impacts water and sewer rates, and the benefits of an Integrated Plan to manage

the Clean Water Project and sewer repair and maintenance activities.

"The Metropolitan District did exemplary work breaking down complex issues about water and wastewater into a simple and understandable format through its whiteboard animation video series. To build and strengthen public trust, it's important for utilities to frequently and proactively communicate with customers and to educate them about all things water," stated Adriana Lamar, Chair of the AWWA Public Affairs Council's Award Committee.

"We are thrilled to have our communications department nationally recognized by our peers at the AWWA. It's imperative to have another effective

tool to get information out to our customers that we will continue to build on," said Scott Jellison, MDC Chief Executive Officer.

To view the videos, please visit www.youtube.com/user/mdchartford.

The MDC is a nonprofit municipal corporation chartered by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1929. The MDC provides water, wastewater treatment, and other services to its member towns: Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor. In addition, the District supplies treated water to portions of Glastonbury, South Windsor, Farmington, East Granby, and Portland. 



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