

AWWMA

January 2019

Greetings Fellow Managers and Friends,

Please read this. The Arkansas Water and Wastewater Managers Association (AWWMA) is sending this letter out to you because we have lost contact with many former members of our organization. Much of this may be changes in management, e-mails, and too much reliance on technology to “get the word out”. Sometimes a few words are much better. So, we are reaching out the old fashioned way during our 2019 annual membership drive to ask you to join. For members already renewing, thank you for your ardent support. For those who have not been a member or have not renewed in a long time, we would love to have or keep you as part of our family. The AWWMA is very affordable and offers many benefits.

Who is the AWWMA??

AWWMA was formed in 1966 as a nonprofit organization to promote continued education and professional development of water and wastewater management; the advancement and promotion of higher standards of qualification in the water and wastewater fields; the study, promotion and encouragement of improved water and wastewater management practices; the promotion of good public affairs in the community understanding, acceptance, and support of water and wastewater operations; and the support of the Arkansas Water Works & Water Environmental Association, American Water Works Association, and Water Environment Federation. Our website is <http://www.arkwwma.org/membership.html>.

What are the benefits to belonging to the AWWMA?

- **Scholarships.** Utility employees and/or their dependents may qualify for the AWWMA Scholarship Program. Last year, \$10,000 was awarded by lottery to eligible entrants at \$1,000 each.
- **Top Tier Training and networking.** Our Spring Workshop and our exciting Annual Conference that rotates every year is an exclusive top-manager conference offering training, discussion and networking with key people in our industry.
- **Leadership.** The AWWMA is made up of top managers at large and small utilities throughout Arkansas. This is truly a statewide association of water and wastewater professionals. You can network with the most experienced and best in our industries and you have “365” access to those people.
- **You have professional representation** in the legislature in Little Rock and can access that apparatus. We are represented on issues that matter to our industry by registered and licensed professionals who look out for our interest in cooperation with the Municipal League, the Engineering organizations (ASPE/ACEC) and others. We are represented by the Impact Management Group and key members of AWWMA depending on the topic. We invite members to testify at the General Assembly if need be and ask them to reach out to their local lawmakers as an information resource.
- **Affiliation with other state organizations.** We are a member of the umbrella organization the Arkansas Water Works & Water Environment Association (AWW&WEA). We have members in AWEA, AWWA, and Arkansas Rural Water. We work very closely with these organizations and many of us are dual members depending on our role.

What do I need to do to join and be represented and included in the information flow on professional development, training, networking and legislative/regulatory issues that I may be concerned about?

This is a progressive organization to be a part of, if you are in, or associated with, the water or wastewater industry. Only licensed managers and other licensed key supervisor personnel can become active members. Many committees are available that cover an array of issues and parts of the AWWMA organization. Three of the very top managers of your utility are eligible to be voting members. Additional persons may be associate members. Businesses or firms may be associate members as well. Simply fill out the enclosed form completely with \$85 for each member or associate member and on one member form only, calculate your assessment based on your population service area size. There is only one assessment per utility.

We truly hope that you will at least try us for a year and see what we are about. You will be glad you did! Please join us today to renew friendships and make new ones. Please respond by March 30 or sooner if possible. Thank you!

Jake Short, President
AWWMA

Heath Ward, Secretary/Treasurer
AWWMA