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GLENDALE WATER SERVICES WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS AT STATEWIDE CONFERENCE, HONORED BY DEER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Glendale, Ariz. — Glendale’s Water Services Department took home four of six award categories at the AZ Water Association Annual Awards ceremony this month. In addition, the department’s Water Conservation educational program was recognized by the Deer Valley School District as an outstanding partner.

The AZ Water Association Awards included:

- **Large Distribution System Award** – Glendale’s water system is a finely-tuned network of treatment plants, wells, reservoirs and 991 miles of pipe, 24,000 valves, 8,000 fire hydrants and 61,000 water meters. The city’s water distribution system provides a population of 228,000 with an assured supply of quality, safe, reliable drinking water to Glendale residents, as well as neighboring cities. In 2011, the staff’s continued commitment to optimizing resources has been a key component in producing millions of dollars in operating and maintenance savings.
- **Large Collection System Award** – Glendale’s Wastewater Collection Division is responsible for the conveyance of wastewater from homes and businesses to the wastewater treatment facilities in an environmentally safe manner. This division performs proactive, preventive and corrective maintenance including hydro-cleaning, root control, pest control, customer service and emergency response. This includes minimizing sewer stoppages, sanitary sewer overflows and backups and reducing odors and corrosion problems in the collection system. The city’s system has a network containing 681 miles of main lines ranging in size from 6-inch to 54-inch diameter, 13,255 manholes, 1,089 cleanouts and 55,315 taps. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) is a major component of inspecting 20 miles of mains annually for surveying and inventorying the collection system components for prioritization of future system upgrades and maintenance.
- **Plant Operator of the Year Award** – Anita Lutringer was recognized as Plant Operator of the Year due to more than 30 years in the industry and a dedicated and innovative work ethic, providing innovations that have resulted in cost savings and operational efficiencies. According to her supervisor, Cholla Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Todd Hellman, “She is a tireless worker with a great work ethic who genuinely cares for the people and the organization she works for and represents.”

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Water Awards

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- Maintenance Mechanic of the Year Award – Dave Hutchinson, senior mechanic for the city’s reclamation system, was honored for his improvisation and ‘big picture’ mentality. His supervisor, Operations Superintendent Larry Brotman stated, “Dave consistently provides ways to improve services using city resources in the most economic manner. His careful consideration and attention to detail has provided Glendale with a very reliable and regulatory compliant set of Water Reclamation Facilities, sometimes in very challenging circumstances.”

“I am extremely proud of our staff,” Executive Director of Water Services Craig Johnson stated. “They are dedicated professionals who provide excellent service to the citizens of Glendale, and I am happy they are receiving the recognition they deserve.”

Another accolade Glendale’s Water Services Department received went to Water Conservation Specialist Joanne Toms, coordinator of the Water Watchers program in Glendale schools. The Deer Valley Unified School District honored Joanne and the city with a 2012 Business Partner Award. The Water Watchers program helps teachers meet Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) requirements, offering curriculum, resource materials and in-class demonstrations throughout the school year. “What an honor for our youth programs to have their programs recognized at that level of quality education,” Environmental Resources Program Manager Jo Miller said. “The award is testament to Joanne’s exceptional work in developing and implementing the youth program, her ability to provide excellent training to interns and staff and to the professional relationships she has built with the schools.”

For additional information on Glendale’s Water Services Department, visit

www.glendaleaz.com/waterservices or call 623-930-4100.

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