Public Utilities Department
Awards 2006-2011

The City of San Diego’s Public Utilities Department provides safe, healthful drinking water to the 1.3 million residents of San Diego, and regional wastewater treatment and disposal services for more than 2 million residents of San Diego County. The Department strives to be the best it can be through efficiency, hard work, and responsibility. Below is a list of awards received by the Public Utilities Department for its programs and facilities over the past few years.

Name: Edward L. Bernays Award of Excellence in Community Relations
Date: 2010
Organization Giving Award: Public Relations Society of America
Description: Water Conservation Campaign, “No Time to Waste, No Water to Waste”

Name: E.A.R.T.H. (Environmental And Restoration That Helps) Award
Date: 2011
Organization Giving Award: San Diego EarthWorks
Description: Water Conservation Campaign, “No Time to Waste, No Water to Waste”

Name: Public Water Agency of the Year
Date: 2010
Organization Giving Award: Global Water Intelligence
Description: Selected from an international field of candidates for leadership in managing scarce water resources in 2009 through the development of innovative projects and programs.

Name: Merit Award for Public Involvement/Education Programs
Date: 2010
Organization Giving Award: Association of Environmental Professionals
Description: For the Department’s “No Time to Waste, No Water to Waste” public outreach campaign for the City’s Level 2 Drought Alert.

Name: Public Education Award
Date: 2010
Organization Giving Award: Water Environment Federation
Description: For the Department’s “No Time to Waste, No Water to Waste” public outreach campaign for the City’s Level 2 Drought Alert.

Name: Gold Award – Exceptional Utility Performance
Date: 2010
Organization Giving Award: Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Description: For outstanding achievement in implementing the nationally recognized attributes of an effectively managed utility.
Name: Recycler of the Year  
Date: 2010  
Organization Giving Award: Environmental Services Department’s 18th annual Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards Program Water  
Description: Water Operations honored for its recycling plan. It diverted 9,000 tons of debris from the Miramar Landfill to Vulcan Materials Co. In addition, Water Ops recycled 7 tons of paper and cans, 181 tons of scrap iron, 15 tons of brass and 3 tons of copper. By recycling debris and diverting it from the landfill, the Branch had a cost savings of approximately $430,000.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – South Bay Water Reclamation Plant  
Date: 2010  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Date: 2010  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Directors Award of Recognition  
Date: 2009  
Organization Giving Award: American Water Works Association’s Partnership for Safe Water  
Description: Otay Water Treatment Plant received award for providing drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards.

Name: Public Communications Achievement Award  
Date: 2009  
Organization Giving Award: American Water Works Association  
Description: The award submittal was based on the Department’s “No Time to Waste, No Water to Waste” public outreach campaign for the City’s Level 2 Drought Alert.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – North City Water Reclamation Plant  
Date: 2009  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – South Bay Water Reclamation Plant  
Date: 2009  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plants National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.
Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Directors Award of Recognition  
Date: 2007  
Organization Giving Award: American Water Works Association’s Partnership for Safe Water  
Description: Otay Water Treatment Plant received award for providing drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards.

Name: Director’s Recycling Award  
Date: 2008  
Organization Giving Award: Environmental Services Department’s 16th annual Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards and the Climate Protection Champion Awards  
Description: Water Operations received award for excellent waste reduction and diversion efforts.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – North City Water Reclamation Plant  
Date: 2008  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Date: 2008  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

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Name: Education and Leadership in Energy Efficiency  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: Flex Your Power  
Description: Each year, the Flex Your Power Awards go to those companies, governmental entities and other organizations that have demonstrated leadership and results in saving energy. Saving water saves energy.

Name: Edward L. Bernays Mark of Merit  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: Public Relations Society of America  
Description: Award for the “Taking Care of You & Your Water” campaign

Name: Golden Watchdog Award  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: San Diego County Taxpayer’s Association  
Description: Golden Watchdog Awards honor programs that exemplify good government practices and efficient use of tax dollars. Wastewater Operations was honored for its innovative program to inspect hundreds of miles of aging sewer pipes via closed circuit television.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Peak Performance Platinum Award – North City Water Reclamation Plant  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plant’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Peak Performance Gold Award – South Bay Water Reclamation Plant  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: National Association of Clean Water Agencies  
Description: Recognizes continuing excellence in wastewater treatment in meeting 100% of the plants National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Discharge permit requirements.

Name: Energy Star Award  
Date: 2006  
Organization Giving Award: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Department of Energy  
Description: Wastewater Operations was honored for making an outstanding contribution to protecting the environment through energy efficiency at its MOC I and MOC III facilities.