

## **Winners of the 2010 Laboratory of the Year Awards**

Secretary Matthew Frank and Environmental Science Services Section Chief David Webb presented the 2010 Laboratory of the Year Awards to two registered laboratories at the Natural Resources Board meeting in Madison on March 16, 2010.

The awards are presented each year to a small and a large registered facility that have demonstrated commitments to exceeding minimum requirements for complying with Department rules and guidance, correcting instances of non-compliance, and ensuring production of high quality data. Obtaining high quality data is a critical component in the Department's mission to base resource management decisions on sound science and reliable data.

The City of Waupaca Wastewater Facility received the 2010 Small Registered Facility Award. Mark Corbett, Department Basin Engineer, nominated the facility. "Jeff, Ken, and Wayne continually apply exceptional wastewater system process control measures that result in effluent quality which is consistently in compliance with WPDES permit limitations", said Corbett.

Jeff Dyer, Lead Laboratory Analyst, John Edlebeck, Public Works Director of the City of Waupaca, and Henry Veleker City of Waupaca Administrator were present to receive the award. Edlebeck praised Dyer for his work at the laboratory and related how combining three former plants into the current treatment facility has improved compliance notably.

The Wolf Treatment Plant was the recipient of the 2010 Large Registered Facility Award. Tom Trainor, Audit Chemist with the Laboratory Certification Program nominated the facility. Dave Hartmann is the plant's Laboratory Director. Trainor stated: "It is very hard for a laboratory with multiple analysts to be consistent with their testing protocols and documentation. Dave has spent many hours troubleshooting and training three other analysts so that consistency is achieved. The four analysts all go through a complete rotation so that they stay current with the testing." The laboratory had no deficiencies noted during its last on-site evaluation.

Accepting the award, Hartmann thanked the plant operators (John, Dustin and Dan) and praised them for their consistent professional work. He thanked Trainor for assisting the laboratory with achieving compliance with Chapter NR 149. Hartmann also thanked the Sanitary District Administrator, Jerry Weisnicht, for the support and freedom he gave staff to perform their jobs.

Congratulations to both the City of Waupaca Wastewater Facility and the Wolf Treatment Plant.

**Photos:**

**Photo on Left:** Back row Jerry Weisnicht (Wolf), John Collins (Wolf), John Edlebeck (Waupaca), Henry Veleker (Waupaca)

Front row Dustin Beyer (Wolf), Dave Hartmann (Wolf), Jeff Dyer (Waupaca)

**Center Photo:** From left to right: Mark Corbett, John Edlebeck, Jeff Dyer, Henry Veleker and David Webb

**Photo on Right:** From left to right: Jonathan Ela, Matt Frank, Dave Hartmann, Jerry Weisnicht, Dustin Beyer, John Collins