

Wastewater Challenge 2007



*First Place Overall Winners:
Team from City of South Bend (l-r) Patrick Henthorn, Kenneth Smith, Jill Norton and Jeff Sieradzki.*

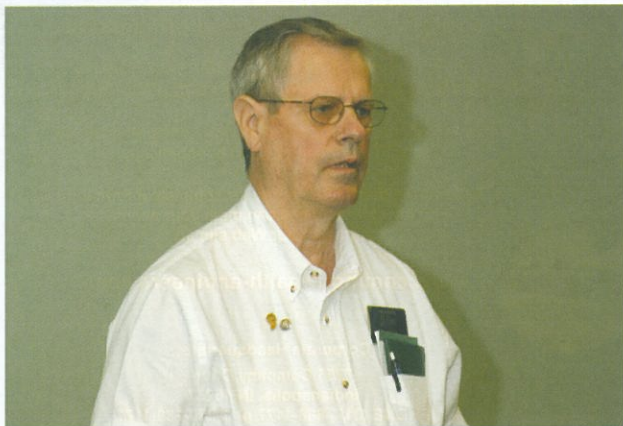
The Indiana Water Environment Association Wastewater Challenge (WWC) again was a resounding success. 2007's event was held in Seymour, IN and hosted by the Seymour Wastewater Facility on one of

more picturesque days Indiana has seen in May. One year removed from a third place overall finish at the WWC on their home turf, the team from the City of South Bend took home the 1st place overall trophy this year, while also winning the Residuals event. The 2006 1st place overall team, Fort Wayne Utilities, continues to impress with their consistency by placing 2nd overall in this year's competition. Rounding out the top three with a 3rd place overall finish is the team from the Shelbyville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Fourteen teams attended the competition last year, on a warm and clear day on May 15, 2007. The WWC is divided into five separate events comprised of hands-on and written challenges that focus on the fundamental practices associated with the wastewater industry. Teams were awarded scores for their performance in each event with their cumulative score ultimately determining the overall and individual event winners.

Many member associations (MA's) of the Water Environment Federation (WEF) conduct similar events, with Indiana being among those that pioneered the event.

WASTEWATER CHALLENGE: WINNERS AND PARTICIPANTS 2007



2006 Wastewater Challenge Chairperson, Herb Corn, City of Rochester, addresses the attendees at the WWC Awards Breakfast.

*by Herb Corn-Rochester and IWEA Wastewater Challenge Chair
Pictures provided by Jim Reid (Indiana Public Works).*

The winners of the State competitions represent their State in the national competition held each year in conjunction with Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC). Thus, keeping with tradition, the team from South Bend was offered the opportunity to represent Indiana at WEFTEC in sunny San Diego, CA on October 13-17, 2007.

Who will represent Indiana in 2008? Come and find out May 20 and 21, 2008 at Anderson WWTP. For more information log onto www.indianawea.org or contact Herb Corn, 574-223-3485.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS:

There are also special recognition awards given to several deserving participants. Making receipt of this award as much of a tradition as the Wastewater Challenge itself, The "Golden Spade Award" was awarded to the Southern Indiana Operator's Association representative team, SIOA/20. Winning this award for three straights prompted team spokesman, Joe Taylor of Greensburg, is quoted as saying, "SIOA has such outstanding representatives that come to this event each year, it is no wonder that the other Indiana operator associations are afraid to challenge our supremacy!"

In another show of consistency, the "Team Spirit Award" was awarded to the group comprised of individuals from Brownsburg and West Central Conservancy District. This team also won this award at the 2006 competition and placed first in the O & M event at this year's competition.

The "Guardian of the Environment Award" was presented to Lynn Newwine of the Elkhart Public Works & Utilities and IWEA Federation Director. ■



Second Place Overall Winners: Team from Fort Wayne City Utilities (Fort Wayne Wizzers) (l-r) John Kohne, Andrew Shipper, Mike Glymph and Tom Forbing.