

Clean Water. A Beautiful Future, One Drop at a Time

Water Specialist Achievement Award Nominees

Crisp Water Technologies, Inc. Staff - Kelsey Crisp Staninger; Harrison Smith; Matt Valett; Ken Crisp; Giselle Smith; Brea Dehn

Staff teamwork helped to push through the very difficult task of operating over 1500 public water systems in 5 western Montana counties during the pandemic issues of 2020. Staff followed Covid-19 protocols while collecting hundreds of bacterial water tests and additional parameter samples. These efforts helped multiple public water systems stay in compliance and provide a safe water supply during a very difficult time. Additionally, the staff accomplished a 100% Covid-19 free status by using social distancing and safety procedures every day.

Chuck Dale, Town of Fairfield

Chuck has continued to bring a keen attention to resolving operational issues for the Public Water System groundwater wells, chlorination system, and telemetry system. In addition to the regular daily operational water system duties, Chuck also assists with the operation of the wastewater lagoon system, equipment maintenance, and snow removal for the Town. Chuck's work performance has been a huge asset to improve the Town's utility services and is immensely appreciated by the Fairfield community.

Sandra White Eagle – Assiniboine & Sioux Rural Water Supply System (ASRWSS)

Sandra has kept the ASRWSS plant running smoothly while dealing with several concerns this past year. Concerning issues included staff turnover, challenges with certifying operators, and absenteeism due to Covid-19. To address the issues, Sandra implemented cross-training for the System's operators and arranged for extra assistance for operators taking the certification exam. She also managed a schedule to deal with the staff shortage due to Covid-19 and strengthened Covid-19 protocols at the facility to keep her staff safe.

James (Rusty) South – Vaughn County Water and Sewer District

Rusty has used innovation, self-motivation, and resources at hand to bring the District's water system into compliance. His attention to detail includes organizing the system's records, coordination with customers and service repairs, and improving operation and maintenance service. These are examples of his initiative and commitment to being part of protecting a valuable resource along with providing clean and safe drinking water for his community. His peers note that his continuing growth of knowledge of the job, as well as his creative solutions have helped to reduce costs for the District.