



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TWO COLORADO ORGANIZATIONS WIN TOP NATIONAL EPA AWARD FOR THEIR BIOSOLIDS PROGRAMS

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 4 — Two Colorado organizations tied for first place nationally in the US Environmental Protection Agency's annual Exemplary Biosolids Management Award competition. The organizations are the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, which serves metro Denver, and Parker Ag Services LLC, headquartered in Limon.

Metro Wastewater Reclamation District and Parker Ag Services tied in the Large Operating Projects category for 2004. Second place went to Clean Water Services of Hillsboro, Oregon.

EPA presented the twin first place awards to Metro Wastewater and Parker Ag employees at a National Clean Water Act Award ceremony today at the Water Environment Federation's annual WEFTEC technical conference in New Orleans.

"We are honored to receive this award. It is a testament to the hard work of Metro Wastewater's employees," said Metro Wastewater Reclamation District Manager Bob Hite.

"We are proud to be included with such company and proud to be a small part of the industry that we serve in providing clean water to the citizens of the United States," said Kipp Parker, Parker Ag Services general manager.

EPA recognized Metro Wastewater for proactively managing biosolids land application operations at the farm property it owns near Deer Trail, Colo. Parker Ag won for extra steps it takes to assure high quality biosolids and effective land application field operations on privately owned biosolids land application sites near Lamar, Colo.

Biosolids are the treated, nutrient- and organic-rich soil amendment product that results from solids that are removed from wastewater during the (sewage) treatment process.

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1ST add... TWO COLORADO ORGANIZATIONS... ...treatment process.

The letter notifying Metro Wastewater of its first place selection cited the utility for “proactive management of the METROGRO Farm, active stakeholder involvement, effective public relations program, and comprehensive monitoring by the U.S. Geological Survey.”

The letter to Parker Ag Services said, “By being openly cooperative with regulators and local interests, and taking extra steps by utilizing many unique features to assure the quality of the Class B biosolids and field operations, Parker Ag Services has successfully implemented their land application program involving biosolids produced by 14 treatment plants in NYC that are rail-hauled to southeastern Colorado (Prowers Co.) and land applied to private farmland (dryland wheat and fallow fields) since July 1998.”

The Metro Wastewater Reclamation District is the wastewater treatment authority for most of metro Denver. It provides wholesale wastewater transmission and treatment service to 58 local cities and sanitation districts. They, in turn, provide retail wastewater service to about 1.5 million people in metro Denver. Metro’s farm near Deer Trail comprises 52,000 acres.

Parker Ag Services is an organics management company located in Limon, Colo. It provides management services to wastewater treatment facilities, confined feeding operations, and other food-based industries throughout Colorado. Parker Ag has been providing similar services to the area since 1992.

More details on the awards are available on the two organizations’ web sites: www.metrowastewater.com and www.parkerag.com. Photos are also available on the two web sites or upon request.

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