



Sue Hildick  
Director

**Public and Government Affairs**  
Public Services Building  
2051 Kaen Road, Oregon City, OR 97045

September 5, 2019

Board of County Commissioners  
Clackamas County

Members of the Board:

2019 Outstanding Member Agency Award for WES from the  
Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA)

<b>Purpose/Outcome</b>	To recognize Water Environment Services for receiving the 2019 Outstanding Member Agency Award from the Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA).
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	None
<b>Funding Source</b>	N/A
<b>Duration</b>	N/A
<b>Previous Action</b>	None
<b>Strategic Plan Alliance</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure safe, healthy and secure communities</li> <li>2. Build a strong infrastructure</li> <li>3. Honor, utilize, promote and invest in our natural resources</li> </ol>
<b>Counsel Review</b>	N/A
<b>Contact Person</b>	Todd Loggan, Community Relations Specialist, PGA 503-742-4562 or Ed Nieto, Community Relations Specialist, PGA 503-742-4371

**BACKGROUND:**

On July 26, Water Environment Services received the 2019 Outstanding Member Agency Award from The Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA). The award is given out annually by ACWA, which has more than 100 member agencies. ACWA provides high value, science-based services to its membership through education, regulatory advocacy, and partnerships for the development of proactive solutions resulting in water resources management that is environmentally, financially and organizationally sustainable.

The annual ACWA award is given to one **Outstanding Member Agency** excelling in any of the areas of pollution prevention, environmental leadership, or innovation in environmental management.

The 2019 Outstanding Member Agency Award was given to WES “for its leadership in pollution prevention and innovation in environmental management, as demonstrated by the recently completed Carli Creek Water Quality Project.” ACWA Chair Amy Pepper said, “The Carli Creek Project demonstrates in a big way, the type of multi-objective,

multi-benefit projects ACWA promotes to protect and enhance communities, the environment and water quality with sustainability and resilience in mind.”

Since December 18, 2018, the Carli Creek Water Quality Facility has filtered harmful pollutants from stormwater runoff before it reaches Carli Creek and the Clackamas River, which is the drinking water source for more than 360,000 people.

Before WES built the new stormwater infrastructure, runoff carried pollutants from surrounding industrial properties and heavily-traveled roads directly into Carli Creek, and then the Clackamas River, threatening water quality, fish and public health.

WES recognized the potential of the Carli family property to improve river water quality and acquired the former farmland to establish the innovative facility, which now ensures a cleaner Clackamas River, protection for endangered fish species, increased habitat function for birds and aquatic life, and demonstrates that a balance between nature and industry is possible.

WES’ new stormwater infrastructure at Carli Creek also supports top Clackamas County priorities, including: building a strong infrastructure; honoring, utilizing and investing in natural resources; and ensuring safe, healthy and secure communities.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Board receive this presentation on WES being honored with the 2019 Outstanding Member Agency Award from The Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Hildick  
Director, Public and Government Affairs