



DEP Employees of the Month for June

The Employee of the Month program recognizes DEP staff members that have exhibited outstanding personal effort, and have gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve the people of New York City.

DEP is a great agency that delivers services that millions of New Yorkers depend on daily. Making good on that promise requires the dedication and hard work of the nearly 6,000 employees at DEP. To nominate someone who has demonstrated uncommon dedication and excellence, fill out the nomination form with some basic information, such as the nominee's responsibilities, examples of extraordinary performance, and ways candidates set an example for others. The form is available on The Source, and you'll need to submit it by the tenth day of each month. For more information, email Herb Roth at hroth@dep.nyc.gov.

The Employees of the Month for June, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on July 29 with Deputy Commissioner for Organizational Development and Human Resources Diana Jones Ritter, during which they received a certificate, and had their names added to the Employee of the Month Board on the 3rd and 19th floors at Lefrak and at the Kingston Office. These men and women set a standard for all of us to emulate and appreciate.



Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations - **Michael Corbett**

Michael Corbett began his DEP career in May 2004 and serves as a Supervisor of Watershed Maintenance in the Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations. He is currently a lead shift operator at the recently activated Croton Water Filtration Plant—the largest underground filtration plant in the United States.

Michael was assigned to the Croton Filtration Plant in April 2010 and has since studied design reports and engineering drawings to learn the layout of the facility. Over the course of five years, Michael has become knowledgeable and proficient in process control analyses and procedures, which are critical to the operation of the plant. He has also been instrumental in developing BWSO's site-specific operator training program, and serves as a mentor to new watershed maintainers.

In addition, Michael has been active in overseeing daily operations of the Croton Filtration Plant. His responsibilities include starting up and testing equipment and supervising offsite operations associated with delivering water to and from the facility. His training in Process Control and Monitoring System software has also made Michael an expert at diagnosing and troubleshooting operations at the facility.



Bureau of Water Supply - **Karen Moore**

Karen began her DEP career in April 2014 and currently serves as a City Research Scientist in the Bureau of Water Supply's Water Quality Science and Research Division located in Kingston, NY. Karen's day-to-day responsibilities include extensive data analysis to fulfill requirements set out in DEP's Filtration Avoidance Determination, and performing complex models to guide reservoir operations and planning. The decisions based on these model runs are crucial in optimizing the quantity and quality of water being delivered to the agency's 9 million customers.

Karen also tests a variety of scenarios for the planning of the upcoming Rondout-West Branch Tunnel shutdown when necessary repairs will be made to the Delaware Aqueduct. In addition, she supervised three post-doctoral modeling researchers from the Research Foundation of the City University of New York whose studies focused on planning for climate change, watershed protection program evaluation, and reservoir management.

Karen also serves as DEP's representative in the Global Lake Environmental Observation Network, an international organization dedicated to studying the role and response of lakes in the changing global environment. By utilizing advances in technology and partnering with other members, she hopes to improve the agency's use of Robotic Monitoring data, which is currently collected by buoys on several reservoirs.

Karen was nominated for this award based on her ability to fulfill many complex tasks with short notice. Not only does she complete tasks quickly, her job performance consistently exceeds expectations.



Bureau of Wastewater Treatment - North River Expansion Joint Team

Robert Phan

Courtney Anderson

Keith Beckmann

Ajay Desai

Ronald Lochan

The North River Expansion Joint Team is being honored today for their exemplary and innovative work in responding to a situation that occurred at the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant in Upper Manhattan. In May, an aging concrete expansion joint located in the plant's effluent channel failed, causing water to be released into the plant's basement at a rate of 10 million gallons per day. If left unresolved, the leak would have permanently damaged critical infrastructure in the basement. The rushing water even reached the plant's storage area, prompting BWT staff to install barriers to direct the flow toward plant drains.

The North River team needed to quickly develop an innovative design to seal the leak in a way that could be installed without releasing raw sewage into the Hudson River. The team developed a new seal system that utilized several customized shop-manufactured components that could be installed relatively quickly without extensive concrete work.

As a result of the team's efforts and problem solving abilities, the new seal system was successfully installed on May 10.



Bureau of Sustainability - Kevin Dahms

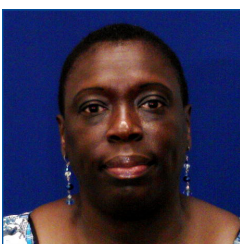
Kevin began his DEP career in August 2013 and currently serves as an Assistant Environmental Engineer in the Office of Green Infrastructure (OGI). Kevin's responsibilities have grown exponentially since he joined the agency less than two years ago. He started off his DEP career by assisting in project management and engineering reviews. Today Kevin is one of OGI's lead project engineers, managing nine OGI contracts.

Kevin serves as the point person between DEP and the NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC), which is co-managing approximately \$200 million for the design and construction of green infrastructure installments. His administration of the EDC and OGI contracts has kept the focus on cost effectiveness and time efficiency, ensuring that target milestones are reached.

Kevin also manages the Green Roof Tax Abatement Program and guides applications through the rigorous Department of Buildings review process. This program offers participating building owners reduced property taxes for installing water absorbent vegetation and other measures to help prevent stormwater from entering DEP's sewers.

Most recently, Kevin has taken on the added responsibility of tracking the progress of contract plan reviews for the right-of-way Bioswale construction contracts. He always makes sure contract plans are reviewed in a timely manner.

Kevin's willingness to accept new assignments and assume responsibility, as well as his performance under the pressure of tight deadlines, has earned him this award.



Bureau of Customer Services - Carol Davis

Carol Davis has been with DEP for more than 10 years and currently serves as the Bureau Administrator for the Bureau of Customer Services. Carol spends most of her time dealing with personnel, budget and procurement issues. She also played a crucial role BCS's restructuring through careful planning—a difficult task considering the bureau's size, multiple facilities, and complexity.

One of Carol's most remarkable skills is her ability to be sincere and straight-forward at the same time. She clearly explains options available to employees and offers valuable suggestions on a wide variety of issues, ranging from career objectives and advancement, to the nuances of the civil service system.

Carol is revered by BCS staff for her mentorship. She motivates her staff and encourages their professional development and career growth. Carol is committed to helping her colleagues learn, grow and become more effective.

Commissioner's Award for June:



The Upstate Health Fair Committee Team with special recognition to Danielle McCutcheon

Renee Alfieri	Rosie DeJesus	Cheryl Knight	Brian O'Malley
Diana Almanzar	Aaron Feinstein	Gary Leunis	Lenora Smith
Belina Anderson	Jennifer Garigliano	Lionel Layne	Wilfred Thomas
Allison Bennett	Thomas Hinchey	Thomas Magliochetti	Kimberly Vann
Zoe Ann Campbell	Shaocheng Jiang	Joseph McGrath	Lisa Polimine
Nicholas Collins	Marcia Jones	Iris Mead	
James Cuggy	Diana Jones Ritter	Donna Nicholas	

The Upstate Health Fair was put together by the Quality of Work Life (QWL) Committee to sponsor a value-added and positive engagement experience for upstate employees. Members from the QWL committee and DEP's Kingston's office worked together to develop a social event that would not only bring employees together, but also provide DEP staff with additional benefits and practical knowledge. The team decided that the event would focus on "health", a comprehensive topic that affects every employee.

After extensive planning, the Upstate Health Fair was held on June 30, 2015 at DEP's Kingston office. Thirty health and wellness vendors participated in the event, providing essential services such as: blood pressure screening, diabetes education, nutritional information, mental health counseling, gym and fitness information, substance abuse resources, and stroke prevention.

The fair attracted 100 upstate employees who were treated to a healthy catered lunch for their participation. BWS Deputy Commissioner Paul Rush was in attendance to support his colleagues, as well as fifteen QWL Committee members, many of whom traveled from the City.

Though the planning of the Upstate Health fair was certainly a team effort, Danielle McCutcheon was personally acknowledged for her effective leadership and operational support throughout the planning and execution of the event. Danielle contacted all of the participating vendors, handled disclaimers, ordered food and supplies, came in early to welcome vendors, and even stayed late to help clean up.



Employee Experience Site Tour Drawing

At today's ceremony, the following awardees and their nominators won passes to participate in one of the upcoming [DEP Employee Experience Site Tours](#).

EOM Awardees: **Carol Davis / Wilfred Thomas** – Nominator, **Michael Corbett / Timothy Daly** – Nominator, **North River Expansion Joint Team / Joseph Olewnicki** – Nominator, **Kevin Dahms / Magdi Farag** – Nominator, and **Karen Moore / Lorraine Janus** - Nominator

Commissioner Awardee: **The Upstate Health Fair Committee Team**