From: Holloway, Cas

Subject: Weekly Pipeline - Extra Edition - Employees of the Month for June

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Cas Holloway, Commissioner





# **DEP Employees of the Month for June 2011**

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 daily promise requires dedication and hard work of the nearly 6,000 employees of 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 that they have set an example for others. The form is available on Pipeline, and you'll need to submit it by the tenth day following the end of the month. For more information, email Herb Roth at <a href="mailto:hroth@dep.nyc.gov">hroth@dep.nyc.gov</a>.

The Employees of the Month for June, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on July 28 with Commissioner Holloway, 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.



# Water Supply - Phillip Eskeli

Phillip began his career with DEP in January 1999 and serves as the project manager for the implementation of the stream management plan for the East and West Branch of the Delaware River in the Pepacton and Cannonsville Reservoir Basins. A recent example of Phillip's commitment to the success of the plan is his oversight of a local vendor that provided trees and shrubs for the Catskill Stream Buffer Initiative. After this vendor declared bankruptcy, Phillip took a leadership role in inspecting and protecting the plants while the vendor's assets went to auction, and he oversaw the loading and transport of 13,700 trees that belonged to DEP. His ability to approach complex issues with clarity and reason makes him critical to the success of this program.



### Water and Sewer Operations - Edward Cinicatti

Edward began his career with DEP in March 1985 and currently serves as a district supervisor. A recent example of Edward's dedication, attention to detail, and hands-on approach occurred on July 6. Edward began his shift by reviewing open work assigned to his district and noticed an unusual cluster of sewer gas odor complaints. His quick action to alert bureau management resulted in immediate resolution to a situation that could have escalated to a major problem if gone undetected. More recently, while conducting a sewer investigation on July 8, Edward observed an unusually high volume of sewage into the system. Upon further investigation, he uncovered the source of the extra flow and continues to look for additional sources.



## Environmental Planning & Analysis - Wei Yu

Wei began his career with DEP in February 2004 and currently serves as a city planner. He worked tirelessly on air quality technical analysis for the amendment to the Rules of the City of New York about the use of #4 and #6 heating oil. This amendment will reduce the emissions of pollutants associated with boilers by at least 63% and could potentially lower the overall concentration of fine particles in the city's air from all sources by 5%. Part of PlaNYC, Mayor Bloomberg's sustainability blueprint, this change will improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers and may prevent 200 deaths, 100 hospitalizations, and 300 emergency room visits for diseases caused by air pollution each year in addition to reducing carbon dioxide by approximately one million metric tons, or more than 3% of the total needed to meet the PlaNYC target of reducing the City's greenhouse gases by 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. In addition, Wei completed several noteworthy noise and traffic analyses using the CadnaA noise computer model and the HCS (Highway Capacity Software) traffic model to evaluate potential impacts to the surrounding environment during construction of two major projects, Shaft 33B and the Croton Water Treatment Plant.



#### Wastewater Treatment - Jean Ulysse

Jean began his career with DEP in September 2000 and currently serves as an assistant chemical engineer, where one of his duties is to track the bureau's energy use. This past spring, BWT completed a detailed assessment of the electrical power consumption at each sewage treatment plant. However, the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) pays the electricity bills for each sewage treatment plant and BWT staff had not been involved with determining how to calculate electrical usage charges. After review, Jean alerted DCAS to billing abnormalities related to variable demand charges, which they then presented to the New York Power Authority (NYPA). NYPA agreed that it had overcharged DEP more than \$3 million last year and subsequently credited the agency for the entire amount.



### ACCO - Maria Ohringer

Maria started working at DEP in August 1989 and currently supervises the registration unit, which is responsible for insuring prompt and timely registration of all contracts, time extensions, change orders, and amendments with the Comptroller's Office. She serves as a primary liaison between the Comptroller's Office on registration issues. Maria willingly took on the extra responsibility of gathering and summarizing information for new biweekly reports for the ACCO's administration core meetings. As part of this, Maria was responsible for checking insurance information for every contractor. With help from additional staff in the ACCO's office and the Bureau of Engineering Design and Construction, she checked almost 400 documents in just six weeks to eliminate a backlog. She also trained additional staff to perform this task efficiently to prevent a future backlog.





# Water Supply - Thomas Murphy

Thomas began his career with DEP in November 1987 and currently serves as the chief for water supply operations within the operations directorate, where he is responsible for managing the water supply control center, outside community connections, and where he represents BWS at the Delaware River Basin Commission Decree Party meetings. Recently, Thomas was involved with negotiations between New York State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware that resulted in the formal acceptance of a landmark, one-year Delaware Basin reservoir release plan agreement. This plan, called the Flexible Flow Management Program, will protect fishery habitats, enhance flood mitigation, and repel the upstream movement of salt water into the Delaware Estuary. It will also allow DEP to more strategically use shared water in three reservoirs through the Operations Support Tool. This agreement has been in effect since June 1, 2011 and expires May 31, 2012.