



## DEP Employees of the Month for May 2011

**T**he 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 [hroth@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:hroth@dep.nyc.gov).

The Employees of the Month for May, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on June 21 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.



### Police and Security - **Afrosa Amin**

Afrosa began her career with DEP in November 2003 and currently serves as an associate chemist in the Bureau of Police and Security's Division of Emergency Response and Technical Assessment (DERTA). In her work, Afrosa uses her background and training in chemistry to identify unknown substances and monitor the air for hazardous substances at all major events throughout the five boroughs. Afrosa is also involved with the Community Right-to-Know program, in which she inspects businesses to ensure the safe use and storage of chemicals. With such formidable responsibilities, Afrosa uses her excellent communication skills daily and enthusiastically accepts new challenges with drive and determination, and she is skilled at dividing her time between emergency response, chemical inspections, training, and other types of work. In addition to her other duties, Afrosa has been instrumental in writing federal grant applications. Over the last six years, five out of seven grant applications she wrote won a total of \$11.8 million, including funds for the purchase and integration of two mobile chemical, biological, and radiological laboratories that DERTA uses during major events.



### Water and Sewer Operations - **Peter Gordon**

Peter began his career with DEP in November 1993 and currently serves as an administrative engineer responsible for preparing and reviewing capital water and sewer projects. Peter's recent work focuses on achieving initiatives 41 and 42 of Strategy 2011-2014: to build out critical water supply infrastructure to support residential, commercial, and industrial growth in Coney Island, Atlantic Yards, and the Rockaways; and to build out and upgrade the sewer network in targeted neighborhoods, including Southeast Queens and the South Shore of Staten Island. Peter also works on initiative 79: to integrate green infrastructure into current and future projects that will help reduce combined sewer overflows in areas around the Gowanus Canal, Westchester Creek, and Jamaica Bay. By helping to fulfill some of the 100 goals and initiatives of the strategic plan, Peter's important work will ensure that New York continues to be one of the greenest, most sustainable cities in the world.



### **Environmental Compliance - Diana Scheu**

Diana began her career with DEP in February 2004 and currently manages data and complaints in the Air/Noise Permitting, Enforcement and Policy division. Specifically, Diana has been instrumental in the design and implementation of several important community outreach efforts concerning quality of life issues. Most recently, Diana has been involved in efforts to reduce emissions from heating equipment that uses #4 and #6 fuel oil by organizing large amounts of data by fuel oil type, age, permit, distribution, and replacement cycle. She sifted through mounds of data, which was not in any manageable or useful condition. Her six months of work allowed for the creation of clear, logical reports that were the basis of future decisions. Diana's patience and dedication allowed BEC to meaningfully analyze vast amounts of information in a very short period of time.



### **Wastewater Treatment - Timothy Kelly**

Timothy began his career with DEP in January 1981 and currently serves as a chief marine engineer in BWT's Marine Section. In this capacity, he ensures that the mechanical and power-generation systems on the sludge vessels operate safely and efficiently. Normally, barges are out of service for several days each year for maintenance. However, due to Timothy's dedication and skilled maintenance, the 352-foot, 3,000-ton sludge boat Red Hook has been in operation for 27 consecutive months with only two days out of service. This is especially important because BWT's Marine Section has very little redundancy with only three sludge vessels and any interruptions affect the treatment operations at the wastewater treatment plants.



### **Environmental Health and Safety - Galina Dreyzina**

Galina began her career with DEP in September 2009 and works in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety's (OEHS) Legacy Program. In a short period of time her excellent information management and computer skills made her a leader in the agency-wide centralization of the EHS database. This involved creating three database tracking systems and training programs for users from all DEP divisions. Currently, Galina is creating additional databases to track workplace violence incidents, which will help inform the development of preventive measures, and Notices of Violation Issued by other agencies that regulate DEP. This work is especially remarkable since Galina is not a trained IT professional, and her dedication and talent allowed DEP to develop these important resources in-house.

## **Commissioner's Award:**



### **Wastewater Treatment - Moein Karim**

Moein began his career with DEP in March 1995 and currently serves as the Process Control Engineer at the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. On May 31, DEP certified, for the first time, that the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant was achieving the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Act secondary treatment standards. DEP did not expect the plant to achieve those treatment levels until October 2013, when construction of the last of the aeration three batteries is completed. Due to his dedication and initiative, Moein has been able to optimize the performance parameters for the existing infrastructure, allowing DEP to certify secondary treatment two years ahead of the 2013 milestone.