

This last award is also a first. For many years we've had an award for Outstanding Water Operations for larger water systems. This year we strived to redefine the meaning and importance of this award.

The qualifying public water supplier for this new award must have a strong commitment to quality service, integrity and a willingness to help their neighbor. They must be a leader, and be proactive, dedicated, tenacious and dependable. They must support and promote the professional development of their employees. This public water supplier must give 100%...24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

These are some of the many exemplary qualities of our friend and colleague, Ron Boivin. As many of you may know, Ron passed away this year. He is greatly missed. We've renamed the award in his honor. So for the first time this year we are presenting the Ronald R. Boivin Memorial Award for Outstanding Water Operations.

This year's recipient of the award dates back to the 1800s and was originally formed by the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad. The Water District currently serves 3,000 customers through approximately 44 miles of system piping. Fire protection is provided by 386 hydrants.

The District maintains 3 water storage tanks with a total capacity of 2.5 million gallons and has two interconnections with a neighboring

system. They use a unidirectional hydrant flushing program for their distribution system.

Improvements to the water system since 2010 include the installation of 2 new wells, the replacement of over 27,000 feet of distribution system piping, new standby power generators, upgrades to the SCADA technology, and the conversion of the water treatment filter media to green sand plus technology. The District is currently exercising its emergency response plans with a neighboring public water supplier, and local, county and state-level emergency response partners. Today the Water District provides an average of 650,000 GPD to its customers with peak summertime usage averaging 800,000 GPD.

Ron Boivin nominated the Old Town Water District for the 2017 Award for Outstanding Water Operations. Congratulations to Superintendent Steve Lane, his trustees and the entire staff at the Old Town Water District for being the 2017 – and the first - recipient of the Ronald R. Boivin Memorial Award for Outstanding Water Operations.