



AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS ASSOCIATION

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 7, 2024

TO: APGA Members

FROM: John Olshefski, APGA Awards Committee Chair & APGA Past Chair
Senior Vice President of Customer Care, Huntsville Utilities, AL

RE: 2024 APGA Award Nominations

Each year APGA recognizes individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond to represent the interests of their organization, the natural gas industry, and APGA. The Awards Committee is asking for you to submit nominations for the 2024 awards, which will be presented at the Annual Conference in Traverse City, Michigan in July.

Please take a few minutes to consider and recommend candidates for each of the awards listed on the following pages. **Nominations will be accepted until April 22.**

The APGA awards are as follows:

- Distinguished Service Award
- Public Gas System Achievement Award
- Personal Achievement Award
- Harry M. Cooke Personal Service Award
- Community Service Award
- Next Generation Employee Achievement Award
- Good Samaritan Award *NEW*
- J. Hardie Johnston Service Recognition

You may submit your nominations at the following link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024_apga_awards

You may also fax this form to the APGA office at (202) 464-0246 or send an email to sderingis@apga.org. Thank you for your submission.

2024 APGA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who has made substantial contributions to the public gas industry, maintains an unusual devotion to duty, exemplifies the highest ideals in the management of community-owned natural gas systems, and has made contributions to the betterment of the community. The nominee holds a management position with an APGA public gas system member and has been active in APGA for at least five years.

Previous Winners:

2023 – John Olshefski, Huntsville, AL	2005 – Gerald Harmon, Austell, GA
2022 – Alonzo Weaver, Memphis, TN	2004 – Anthony Miller, Greenville, NC
2021 – John Leary, Chambersburg, PA	2003 – Fred Pryor, Valparaiso, FL
2020 – Sam Davis, Winter Garden, FL	2002 – Ken Craig, Ft. Defiance, AZ
2019 – Owen Reeves, Henderson, KY	2001 – Gerald Ballinger, Carrollton, KY
2018 – Greg Henderson, Andalusia, AL	Les Enoch, Smithville, TN
2017 – Jim Hodges, Smithville, TN	2000 – Chuck Warrington, Clearwater, FL
2016 – Rich Worsinger, Rocky Mount, NC	1999 – Ben Andrews, Oak Ridge, TN
2015 – Jose Lozano, Valparaiso, FL	1998 – Gerald Lee, Springfield, MO
2014 – Matt Ballard, Sevierville, TN	1997 – Phil McMahan, Sevierville, TN
Jeff English, Grey Forest, TX	Harry Zehender, Sunrise, FL
2013 – Wade Stinson, Springfield, MO	1996 – Leonard Phillips, Memphis, TN
2012 – Jeff Tuttle, San Antonio, TX	Jim Smith, Andalusia, AL
2011 – Mark Bussman, Cullman, AL	1995 – Ralph Wisz, Mesa, AZ
2010 – Tommy Miller, Orangeburg, SC	1994 – John DeMent, Huntsville, AL
2009 – Mike Comstock, Mesa, AZ	1993 – Edward Mrizek, Palo Alto, CA
2008 – George Bronson, Winfield, KS	1992 – Jack Hilliard, Florence, AL
2007 – Fred Crabtree, Winter Garden, FL	1991 – Harry Still, Bay Minette, AL
2006 – Gerald Borden, Evergreen, AL	

I NOMINATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS AWARD NOMINEE:

2024 APGA PUBLIC GAS SYSTEM ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes an APGA public gas system member whose performance is widely recognized in the public gas industry, and has made substantial contributions to the community, other utilities, and the goals of APGA. The system has expressed a willingness to exchange ideas and technology with others to ensure the gas industry will be the safest and most knowledgeable of all utilities. The system has been an active member of APGA for at least five years.

Previous Winners:

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| 2022 – Knoxville Utilities Board, TN | 2007 – Oak Ridge Utility District, TN |
| 2021 – Huntsville Utilities, AL | 2006 – Watertown Utilities, SD |
| 2020 – CPS Energy, TX | 2005 – City of Mesa, AZ |
| 2019 – City of Tallahassee, FL | 2004 – New Ulm Public Utilities, MN |
| 2018 – City of Rocky Mount, NC | 2003 – Southeast Alabama Gas District |
| 2017 – York County Natural Gas Authority, SC | 2002 – Greenville Utilities, NC |
| 2016 – Philadelphia Gas Works, PA | 2001 – Clearwater Gas System, FL |
| 2015 – Sevier County Utility District, TN | 2000 – Chester County Natural Gas, SC |
| 2014 – Okaloosa Gas District, FL | 1999 – Okaloosa Gas District, FL |
| 2013 – Pensacola Energy, FL | 1998 – Sunrise Gas Dept., FL |
| 2012 – York County Natural Gas Authority, SC | 1997 – Orangeburg Dept. of Public Utilities, SC |
| 2011 – Lake Apopka Natural Gas District, FL | 1994 – Jefferson-Cocke Counties Utility, TN |
| 2010 – City of Hamilton, OH | 1993 – City Utilities of Springfield, MO |
| 2009 – Middle Tennessee Natural Gas | 1992 – City of Palo Alto, CA |
| 2008 – Long Beach Gas & Oil, CA | 1991 – Memphis, Light, Gas & Water, TN |

I NOMINATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS AWARD NOMINEE:

2024 APGA PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who has made substantial contributions toward the goals of APGA and the natural gas industry. The nominee is an employee of an APGA public gas system member.

Previous Winners:

- 2023 – Steve Squibb, Springfield, MO
- 2022 – Mark Nibaur, Austin, MN
Jim Crowley, Easton, MD
- 2021 – Donnie Sharp, Huntsville, AL
- 2020 – Jimmy Sprouse, Rock Hill, SC
- 2019 – Gary Gibson, Springfield, MO
- 2018 – Al Bean, Jackson, AL
Stephen Mayfield, Tallahassee, FL
- 2017 – Jim Heckle, Rock Hill, SC
- 2016 – Matt Stennett, Smithville, TN
Pat Riley, Trenton, TN
Kim Weaver, Rocky Mount, NC
- 2015 – Chuck Good, Pensacola, FL
- 2014 – Na Hoang, Colorado Springs, CO
Todd Jorgenson, Austin, MN
Chris Latch, Corinth, MS
- 2013 – Mark Bussman, Cullman, AL
- 2012 – Rich Worsinger, Rocky Mount, NC
Don Suarez, Pensacola, FL
- 2011 – Jimmie Butler, Huntsville, AL
Sam Davis, Jr., Winter Garden, FL
- 2010 – Jerry McCarthy, Austin, MN
- 2009 – John Leary, Chambersburg, PA
- 2008 – Gerald Paulus, Mesa, AZ
John Sharpe, Brownsville, TN
- 2007 – Jose Lozano, Valparaiso, FL
- 2006 – George Bronson, Winfield, KS
Ron Lilly, Corinth, MS
Wade Stinson, Springfield, MO
- 2005 – Jim Hodges, Smithville, TN
Tom Sewell, Clearwater, FL
- 2004 – Harry Still, Jr., Bay Minette, AL
- 2003 – Matt Ballard, Sevierville, TN
- 2002 – Mike Enoch, Chester, SC
- 2001 – Tommy Bible, Newport, TN
Bert Magstadt, Watertown, SD
Chuck Warrington, Clearwater, FL
- 2000 – Gerald Borden, Evergreen, AL
Steve Clark, Rock Hill, SC
Les Enoch, Smithville, TN
- 1999 – Mike Comstock, Mesa, AZ
Anthony Miller, Greenville, NC
- 1998 – Ben Andrews, Waverly, TN
Roger Cwiak, Palo Alto, CA
Stan Hughes, Mesa, AZ
- 1997 – Fred Crabtree, Winter Garden, FL
Gerald Harmon, Austell, GA
Fred Pryor, Valparaiso, FL
- 1996 – Gerald Lee, Springfield, MO
Tommy Miller, Orangeburg, SC
- 1995 – Gerald Ballinger, Carrollton, KY
Ken Craig, Ft. Defiance, AZ

I NOMINATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS AWARD NOMINEE:

2024 APGA HARRY M. COOKE PERSONAL SERVICE AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who has made substantial contributions toward the goals of APGA and the natural gas industry. The nominee is an employee of an APGA associate or affiliate member.

Previous Winners:

- 2023 – Jon Beam, Norcross, GA
- 2022 – John Gregg, Washington, DC
- 2021 – John Piazza, Atlanta, GA
- 2020 – Bill DeFoor, Kennesaw, GA
- 2019 – Arthur Corbin, Kennesaw, GA
- 2018 – Zac Littrell, Franklin, TN
- 2017 – David Love, Decatur, AL
- 2016 – Lincoln Duncan, Arnold, MO
Todd Brady, Washington, DC
- 2015 – Ed Young, Jr., Charlotte, NC
- 2014 – Larry Brown, Norcross, GA
Dave Schryver, Washington, DC
- 2013 – John Erickson, Washington, DC
- 2012 – Rod Walker, Alpharetta, GA
- 2011 – Bill DeFoor, Kennesaw, GA
- 2010 – Dwight Work, Nashville, TN
- 2009 – Jeff Billings, Kennesaw, GA
- 2008 – Bob Beauregard, Washington, DC
- 2007 – David Love, Hartselle, AL
- 2006 – Stan Balis, Washington, DC
Katrina Vaughan, Gainesville, FL
- 2005 – Rodney Dill, Kennesaw, GA
- 2004 – Phillip Bell, Jackson, TN
- 2003 – Shawn Aiken, Nashville, TN
Bert Kalisch, Fairfax, VA
- 2002 – Lori Traweek, Washington, DC
- 2001 – Chris Flood, Fairfax, VA
Chris Strippelhoff, Kennesaw, GA
- 2000 – Gerald Ballinger, Carrollton, KY
Joe Britz, Bensenville, IL
Arthur Corbin, Kennesaw, GA
Sheila Deringis, Fairfax, VA
- 1999 – Frank Petroski, Norcross, GA
- 1998 – Milton Cowlshaw, Tulsa, OK
Philip Bentley, Norcross, GA
- 1997 – Larry Hartman, Nashville, TN
- 1996 – Dean Park, St. Louis, MO
- 1995 – Harry Cooke, Raleigh, NC
- 1994 – Channing Verbeck, Bensenville, IL
Bernard Weber, Horsham, PA
- 1993 – Andy Massicott, Houston, TX
- 1992 – George Newton, Houston, TX
- 1991 – Carol Mrizek, Palo Alto, CA

I NOMINATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS AWARD NOMINEE:

2024 APGA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This award recognizes an APGA public gas system member for the accomplishments of the gas system and its employees in improving and enhancing the quality of life of the community it serves.

Previous Winner:

2023 – Austin Utilities, MN

2022 – York County Natural Gas Authority, SC

I NOMINATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS AWARD NOMINEE:

2024 APGA NEXT GENERATION EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes an individual that is 35 years old or younger who has made substantial contributions toward the goals of their utility, APGA, and the natural gas industry.

Previous Winner:

2023 – Amanda Gallagher, Rock Hill, SC

I NOMINATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS AWARD NOMINEE:

2024 PUBLIC GAS SYSTEM GOOD SAMARITAN AWARD *NEW*

This award recognizes an employee or employees from a public gas system whose service to the community goes above and beyond their job duties by positively impacting lives during an emergency.

I NOMINATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REASONS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS AWARD NOMINEE:

J. HARDIE JOHNSTON SERVICE RECOGNITION

This award recognizes individuals who are retiring after serving 25 years or more in the natural gas industry and have participated as an APGA public gas system or joint action agency member representative.

The following public gas system employees will be retiring in 2024 (please list name and system):
