



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Spartanburg Water Receives Award of Recognition for Twenty Years of Outstanding Performance

Utility is part of an Elite Group to Receive Honor

SPARTANBURG – Spartanburg Water’s R.B. Simms Drinking Water Treatment Plant is a proud recipient of the “20-Year Directors Award” from the *Partnership for Safe Water* for 2022. This special distinction was achieved for successfully maintaining the drinking water treatment program’s Directors Award level of performance for a 20-year period.

The *Partnership for Safe Water* program was developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the American Water Works Association (AWWA), and associated *Partner* organizations, to guide water utilities in improving water quality by optimizing system operations. The program celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2020.

The Directors Award includes an evaluation of treatment plant operations and performance, identification of performance limiting factors, and the development of action plans to achieve optimization.

The R.B. Simms Drinking Water Treatment Plant was one of a select group of utilities honored by the *Partnership* at the annual conference of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) held in San Antonio this summer. AWWA is the largest and oldest worldwide organization dedicated to safe water.

“The 20-Year Directors Award for the R.B. Simms facility is an incredible achievement,” said Bryan Bates, Spartanburg Water Drinking Water Treatment Manager. “We have participated in the program for 22 years.”

Also announced at the AWWA conference was the Landrum Drinking Water Facility’s 15-Year Directors Award from the group. This special distinction was achieved by successfully maintaining the Drinking Water Treatment Program Director Award level of performance and demonstrating a commitment to superior water quality.

The *Partnership for Safe Water* is a voluntary self-assessment and optimization program for water treatment plant and distribution system operation. Members participate in a rigorous four-phase self-assessment and peer review process, developed by water utility optimization experts, and are recognized for their commitment to delivering safe water to their communities. More than 300 utility subscribers, collectively serving more than 100 million people, are committed to the *Partnership’s* goals



of providing safe, high-quality drinking water through achieving operational excellence in water treatment.

ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE WATER: The Partnership for Safe Water is an alliance of the American Water Works Association, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, United States Environmental Protection Agency, National Association of Water Companies, and the Water Research Foundation.

ABOUT SPARTANBURG WATER: Spartanburg Water, an industry leading utility, is comprised of Spartanburg Water System and Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District. It serves a population of nearly 200,000 within Spartanburg County, as well as others in parts of Greenville, Union and Cherokee counties. With the help of its dedicated team of nearly 300 employees, each day it produces an average of 25 million gallons of drinking water and cleans 14 million gallons of wastewater for its customers and community.

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