



NEW YORK WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

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NEWS RELEASE

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Environmental Experts to Converge at New York Water Environment Association's 76th Annual Meeting, Feb. 2-4, in New York City

(Syracuse, NY) The New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA), a statewide organization of water quality management professionals, will hold its 76th Annual Meeting in New York City on February 2-4, 2004 at the New York Marriott Marquis. The meeting will bring together over 1,000 NYWEA members, *the interested public*, and other invited environmental experts as part of the organization's mission to encourage preservation of New York's water resources.

The three-day educational, networking and technical conference will host a total of 20 informational sessions moderated by distinguished environmental experts. Outgoing NYWEA President J. Kirk Rowland, P.E., will open the conference Monday, February 2 at 9 a.m., welcoming participants and keynote speaker John Hall, Esq., of Hall & Associates, Washington, D.C. Hall will speak on recent Clean Water Act enforcement cases and how to deal with EPA compliance regulations. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Erin Crotty and New York City Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Christopher Ward will also give a status report on their respective agencies. Two NYWEA awards will be presented to public officials who have demonstrated outstanding environmental protection efforts, and a Hall of Fame Induction for distinguished members will follow.

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Technical sessions will range from trends in environmental science and technology and the impact of federal regulations on local water concerns, to public education and safety issues. Specific session topics are listed on www.nywea.org.

There will be special recognition events for students, including the Third Annual Student Paper Competition awards, and networking events for young professionals and women professionals. Wastewater operator certification is offered with attendance to designated technical sessions as well. In addition, dozens of manufacturers and business representatives will be on hand to exhibit their products. The conference concludes with the members' Annual Awards Celebration and luncheon, during which Keneck Skibinski, chief operator for the Herkimer County Sewer District, will be welcomed to the position of NYWEA President for 2004.

NYWEA is a statewide, nonprofit educational/technical organization of 2,100 water quality management professionals that promotes clean water programs and related issues. Headquartered in Syracuse, NY, the NYWEA has seven regional chapters, 11 college chapters and is an affiliate of the international Water Environment Federation.

Those interested in attending the annual meeting may register (for a fee) at the New York Marriott Marquis, 1535 Broadway, NYC on Sunday, February 1, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or prior to opening ceremonies at 9 a.m. Monday, February 2. For hotel reservations, call 1-800-843-4898. For more program information, call the New York Water Environment Association at 315-422-7811 or visit www.NYWEA.org.

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