



## New York Water Environment Association, Inc.

*The Water Quality Management Professionals*

525 Plum Street, Suite 102 • Syracuse, New York 13204

(315) 422-7811 • Fax: 422-3851 • [www.nywea.org](http://www.nywea.org)

**Contact:** Patricia Cerro-Reehil, NYWEA Executive Director, 315-422-7811

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** *April 20, 2023*

### **New York Water Environment Association Recognizes Rob Jentz of Suffolk County DPW with Outstanding Operator of the Year Award**

**Syracuse, NY** – New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA) recognized Rob Jentz of Suffolk County with an Outstanding Operator of the Year Award. The award is offered annually to honor a water resource recovery operator in each of NYWEA's regional chapters across the state. The award commemorates extraordinary dedication in the day to day operation of a water resource recovery utility, and/or successful solution to a problem, and/or contributions to the wastewater field. The award gives recognition to operations personnel who are essential in mitigating operational challenges beyond the staff's control.

Jentz has been an employee with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works since March 2009. Since then, he has held many positions in which he has been a top performer within the Bergen Point Wastewater Treatment Facility, assisting in all of the plant's operations. Jentz's performance combined with his education, including his most recent licensing of NYS Certified 4A Operator led him to his current role as an operations crew chief. Jentz is responsible for perfecting and monitoring the daily plant processes as well as supervising, training, and mentoring a crew.

Jentz is an active member of NYWEA and is entering his eighth year as a member of the Long Island Brown Tide Operations Challenge Team, the water sector's premier skills competition. His contributions have led to the many successes of the Brown Tide, including leading them to Division I status at the national competition. His professional and voluntary endeavors have made him a prime example for future and present operators and staff. Jentz's 13 year tenure in wastewater has provided him with an evolving and advancing career, where he aspires to continually grow as a wastewater operator as well as make a positive difference in the future of Suffolk County's Bergen Point Water Resource Recovery Facility.

**About NYWEA:** Founded in 1929 by professionals in the field of water quality as a nonprofit educational organization, NYWEA has 2,500 members statewide and hosts several technical conferences each year for environmental engineers, scientists, water resource recovery operators, public officials and others who work in water and wastewater quality management. In addition, NYWEA sponsors a scholarship program, publishes *Clear Waters* – a quarterly educational magazine, administers wastewater operator training and certification, and supports humanitarian clean water projects. Headquartered in Syracuse, NYWEA has seven regional chapters, 15 college student chapters and is a Member Association of the international Water Environment Federation. For more information, please visit [www.nywea.org](http://www.nywea.org).



###