

MSWD Earns Top Honors from Regional CWEA

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Mission Springs Water District took home three awards, including Small Plant of the Year, Collection System Person of the Year, and Community Engagement & Outreach Project of the Year, during a special awards ceremony hosted Saturday by the California Water Environment Association and its Colorado River Basin Section.



Collection Operator II Joseph (Joey) McElrone was named 2023 Collection System Person of the Year. McElrone is responsible for inspecting, maintaining, and repairing the District's sewers and wastewater system. According to his supervisor, Chief Plant Operator Lee Boyer, McElrone is a hardworking, dedicated employee with good knowledge of the District's collection system. "Joey works hard to keep the system clean and inspected and is a team player that goes out of his way to be available to others in the department."

McElrone has been employed at the District for two years and holds several certifications, including a Collection System Maintenance Grade II Certificate, a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator OIT, and is NASSCO Certified.

MSWD also took home top honors for plant operations at the Alan L. Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant (small plant category) and the Community Engagement & Outreach Project of the Year (small plant category) for its Water 101 educational series.

Founded in 1928, CWEA unites wastewater professionals from throughout the state. Together, they address real-time issues, develop and deliver cutting-edge training, raise awareness of the profession, and shape the future of wastewater.

Since 1989, MSWD and its staff have won 38 Colorado River Basin Section CWEA awards, including nine personal awards and 16 plant of the year honors. For a list of MSWD awards, visit [MSWD Awards](#).