

Contractors Council

Monday, April 15
Room 25
3:00 - 5:00 PM



Project Deliver Methods: Panel Discussion

The FSAWWA Contractor's Council will facilitate a discussion on different project delivery methods in the municipal industry. The panel will consist of different municipality and utility owners around the state to offer a different perspective.

Women from the water sector share their experiences, inspirations and what motivates them. This event allows for peer-to-peer exchange of knowledge and support featuring key questions for thought. While this event is targeted at women, all registered attendees are invited to attend.



Marjorie Craig, P.E.,
Utilities Director,
City of Delray Beach

Women of Water

Monday, April 15
Room 25
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



FSAWWA Operators Initiative

Support and Training Programs for Future Operators

Over 37% of water utility workers and 31% of wastewater utility workers are projected to retire in the next ten years (WRF Water Sector Workforce Sustainability Initiative, 2010). To address this shortage, the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association (FSAWWA) Operator Initiative is working to create statewide programs for high school technical academies. The objectives of these academies, supported in part with an annual grant from FSAWWA,

are to produce graduates who are proficient in water technologies and water resources management who will enter postsecondary education and/or the workforce with the knowledge and skills to solve many broad-based environmental challenges. The two academies are Heritage High School Academy of Environmental Water Technology (AEWT), Palm Bay, Florida, and St. Johns Technical High School Academy of Coastal and Water Resources, St. Augustine, Florida.



Students graduating from the academies will have taken and passed the FDEP water or wastewater licensure exams. After graduation, the students will need to complete 2,080 hours of in-plant experience to be issued a license by the State of Florida. While some students will be attending college and thinking about trainee positions to supplement their finances, others will be looking for trainee positions immediately after high school. Over the last three years, an average of 47% of the students passed the exam on their first attempt (graph 1). For those students seeking to retake the FDEP water or wastewater exam, the FSAWWA Operators and Maintenance Council provides five \$100.00 scholarships to High School Academy graduates.

If you are interested in learning more about the FSAWWA's Operator Initiative, please join us at **Monday, April 15, Workshop #3 "Public Education and Outreach: Resources and Case Studies to Inspire our Future"**, presented by Steve Soltau, Operations Director of Pinellas County Utilities and Shea Dunifon, Education Coordinator, Pinellas County.