



HRSD NEWS RELEASE

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HRSD Receives Prestigious National Award for Small Communities Program

**~ Award Is One of Several Presented to HRSD for
Exceptional Environmental Achievements ~**

The Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) has presented a national operations award to the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD). One of just three public utilities to receive the prestigious award, HRSD was recognized for its small communities program.

HRSD established the program in 1999 to operate and maintain existing wastewater collection and treatment systems in rural localities newly incorporated in HRSD's service area. HRSD's small communities program has improved effluent quality, enhanced technical oversight, upgraded collection systems, increased system reliability, emphasized safety, and relieved localities of regulatory compliance burdens.

HRSD also received peak performance awards for each of its nine major Hampton Roads treatment plants. Peak performance awards represent outstanding compliance with national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permits.

Another award presented to HRSD recognizes the public utility's boater education program, which promotes the proper disposal of wastewater to prevent dumping into local waterways. This was one of just eight national awards given for outstanding public information and education programs.

HRSD was honored as part of AMSA's 2002 national environmental achievement awards. AMSA is a national trade association representing over 270 of the nation's public wastewater utilities that collectively treat and reclaim more than 17 billion gallons of wastewater daily. Established in 1970, AMSA plays a key role in the development of environmental legislation and works closely with federal regulatory agencies and Congress in the implementation of environmental programs.

HRSD, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, was created by public referendum in 1940 and currently serves 1.5 million people in 17 cities and counties. Our mission is to prevent pollution, protect public health, and support community development by providing wastewater collection, treatment, and related services.

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