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LOCAL WATER UTILITY RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD OF RECOGNITION
Less Than One Percent of Nation's Utilities Receive Honor

HERSHEY, PA – April 25, 2012 - Pennsylvania American Water's West Shore Regional Water Treatment Plant has received the "Directors Award of Recognition" from the *Partnership for Safe Water*, a national volunteer initiative developed by EPA and other water organizations representing water suppliers striving to provide their communities with drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards. Pennsylvania American Water was presented the award for successfully completing the Self-Assessment and Peer Review phase of the *Partnership* program, a phase which consists of identifying factors that limit treatment plant performance.

“Our professional staff at the West Shore plant is the driving force behind this achievement, and we are thrilled to receive this national recognition.” said Pennsylvania American Water Senior Director for Water Quality and Environmental Compliance Paul Zielinski. “This award reflects our commitment to delivering the best water quality possible, which is evidenced by the fact that 31 of our 36 water treatment plants across Pennsylvania have earned Directors Awards and are delivering drinking water that not only meets all regulatory standards but surpasses them.”

The *Partnership* currently includes more than 220 water utilities, collectively serving more than 85 million people. This represents more than 60% of the U.S. population served by surface water supplies. Each utility has committed to the enhancement of drinking water quality and operational excellence in water treatment. As members of the *Partnership*, utilities make a pledge to their communities to improve their treatment operations to reduce the risk of exposure to microbial contaminants, namely *Cryptosporidium*, a parasite that can cause illness. By making this commitment, the member utilities' treatment practices undergo a rigorous review developed by national experts, and includes a four-phased, self-assessment and peer-review process.

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The Partnership for Safe Water is sponsored by the American Water Works Association, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, United States Environmental Protection Agency, National Association of Water Companies, and the Water Research Foundation.