

## **American Water Takes Lead Role In American Water Works Assoc. Annual Conference & Exhibition**

### **LeChevallier Assumes Chairman Duties of AWWA Water Science and Research Division and Presents Two Industry-Leading Papers; Lippert Receives Distinguished George Warren Fuller Award**

Voorhees, NJ - June 21, 2007

American Water, the largest water services provider in North America, announced today that the company will play an active role in the upcoming American Water Works Association (AWWA) Annual Conference and Exhibition (ACE), the most comprehensive and diverse water conference in the world, held June 24-28 in Toronto, Canada.

At the conference, Mark W. LeChevallier, Ph.D., Director of Innovation & Environmental Stewardship, will assume chairman duties of the AWWA's Water Science and Research Division (WS & RD), whose role is to promote the application of science and research within the water industry. LeChevallier has been a trustee of the division for the past five years and will now serve a three-year term as chairman.

"The future demands that the water profession be more innovative, efficient and better prepared than ever before," said LeChevallier. "As a recognized industry leader, American Water is making key contributions to the science of safe water and multiple improvements to the efficiency of water operations."

American Water will have a strong presence at the conference with LeChevallier devliering two industry leading presentations on assessing the integrity of water distribution systems and the microbial risk in drinking water supply, two industry leading presentations.

LeChevallier's first ACE presentation, "Safe Drinking Water: What is Acceptable Microbial Risk?" will be held on Tuesday, June 26 at 11:00 a.m. It will review the findings of an October 2007 American Academy of Microbiology colloquium on microbial risk assessments, or the use of mathematical models to determine the risk of infection. The presentation will address the scientific opportunities, challenges and benefits in microbial risk assessments. It will explore the real value of these assessments to the water industry - from developing an organizational system surrounding a particular risk, to determining influential risk factors, to testing various theories on how to reduce risk.

The second presentation, "Assessing Distribution Systems Integrity: Physical, Hydraulic and Water Quality," will take place on Wednesday, June 27 at 3:00 p.m. The presentation will provide an overview of distribution systems, highlighting a number of areas where American Water's research is leading the way, including infrastructure, operations and water quality. These innovations take existing water practices and look at them in a unique, first-of-its-kind way. Examples include:

- Using water meters as analytical tools for measuring the frequency and volume of backflow;
- Implementing acoustic monitors for measuring leakage in water mains;
- Studying energy and pressure management as a means of optimizing distribution system operations, reducing costs and controlling greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition, American Water's Southeast Region Director of External Affairs, Debbie Lippert, will receive the George Warren Fuller Award. Presented annually to selected AWWA members for their distinguished service to the water supply field, the award commemorates the sound engineering skill, brilliant diplomatic talent and constructive leadership which characterized the life of its namesake, George Warren Fuller.

Lippert is honoured with the distinction of being the first woman to receive a Fuller Award from the AWWA's Pennsylvania section and currently serves as the AWWA's first female International Director, representing the state. Reflecting on being chosen as a Fuller awardee, Lippert said, "To be selected by my water industry peers for the AWWA's most prestigious award is a great honor, and I am thrilled to join the long list of high-caliber recipients representing the water industry."

With headquarters in Voorhees, NJ, American Water employs approximately 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide high-quality water, wastewater and other related services to about 17 million people in 29 states and Canada.

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