

Entry: 561

Steve Hershner

Started at: 11/9/2021 11:29 AM - Finalized at: 11/9/2021 11:36 AM

<b>Page: NEAA Nomination Form</b>
APPLICATION DEADLINE: <b>Friday, October 22, 2021, 11:59 pm PST</b>
<b>All fields indicated by a red asterisk (*) must be completed</b>
<b>Category</b> Distinguished Service (Individual)
NOMINATING AGENCY'S INFORMATION
<b>Name &amp; Title of Individual Submitting this Application</b> NACWA National Office
<b>Submitting Agency's Name</b> NACWA
<b>State (2letters)</b> DC
<b>Service Area Population of Submitting Agency</b> 700K
<b>Social Media (Indicate all that applies)</b> None Available
<b>Agency Logo - Hi-Res Picture (jpg; or .png)</b> Download File ( <a href="https://vo-general.s3.amazonaws.com/1791819d-f6fc-46c3-b1b7-a1d38a2bd4d4/2f5be4ba-40d4-48f2-9180-5bac96a8067d?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAJ4PRWO26HAX3IOCA&amp;Expires=1723305981&amp;response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3D%22NACWA-logo%20w%20waterdrop%20only.jpg%22&amp;response-content-type=image%2Fjpeg&amp;Signature=PJ%2B8QXQeCBQMnJi%2FqTG%2F0%2F33PA8%3D">https://vo-general.s3.amazonaws.com/1791819d-f6fc-46c3-b1b7-a1d38a2bd4d4/2f5be4ba-40d4-48f2-9180-5bac96a8067d?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAJ4PRWO26HAX3IOCA&amp;Expires=1723305981&amp;response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3D%22NACWA-logo%20w%20waterdrop%20only.jpg%22&amp;response-content-type=image%2Fjpeg&amp;Signature=PJ%2B8QXQeCBQMnJi%2FqTG%2F0%2F33PA8%3D</a> )
PROJECT / INDIVIDUAL NOMINEE'S INFORMATION
<b>Name of Nominated Project / Program or Nominee (as it will appear on the NEAA award)</b> Steve Hershner
<b>Nominee's Title</b> Former Utilities Director

**Nominee's Agency**

City of Cedar Rapids, Utilities Department

**Nominee's Address**

1111 Shaver RD NE  
Cedar Rapids Iowa 52402-4512 US

**Nominee's Phone Number**

319-270-5219

**Nominee's Email**

shersh42@aol.com

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION****Narrative Description: Project / Program or Individual (attach pdf, limited to 4 pages, double-spaced, 12pt)**

Download File (<https://vo-general.s3.amazonaws.com/1791819d-f6fc-46c3-b1b7-a1d38a2bd4d4/77b5993c-aa01-495b-95a4-cf1eb891b603?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAJ4PRWO26HAX3IOCA&Expires=1723305981&response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3D%22Distinguished%20-%20Hershner-%20Steve%20%28NACWA%29.pdf%22&response-content-type=application%2Fpdf&Signature=NtwPT36qnhpOr8SKcUI7UoIBx04%3D>)

**APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION**

Please contact [btrombino@nacwa.org](mailto:btrombino@nacwa.org) (<mailto:membership@nacwa.org>; [btrombino@nacwa.org?subject=Who%20is%20Our%20NACWA%20Primary%20Contact%20for%20the%20NEAA%20application%3F](mailto:btrombino@nacwa.org?subject=Who%20is%20Our%20NACWA%20Primary%20Contact%20for%20the%20NEAA%20application%3F)) if you do not know the name of your NACWA Representative (SUBJECT: Who is Our NACWA Primary Contact for the NEAA application?)

**Signature of Individual Submitting Application (pdf/jpg)****Is the Nominee the Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative?**

No

**Name of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative**

Adam Krantz

**Title of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative**

CEO

**Email of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative**

akrantz@nacwa.org

**Signature of Submitting Agency's NACWA Representative (pdf, jpg, or png)**

**Please review your application prior to finalizing it. All fields with a red asterisk (\*) must be completed. If you have any questions in regard to submitting your application, please contact Bredy Trombino (mailto:btrombino@nacwa.org?subject=Application%20Questions%20-%20PreCompletion) at 202.533.1820.**

## Distinguished Service

Nominated by: NACWA National Office

Steve Hershner

Former Utilities Director, City of Cedar Rapids, IA

Steve Hershner served the City of Cedar Rapids for almost 30 years, serving as Utilities Director for 7 years. He previously held positions as the Environmental Coordinator at Water Pollution Control, Environmental Manager for Water Pollution Control, Utilities Environmental Manager, and Interim Utilities Director from October 2012 to March 2013. Throughout his tenure with the city, Steve ensured Cedar Rapids' engagement in NACWA and was dedicated member of NACWA's Board of Directors from 2016 to 2020.

Hershner was responsible for all Utilities Department Divisions, which include 244 employees dedicated to providing essential services related to Solid Waste & Recycling, Water Treatment & Distribution, and wastewater treatment at Water Pollution Control. He serves as a staff representative for the city on the CR/LC Solid Waste Agency, Director liaison to the NW Neighborhood Association, and previously served on the Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization –Transportation Technical Advisory Committee.

Selected in 2013 to participate in the Mississippi River Nutrients Dialogue Series organized by the U.S. Water Alliance based on his efforts to help develop the point source strategy for the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy. The Mississippi River dialogue group focused on developing working relationships among selected leaders in water/wastewater industries and other key stakeholder communities to reduce nutrients throughout the Mississippi River Corridor. As a result of the relationships developed during the Nutrients Dialogues Series, key Utilities leadership staff engaged with 16 different partners on the 5 year \$4.3M Middle Cedar Partnership Project (MCP) that was selected for funding through the U. S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP) and concluded in June 2020. Under Steve's leadership, in May 2020 the City Council authorized commitment letters for two additional National Resource Conservation Service - Regional Conservation Partnership Program funded proposals that would continue to expand upstream watershed conservation practices which will protect Cedar Rapids' source water, offer cost effective nutrient reduction opportunities, and improve soil health enhancing water retention and infiltration.

Throughout his career, Steve distinguished himself as a leader among his peers and within the water sector. His innovative work to explore more holistic watershed-based solutions for his community's water-related challenges blazed a trail that others across the nation could follow. In addition, the leadership he demonstrated as a representative of both Cedar Rapids and the Association, helped to position NACWA as a key voice on advancing new, watershed-scale collaborations and helped elevate water as a top national priority. Whether as a NACWA workgroup leader or Board Member – or representing the Association and the City of Cedar Rapids on important advocacy priorities aimed at holistic watershed solutions – Hershner was always engaged, accessible, and outcome-oriented.

Most importantly, Steve Hershner was always willing to serve when asked, and frequently volunteered both his time and expertise. Through his engagement with NACWA, Hershner not only contributed significantly to many of NACWA's advocacy successes, but also enhanced the visibility and perception of the water sector as a whole.