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Date: January 8, 2026

Ref: Connecticut State Awards

CT Nominations Now Open

Connecticut municipalities often go unnoticed for their constant efforts. Additionally, the Public Officials who support those efforts, share the same fate. The American Public Works Association, New England Chapter, prides itself on highlighting the folks making a difference in their communities.

If you have an individual or team that you feel warrants this recognition, please submit a nomination letter to: thmodzelewski@ellington-ct.gov for consideration.

Connecticut State awards will be presented at the NEAPWA Spring Conference on March 30, 2026, see attached save the date.

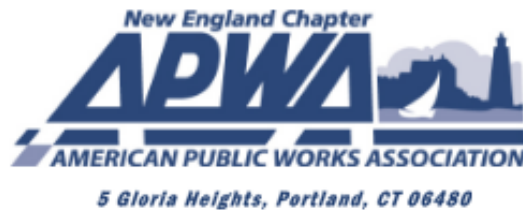
Additionally, I have also attached the criteria for consideration for your review prior to submission.

The review team appreciates your nominations by Friday, February 6th, 2026.

On behalf of the Connecticut Directors, we thank you in advance for the nominations and for the work you do every day! Stay safe out there!

Tom Modzelewski
CT Director





Criteria for NEAPWA Chapter State Awards

Public Works Leader of the Year:

- Member of NEAPWA, and
- Has 5 or more years in the position of Director, Superintendent, Commissioner, or other appropriate title related to a Public Works Director, and
- Responsible for implementing a program(s) that saved money or improved efficiency, or
- Guided their agency through an emergency management crisis, or
- Implemented new technology for customer service, asset management, snow and ice management, pavement management or sustainability, or
- Displayed Public Works leadership and exemplified the profession through a long career.

Outstanding Public Works Department of the Year:

- Completed a project that improved the health and safety of their community, or
- Implemented a program that increased efficiency and reduced cost, or
- Responded to an emergency incident that saved lives and infrastructure, or
- Became an accredited agency, or
- Used technology to improve operations, or
- Excelled at customer service and/or providing services to the community.

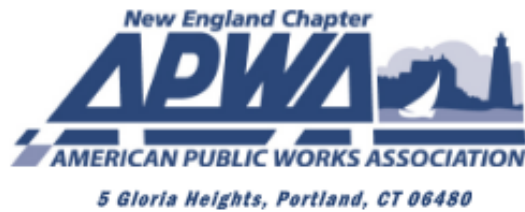
Public Official of the Year:

- Provided funding or advocated for local projects and Public Works agencies, or
- Sponsored legislation to assist with public works operations, projects and staff, or
- Supported ongoing Public Works operations, capital projects or legislation.

Public Works Supervisor of the Year:

- Completed a project that improved the health and safety of their community, or
- Developed a program that increased efficiency and reduced cost, or
- Responded to an emergency incident that saved lives and infrastructure, or
- Used technology to improve operations, or
- Excelled at customer service.

State Awards Subcommittees may make reasonable adjustments to the awards criteria as they deem appropriate and in the spirit that the awards are intended.



NEAPWA Spring Conference Save the Date

New England APWA Spring Conference 2026

When: Monday, March 30, 2026

Where: New England Air Museum, Windsor Locks, Connecticut

Join us for a full day of:

- Networking with public works professionals from across New England
- Educational breakout sessions
 - Engaging guest speakers
 - Vendor exhibits

This annual conference brings together leaders, practitioners, and partners to share best practices, explore innovative solutions, and connect with peers shaping the future of public works.

The full conference agenda will be published in February 2026.

Registration details coming soon — stay tuned!

