

**NOTICE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Press Release – Wisconsin Rural Water Association

350 Water Way
Plover, WI 54467
Telephone: 715-344-7778 Fax: 715-344-5555
Contact: Ken M. Blomberg, Ken@wrwa.org

April 21, 2008

DURAND WATER OPERATOR RECEIVES STATE AWARD

PLOVER, WI - The Wisconsin Rural Water Association (WRWA) recently held its annual Technical Conference in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Nearly 1,200 water system and industry personnel met for four days exchanging ideas and technology through technical sessions and exhibits.

Gary Sweeney, of the Durand Water Department, received the Association's prestigious 2008 Water Operator of the Year Award. This award is presented each year to one individual that demonstrates excellence in the field of waterworks operation.

"The role of a water operator has become increasingly difficult as the reauthorized Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996 has imposed tougher standards for water utilities," said Ken M. Blomberg, WRWA Executive Director. "Sweeney has been recognized by his peers as a well trained and dedicated operator, deserving of WRWA's highest award for a state licensed water operator. The Village of Durand can be proud of Sweeney's accomplishments."

Wisconsin Rural Water Association (WRWA) is a non-profit organization of rural and small water and wastewater systems. Its mission: To assist water/wastewater systems improve and preserve the quality and quantity of water resources in the State of Wisconsin". WRWA is the largest utility association in Wisconsin.