

2009 NDSWRA Leadership Award

The North Dakota Solid Waste and Recycling Association's Leadership Award is presented to a city, county, organization, business or individual that provides strong leadership in solid waste management in North Dakota. Past recipients have included Refuse Disposal Services, the cities of Grand Forks, Enderlin, Dickinson, Langdon, Rolla, Casselton, Fargo, Bismarck, Fort Totten Indian Reservation, Kevin Solie of the NDDH and ND National Guard, and Todd Feland of Grand Forks.

This year's Leadership Award will be presented to Bill Snyder who is currently the Sanitation Foreman for the City of Jamestown where he oversees the commercial and residential garbage collection, waste baling facility, and both the sanitary and inert landfills. He also oversees the city's program for yard waste composting, wood waste processing, and household hazardous waste collection and re-use. Bill has been instrumental in getting Jamestown's solid waste program on a solid budget. With his leadership, the city rebuilt the baling unit with more efficient equipment and they purchased property adjacent to both landfills. These steps can help provide future efficiencies and capacity for the region.

Beginning in March, 2009 and extending well into the summer, Jamestown experienced record flooding from which the city is still cleaning up. The significant challenges to the community and its solid waste program posed by such natural disasters have been faced in large part by the dedication and efforts of experienced staff like Bill Snyder. Bill recently stated that the best thing about his job has been serving the public and the variety of functions that he's involved in.

A native of the Seattle, Washington area, Bill worked for Waste Management of Seattle for 29 years. He readily adopted North Dakota his home, in addition to his job duties with the city of Jamestown, Bill has been Mayor of the City of Pingree, North Dakota where he and his wife live. He and his wife are collectors of antiques. Bill enjoys fly fishing with his brother and spending time with his grandchildren.

Mr. Snyder is a past president of the North Dakota Solid Waste and Recycling Association, serving from September 2005 to September 2007. During his tenure, he helped the association with symposiums and workshops on post-consumer recycling, construction and demolition recycling, electronic waste issues, compact fluorescent bulbs, the dangers of open burning and other topics to educate the public and the industry. Unfortunately for his community and those of us who call him friend. Bill Snyder is planning on retiring sometime in the spring of 2010. We all wish him the best.

While Bill Snyder could not be here today, let us go on record of giving him hearty congratulations that he can feel where ever he is today and that will last him well into a long and happy retirement.