



## Press Release

**For Immediate Release  
November 12, 2015**

### **The Society of Women Engineers Recognizes Local Engineer**

*Director of Operations-Water for Mason County PUD No. 1 Accepts Emerging Leader Award*



Potlatch, WA – The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) awarded Jocelyne Gray, PE, director of operations-water for Mason County Public Utility District No. 1, with their Emerging Leader award for her impact on the Society and the engineering community. Gray accepted the award at SWE's annual conference in Nashville, Tennessee on October 23, 2015.

The Emerging Leader award recognizes Gray for her remarkable generosity and initiative in her public, private, and professional life; specifically for educating the public about water safety and quality and for encouraging future engineers. From nearly 100 nominations, only 10 were selected for this year's honor including engineers from The Boeing Company, Intel Corporation, Caterpillar, Bank of

America, and other large corporations with over 5,000 employees. Mason County PUD 1, by comparison, has 23 total employees, five of whom work in the water department. Gray was the only engineer from a small organization selected for this award. Recipients were judged on criteria and qualifications in areas including: engineering experience, engagement in engineering or technology professions, demonstrated leadership, and personal recommendations from industry peers.

“Having my work in our small corner of the world be recognized by a national organization is a great honor. The safety, quality, and availability of drinking water is important to me and to the citizens of Mason County. To be chosen among engineers from large, mainly international companies shows that the work I am doing for all of Mason County, not just PUD 1 customers, is important,” said Gray.

Originally from Kennewick, WA, Gray is a civil engineer licensed in the state of Washington. She graduated from Washington State University in 2000 with a bachelor of science in civil

engineering. She has been with Mason County PUD No. 1 since 2009 and was previously recognized by our state's Department of Health Office of Drinking Water with their 2011 Grace Under Pressure award.

The Emerging Leader award also recognizes Gray's continuing dedication to SWE's mission of "striving to highlight the impact and importance of women in engineering across the globe, leading by example, and demonstrating that a career in engineering can be a fulfilling, rewarding pursuit for women of any background" according to a statement from SWE. Colleen Layman, president of SWE also noted, "the accomplishments of Jocelyne and the other women of SWE have contributed to or directly led to some of the most important advances in numerous engineering fields."

### **About SWE**

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE), founded in 1950, is a not-for-profit educational and service organization. SWE empowers women to succeed and advance in those aspirations and receive the recognition and credit for their life-changing contributions and achievements as engineers and leaders.

(Pictured above: Jocelyne Gray poses in front of her photo on the wall of award winners.)

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*Founded in 1935, Mason County PUD No. 1 was the first public utility district formed in Washington State. PUD 1 provides non-for-profit water, sewer and electric services to approximately 7,200 customers in both Mason and Jefferson counties. The District's mission is to provide customers with safe, reliable and valued utility services.*