



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

# Press Release

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## Thomas Kunetz, MWRD Asst. Director of Engineering, elected as Water Environment Federation Trustee during WEFTEC

Thomas Kunetz, MWRD Asst. Director of Engineering, was recently elected to begin serving a three year term as a trustee with the Water Environment Federation (WEF). His nomination to the Board of Trustees was approved by WEF's House of Delegates at their annual meeting at WEFTEC 2013 in October.

Headquartered in Alexandria, VA, WEF was founded in 1928 and is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization. It has 36,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing a diversity of water quality professionals including scientists, engineers, regulators, academics, utility managers, plant operators, and other professionals around the world.

"I look forward to representing the District on this diverse, international stage," said Kunetz. "I believe it is important that the District has a voice in this large support organization and maintains its leadership role as an agency that provides high-value service to the public and innovation to the water quality industry."

Kunetz is also serving a three-year term as the chair of the Municipal Wastewater Treatment Symposium under the WEF Program Committee, where he is responsible for creating the technical program for WEFTEC.

Kunetz is an Illinois registered Professional Engineer, a WEF Fellow, and a Board Certified Environmental Engineer with the American Academy of Environmental Engineers. In 2012, he received the Charles Walter Nichols Award for Environmental Excellence from the American Public Works Association.

"We are very proud of Tom and his effort to champion innovation, connect water professionals, and leverage his knowledge to support clean and safe water worldwide," said President Kathleen Meany. "Tom is currently using his background and skills to help the MWRD become an energy neutral organization within the next decade. I strongly believe Tom is the catalyst to help make this become reality."

WEF organizes conferences such as WEFTEC, the largest conference dedicated to serving the water environment in the world, offering water quality professionals from around the world with water quality education and training, plus an expansive show floor providing access to the most cutting-edge technologies in the field. WEF also sponsors webcasts on topics of current interest, publishes manuals of practice for water quality designers and operators, and provides outreach and educational materials for teachers.

WEF and its global network of members and Member Associations (MAs) provide water quality professionals around the world with the latest in water quality education, training, and business opportunities. WEF uses this collective knowledge to further a shared goal of improving water quality around the world.



*Thomas Kunetz with incoming WEF president Sandra Ralston at WEFTEC 2013 in Chicago in October.*