

2006 Deputy Waterways Conservation Officers of the Year

Deputy waterways conservation officers (DWCOs) work with WCOs performing mainly specialized law enforcement duties in protecting, conserving and enhancing our water resources. Their work also includes watercraft safety law enforcement. Deputies work long hours, often on

weekends and holidays. Even though they receive a small allowance for some expenses, they are otherwise not compensated.

Any officer may nominate a deputy for this recognition. Regional committees of personnel in the Commission bureaus of Law Enforcement and Fisheries review the nominations and choose the winners. DWCOs receive plaques for these awards. The awards carry the distinction of the recipients knowing that they were selected by their peers.



photo-Assistant Regional Supervisor Thomas Turkowski

Deputy Waterways Conservation Officer Mark Kasiorek (left) is the Northwest Region's Deputy of the Year. Pictured with DWCO Kasiorek is Northwest Region Manager Bob Nestor.



photo-Assistant Regional Supervisor Larry Bundy

DWCO Ross D. Piazza (right) is the Northeast Region's Deputy of the Year. Pictured with DWCO Piazza is Northeast Region Manager Sally Corl.



photo-WCO David Decker

DWCO David M. Mull (left) is the Northcentral Region's Deputy of the Year. Pictured with DWCO Mull is Northcentral Region Manager Brian Burger.



photo-Carl Haensel

DWCO John Hechler (center) is the Southeast Region's Deputy of the Year. Pictured with DWCO Hechler are Southeast Region Manager Ray Bednarchik (left) and WCO Chad Woleslagle.



Photo-Assistant Regional Supervisor Tom Burrell

DWCO Christopher Skipper (left) is the Southcentral Region's Deputy of the Year. Pictured with DWCO Skipper is Southcentral Region Manager Don Lauver.



Photo-WCO Larry Furlong

DWCO John Toki (center) is the Southwest Region's Deputy of the Year. Pictured with DWCO Toki are Commissioner Don Anderson (right) and Southwest Region manager Emil Svetahor.

Becoming a DWCO

DWCOs from a variety of backgrounds work with the Commission's Bureau of Law Enforcement for many different reasons. All DWCOs share a common commitment to saving lives on our waterways and to protecting, conserving and enhancing Pennsylvania's aquatic resources and environment for future generations. Many DWCOs use their training and experience to move on to other law enforcement occupations.

Anyone interested in learning more about DWCO positions should contact his or her nearest Commission regional headquarters. These headquarters are listed on the Commission's web site, www.fish.state.pa.us, and on page 42 of the 2007 *Pennsylvania Fishing Summary*.

Years of Service Recognition

During the regions' annual awards presentations, the Commission recognized the following DWCOs for length of service.

Northwest Region

5 years: Shawn C. Hedglin
 10 years: Jay E. Hewitt, Michael J. Reed
 15 years: C. Robert McDowell
 20 years: Robert H. Johnston Jr.

Northcentral Region

10 years: James F. Hillman
 15 years: Jeffrey H. Colwell
 25 years: Terry F. Bowersox
 30 years: Randall S. Gatewood

Northeast Region

10 years: Christopher O. Hughes, Howard J. Morana
 20 years: Anthony J. Winters
 35 years: David F. Dembowski

Southeast Region

5 years: James R. Dickey, Peter M.H. Thomas
 10 years: William H. Edwards, Wilson A. Saunders
 20 years: C. Stephen Mobley, David H. Ziegler
 25 years: John J. Bondura

Southcentral Region

25 years: Robert C. Houser Jr.
 40 years: Stanley I. Rhoads Sr.
(special longevity recognition)

Southwest Region

10 years: Daniel M. D'Ottavio, David E. Thomas, Brian L. Tuccarello
 25 years: Joseph W. Ow
 30 years: Michael D. Symbala, Amil A. Zuzik

If you are interested in becoming a fulltime waterways conservation officer, contact the Fish & Boat Commission at 717-705-7861, www.fish.state.pa.us; or contact the State Civil Service Commission at 717-783-3058, www.scsc.state.pa.us.

