

## South Carolina AWWA committee awarded national recognition!



What's a successful seminar? The SC section's Emergency Preparedness Committee certainly has the answer and a national AWWA award is proof! The Committee organized a workshop in January titled "Is Your Utility Ready for an Emergency?" As with many section workshops, the attendees benefited from presentations by experienced utilities within the state. The eight sessions of the workshop included case studies ranging from hurricanes to devastating ice storms. A unique feature included participation from emergency supply vendors that included portable pump and generators,

Emergency Preparedness workshop was held on January 18, 2006 in Columbia, SC. The title of the session was: eight sessions each describing various aspects of proper emergency preparedness. They included information on availability of training resources, which agencies are to be contacted in the event of an emergency, mutual aid agreement development and resources, two case studies on how the Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority (Greenville, SC) and the Emerald Coast Utility Service (Pensacola, FL) prepared and responded to an emergency, and a session on how the Emerald Coast Utility Service recovered financially. Greenville, SC was hit with devastating ice storms in 2002 and 2005. Pensacola was hit by hurricane Ivan in 2004. In addition to the educational sessions, five emergency supply vendors participated and displayed products that proved to be very useful to attendees. Displays consisted of portable pumps, generators, safety equipment and communications solutions for utilities.

While it's important to attend and participate in the many training events that are scheduled state wide, it's particularly satisfying to contribute to the organizing committees. The Emergency Preparedness Committee included its chair, Cam Ferguson and members Bill Randolph, Kelley Ferda, Ed Saxon, Ken Tuck, Denny Daniels, Ray Peterson, Phil Miller, David Strickland, Terry Rosebrock, and Jimmy Booth. The committee was recognized at the AWWA Annual Conference and Exhibition in San Antonio Texas. Ken Tuck accepted the award from Terry Roland, incoming AWWA President, for the Committee.