



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TOWN WATER TREATMENT PLANT WINS  
2019 EXCELLENCE IN GRANULAR MEDIA FILTRATION AWARD**

**PURCELLVILLE, Va. August 26, 2020**— The Virginia Department of Health’s Office of Drinking Water (ODW) has presented the Town of Purcellville Water Treatment Plant with a **2019 Excellence in Granular Media Filtration Award**.

The Water Treatment Plant earned the Bronze Award for achieving Virginia’s optimization goals for filtration. The performance award was attained by scoring consistently excellent performance at the Water Treatment Plant throughout 2019.

The VDH (ODW) Recognition Program each year awards water systems that have demonstrated excellence in performance and operations and for its treatment and distribution of drinking water to the public. The standards for the award involve setting and achieving goals beyond the established regulations and making a commitment to customer satisfaction.

This is the twelfth consecutive year that the Town has achieved this recognition from the Virginia Department of Health.

The Town of Purcellville treats and delivers more than 200 million gallons of water each year. There are two primary sources of water: the Town’s reservoirs, located at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and wells located throughout the Town. The reservoir is considered “surface water,” which requires treatment at the Town’s Water Treatment Plant, located on Short Hill Road. The Town produces about half of its daily water use at this facility. The remaining water comes from wells located at Short Hill Mountain and throughout Town. Treatment occurs as needed at each location to ensure water quality standards are met.

In learning of the award, our Town Manager David Mekarksi said, “This award demonstrates the dedication, commitment, training and experience of our Water Department employees to ensure the very best water quality for our citizens. In evaluating the Town assets, clearly, the most valuable asset we have in Purcellville is our Town employees.”

**The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

“Purcellville-your small Town, where history and progress intersect and people prosper,” is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 50 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 12<sup>th</sup> year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is ranked “Safest City” in Virginia in 2020. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, which has been converted to a multi-use trail from Alexandria, VA to Purcellville, the Town

has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, equestrian activities, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at [www.purcellvilleva.gov](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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Office of Drinking Water  
For Achieving Virginia's Optimization Program Goals

**Town of Purcellville**  
**Water Treatment Plant**

Is Awarded the

**2019 Bronze**

Water Treatment Plant Performance Award for  
Excellence in Granular Media Filtration

*Robert D. Edelman*

Robert D. Edelman, PE  
Director, Division of Technical Services

