

# Changing of the Guard



by Jamie Herman,  
*Training Specialist*

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As many of you may already know, our Wastewater Trainer, Mike Dill, has left the NYRWA family and moved on to new endeavors and opportunities. For several years now Mike has been an integral part of the team here at NYRWA, assisting wastewater systems throughout the state with technical assistance and providing high quality training to its operators. Mike was also an important part of our Annual Conference preparation and planning, ensuring that the best possible training sessions were provided year after year.

On a more personal note, I don't think I ever would have been able to speak before a classroom full of operators without Mike's positive encouragement and guidance. I appreciate everything Mike did along the way to help me better prepare and deliver my presentations. Whether it was constructive criticism or positive reinforcement, Mike was always there to help.

I wish Mike the best of luck in his new career, and

wish he and his wife Paula the best for a long, healthy and happy life.

As we all know, the show must go on. So we are very proud to welcome our new Wastewater Trainer, Jim Barnes. Jim has several decades of experience in the wastewater field, starting with industrial treatment, and later with the operation and supervision of the Village of Bolivar Wastewater Treatment Plant. I am confident that Jim will do an excellent job as he progresses in his new career here at the NYRWA. Much like Mike, Jim has a calming personality, and brings a great deal of knowledge to the position, which should benefit operators and systems alike.

If you wish to contact Jim or just welcome him to his new position, please email Jim at [Barnes@nyruralwater.org](mailto:Barnes@nyruralwater.org) or call 1-888-697-8725 Ext 14.

Welcome aboard Jim!, and best wishes to Mike and Paula! 💧