



WILLIAM D. CULLIGAN RETIRES

Richard Winters | Circuit Rider I

New York Rural Water Association wishes the best to another great Friend of Rural Water: William D. Culligan.

After 37+ years of working in the Water and Wastewater Industry, William (Bill) D. Culligan has decided to ride off into the sunset of his career (on his Harley). It's very hard to sum up everything one accomplishes in a short article like this so I would like to share some of the highlights with you if I may.

Bill started in October of 1979 at the Village of Monticello's Wastewater Plant as a maintenance worker. He quickly became a Certified Wastewater Treatment Operator for their 3.1 million gallon per day (MGD) Activated Sludge Plant and in 1985 became their Chief Plant Operator.

In April of 1990, he took a position in the Town of Thompson Water and Wastewater Department as their Assistant Superintendent. He was promoted to the Superintendent position in 1994. In 1999, they added yet another responsibility to his list when they made him the Superintendent of the Town's Parks and Recreation Department. He holds these titles as of this writing and will pass the torch on them with his retirement. His responsibilities include:

WASTEWATER FACILITIES:

1. Kiamesha Lake Wastewater Facility – 2 MGD Activated Sludge
2. Emerald Green Wastewater Facility – .410 MGD SBR Plant
3. Sackett Lake Wastewater Facility – .500 MGD Trickling Filter
4. Melody Lake Wastewater Facility – .030 MGD Activated Sludge
5. Dillon Farms Wastewater Facility – .016 MGD Sand Bed Plant

WATER FACILITIES

1. Cold Spring Water District – Ground Water
2. Dillon Farms Water District – Ground Water
3. Lucky Lake Water District – Ground Water
4. Melody Lake Water District – Ground Water
5. Route 42 Water District – Purchased Water

COLLECTION DISTRICTS

1. Anawana Sewer District
2. Harris Sewer District
3. Cold Spring Sewer District
4. Rock Hill Sewer District

Lab Director – Town of Thompson ELAP Certified Lab

Accreditations and Licenses include:

- Grade 4A Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
- Grade 11A SW/GUI Filtration Plant Operator
- Grade D – Distribution System Operator

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

NY Rural Water Association, N.Y.W.E.A., A.W.W.A., Hudson Valley Water Works Association

Bill somehow found the time to also give back to his community in a big way. He has been a Volunteer Fireman for over 35 years.



During this time he has held the positions of Driver, President, Chief, and Warden. He was also appointed to a one year term as a Commissioner and then elected to a 3 year term in 2006. In 2007, he was appointed by the Board of Fire Commissioners to be the Chairman of the Board. Bill also has been on the Conservation Advisory Council from 1990 to present. One group he is very proud to have worked with was the Monticello Little League. He was the coach for both his daughter and his sons teams.

Like all of us, he could never have done all these things without the LOVE and SUPPORT of his great family who include:

Wife Janie – Married September 29, 2006, Daughters – Mandi and Meghan, Son – William, Stepdaughter – Jerianne, Step sons – James & Jordan, Grandchildren – Devin, Liam, Michael and Christopher.

We here at the New York Rural Water Association have been honored and blessed to have worked with and known such a kind, quiet and professional man. I would like to take a moment to share some of the things he has done for our Association over the years. Bill has always been a supporter of our Association and has sent several letters of support to our C.E.O. (Pat Scalera) who uses these letters to show our political leaders in Washington the assistance that we provide to the communities in our State. He has even accompanied Pat to Washington to testify on our behalf how Rural Water has saved communities across this Nation millions of dollars over the years. He attends our conference every year and once even donated a truck load of bottled water for the Conference. Bill has made several friends throughout the State in his career and was the recipient of New York Rural Water Association's Friend of Rural Water two times (2009 and again in 2015) at our annual conference. As stated in the beginning of this article, these are but a few of his many accomplishments over the span of his career that I have touched on to try to show what a great person he has been and still is. Here's wishing Bill and Janie nothing but the best in the next chapter of their life and hoping we get to meet up with them some day (maybe on our motorcycles) to enjoy their company again. 💧💧💧