



For immediate release  
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**Alexandria Sanitation Authority as  
Environmental Steward, Industry Leader, Good Neighbor**  
*2008 Annual Report Released*

(Alexandria, VA, December 15, 2008) The Alexandria Sanitation Authority (ASA) today released its 2008 Annual Report detailing the progress Virginia's premier water reclamation facility made on behalf of the City of Alexandria and its citizens.

During the past year, ASA provided world-class service while making wise investments in the future that will yield strong dividends for the environment, quality of life and smart economic growth.

ASA Board Chairman Edward Semonian commented: "On behalf of ASA's Board, let me say how proud we are of the continued progress the Authority continues to make for the City we call home. And although we continue to mourn the loss of our friend and colleague, Ellen Pickering, we are exploring ways to best honor her sense of community spirit and volunteerism." Mrs. Pickering was a Board member and died in April, 2008.

Reflecting on the past year's achievements, ASA General Manager Karen L. Pallansch added, "This was a team effort in every sense of the word – from ASA's Board of Directors providing strategic direction and mission support – to our gifted senior leadership team and highly dedicated employees constantly challenging themselves to take the organization's performance to the next level."

**Environmental Steward**

ASA prides itself on staking out aggressive goals for producing clean water above and beyond what was required by law and shrinking its environmental footprint. In 2008, ASA created an Environmental Management System to improve environmental performance and compliance with regulations to increase efficiency and sustainable practices. It continues to reduce the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus in its reclaimed water that is returned to the Potomac River and eventually the Chesapeake Bay.

During this same time period, ASA also modernized some of the City's aging infrastructure, such as the Commonwealth and Holmes Run Sewer Systems. It also produced 21,000 tons of Class A Exceptions biosolids for Virginia's farmers who can apply this highly efficient organic fertilizer to their fields, reducing the need for expensive synthetic fertilizers that are derived from fossil fuel.

**Industry Leader**

ASA is a respected environmental and industry leader in the region and is gaining greater national and international recognition. This year, ASA received the *Excellence in Management Recognition* award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies which recognizes public clean water utilities that implement progressive management initiatives that help advance the goals of the Clean Water Act.

ASA was also recognized this year as only the 20th water reclamation facility in the Nation and the first in Virginia to be certified and admitted to the prestigious National Biosolids Partnership environmental management program.

At a celebratory event held at ASA in November 2008, City of Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille said, "This certification means much more than achieving high standards...By producing clean, safe and reclaimed water in an environmentally-friendly and sustainable manner, ASA ensures that our community can continue to thrive."

**Good Neighbor**

By producing clean, restored, reclaimed water, 24/7, 365 days a year, ASA invests in the health, safety and future of the City of Alexandria and its citizens. In 2008, ASA worked side-by-side with the community in a variety of ways to improve the environment and help its neighbors go “green” in their homes and businesses.

ASA employees and City residents participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. And at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Alexandria Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration, ASA helped visitors understand how clean water is produced and to track and reduce their environmental footprint. ASA is also committed to working with its many partners and stakeholders to make the Eco-City of the future a reality.

ASA's [2008 Annual Report](http://www.alexsan.com) can be found at [www.alexsan.com](http://www.alexsan.com).

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