

News



from the Alexandria Sanitation Authority

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ASA AND COVANTA PARTNERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

(Charlottesville, VA) The Alexandria Sanitation Authority (ASA) is pleased to announce that its nomination of Covanta's Alexandria/Arlington Resource Recovery Facility for an environmental excellence award was granted by the Virginia Water Environment Association. Covanta was the recipient of the prestigious Silver 2010 Industrial Waste and Pretreatment Environmental Excellence Award. The presentation was made today at a ceremony in Charlottesville, VA.

The Covanta facility serves about 300,000 residents of the County of Arlington and the City of Alexandria, which jointly own the site. The facility's three furnaces process 975 tons of solid waste each day, generating up to 23 megawatts of renewable energy that is sold to Dominion Virginia Power Company. ASA permits Covanta as part of federal and state industrial wastewater pretreatment requirements.

Industrial pretreatment has become an increasingly important and effective tool in modern wastewater treatment and management. Requiring industries and businesses to pretreat their wastewater before discharging it into the sewer system improves the quality of treated water and beneficial biosolids. For example, pretreatment removes oils and heavy metals that are not broken down in a sewage treatment facility and could even harm the plant.

"I want to commend Covanta on not only winning this award but for its commitment to environmental excellence," said ASA General Manager Karen L. Pallansch. "Pretreatment of industrial wastewater has become a major part of ASA's game plan to produce the highest quality reclaimed water and Class A Exceptional biosolids. By removing any potentially harmful materials at its source, Covanta has become a partner in our stewardship efforts to protect the City's environment and help restore the health of the Chesapeake Bay."

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