



## WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN

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### WRA Honors Dr. Richard W. Greene with 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award

*Delaware scientist recognized for 30 years advancing toxic contaminant science, water quality policy, and regional collaboration*

The Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin (WRA) has named Dr. Richard W. Greene, PhD, retired Senior Environmental Engineer from Delaware’s Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), the recipient of its 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors an individual whose career exemplifies sustained excellence in science-based water resources management.

Awards will be presented at WRA’s 2026 Awards Gala on Thursday, April 23 at the Fairmount Water Works in Philadelphia. All are invited.

*“These awardees are leading with science, collaboration and vision to advance resilience and sustainability in the Delaware River Basin and beyond. WRA’s Awards Gala is a unique opportunity for our community across the four states — New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware — to come together and honor these programs and individuals making an indelible mark on the health of our basin.”*

— Jennifer Garigiano, WRA Board President

*“WRA unites people and organizations across geographies, sectors, and disciplines to address our region’s most complex water resources challenges. These awards celebrate leaders whose science, ingenuity, and long-term stewardship protect drinking water, restore aquatic ecosystems, and advance a legacy of excellence in water management.”*

— Skelly Holmbeck, WRA Executive Director

*“The work was and continues to be important to the health of the Delaware River Basin. Thank you for recognizing my sustained contribution and dedication to improving water quality in the Basin.”*

— Rick Greene, 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, retired Senior Environmental Engineer, Delaware DNREC

#### 2026 WRA AWARD RECIPIENTS

**Samuel S. Baxter Memorial Award:** Distinguished Professor Ximing Guo, in recognition of his visionary Delaware Bay shellfish genetics research, establishing transformative innovations that have advanced



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global aquaculture, Basin water resources and resilience through decades of sustained scientific excellence.

**Lifetime Achievement Award: Richard W. Greene, PhD, distinguished scientist and mentor whose career advanced the understanding of toxic contaminants, created Delaware's fish advisory program, and shaped regional policy through collaborative excellence.**

**Waterside Land Development, Conservation and Preservation Award:** PIDC, Philadelphia's public-private economic development partner and Master Developer of the Navy Yard, for extraordinary leadership in transforming The Navy Yard waterfront into a dynamic engine of sustainable growth through resilient design and environmental stewardship.

**Special Recognition Award:** Penn State Extension Master Watershed Steward Program, for outstanding work conserving and enhancing waterways and green spaces through community education and outreach to advance ecological resilience in the Delaware River Basin.

**Young Leaders Award:** Abdullah Al-Amin, PhD, Philadelphia Water Department, for rigorous and pioneering stormwater science, engaging collaboration, and the rare gift of making complex ideas clear in service of clean water across the Delaware River Basin.

**WRA Achievement Award:** Philadelphia Water Department's Flat Rock Dam Improvement Project, for transforming the Manayunk Canal into a thriving aquatic ecosystem connected to the Schuylkill River, and created a welcoming place for wildlife and the community.

**Dr. Ruth Patrick Excellence in Education Award:** Wildlands Conservancy, for providing accessible, high-quality education about watershed systems, water quality, habitat health, and the ways human activities influence the Delaware River Basin.

Learn more about our Awardees [here](#).

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### CONTACT

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### ABOUT THE WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN

WRADRB is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that promotes the science-based management of water resources within the Delaware River Basin to protect water-dependent uses and enhance the long-term sustainability and resilience of the river system. WRADRB unites and represents water users and anyone dependent on, or interested in, the Basin's water resources. More at [wradrb.org](http://wradrb.org).