



POTOMAC  
RIVERKEEPER®  
NETWORK

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## POTOMAC RIVERKEEPER NETWORK ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS FOR SERVICE TO CLEAN WATER

*Awards to be Presented at Law & Water Gala*

**Washington, D.C. – October 4** –Potomac Riverkeeper Network revealed the winners of its annual “Service to Clean Water” awards, Nancy Stoner, President of Potomac Riverkeeper Network (PRKN), announced today. “These individuals and organization work tirelessly to protect our right to clean water. We are truly honored to recognize their contribution to PRKN and to all six million of us who depend on the Potomac watershed for our drinking water,” said Stoner.

The awards will be presented on November 1, PRKN’s fourth annual [Law & Water Gala](#) which celebrates the work by the organization to enforce clean water laws that protect the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers. Law & Water brings together more than 250 supporters and partners for an evening to honor those who protect and defend our Nation’s River.

### **President's Award**

This year’s President’s Award is presented to Jeff Kelble for his vision and outstanding leadership while serving as President of Potomac Riverkeeper Network. During his four years as president, he built PRKN’s record and reputation as the key defender of the Potomac River watershed, from its headwaters in West Virginia and the mountains of Virginia all the way to the Chesapeake Bay. Jeff assembled a world class team of active, engaged Board members and staff, including some of the finest Riverkeepers anywhere. The organization gained enhanced credibility and recognition for its expertise and its effectiveness with government agencies, NGOs, community groups and funders. We are indebted to him for his unswerving dedication to clean swimmable, drinkable and fishable water

### **Volunteer Award**

Donald (Don) Sutherland is our Volunteer of the Year. Over the past five years, he has dedicated more than 75 hours of flight time on 17 aerial missions, sometimes on short notice, to help Shenandoah River Program Manager, Alan Lehman, document and expose some of the worst water pollution sources in the watershed. The aerial photographs have unearthed previously undocumented sources of pollution, generated substantial media interest, raised our visibility as an organization that finds and stops pollution, and, most importantly, resulted in the correction of egregious pollution sources that threaten water quality and human health throughout the watershed.

### **Partner of The Year Award**

Alexandria Renew Enterprises is an advanced water resource treatment and recovery facility that, with its team of 100+ employees, transforms 13 billion gallons of wastewater every year into clean water and reusable resources. Through the

leadership of Karen Pallansch, CEO, Alexandria Renew, working in partnership with the City of Alexandria, has developed a plan to reduce raw sewage overflows into the Potomac River by more than 96% by 2025, one of the most protective plans in the nation. Their commitment to our community ensures that the necessary technical, engineering, financial, and management resources for a successful sewage abatement program will be devoted to this critical pollution reduction project. From high school rowing teams, to kayakers, to anglers --- everyone who uses the Potomac River downstream of Alexandria will be a beneficiary of this project.

Concluded Stoner, “The Potomac Riverkeeper is very proud to have blossomed under Jeff Kelble’s leadership and to have partners like Don Sutherland and Alexandria Renew that enable us to have such a major role in protecting our Nation’s River for all its beneficiaries. This year’s award winners truly represent the spectrum of our clean water community. From strong nonprofit leadership, to documenting pollution threats so that they can be cleaned up, to crafting and implementing clean water solutions, they show the rest of us what dedication and commitment is all about.”

### **About Potomac Riverkeeper Network**

Potomac Riverkeeper Network is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization with three regional Waterkeeper branches: Potomac Riverkeeper, Upper Potomac Riverkeeper, and Shenandoah Riverkeeper. Our mission is to protect the public's right to clean water in our rivers and streams. We stop pollution to promote safe drinking water, protect healthy habitats, and enhance public use and enjoyment.

For more information, visit [our website](#).

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