

# TOWN OF PITTSBORO, NC

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

23 September 2022

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### Town of Pittsboro Water Plant Wins Area Wide Optimization Award

The Town of Pittsboro is proud to announce that the Water Plant was recently selected to earn one of the 2022 award-year Area Wide Optimization (AWOP) Awards provided by the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality's Public Water Supply Section. This award was earned by only 66 water treatment plants across the State. It was based on the results of water quality testing throughout 2021.

The AWOP Awards are given yearly to water systems demonstrating outstanding turbidity removal, a key test of drinking water quality. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness or haziness of water caused by individual particles that can interfere with disinfection and provide a place for microbes to grow. Microbes are microscopic particles that occur naturally but can include harmful bacteria and viruses.

While all drinking water systems must meet strict state and federal drinking water standards, our system met high-performance goals far exceeding state and federal standards. Cory Saulsbury, the Superintendent for the Pittsboro Water Plant, said, "This is a high honor. We have earned this award numerous times over the past few years, and we plan to keep it up for years to come."

For more information about the 2022 AWOP awards, please visit <https://deq.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2022/09/13/north-carolina-honors-66-drinking-water-treatment-plants-awop-awards>.

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