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NEWS RELEASE

April 17, 2017

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Dale Pierson Honored with Prestigious Sudweeks Award
Rural Water Association Executive Director a Tireless Advocate for Water Quality

SALT LAKE CITY – Each year the Water Quality Board recognizes an individual who has shown outstanding leadership and achievement in the field of water quality. Dale Pierson, Executive Director of the [Rural Water Association of Utah \(RWAU\)](#) is this year's recipient of the [Calvin K. Sudweeks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Water Quality](#).

Pierson has been a strong champion of water quality for over 30 years. As general manager of Grand County Water and Sewer Agency, he was responsible for the early efforts to regionalize wastewater management in the Moab. Pierson has served on numerous legislative and gubernatorial task forces on water use and the water-development needs of the state, both as a board member and executive director of RWAU. Pierson and RWAU have been major supporters of wastewater operator training in the state, with RWAU offering a broad range of general and specialized training to ensure Utah has a well trained workforce of skilled wastewater professionals.

"Dale has been a central partner in providing water-quality assistance to rural Utah," explained Walt Baker, director of the Division of Water Quality. "His "how can I help?" approach and advocacy for clean water and wastewater infrastructure planning have been, and will continue to be, a tremendous service to Utah's citizens."

The Water Quality Board will present Pierson with the award during its April 19, 2017, board meeting in St. George, Utah.

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About DEQ

Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) mission is to safeguard and improve Utah's air, land and water through balanced regulation. DEQ implements state and federal environmental laws and works with individuals, community groups and businesses to protect the quality of Utah's air, land and water. For more information, visit www.deq.utah.gov, follow DEQ on Facebook ([utahdeq](#)) and Twitter ([UtahDEQ](#)), or call 1-800-458-0145.