

Connecticut's Best Drinking Water Taste Test

Eligibility

- The CTAWWA's Best of the Best Taste Test will be held during the Water Quality & Treatment Symposium November 17, 2026 at the Norwich Inn & Spa, Norwich, CT
- The Taste Test is open to Connecticut AWWA utility members. Entrants must not have incurred any state, or federal drinking water violations (MCL, MAC, monitoring, recordkeeping, etc.) during the previous calendar year.
- The winner will receive a complimentary exhibit-only registration to AWWA ACE27 where the winning utility's water will represent CTAWWA in the national contest.

Requirements

- Personal attendance at the Symposium is required for the competition. Anyone from the participating utility may act as the representative for the utility.
- Two samples should be sent, each in a one-liter container. Glass containers are preferable, but utilities can use the container of their choosing. Each sample should be clearly identified with the name of the water system and Section it represents. It is recommended that containers be completely filled to eliminate air from the top of the sample. Chilled entries will not be accepted. Note: **Water samples entered should be representative of the systems Point of Entry (POE).**
- Samples must arrive between 8:00 am – 8:45 am at the registration table at the day of the Symposium.

Judging

- Judging for the Best of the Best will be a mix of industry professionals, local figures and flavor-profile analyzers.
- After samples have been registered, they will be allowed to warm up to room temperature for the judging. The identity of each sample will be kept anonymous.
- Samples will be judged on Taste, Odor and Clarity using a 10-point scale from Good (1) to Best (10).
- Scores will be tabulated and the winner for the contest will be announced during the afternoon break.
- Only the winning sample will be announced. Samples will not be ranked nor will scores be released.

Recommended Sample Bottle Preparation

Method #1 - Prepare sample bottles by washing bottle and cap with detergent. Rinse 10 times with hot water and allow to air dry.

Method #2 – Prepare sample bottles by washing bottle and cap with detergent. Rinse thoroughly, then rinse with vinegar, then flush and rinse with water and allow to air dry.

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November 17, 2026
Norwich Inn & Spa

Entry Form

Please complete and submit the form or register on line at ctawwa.org by November 14, 2025

Official Water System Name: _____

Water System Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Name of Representative Attending Conference (if different from above): _____

Source of Water (Groundwater or Surface) _____

Describe Water Treatment Process _____

Please email the completed form to longoctawwa@gmail.com or register ctawwa.org

