

# WEDA PRESENTS 1ST “DREDGER ON DECK” AWARD TO WAYNE KOSTUK

FIRST WEDA DREDGER ON DECK AWARD PRESENTED TO

**WAYNE KOSTUK**

AT THE WEDA SUMMIT & EXPO, LAS VEGAS, JULY 17-20, 2023

At the Western Dredging Association’s Summit & Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada, WEDA’s 2023 Dredger on Deck Award was awarded to Mr. Wayne Kostuk, General Superintendent at Severson Environmental Services, Inc. Mr. Kostuk is the first recipient of this annual award, which is meant to honor on-site operating and/or supervisory personnel overseeing dredging operations. These are the people who spend much of their time on project sites, i.e., “boots on the ground or boat”. The award recognizes their contributions toward providing value to the dredging company and community and highlights their most valuable contributions, which are delivered day after day, operationally on the water, on the deck, on the beaches and shores, in the yard, and on the fill.

Mr. Wayne Kostuk has over 40 years of experience working on varied and complex remediation projects that began with his work as a surveyor for Severson on the Love Canal – the first entry on the CERCLA Superfund list – in 1980. Following in his father and grandfather’s footsteps, Mr. Kostuk is a third-generation employee at Severson and was a key contributor in the transformation of Severson from a heavy civil contractor to a remedial contracting firm.

As Severson continued to grow and adapt to the evolving remediation industry, Mr. Kostuk’s knowledge and interest in boating and marine work facilitated his role in ushering Severson into remedial dredging and capping. Within this developing and unique industry, Mr. Kostuk’s penchant towards innovation was able to flourish, yielding numerous advancements in remedial dredging and capping technology.

Through the tutelage and training from those before him, Mr. Kostuk quickly advanced from surveyor to a foreman where he demonstrated his ability to problem-solve, lead others, and to innovate. Complex and challenging projects quickly found their way to Mr. Kostuk where his efforts and accomplishments were rewarded as he advanced from assistant superintendent to superintendent and eventually a general superintendent.

As a general superintendent, Mr. Kostuk is now managing several high-profile projects in the field. His work in the sediment remediation industry has included countless projects with stakeholders including the USEPA; USACE; NAVFAC; private clients; and local and state agencies, and various contract structures, including firm fixed price; cost reimbursable; fixed fee; lump sum; and guaranteed maximum price contracts. As Mr. Kostuk’s career grew within this budding industry, he became experienced with all elements of sediment removal (mechanical, hydraulic, hybrid, diver, etc.), sediment capping (hydraulic, mechanical, pneumatic), dewatering

and stabilization of sediment, pile driving, wastewater treatment, in-situ stabilization, and restoration.

In addition to ensuring safe and efficient operations, Mr. Kostuk is continually supporting and mentoring field staff. He is fully aware that for the next generation to succeed, they first must learn. With that in mind, Mr. Kostuk does an incredible job of mentoring and guiding young superintendents, foreman, and project engineers, facilitating their growth and development within the industry. Mr. Kostuk brings them under his wing and teaches them the ropes about particular and intricate aspects of the job, ultimately ensuring successful execution and completion. Indeed, he leads by example and is committed to developing and maintaining a positive team relationship to achieve the remediation goals established for each project. After long hours on the project, more evenings than not he can be found grilling from the back of his truck for the project team and discussing projects past and present.

Not only is Mr. Kostuk a leader in the field, but he also is able to mentor at the contractual level. Mr. Kostuk is familiar with various contracting vehicles, this allows him to mentor both youthful superintendents and project managers on how to successfully navigate client contracts, negotiations, and discussions. His experience has shown that the critical functions of planning, coordination, monitoring, and communication are most effective when performed as a team.

Another part of Mr. Kostuk and Severson's overall success is safety. In the last 10 years, Mr. Kostuk has assisted in the safe supervision of more than 750K workhours on complex dredging and sediment capping projects with differing site conditions impacted by a range of contaminants of concern.

In recognition of his leadership capabilities, mentoring of his teams, and the overall successful completion of countless projects, WEDA is pleased to present Mr. Kostuk with the 2023 WEDA Dredger on Deck Award.

For further information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Craig Vogt at [Craig@CraigVogt.com](mailto:Craig@CraigVogt.com) or Tom Cappellino at [tcappellino@westerndredging.org](mailto:tcappellino@westerndredging.org) or see the WEDA website: [www.westerndredging.org](http://www.westerndredging.org).

Best regards,

**Craig Vogt**  
WEDA Awards Committee Chair  
[Craig@CraigVogt.com](mailto:Craig@CraigVogt.com)

**Thomas P. Cappellino**  
WEDA Executive Director  
[tcappellino@westerndredging.org](mailto:tcappellino@westerndredging.org)

