

**Grand Place Award (1st Place in Category)**  
***Water and Wastewater Category***

Firm: **Kuehl & Payer, Ltd.**  
Client/Owner: **City of Strawberry Point, Iowa**  
Project: ***Wastewater System Improvements***

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This award was given to Kuehl and Payer, Ltd. of Storm Lake for their role in the final planning, design and construction administration of the Wastewater Improvements recently completed for the City of Strawberry Point.

The project started in 2000 with a study of the need for relief of overloaded sanitary sewers. During the study it was learned that both of the City's wastewater treatment lagoons were overloaded and required either upgrading or replacement.

The final project included innovative approaches to both the handling and treatment of the City's wastewater. The two (2) existing lagoons were replaced with one (1) new treatment system located in the vicinity of the City's south lagoons. A pumping station was installed at the north lagoon to transfer wastewater from the north part of Strawberry Point to combine it with wastewater from the south areas so both areas could be treated in the same system. A main lift station was constructed at the south edge of Strawberry Point with a new force main constructed to convey the waste to the new treatment system.

The treatment system is a system that is being used for the first time in Iowa. It consists of a covered aerated lagoon designed to keep the water from freezing in the winter. This will allow treatment to continue throughout the winter to insure an effluent meeting IDNR regulations.

The project was placed into operation in November, 2006 and operated very well through the winter of 2006 - 07. All parameters that are tested met or exceeded the limits set by IDNR and have continued to do so since start-up.