

# 2013

## GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Co-Sponsored by

State of New Jersey

Department of Environmental Protection

New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology

[www.nj.gov/dep/eeawards/index.html](http://www.nj.gov/dep/eeawards/index.html)



## INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to announce the application process for the 2013 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards. This program was established by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2000 to recognize outstanding environmental performance, programs and projects in the state. Since its inception, over 126 entities have been recognized including individuals, businesses, educators, institutions, communities, and youth.

All winners of the 2013 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards will be invited to an awards ceremony and press event hosted by State officials in November.

The DEP and the New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology (NJCAT) co-sponsor this program.

## ELIGIBILITY

Nominations will be accepted from individuals, organizations, institutions or businesses. You may nominate yourself or your employer, as well as another company, individual, institution, or organization that you believe is worthy of recognition. However, self nominations in the **Environmentalist of the Year** category will not be accepted. Applicants in this category must be nominated by someone else. In addition, all applicants/projects must:

1) Be located in New Jersey; 2) Be active within the past year, and; 3) Agree to have their project shared with others through a written description to appear in the awards program, press materials and on the GEEA website.

Third party nominations must be accompanied by a written authorization from the nominated party agreeing to consideration for the award. The DEP, other State agencies and State employees are not eligible for awards.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

All applicants must address the following five judging criteria. The answer to each may not exceed one typewritten page.

### 1. DOCUMENTED ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT (30 Points)

Please quantify the overall environmental benefits of this program/project or individual accomplishment over the past year or most recent 12-month period for which data exists. For example: amount of pollution prevented; resources or energy conserved; acres preserved; tonnage recycled; etc. It is to the applicant's benefit to be as specific and thorough as possible.

### 2. MEETING NEEDS (20 points)

Describe how this program/project or individual accomplishment contributes to the environmental needs of the state. Reference such issues as originality, effectiveness, risks that were overcome, and whether or not the project is a component of a larger comprehensive plan.

### 3. LEADERSHIP/INNOVATION (15 points)

Describe how this program/project or individual shows leadership and has taken steps beyond "traditional" environmental protection efforts.

### 4. COVERAGE AND REPLICABILITY (20 points)

Describe how this program, project or individual has impacted the business, community, region or state, long-term. Describe how easily the project can be replicated in other locations or by other people.

## 5. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (15 points)

Describe what education and/or outreach activities were undertaken in association with this project for affected individuals, employees, stakeholders, contractors, consultants, community, etc.

### SCORING/EVALUATING

Groups of reviewers comprised of professionals from the Department of Environmental Protection will evaluate the applications. Each of the judging criteria has an associated point value identified in the section above. The total number of points possible for each applicant is 100. Applications will only be scored on the answers to the five judging criteria. Please do not submit extraneous material, as it will not benefit your application.

The Department reserves the right not to give an award in any category if no outstanding nominations are received. All decisions of the judges are final.

### ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Department of Environmental Protection is committed to providing a high quality of life for the residents of New Jersey. It is our mission to assist the residents of New Jersey in preserving, sustaining, protecting and enhancing the environment to ensure the integration of high environmental quality, public health and economic vitality. We will accomplish our mission in partnership with the general public, business, environmental community and all levels of government. For more information about the Department, please visit [www.state.nj.us/dep/](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/).

### ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY CORPORATION FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

The New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology (NJCAT) is a private/public partnership that pools the best talents and diverse resources of business and industry, entrepreneurs, university research centers, utilities and government to promote the development and commercialization of exciting, new energy and environmental technologies. For more information about NJCAT, please visit [www.njcat.org](http://www.njcat.org).

### SUBMISSIONS AND DEADLINES

Applications must be received by DEP staff by Friday, September 6th at 5:00 p.m. Applications can be submitted by email or mail.

- Electronic submissions should be sent to Caroline Kirkland at [Caroline.Kirkland@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Caroline.Kirkland@dep.state.nj.us); OR
- One copy of the application should be mailed to:

Attn: Caroline Kirkland  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
Mail Code: 401-07  
401 East State Street  
P.O. Box 402  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

If you have questions about the application or awards program, please contact:  
Tanya Oznowich at 609.984.9802 or send email to [Tanya.Oznowich@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Tanya.Oznowich@dep.state.nj.us)  
Caroline Kirkland at 609.633.7024 or send email to [Caroline.Kirkland@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Caroline.Kirkland@dep.state.nj.us)

#### In addition, please note:

- All applications become public information
- Applicants will be notified regarding award decisions in late October or early November
- The awards ceremony is not scheduled until early fall but typically takes place in mid-November in Trenton.
- Award winners will be asked to bring a poster display showcasing their efforts to the ceremony, and to submit 3 slides that can be used during the ceremony

## **AWARD CATEGORIES (select one)**

Awards are available in each of the categories listed below. You must identify the category of your nomination on the attached application form.

**CLEAN AIR:** Nominees in this category should demonstrate a commitment to, and experience in, one or more of the following areas and activities:

- Reducing air pollution emissions and/or reducing outdoor exposure to toxic air contaminants;
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions or equivalents through energy efficiency projects or green power purchases; and
- Reducing air deposition loading to land and water.

**WATER RESOURCES:** Nominees in this category should demonstrate a positive influence in one or more of the following areas and activities:

- Improving surface or ground water quality;
- Ensuring sufficient quantities of water through reuse and conservation techniques; and
- Promoting or developing progressive land use policies and watershed management approaches to improve protection of surface and groundwater sources.

**HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS:** Nominees in this category should demonstrate a commitment to, and experience in, programs or techniques that have resulted in the restoration, protection and enhancement of the State's ecological resources. These include wetlands, estuaries and coastal areas, as well as non-game and/or threatened and endangered species.

**INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY:** Nominees in this category should demonstrate the use or deployment of a new or alternative method, procedure, process, system or facility, which results in greater environmental protection than other technologies in current practice or comparable results at lower costs in terms of energy, natural resources or environmental impacts.

**LAND CONSERVATION:** Nominees in this category should demonstrate a commitment to, and experience in, the preservation of open space that protects land from future development.

**HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES and HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES:** Nominees in these two categories should demonstrate a commitment to and experience in any of the following activities:

- Any activity addressing issues such as pollution/waste reduction, recycling, land use, local purchasing, sustainability, resource conservation or product stewardship;
- Innovative practices or technologies that have resulted in the private or public sector clean up and redevelopment of contaminated/brownfields sites; and
- Creation of community-based initiatives that foster involvement, action and effective solutions to the adverse effects of industrial pollution in overburdened and low-income communities.

For municipalities that are participating in the Sustainable Jersey™ Program, please note this in your application.

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION / EDUCATOR LED and/or STUDENT LED PROJECTS:** This award will be given to an educator, student, group of students or school that has planned and implemented a project/program with measurable positive environmental impacts.

**ENVIRONMENTALIST OF THE YEAR:** Nominees in this category should demonstrate committed values toward the environment and an appreciation of it and their accomplishments should contribute to the conservation, restoration and protection of New Jersey's natural resources and environmental quality.

# GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS APPLICATION

Name of Company/Organization or Individual \_\_\_\_\_

Person responsible for preparing application \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Preparer's Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a third party nomination? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Category of the nomination (select one):

- Clean Air
- Water Resources
- Environmental Education
- Healthy Ecosystems
- Innovative Technology
- Land Conservation
- Environmentalist of the Year
- Healthy & Sustainable Communities
- Healthy & Sustainable Businesses

Provide a brief biographical sketch of the applicant and project description (no more than 200 words). Please note that this description is not judged but is the basis for any press releases, printed materials, etc. produced by DEP for this awards program.

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Mail Code: 401-07  
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