

2021

NOMINATION PACKET

**NJDEP**

**RECYCLING AWARDS**

Recognizing Excellence in Recycling  
Throughout New Jersey



Deadline: July 30, 2021

## RECYCLING AWARDS

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, in conjunction with the Association of New Jersey Recyclers, annually recognizes excellence in recycling. Our goal is to highlight the success of agencies, businesses, individuals and others who go beyond the norm to advance sustainable materials management and to make these examples available to others who may emulate them. Nominated recycling programs can relate to any type of recycling, including traditional recyclables, food waste reduction, innovative recycling, etc.

**THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION SUBMITTALS IS JULY 30, 2021**

### ELIGIBILITY

You may nominate yourself, your business/organization, or any other business, individual or organization worthy of recognition. Applicants or projects must:

- be located in New Jersey
- agree to share their project or program with others
- provide supporting documentation for a one-year period (2020)
- Award winners from the previous three years are not eligible to participate again this year
- Second party nominations must be accompanied by a written authorization from the nominated party agreeing to be considered for the award

### AWARD CATEGORIES

The categories for these awards are outlined below. You must identify only one category for each nomination on the application form on page 8. The nomination will be judged against other entries in that category.

#### Institution

Any pre-school, elementary, intermediate or high school, hospital, long-term care facility, nursing home, college, university, or other institution that has implemented a recycling program or expanded an existing program.

#### Business

Any large or small business that has implemented a recycling program, expanded an existing program, and/or developed and implemented a sustainability plan.

#### Retail Merchant

Any large or small retail merchant who has implemented a recycling program or expanded an existing program.

#### Government

A county, municipality, or state agency/instrumentality that has expanded its recycling or buy recycled program.

#### Leadership

County, municipal, business, school or other recycling coordinators/leaders who have implemented new recycling programs, expanded existing programs or otherwise fostered the advancement of recycling through years of dedicated service.

#### Rising Star

Individuals or programs that have achieved exemplary recycling results in previously unsuccessful situations through innovation and persistence.

#### Outstanding Educator/Educational Program

Any teacher, administrator, community or student group, environmental educator or individual student whose actions have resulted in increased participation in recycling.

#### Recycling Industry

Any processing facility (Class A, B, C and D), manufacturer, equipment manufacturer, or collector who has contributed to the expansion of recycling in New Jersey.

#### Source Reduction/Resource Management/Sustainability

Any program that has reduced waste at its source and managed its resources in a more efficient and sustainable manner.

#### Volunteer Citizen

Any New Jersey resident who has, in a voluntary capacity, assisted in the promotion and implementation of recycling in New Jersey.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

Please document performance for 2020 using the following five criteria. The program narrative may not exceed 4 pages and the supporting documentation may not exceed 15 pages.

### 1. MEASURABLE OUTCOMES AND DOCUMENTATION

Show us, through data or documents, the following:

- the nominee's recycling rate and materials recycled;
- any improvement over time;
- all recycled products purchased, and any written policy to do so;
- any reduction in resources used, or any change from toxic products to non-toxic alternatives;
- how the nominee funded and budgeted his project or program;
- any enforcement activities performed.

Samples may include weigh slips, bills of lading, bid specifications, budget sheets, buy recycled policies, etc.

### 2. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

How did the nominee educate both members of his institution/organization, and visitors or clients? What costs were incurred to implement the educational program, and how was this program funded? What rewards or sanctions were used? How many people were reached? Was the nominee able to change behavior, and if so, to what extent? How was that measured?

Samples may include promotional materials, signage, published articles, etc.

### 3. COVERAGE AND REPLICABILITY

Were innovations introduced across all branches of the organization? Can others learn from and adapt the nominee's program in their own organizations?

### 4. LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION

How does this program, project or individual show leadership and take steps beyond "traditional" recycling? How does this project or individual build alliances or share information to approach problems? Describe such issues as originality, effectiveness in improving existing methods and any risks that were overcome.

### 5. EXCEEDING REGULATORY STANDARDS

How has the nominee exceeded regulatory expectations? Did the nominee collect materials not required, or serve clients that he did not need to serve?

## Application Requirements

Submit the following

- Completed Application Form**  
(see page 8)
- Written Program Narrative**  
(no longer than 4 pages)
- Supporting Documentation**  
(no longer than 15 pages)

## Dates to Remember

**Application Due Date**

July 30, 2021

**Award Winners Notified**

September 2021

**Annual Recycling Symposium & Awards Luncheon**

DEP Virtual Awards Ceremony, Fall 2021

# RECYCLING AWARDS

## SUBMITTALS AND DEADLINES

Award applications should include all of the following 3 components: **your completed application form (see page 8), a program narrative (no more than 4 pages) and supporting documentation (no more than 15 pages)**. Electronic submissions of the entire nomination package can be sent to [njrecycles@dep.nj.gov](mailto:njrecycles@dep.nj.gov). All applications must be received by close of business on July 30, 2021.

Award winners will be notified in September 2021. Awards will be presented during a virtual awards ceremony in the fall of 2021. For further information, contact Steve Rinaldi, Bureau of Sustainability, at [Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov). All entries are public information.

## SCORING/EVALUATING

A panel of judges from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Association of New Jersey Recyclers will evaluate all applications. Each applicant may be awarded up to 100 total points, distributed as per the table below:

	Institution Business Retail Merchant Government Recycling Industry	Leadership Rising Star Outstanding Educator/Program Volunteer Citizen	Source Reduction/ Resource Management/ Sustainability
<b>Measurable Outcomes</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Education and Outreach</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Coverage and Replicability</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Leadership and Innovation</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Exceeding Standards</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>0%</b>

## ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY RECYCLERS

ANJR is a non-profit, non-partisan network representing public and private sectors whose mission is to promote sustainability by promoting sound resource management and recycling strategies through education, advocacy, and the enhancement of professional standards. ANJR firmly believes that New Jersey needs an integrated solid waste management plan, and will facilitate that plan with education and advocacy around the issues of recycling, source reduction, resource management, household hazardous waste management, buy recycled sustainability, composting, and litter prevention and reduction.  
<http://www.anjr.com/>

## ABOUT THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The New Jersey 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, the environmental community and all levels of government. For more information on the Department, please visit [www.nj.gov/dep/](http://www.nj.gov/dep/)

# 2020 AWARDEES

## Business Award

### *Public Service Electric & Gas*



PSEG achieved a 93 percent recycling rate in 2019 by recycling the typical materials found in office settings – paper, corrugated cardboard, glass, plastic, and metal containers. They also recycle asphalt, soil, tree trimmings, induction light fixtures, wood scraps, lead acid batteries, and ferrous scrap.



## Government Award

### *Township of Middletown*

The township increased its recycling rate to 75 percent from 65 percent through a comprehensive program that includes single stream curbside collection, two recycling drop-off centers and a polystyrene recycling program open to all Monmouth County residents.

## Institution Award

### *Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey*



Princeton University recycles glass, plastic, aluminum, paper, corrugated cardboard, metal, food waste, wooden pallets, mattresses, textiles, tires, construction, demolition debris and more. The university purchased a composter which led to an additional 62 tons of food scraps being recycled from campus cafes. Princeton University also has a comprehensive reuse program for items left behind by students at the end of the school year.



## Leadership Award

### *Long Beach Township*

The community implemented an innovative voluntary recycling project that diverts oyster and clam shells from restaurants for use in establishing a research oyster reef in Little Egg Harbor Bay.





### Outstanding Educator/Educational Program Award *Toms River Township Department of Public Works*

The department developed an educational program about recycling and litter prevention that features a puppet show and coloring book for school children and a robot used at public events.

### Recycling Industry Award *Foam Cycle LLC., Augusta, NJ*



The company's recycling system for expanded polystyrene packaging has been successfully incorporated into existing recycling programs at county and municipal recycling centers. The system in 2019 diverted almost 29,000 pounds of expanded polystyrene packaging from New Jersey landfills.

### Retail Merchant Award *Burlington Stores, Inc.*



Burlington Stores, Inc. recycled 8,200 tons of corrugated cardboard, 3,000 tons of wooden pallets, 630 tons of single stream recyclables and 70 tons of scrap metal and electronics from its New Jersey operations.

### Rising Star Award *Lisamarie Schieli*



Maywood's recycling coordinator has developed and implemented a wide variety of reuse and recycling programs for non-traditional waste items including used sports equipment, books, prom dresses, Halloween costumes, jeans, board games and more.

## RECYCLING AWARDS

### Source Reduction, Resource Management, and Sustainability Award

*Merck & Co., Inc*



The pharma company implemented a variety of waste reduction, recycling and sustainability programs, including a food waste recycling program that uses on-site composters, a program to recycle plastics generated by the company's laboratories and a reusable coffee mug initiative.

### Volunteer Citizen Award

*Sri Nihal Tammana*



Sri Nihal Tammana is an 11-year-old from Edison, New Jersey whose passion for the environment led him to start a nonprofit organization dedicated to recycling batteries. Thus far, Sri's "Recycle My Battery" program has resulted in the recycling of over 35,000 batteries.

## New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection 2021 Recycling Awards Application

(Please submit this completed application form electronically along with the program narrative and supporting documentation.)

Name of Company/Association/Organization or Individual to be nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Person Responsible for Preparing Application / Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a second party nomination?  Yes  No

If Yes, please attach authorization from the nominated party.

### Category of the nomination (Select One):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Institution                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Business   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retail Merchant              | <input type="checkbox"/> Government   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rising Star  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator/Educational Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Recycling Industry                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Citizen            | <input type="checkbox"/> Source Reduction/Resource Management/ Sustainability |

### REQUIRED:

Provide a **brief** description of the company, organization or individual nominee, identifying the nominee's contributions to New Jersey's recycling program (no more than 2 paragraphs).