Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence 2015

GUIDELINES

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Dear Friend,

On behalf of Governor Tom Wolf, it is with great pleasure that I invite you and your organization to apply for the 2015 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. Under the Governor's direction, the Department of Environmental Protection has dedicated its efforts to developing environmental educational opportunities, directing our resources to watersheds in need, assisting organizations in achieving greater pollution prevention and energy efficiency, and enhancing environmental cleanup programs statewide.

It is evident to me that teamwork and partnership foster the greatest accomplishments and I encourage all those who share these initiatives to submit an application for the 2015 award ceremony. This award is open to all Pennsylvania businesses, farms, government agencies, educational institutions, non-profit organizations and individuals who have created, or participated in, the development of a project that promotes environmental stewardship and economic development in the state. We would like to recognize those leaders who have transformed environmental challenges into opportunities within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

By nominating yourself, your organization or an individual or organization you know, you can help to display the many ways citizens and businesses are making Pennsylvania the leader in environmental protection. I am certain that the 2015 awards will showcase those individuals and organizations that have played an integral part in forging a new direction and a new environmental era in Pennsylvania.

For more information, please visit the Department of Environmental Protection's Web site at www.depweb.state.pa.us and click on "Public Participation" then click "Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence".

We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

John H. Quigley,
Acting Secretary

Project Eligibility

The Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence is open to any Pennsylvania business, farm, government agency, educational institution, non-profit organization and individual that have created, or participated in, the development of a project that promotes environmental stewardship and economic development in the state. To be eligible for consideration, projects must have been completed between August 1, 2013 and July 31, 2014.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- **Innovative Technological Advances**
  Companies, individuals or projects that contribute to the co-existence of environmental protection with advances in drilling, mining methods, pollution prevention equipment, water protection and treatment, and clean coal technology.

- **Energy Solutions**
  Companies, individuals or projects will offer best service/best price options for renewable energy strategies, meet demands in the restructured electricity market and promote economic development and investment in renewable and alternative energy.

- **Resource Development**
  Companies, individuals or projects with measurable and direct environmental benefits that remove environmental threat, exceed environmental standards, and enhance access to domestic energy.

- **Economic Opportunity**
  Companies, individuals or projects that promote environmentally responsible economic development strategies, leverage public/private partnerships, and demonstrate balance between economic, social, and environmental objectives.

- **Environmental Education**
  Companies, individuals or projects that create communication pathways, break down barriers, foster environmental education, address environmental concerns and challenges and create awareness for responsible environmental practices.

- **Watershed Restoration**
  Companies, individuals or projects that display practicable engineering based on sound science, ensure future growth and yield maximum environmental benefits for Pennsylvania's waterways. Projects demonstrate pollution reduction strategies for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and the Potomac and Susquehanna basins.

- **Wastewater Recycling Technologies**
  Companies, individuals or projects that enhance the commonwealth's water protection by pioneering new water recycling and treatment technologies.

Evaluation and Selection

Projects will be selected for awards based on the seven criteria listed below:

1. **Protection** – Projects must demonstrate, above all, a commitment to protecting the environment. Winners receiving the most points under this criterion have implemented an environmental project in the most effective manner possible with measurable and demonstrable results. Projects using innovative technologies or approaches will receive additional consideration.

2. **Partnership** – Projects should demonstrate the involvement of employees, government officials and/or community members.

3. **Public Service** – Projects should demonstrate a commitment to the public's best interest.

4. **Environmental Education and Outreach** – Projects should teach others about environmentally responsible practices.

5. **Pollution Prevention** – Projects should achieve environmental results through other "end-of-the-pipe" methods like disposal, treatment or control technologies.

6. **Economic Impact** – Projects should be cost-effective, either minimizing costs or demonstrating a payback on investments or create or retain jobs.

7. **Innovative Technology** – Projects using innovative technology or approaches will receive additional consideration.

Application and Project Summary Guidelines

Application Guidelines

Each project may submit one application. Companies with multiple facilities may submit an application for each facility. Projects that have previously received a Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence are not eligible for this award. Past winners may submit new projects for consideration. All applications must be typed in the forms provided. All applications must be submitted by email by 5 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2015 to RA-EPgovenviroawards@pa.gov in order to be considered.

Project Summary Guidelines

Please complete the **provided application and blank project summary form** to describe your project. The project summary should be **no more than 3 pages**. Applicants may submit additional supporting documents, but limit them to no more than 3 additional pages. The summary must be clear and concise. The description should include the following:

1. Name of organization

2. A brief paragraph about your organization

3. Title of project

4. A description of the project

5. The characteristics, objectives, goals, benefits and outstanding attributes

6. The environmental results achieved (waste eliminated, recycled, etc.)

7. An overview of the project's commitment to the public's best interest

8. An explanation of employee, government official and community member involvement

9. An overview of any innovative technologies and approaches used to achieve results

10. An explanation of how the project provides community education on environmentally responsible practices

11. The total project costs

12. The resulting total dollar savings

13. The potential for job creation and/or retention

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All Applications and Project Summaries must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Monday, March 2nd, 2015

If you have any questions regarding your application please contact the Policy Office at the Department of Environmental Protection.

The Policy Office
Department of Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063
717-783-8727

As part of our continuing efforts to go green, we are requesting all application materials be submitted via email. Please send all completed Applications and Project Summaries to RA-EPgovenviroawards@pa.gov.