

SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARDS

AWARD CATEGORY	PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY ¹	SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS ²	EXAMPLE PROJECTS ³
Agriculture & Forestry	To recognize individuals, businesses, or organizations that have demonstrated exceptional achievement in developing sustainable resource management programs for agricultural or forestry operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take Root Chattanooga which is a non-profit organization which planted 1,500 trees in downtown Chattanooga in a span of 2 years (<i>Take Root Chattanooga, 2009</i>) Deployed a host of grazing technologies to improve water quality in and around the farm (<i>Robert Thompson Farm, 2008</i>)
Aquatic Resource Preservation	To recognize the organized and sustained efforts of individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that improve or protect an aquatic ecosystem in Tennessee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of the aquatic ecosystem Impact to the biological integrity and diversity of the aquatic ecosystem Integrated effort relating to adjacent land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2008, more than 3,500 feet of stream banks were treated. BMPs including short-term control measures, as well as long-term activities designed to promote the natural functioning of the land and to improve water quality and quantity. (<i>Duck Rivers Opportunities Project, 2009</i>) Released its 60,000 lake sturgeon in the Tennessee River Watershed and improved monitoring of all released sturgeon as well as starting new partnerships (<i>TN Aquarium Research Institute, 2008</i>)
Building Green	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that further the widespread use of green building materials and construction techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration with existing green building programs Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three newly constructed residence halls located within the Commons at Vanderbilt University are LEED - Gold Certified by USGBC. Vanderbilt has a total of seven LEED-certified buildings (<i>Vanderbilt University – The Commons Phase II, 2009</i>) Developed and built three new nature centers that include sustainable building and design techniques (<i>Metro Parks and Recreation, 2008</i>)
Energy Leadership	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and communities for demonstrating outstanding leadership in improving energy efficiency, developing advanced energy technologies, and using renewable energy resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processes used to optimize the amount of energy consumed in operational activities (<i>if applicable</i>) Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established a ground-breaking educational track for students and faculty at David Crockett High School. This project assists students in the acquisition of cutting-edge technology, knowledge, skills and increased awareness of the growing career and educational opportunities in the green economy. (<i>Crockett Goes Green, 2009</i>) Existing construction technology program was enhanced to include a focus on alternative and renewable energy sources (<i>Cleveland State Community College, 2008</i>)
Environmental Education and Outreach	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and agencies for achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevance of the educational and outreach efforts to environmental issues that are particularly pertinent in a given community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Education Classroom and Habitat is an environmental classroom and teaching trail, which promotes environmental education in a hands-on science atmosphere. (<i>Bridgestone Firestone, 2009</i>) Created and fostered an energy conservation ethic among young people in middle TN (<i>Kilowatt Ours Youth Initiative, 2008</i>)
Green Schools	To recognize schools that encourage pollution prevention projects on their campuses while increasing the environmental awareness of students and staff; awarded to 1 K-12 school and 1 institution of higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness in addressing issues relating to air quality; energy, land, or water conservation; hazardous materials management; or solid waste reduction Participation by the student body, staff, faculty, and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has achieved the highest level of certification possible for the Tennessee Pollution Prevention Program and succeeded in 2008 in becoming the only K-4 school in Tennessee to reach "performer" status. (<i>David Lipscomb Elementary School, 2009</i>) Sustainable Practice degree is to advance the practice of sustainability through education, research, training and service to the community and the world. As well as greening their campus. (<i>Lipscomb University, 2009</i>)

¹ There must be a three year window between wins for each category

² These specific considerations are taken into account in addition to the standard judging criteria of ambition, innovation, education, cooperation, achievement, and commitment.

³ For complete descriptions of the project examples, please refer to the Previous Award Winners section on the awards Web Site, www.tn.gov/environment/awards

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Greenways and Trails	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that have achieved significant progress in furthering the protection or development of Tennessee's greenways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on particularly significant river corridors, scenic trails, and other areas of cultural value • Involvement of neighboring communities • Collaboration with regional or statewide initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project provides flood protection and mitigation, aquifer protection and infrastructure protection. (<i>Wolf River Environmental Restoration Project, 2009</i>) • 70 acres of the Wolf River Bottomland Forest and natural wetlands which includes a 0.7 mile section of boardwalk that provides new and exciting recreational and educational opportunities (<i>The Town of Collierville, 2008</i>)
Hazardous Waste Reduction	To recognize businesses that have eliminated or reduced the generation of hazardous wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall impact to human health • Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invested \$750,000 to specifically reduce their hazardous waste generation by 100 percent. (<i>Tennessee Galvanizing, 2009</i>) • Etowah plant generated 840,820 pounds of hazardous material and reuse of these materials began in February 2007 and in one year reduced their hazardous waste by 79% only having 180,720 pounds shipped off site(<i>Johns Manville, 2008</i>)
Solid Waste Reduction	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that have eliminated or reduced the generation of solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of commitment in the reduction of solid waste being disposed of • Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-evaluated its processes for waste and recyclable materials management to reduce its environmental footprint in reduction of CO2 emissions, lower energy consumption, decrease water usage and reduce waste from operations. (<i>Procter and Gamble, 2009</i>) • U.S. Fence instituted a new waste reduction and recycling process and made informational signs, purchased collection bins and painted floors to reinforce the new process and saved more than \$450,000 a year in disposal costs (<i>U.S. Fence, 2008</i>)
Lifetime Achievement	To recognize individuals who have devoted at least 25 years of effective and valuable service to Tennessee's environmental protection or conservation stewardship; posthumous awards not made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notable personal achievements in areas such as natural resource management, conservation, education, public service, and political support toward Tennessee's conservation and/or environmental protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He helped create procedures and promote laws that continually improved his Memphis court. In fact, many of the concepts that are now standard for Environmental Courts in America were designed and developed under his leadership. (<i>Judge Larry Potter, 2009</i>) • For almost four decades has been a thoughtful, effective advocate for Tennessee's natural, cultural and historic resources. (<i>John H. Noel III, 2008</i>)
Natural Heritage Conservation	To recognize individuals, organizations, businesses, or agencies for achievements in protecting, preserving, or restoring Tennessee's natural landscape and native flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability of project to address multiple environmental, educational, recreational, and economic goals • Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of biological diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University of the South and the Land Trust for Tennessee completed the purchase and permanent protection of nearly 3,000 acres on the South Cumberland Plateau in Franklin County. (<i>Lost Cove, 2009</i>) • Tennessee's Wild Side has produced more than 130 shows highlighting conservation and the environment (<i>Tennessee Wild Side, 2008</i>)
Parks and Recreation	To recognize public sector parks for achievements in implementing best management practices and creating innovative solutions to today's recreational issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which project addresses issues of recreational trends and environmental balance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made many improvements in water conservation, water quality management, wildlife and habitat management, chemical use reduction and safety and outreach and education. (Bear Trace at Harrison Bay Golf Course, 2009) • A 10 acre park developed in the heart of historic Bell Buckle. The park was created by renovating the old Bell Buckle Elementary School property along Bell Buckle Creek and the old Nashville Chattanooga Railroad line (<i>The Town of Bell Buckle, 2008</i>)
Pollution Prevention	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that are committed to corporate environmental stewardship & that have significantly reduced or eliminated sources by modifying production processes, promoting the use of non-toxic or less-toxic substances, implementing conservation techniques, & re-using materials rather than putting them into the waste stream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of management commitment in preventing pollution through source / waste reduction and avoidance of media transfer • Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sought an alternative process to reduce waste from their pre-treatment wash operation, which serves as the final powder coating for manufactured parts. (<i>JTEKT Corporation, 2009</i>) • Installed new pollution-reducing technologies at its Warren County facility, which benefit the environment and the budget. (<i>Bridgestone-Firestone North American Tire, 2008</i>)