

# SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARDS

| AWARD CATEGORY                              | PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY <sup>1</sup>  | SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS <sup>2</sup>  | EXAMPLE PROJECTS <sup>3</sup>  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Agriculture &amp; Forestry</b>           | 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"> <li>Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deployed a host of grazing technologies to improve water quality in and around the farm (<i>Robert Thompson Farm, 2008</i>)</li> <li>Deployed a host of grazing technologies to improve water quality in and around the farm (<i>Raymond Cooper Farm, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Aquatic Resource Preservation</b>        | 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"> <li>Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of the aquatic ecosystem</li> <li>Impact to the biological integrity and diversity of the aquatic ecosystem</li> <li>Integrated effort relating to adjacent land use</li> </ul>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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>)</li> <li>Retrofitted a state-owned campus with the latest in low-impact development practices that are improving the water quality in Sevenmile Creek (<i>Ellington Agricultural Center Campus, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Building Green</b>                       | 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"> <li>Collaboration with existing green building programs</li> <li>Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed and built three new nature centers that include sustainable building and design techniques (<i>Metro Parks and Recreation, 2008</i>)</li> <li>A business systematically constructs its new facilities using green materials and techniques (<i>Lawrence Bros. – Morgan Park Place, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Energy Leadership</b>                    | 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"> <li>Processes used to optimize the amount of energy consumed in operational activities (<i>if applicable</i>)</li> <li>Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits</li> </ul>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing construction technology program was enhanced to include a focus on alternative and renewable energy sources (<i>Cleveland State Community College, 2008</i>)</li> <li>Converting landfill gas to energy while conserving natural resources (<i>Johnson City Iris Glen Gas to Energy Partnership, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Environmental Education and Outreach</b> | To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and agencies for achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach programs   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevance of the educational and outreach efforts to environmental issues that are particularly pertinent in a given community</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Created and fostered an energy conservation ethic among young people in middle TN (<i>Kilowatt Ours Youth Initiative, 2008</i>)</li> <li>2006 EarthFest promotes a greater public awareness of environmental issues in East Tennessee (<i>Tennessee Valley Earth Partnership, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Green Schools</b>                        | 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"> <li>Effectiveness in addressing issues relating to air quality; energy, land, or water conservation; hazardous materials management; or solid waste reduction</li> <li>Participation by the student body, staff, faculty, and community</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looked broadly at the school's environmental practices to explore more green initiatives and expand on existing programs (<i>The Harpeth Hall School, 2008</i>)</li> <li>LEED certification of new and renovated buildings, attractive and energy-saving building features, waste reduction and recycling programs, use of alternative fuels, selection of recycled and renewable materials and educational demonstrations for each of these items are incorporated into every aspect of life at The Commons (<i>Vanderbilt, 2008</i>)</li> </ul> |

<sup>1</sup> There must be a three year window between wins for each category

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

<sup>3</sup> 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](http://www.tn.gov/environment/awards)

| AWARD CATEGORY                       | PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY  | SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS   | EXAMPLE PROJECTS   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>Greenways and Trails</b>          | 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"> <li>• Focus on particularly significant river corridors, scenic trails, and other areas of cultural value</li> <li>• Involvement of neighboring communities</li> <li>• Collaboration with regional or statewide initiatives</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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>)</li> <li>• Developed a large ADA accessible playground and trail (<i>Maury County Parks &amp; Recreation, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>                                     |
| <b>Hazardous Waste Reduction</b>     | To recognize businesses that have eliminated or reduced the generation of hazardous wastes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall impact to human health</li> <li>• Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 (<i>Johns Manville, 2008</i>)</li> <li>• Developed an environmentally responsible business model that address the recycling of end-of-life vehicles (<i>Pull-A-Part, 2007</i>)</li> </ul> |
| <b>Solid Waste Reduction</b>         | To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that have eliminated or reduced the generation of solid waste   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level of commitment in the reduction of solid waste being disposed of</li> <li>• Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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>)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Lifetime Achievement</b>          | 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"> <li>• 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</li> </ul>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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>)</li> <li>• Forty-Five years of being an effective champion for outdoor recreation and the protection of Tennessee's environment (<i>Bertha Chrietzburg, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Natural Heritage Conservation</b> | 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"> <li>• Ability of project to address multiple environmental, educational, recreational, and economic goals</li> <li>• Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of biological diversity</li> </ul>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tennessee's Wild Side has produced more than 130 shows highlighting conservation and the environment (<i>Tennessee Wild Side, 2008</i>)</li> <li>• The restoration and protection of the forested ecosystem in and around Beaman Park (<i>Friends of Beaman Park, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Parks and Recreation</b>          | 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"> <li>• Extent to which project addresses issues of recreational trends and environmental balance</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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>)</li> <li>• Restoration of a 23-acre Brownfield project on the Tennessee River (<i>City of Chattanooga, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>           |
| <b>Pollution Prevention</b>          | 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"> <li>• Level of management commitment in preventing pollution through source / waste reduction and avoidance of media transfer</li> <li>• Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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>)</li> <li>• Eliminated the production process for carpet samples and creates it from one hundred percent recyclable paper (<i>Tricycle, 2007</i>)</li> </ul>   |