



Carroll County Government Environmental Advisory Council

2012 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AWARDS *Nomination Guidelines and Criteria*

Promoting Environmental Awareness and Acknowledging Extraordinary Accomplishments in the Protection, Conservation, and Improvement of our Environmental Resources

Background

The purpose of the awards program is to promote awareness of the environment and acknowledge exemplary accomplishments in the protection, conservation, and improvement of our environmental resources. The Carroll County Commissioners adopted the Environmental Awareness Awards program in 1990 to recognize individuals and groups that have demonstrated these qualities through their actions or projects. Awards are presented annually to individuals and groups chosen from nominees submitted for consideration by their peers, although self-nominations will be accepted. In 2012, the ceremony will be held in mid-April. The date and location will be announced when the winners are announced.

Guidelines for the Carroll County Environmental Awareness Awards

Awards will be granted for endeavors and projects that result in positive benefit to the environment and have the potential for long-term community environmental benefit in each of the following six categories.

Individual – This award is intended to be presented to any individual for efforts that were primarily initiated, promoted, and managed by the applicant. Nominees should exhibit good environmental stewardship characteristics, leadership qualities, and the ability to successfully engage and involve a segment of the community. Individuals also may have been part of a larger group wherein the nominee exhibited the above characteristics and successfully accomplished a qualifying effort.

Institutional – Institutional recipients may be individual, but must represent the efforts of a larger group working to foster positive environmental principles. Examples of qualifying groups may include schools, nonprofit organizations, community organizations, local government, municipalities, and similar organizations that have a defined social goal.

Agriculture – The agricultural award is intended to be presented to any individual actively involved in agriculture who has exercised leadership, shown positive environmental practices, and has in some way successfully displayed advancement in an agricultural practice.

Business – This category is intended to award businesses that make a decided effort to ensure that their practices logically fit into an overall positive environmental management perspective. Many businesses, especially small businesses, take on beneficial efforts that all too often go unrecognized. These efforts may include technical efforts or efforts to create partnerships for the improved benefit of the community.

Student – This award is intended to be presented to a student who has exercised positive environmental practices and clearly demonstrates leadership, stewardship, and has in some way successfully displayed environmental advancement in a classroom environment for students in grades K-12 and at the college level.

Qualifying areas of accomplishment include, but are not limited to:

- Protection/improvement of soil, water, or air;
- Protection, conservation, or improvement of natural resource management;
- Benefits to wildlife (game or non-game); and
- Increased recreational or aesthetic values.

Additional Nomination Criteria

- Any individual or student must be a Carroll County resident;
- Institutional and business nominees must be based in Carroll County or, in the case of a green building project, the building must be located in Carroll County;
- Any agricultural nominee must be actively engaged in agriculture in Carroll County;
- In all cases, nominees must exemplify extraordinary dedication to preserving and improving the environment and better managing the environmental resources of Carroll County.