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	• Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits	• Deployed a host of grazing technologies to improve water quality in and around the farm *(Raymond Cooper Farm, 2007)* • Horneyhead Creek Restoration project improved water quality and the habitat *(UT Forest Restoration Center, 2006)*
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	• 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	• Retrofitted a state-owned campus with the latest in low-impact development practices that are improving the water quality in Sevenmile Creek *(Ellington Agricultural Center Campus, 2007)* • Conducted 115 visual stream surveys along portions of the watersheds impaired streams *(Red River Watershed Assoc., 2006)*
Building Green	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that further the widespread use of green building materials and construction techniques	• Collaboration with existing green building programs • Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits	• A business systematically constructs its new facilities using green materials and techniques *(Lawrence Bros. – Morgan Park Place, 2007)* • Building outside of the Box (BOB) demonstrates cost effectiveness of building green *(Cumberland River Compact, 2006)*
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	• Processes used to optimize the amount of energy consumed in operational activities *(if applicable)* • Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits	• Converting landfill gas to energy while conserving natural resources *(Johnson City Iris Glen Gas to Energy Partnership, 2007)* • Reduced energy consumption through multiple energy management projects *(Panther Creek State Park, 2006)*
Environmental Education and Outreach	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and agencies for achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach programs	• Relevance of the educational and outreach efforts to environmental issues that are particularly pertinent in a given community	• 2006 EarthFest promotes a greater public awareness of environmental issues in East Tennessee *(Tennessee Valley Earth Partnership, 2007)* • Provides educational programs that increase the awareness of environmental stewardship *(Great Smoky Mountain Institute at Tremont, 2006)*
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	• 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	• Helps surrounding areas understand the relationship between the community and the environment *(West Carroll Elementary, 2007)* • WaterWorks! Promotes clean water in Tennessee through a multi-media approach advocating water quality *(MTSU Center for Environmental Education, 2007)*

[1] There must be a three year window between win 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.tdec.net/awards

AWARD CATEGORY	PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY	SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS	EXAMPLE PROJECTS
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	• Focus on particularly significant river corridors, scenic trails, and other areas of cultural value • Involvement of neighboring communities • Collaboration with regional or statewide initiatives	• Developed a large ADA accessible playground and trail *(Maury County Parks & Recreation, 2007)* • Rail-with-Trail greenway that links recreational, cultural, and natural amenities *(City of Cookeville, 2006)*
Hazardous Waste Reduction	To recognize businesses that have eliminated or reduced the generation of hazardous wastes	• Overall impact to human health • Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits	• Developed an environmentally responsible business model that address the recycling of end-of-life vehicles *(Pull-A-Part, 2007)* • Removed outdated, unwanted and unstable chemicals from the entire school system *(Hamilton County Schools, 2006)*
Solid Waste Reduction	To recognize businesses that have eliminated or reduced the generation of solid wastes	• Level of commitment in the reduction of solid waste being disposed of • Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits	• N/A (new category)
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	• 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	• Forty-Five years of being an effective champion for outdoor recreation and the protection of Tennessee's environment *(Bertha Chrietzburg, 2007)* • Fifty years in benefiting Tennessee communities through the Girl Scouts and many other Tennessee organizations *(Virginia Birdsong, 2006)*
Natural Heritage Conservation	To recognize individuals, organizations, businesses, or agencies for achievements in protecting, preserving, or restoring Tennessee's natural landscape and native flora	• Ability of project to address multiple environmental, educational, recreational, and economic goals • Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of biological diversity	• The restoration and protection of the forested ecosystem in and around Beaman Park *(Friends of Beaman Park, 2007)* • Removed exotic species from 650 acres with the help of over 2,000 volunteers *(Stones River National Battlefield, 2006)*
Parks and Recreation	To recognize public sector parks for achievements in implementing best management practices and creating innovative solutions to today's recreational issues	• Extent to which project addresses issues of recreational trends and environmental balance	• Restoration of a 23-acre Brownfield project on the Tennessee River *(City of Chattanooga, 2007)* • Installed a 20,000 square foot native butterfly garden *(Burgess Falls State Park, 2006)*
Pollution Prevention	To recognize businesses 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	• 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	• Eliminated the production process for carpet samples and creates it from one hundred percent recyclable paper *(Tricycle, 2007)* • Developed a comprehensive commuter program to reduce pollution among other environmental issues *(Vanderbilt University, 2006)*