

▪ **Water Quality Excellence**

Description: This award acknowledges an individual, community or neighborhood group, environmental or philanthropic organization, business interest or government body that has demonstrated significant initiative, commitment, leadership and accomplishment in developing or implementing an activity or program that has resulted in substantive and long-term water quality benefits or advances in environmental justice.

Criteria	General Focus	Max. Points
Initiative	What was the impetus and driving force for the activity? Was the activity unprecedented or did it follow/expand upon another endeavor	10
Commitment	How long has this activity be going on? Is this activity linked to earlier and other environmental activities?	10
Innovation	Was a unique paradigm or approach employed? Were resources used in a distinctly efficient or creative manner?	10
Leadership	Did the activity foster awareness of and interest in water quality issues? Did the activity provide meaningful opportunities to participate in protecting or restoring water quality?	15
Scope of Impact	Was a narrow or board range of water quality benefits sought? Was the geographic focus narrowly or broadly defined? Were immediate, near future or distant environmental benefits sought? What was accomplished?	15
Water Quality Benefits	How has water quality and the environment been helped by the activity?	25
Sustainability	How long can the activity continue? How long will the water quality benefits last?	15
Total		100