



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: September 24, 2007

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Environmental Stewardship to be Recognized

Governor Ted Strickland and Ohio EPA Director Chris Korleski announced the creation of a new recognition program to honor companies and organizations that are committed to environmental compliance and demonstrate outstanding achievements in reducing pollution. Nominations for the Governor's Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Stewardship will be accepted through November 15, 2007.

Ohio EPA is seeking applicants who show a commitment to environmental stewardship through:

- A sound track record of environmental compliance and a commitment to go above and beyond regulations to improve environmental performance;
- A mature Environmental Management System (EMS) and integration of the EMS into core business functions;
- Aggressive environmental performance goals; and,
- A process for communicating with the local community about program activities and progress toward performance goals

The awards program is open to any business, industry, trade association, professional organization or local government of Ohio. Applicants may nominate their own organizations. Nominations by second parties are also welcome.

Nominees receiving the highest scores based on the evaluation of written nomination materials will be subject to a site visit by Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention. The site visit is intended to provide reviewers with an opportunity to directly evaluate the nominated activities. Information collected during the site visit will be used as one of the criteria for selecting the final award winners.

Nomination instructions are available at:

www.epa.state.oh.us/ocapp/stewardship.html.

Nomination instructions can also be requested by e-mailing p2mail@epa.state.oh.us or calling 800-329-7518 or 614-644-3469.