



NEW MEXICO  
2016 Governor's  
Environmental Excellence Awards



**Program Guidelines & Nomination Form**

**DUE: March 11, 2016**

*We invite you to submit nominations for the annual Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards program. The purpose of the program is to support, recognize, and celebrate the hard work of those New Mexicans dedicated to restoring and protecting the natural heritage and environmental health of our state. Successful candidates will have demonstrated commitment, collaboration, and innovation through projects resulting in measurable environmental benefits for the state of New Mexico.*

*The program is a cooperative effort of the New Mexico Environment Department, Energy Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, Department of Game and Fish, Office of the State Engineer, and Office of the Governor.*

**All sections of this form must be completed. Please read through the entire packet for important information.**

**Section 1: Primary Project Contact / Nominee** (either third-party or self-nominations allowed)

Project / Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: Mr.  / Mrs.  / Ms.  / Dr.  First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

\*If multiple parties are responsible for the project, list a primary contact here and attach additional contacts separately.

Company / organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Street or PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Nominator** (if different from above)

Same as above

\*If multiple parties are responsible for the project, list a primary contact here and attach additional contacts separately.

Salutation: Mr.  / Mrs.  / Ms.  / Dr.  Name : First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_

Company / organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Street or PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 3: PROGRAM CATEGORIES**

Please select ONE category most applicable to the nomination. A nomination may only be considered for an award in one category. If the judges feel a nomination is particularly strong in a category other than what is checked below, they may choose to score the nomination in another category.

One award per category below is available. See page 5 for judging criteria and maximum points available for each criteria.

- Resource Stewardship**  
This category recognizes projects or programs that result in air quality improvement, emission reductions, solid waste reduction, hazardous waste reduction, and/or sustainable materials management (source reduction, reuse, recycling). Projects in this category may also demonstrate energy conservation or increased use of renewable energy. They may include green building and other energy efficiencies of buildings or equipment. Special consideration will be given to nominations that demonstrate a comprehensive approach to energy issues and highlight the environmental, social, and economic benefits.

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- Water Resource Protection**  
This category will recognize projects or programs that focus on improvement of water quality and/or water conservation. Successful nominations will show innovative and collaborative approaches to water use reduction, reuse, watershed protection/management, water infrastructure improvements, and improvements to water quality. Projects may also demonstrate success in addressing critical water issues such as drought or non-point source pollution.

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- Wildlife & Ecosystem Stewardship**  
Projects in this category will be recognized for their achievements in protection or improvement of ecosystems (terrestrial or aquatic), site reclamation / restoration, or watershed protection / management. The award also recognizes specific projects that benefit a single or multiple species of wildlife native to New Mexico. Successful projects will demonstrate a comprehensive approach to the sustainable support of wildlife and their habitat, particularly if they benefit the conservation of an endangered species.

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- Environmental Education & Outreach**  
These nominations will highlight outstanding achievements of one-time projects or ongoing programs whose focus is to advance awareness, understanding, and stewardship of New Mexico's unique environments. Nominations may include demonstration projects, awareness campaigns, or programs allowing communities to address environmental issues such as non-point source pollution.

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- Youth Projects (K-12)**  
This category recognizes the younger members of our society who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to and understanding of environmental stewardship. Projects initiated or carried out by youth in grades K-12 may represent achievements in any of the above categories.

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- Environmental Leader of the Year (individual)**  
This award recognizes an individual's outstanding, long-term commitment and service to the improvement of New Mexico's environment. The nominated individual will have demonstrated notable achievements in any of the categories above.

## Section 4: Activity Dates

- Specific projects must be largely completed or operating in 2015, estimated dates are acceptable.  
Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ End Date (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_
- If nominee is an individual or a program, cite date of earliest activity.  
Active since (mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

## ELIGIBILITY

Awards are open to: businesses, non-profits, regional governmental organizations, tribes and pueblos, land grants, civic organizations and non-governmental organizations, other groups, and individuals.

*PLEASE NOTE: state and federal agencies are not eligible.*

### Requirements for all nominations:

- One nomination per organization per category (self-nominations are acceptable); If nominated by an outside party, the nominated organization / individual may be contacted to provide additional information.
- Nominations can be submitted for multiple categories but only one category will be awarded.
- Projects that have previously received a Governor’s Environmental Excellence Award (GEEA) may not apply. However, organizations with a previous GEEA may submit a new project for consideration.
- Organization and project must be located in New Mexico.
- Projects must have been largely completed within the past 12 months prior to this application.
- The nominated organization must not have significant environmental permit violations within past 4 years or be currently in the state of active construction (*if applicable*).
- The nominated organization must have had no criminal violations in past 8 years.
- The nominated organization must have excellent environmental health and safety records (OSHA and/or MSHA) (*if applicable*).
- Projects must have been voluntary and not a result of regulation or enforcement action.

## PERMIT INFORMATION

Does the nominated entity or project have any current environmental permits? Yes  No

Did the nominated entity or project have any environmental permits at the time of the project? Yes  No

If YES to either question above, please continue with questions A – F below as they pertain to the nominated entity or project:

- A. Do you have any permits with the NM Environment Department (NMED); Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD); Office of State Engineer (OSE), or NM Department of Game and Fish (NMG&F)? Yes  No

If yes, please list the agency, permit type, and permit ID numbers: *attached separately*

- B. Do you have any NM (city / county / regional / federal / tribal) environmental permits? Yes  No
- If YES, please list what they are and any corresponding permit numbers: *attached separately*

C. Do you have any EPA Stormwater or Hazardous Waste permits? Yes  No   
If YES, please list what they are and any corresponding permit numbers: *attached separately*

D. Are you currently in compliance with all environmental permits? Yes  No

E. Have you been in violation of any environmental permits in the past 5 years? Yes  No   
If YES, please explain. *attached separately*

F. Are you in compliance with all federal OSHA and/or MSHA regulations? Yes  No   
If NO, please explain: *attached separately*

## PROGRAM CRITERIA

All nominations will be scored using the criteria below. The maximum number of points possible is 100.

### **Addressing Environmental Issues (20)**

How does this program/project or individual accomplishment address significant environmental issues and/or provide an environmental benefit to New Mexico? How long-standing is the environmental issue?

### **Results (20)**

What significant environmental, economic, and/or community enhancements resulted from the project? What was the value added? Were there summaries of any quantifiable results?

### **Cooperation & Collaboration (10)**

Does this project involve a cooperative or collaborative effort between multiple entities or organizations (city/state government, industries, civic groups, schools, citizens, associations)? Were partnerships created or strengthened by the project?

### **Education and Outreach (10)**

What education and/or outreach activities did the project involve? Does the project promote public awareness regarding environmental issues?

### **Future Generations (10)**

How does the project benefit future generations of New Mexicans?

### **Leadership (10)**

How does the scope of the project compare to the size and resources of the sponsoring organizations(s)? Does the project go beyond the current status quo and demonstrate a great desire for environmental improvement?

### **Environmental Justice (5)**

Does the project demonstrate a commitment to the mitigation of unfair distribution of environmental risks and resources to low-income communities and/or minority communities?

### **Exceptional Commitment (5)**

How does the project demonstrate an exceptional commitment from those involved in the effort?

### **Innovation (5)**

Did the project utilize or contribute any new methods or information in protecting or enhancing the environment? What creative or untested elements were included in the project? What new methods were used or studied for the project?

### **Transferability (5)**

Describe how the program/project lends itself to replication by other organizations or individuals within the region. Are any project activities or results being shared with others?

## **TOTAL Possible Score: (100 points)**

*Nominations will be judged by the awards program committee which is made up of staff from the program's cooperating state agencies: NMED, EMNRD, OSE, G&F. Judges may not be affiliated with or related to a nominee and will be required to recuse themselves from voting on nominations where such situations occur.*

## Section 5: PROJECT / PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Please provide a **brief** (150 words) description of the project / program in the space below. Additional information for the nomination should be submitted under Section 6.

## Section 6: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

To be sent in addition to the Nomination Form

### **1. Project / Nomination Narrative**

Please provide a comprehensive narrative description of the nominated project or individual in a separate document. This narrative should provide the judges with a good sense of the project (or person's achievements) and include as much detail as possible. The narrative is limited to approximately 2,000 words or four (4) pages. *\*\* Please refer to the Program Criteria above to ensure as many criteria as possible are included the nomination narrative.*

### **2. Additional Documentation**

Nominators are encouraged to provide several forms of documentation in addition to the project narrative, in order to strengthen the nomination. These may include items such as copies of news clippings, press releases, photographs, summarized project data results (no raw data please), tables or graphs, or video clips. Submitted materials cannot be returned.

Judges will not be able to visit project sites, so the more information they are provided with, the better they can understand the nomination.

Photographs – when submitting photos, please provide captions and a description of what is in the photo. Photo subject, location, date, and significance are useful to include.

## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

When all sections of this form have been completed, save a copy for your records and email the form and supporting documentation to:

**NM.GEEA@state.nm.us**

A confirmation of receipt will be sent to the nominator.

**NOTE:** All application materials submitted become public information subject to the NM Inspection of Public Records Act. Summaries of award winners will be posted on the program website after awards ceremony. Judges reserve the right to contact the applicant for further information and to request to visit a project site. Site visits will be non-regulatory. Any confidential information submitted must be labeled as such, to retain confidentiality.

## SIGNATURE

I certify that all the information submitted in this form and in all supporting documents are true, accurate, and complete, to the best of my knowledge.

Salutation: Mr.  / Mrs.  / Ms.  / Dr.  Name : First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

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Nominator Signature (sign PDF copy with digital signature or hand sign and scan)

-----End of Form -----