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2010 Environmental Awards

The City of Raleigh created an Environmental Awards Program to recognize individuals, business, and organizations who have demonstrated a commitment to environmental stewardship. In 2010 the program had ten award categories highlighting the diverse environmental projects throughout the Raleigh community. Nominations from community members were evaluated by a selection committee, with the award ceremony taking place at Marbles Children's Museum.

Youth Award Winner - Exploris

Exploris Middle School received the Youth Award. Students at Exploris have completed a number of environmental projects throughout the school year, including educating Chavis Park residents about the effects of invasive planting, producing a documentary film on development along the Neuse River and working with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to protect eastern box turtles. Exploris Middle received a \$500 scholarship for winning Youth Award.



Legacy Award- Sarah Palmer

Sarah Palmer received the Legacy Award. Ms. Palmer is a certified environmental educator at Wiley International Magnet School and has worked with different organizations developing environmental curriculum for teachers to use in their classrooms.



Environmental Awareness Award- NC Triangle Chapter USGBC

The NC Triangle Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council was the recipient of the Environmental Awareness Award. As the local champion of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system, chapter members frequently host and coordinate green building design workshops and educational opportunities across the area.



Urban Stewardship Award- Habitat for Humanity

The ReStore and DeConstruction Program of Habitat for Humanity of Wake County was given the Urban Stewardship Award. ReStore serves as a building supply warehouse and sells donated building materials to the general public at discount prices. The DeConstruction Program dismantles older homes by hand in order to provide the materials to ReStore for reuse. This program promotes recycling and serves the community by filling a need for discounted building materials.



Natural Resource Conservation Award- Fred Fletcher Park

The water garden and wetland area at Fred Fletcher Park received the Natural Resource Conservation Award. The water garden and wetland area at Fletcher Park improves water quality in Pigeon House Branch by naturally cleansing stormwater pollutants during rain storms. The wetland serves as an educational opportunity for park visitors and has created a new ecosystem and habitat for ducks, dragon flies and other terrestrial and aquatic wildlife.



Market Transformation Award- Irregardless Café

Irregardless Café received the Market Transformation Award. The Café opened as a vegetarian and vegan restaurant and its chief goals are to respect and support the environment and community, become a local leader in sustainability, and reduce water and energy uses. Irregardless Café has been a leader in the sustainability community since its opening in 1975.



Pioneering Efforts- Yates Mill Associates

Yates Mill Associates was given the Pioneering Efforts Award for its work on the Historic Yates Grist Mill. Yates Mill Associates formed in 1989 as a non-profit organization to save the only operable grist mill in Wake County. Historic Yates Mill County Park is a regional resource for environmental, cultural, and historical education.



Green Design Award- Brownleigh Building

BBH Design received the Green Design Award for its work on the Brownleigh Building. The Brownleigh Building received a Gold LEED certification for sustainability features, the first architectural office and church in the Southeast to earn this distinction. The Brownleigh Building has been upgraded with modern, more efficient water fixtures, natural lighting improvements, and environmentally friendly interior materials, such as carpets and paints with low levels of volatile organic compounds.



Regional Award- North Hills

North Hills was given the Regional Award for transforming the area into an innovatively crafted, interconnected mixed-use center that serves as a regional demonstration for urban development. The pedestrian friendly development includes shopping and dining establishments, offices, and residences all connected with wide sidewalks and other elements of sustainability.



Raleigh Environmental Stewardship Award- Larry's Beans

Larry's Beans received the Raleigh Environmental Stewardship Award for demonstrating leadership in sustainable development. Larry Bean's coffee roasting facility has many environmentally friendly features, including floors heated by rooftop solar collectors, natural lighting provided by glass clerestory, and a conference room and staircase made of salvaged wood. An on-site fuel pump dispenses Pittsboro-produced biodiesel to power the company's veggie bus. Shipping materials are made from corn, beans are packed in biodegradable bags, and burlap sacks are donated to local farmers for mulch.



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