



Governor Bob McDonnell
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April 08, 2010

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Governor McDonnell Announces Winners of 2010 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards

RICHMOND - Governor Bob McDonnell today announced the winners of the 2010 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards. The awards were presented by Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling on April 7th at the Environment Virginia 2010 Symposium in Lexington. The awards recognize the significant contributions of environmental and conservation leaders in three categories: environmental projects, environmental programs and land conservation. They are given to businesses and industrial facilities, not-for-profit organizations, government agencies and individuals.

Speaking about the award recipients, Governor McDonnell remarked, "It is critical that all Virginians work to better protect our environment. This begins with promoting green initiatives and conservation throughout the state. The Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards represent some of the best activities in Virginia that focus on protecting our natural resources. I congratulate all the winners, and all the entrants in the competition, for their ongoing commitment to bettering Virginia's environment."

Lieutenant Governor Bolling also commented, "The most important issue currently facing our state is the need to get the economy moving again and create jobs. We cannot let anything stand in our way of accomplishing this important mission. However, we do recognize that we also need to have a balanced approach that protects Virginia's important natural resources. We can accomplish both of these goals at the same time. Economic development and environmental protection are not mutually exclusive goals."

Below are gold medal winners in the various categories.

The Environmental Program Category:

- The Lipton Tea facility in Suffolk for its sustainability improvement program
- James Madison University for the work of its Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World

Environmental Project Category:

- Wetlands Studies and Solutions Inc. of Gainesville for its new green headquarters building

The Land Conservation Category:

- Protection of Crow's Nest Peninsula by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and Stafford County, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund, The Nature Conservancy, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation and the DEQ Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program

Award winners were chosen based on criteria including environmental benefit, stakeholder involvement, public outreach and innovativeness.

This year's awards were sponsored by the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Dominion and Du Pont Co.

Additional information on the Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards is available on the DEQ website at www.deq.virginia.gov/info/geea/2010.

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