



Governor's Green Youth Awards

The annual Governor's Green Youth Awards program recognizes the outstanding and innovative efforts of youth in Illinois who are working on environmental and conservation projects.

Projects

To be eligible for a Green Youth Award, projects must involve one or more of the following categories: waste reduction, prevention or reduction of pollution in the air (climate change/global warming), land or water; restoration, preservation or enhancement of natural areas; and energy or water efficiency. Examples of projects that have received awards include:

- ❖ **Waste Reduction:** a school-wide recycling program that encouraged not only recycling but also waste reduction and environmental education
- ❖ **Reducing Water Pollution:** a storm sewer stenciling project
- ❖ **Restoration or Preservation:** the creation of a wetland area
- ❖ **Energy Efficiency:** school-wide energy audit and facilitation guide

Important Dates to Remember

Application Deadline: March 20, 2009

Winners Notified: April 3, 2009

Award Ceremony: April 22, 2009

Selection Process

Individuals or youth currently enrolled in K-12 schools, scouts, 4-H or other groups, and who have participated in an environmental project started no earlier than 2007, are eligible to apply. A selection committee comprised of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency staff will select award recipients. Award recipients will be chosen from among the following grade categories:

- ❖ **Category #1 – Grades K-4**
- ❖ **Category #2 – Grades 5-8**
- ❖ **Category #3 – Grade 9-12**

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Green Youth Award, an individual or group project must meet all of the following guidelines:

- ❖ Must be a resident of Illinois and enrolled in a K-12 public, private or home school.
- ❖ Must indicate grade category on the application.
- ❖ The project must involve one or more of the following environmental categories: waste reduction; prevention or reduction of pollution in the air (climate change/global warming), water or land; restoration, preservation or enhancement of natural areas; energy or water efficiency.
- ❖ **The project is developed, substantially implemented, and is showing results by the application deadline. Project must have begun no earlier than 2007.**

Application Procedures

The application form is available at www.epa.state.il.us, and may be completed on-line or downloaded and typed. **No handwritten applications please!** A hard copy can also be requested at 217-557-7826.

In order to qualify, all blanks and questions on the application must be completed. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Completed applications must be received by the Illinois EPA no later than **March 20, 2009**. No e-mailed or faxed applications will be accepted.

Optional materials (including flyers, posters, brochures, news articles and videos) may also be submitted. If sending copies of optional materials (originals are not required), please affix small items to 8-1/2" x 11" paper. All photos and other materials become the property of Illinois EPA and will not be returned.

MAIL APPLICATIONS TO: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Associate Director's Office #35
1021 N. Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Awards

Award recipients will be presented with certificates and plaques at an awards ceremony in Springfield.

Application Checklist

- ✓ Answered all the questions on the application form.
- ✓ Gathered 3-4 photographs of the project and any optional materials.
- ✓ Mailed the application form, photographs, and any optional materials.

Remember

- ❖ The application packet must be received by the Illinois EPA no later than **March 20, 2009**.
- ❖ To be considered, the application packet must be complete.
- ❖ Illinois EPA cannot return any materials from the application packet.
- ❖ If you have any questions, please call 217-557-7826.

Thank you for applying to the Governor's Green Youth Awards 2009. The Illinois EPA will notify the award recipients by April 3, 2009.

Most importantly, thank you for caring for the environment!



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Governor's Green Youth Awards Application 2009

Step 1: Provide the following applicant and contact information.

Applicant

Grade Category (circle one)

#1 – Grades K-4

#2 – Grades 5-8

#3 – Grades 9-12

Title/Name of Project

Dates Project Began and Ended

Contact Person (18 years or older)

Address

City

Zip

Phone Number

E-mail Address

Step 2: If this is a group project, please provide the name(s), ages, and grades of the individual participants. If more space is needed, attach as separate Microsoft Word™ document or hardcopy. This must be attached for group applications to be considered.

Name

Age

Grade

Name	Age	Grade

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING STEPS USING ONLY THE SPACE PROVIDED

Step 3: Select one or more of the following environmental categories, and briefly describe how the project addresses the categories selected.

Waste reduction

Prevention or reduction of pollution in the Air Land Water

Restoration, preservation or enhancement of natural areas

Energy efficiency

Water efficiency

Step 4: Briefly describe the project (100 words or less).

Step 5: List the goals of the project. What was hoped to be achieved when the project began?

Step 6: Describe the results and impacts of the project. Consider the environment, youth, the school, and the community when answering the question.

Step 7: List the individuals or groups that provided support, including planning advice, scientific, technical, or artistic assistance, funding, and/or moral support. Briefly describe each contribution.

Step 8: List any recognition and/or awards the project has received. Examples might include community or civic acknowledgements, recognition by organizations, and/or media coverage. If available, please provide applicable copies.

