

Missouri State Recycling Program Annual Awards

Each year the State Recycling Program accepts nominations for the Annual Recycling Award. Employees, departments, or agencies are eligible to be nominated for outstanding contributions made in the areas of recycling collection, waste reduction, and/or recycled content procurement. Members of the Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee review the nominations and then vote for an individual and an agency.

Awards are made based on accomplishments in the areas of recycling collection, waste reduction, and/or procurement of recycled-content products. The State Recycling Program encourages nominators to submit information that demonstrates the *value* of the nominee's recycling efforts. *Value* could include costs avoided, revenue generated, ongoing leadership/commitment/passion/enthusiasm, environmental benefits, etc.

FY09 Annual Recycling Awards

Individual Award: Tracy Allen, Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education, Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

Tracy Allen is the home school coordinator for three of Missouri's Schools for the Severely Disabled. She began recycling initiatives at College View (Joplin), Oakview (Monett), and Cedar Ridge (Nevada) schools three years ago.

Tracy's nominator said, "Her dedication to recycling has rapidly spread to staff members at these schools. Not only is she a recycling advocate for the schools, but she has encouraged us by making it convenient to do this." One of the results of Tracy's efforts has been to develop a comprehensive paper recycling program.

In the upcoming year Tracy plans to include recycling as a part of her lesson plan with many of her students by teaching them to sort and identify different textures. Her nominator said, "... this assistance with the recycling project will be an authentic and functional activity for them."

Agency Award: Northeast Correctional Center

Northeast Correctional Center (NECC) initiated a recycling program in 1999 that started with collection of cardboard and steel cans. By 2009 NECC had expanded their recycling program to include plastic bottles, mixed paper, newspaper, scrap steel, aluminum cans, radio batteries, and cell phones. The growth of NECC's recycling programs has resulted in a significant cost savings on waste hauling costs. In FY01 NECC spent \$90,470 on waste removal and in FY09 \$14,820 was spent for trash removal even though the per unit cost had increased. The cumulative savings during this eight year period is in excess of \$600,000.



L. to R. Rachel Dietzel, Darlene Baugher, Kennedy Allen, Tracy Allen, Governor Nixon, Jim Kennedy, Charlie Taylor, Janet Fitzwater



L. to R. George Lombardi, David Mittag, Jim Moore, Don Perkins, Tom Dunn, Governor Nixon, Lou Gripka, Judy Crocker, Dan Spegal, Chris Hesse, John Hequembourg, Dean Boulware

NECC Annual Recycling Stats

- Steel Cans: 75,244 lbs.
- Plastic Bottles: 17,360 lbs.
- Mixed Paper: 17,899 lbs.
- Cardboard: 110,615 lbs.
- Newspaper: 6,870 lbs.
- Aluminum Cans: 2,480 lbs.
- Scrap Steel: 25,760 lbs.
- Rechargeable Batteries: 73 lbs.
- Fluorescent Lamps: 2,025
- Incandescent Lamps: 217

In addition to recycling, NECC has engaged in a major reuse effort. NECC has purchased equipment from Surplus Property and created storage and transport vessels for their food waste composting operation. They also purchase office equipment from Surplus Property and refurbish it for use at the prison. When worn out, NECC uses clothing and sheets as cleaning rags.