

2018 Recycling Champion Awards

TEAM AWARD: The Missouri State Recycling Program congratulates the Howerton Green Team with the Department of Social Services on its selection for the 2018 team recycling award. The Howerton Green Team was formed in 2007 to maintain ongoing communication with employees, management, and custodial staff.

The Green Team regularly educates employees at the Howerton Building about recycling procedures and mentors new members who want to join the Green Team. They have active email communications, regularly thank employees for recycling efforts, and post signs clearly explaining what items can be recycled where.

Over the past 11 years, the Howerton Green Team's efforts to grow recycling programs have created a very strong recycling culture at the Howerton Building. As their nominator said, ***"The Green Team is the backbone of this recycling culture and for many years the members of this team have consistently ensured there is a voice for recycling at Howerton."***

The Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee was impressed with the Green Team's long-term commitment to assure the success of recycling programs at the Howerton Building. This commitment along with establishing recycling as a part of the Howerton Building's culture were key to the Green Team's selection as the team recipient of the 2018 State Recycling Award.



L to R: **Front Row:** Brenda Kennedy, Barbara Kliethermes, Jennifer Parker, Sara Stock | **Back Row:** Carolyn Twardowski, Greg Campbell, John Mier, Ski Collins

INDIVIDUAL AWARD: Kevin Vanover with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources was selected for this year's individual award. A combination of his great passion for recycling and rapport with his fellow employees has helped to advance recycling at DNR. Kevin diligently makes sure all cardboard, paper, shredding, and other recyclable items are saved, and independently made arrangements with Current River Workshop to pick up the items at no cost to DNR.



L to R: Tonya Lyons, Linda Moore, Kevin Vanover, Katlynn Steers

He tracks and reports the amount of recycling. While it's hard to put an exact dollar amount on what he's saved the Department, the cost of having the shredded paper picked up previously was more than \$50 per month, so recycling that alone saves the Department more than \$600 each year. In 2018, between January and June, he recycled more than 800 pounds of paper, 75 pounds of cardboard, and 50 pounds of magazines.

The Missouri State Recycling Program applauds Kevin's initiative to provide recycling options to reduce waste at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.