



# Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection

## *Environmental Excellence Awards 2018*

### **About the Awards Program**

The Department for Environmental Protection (DEP) is pleased to announce the opening of the 2018 Environmental Excellence Awards. Our mission at DEP is to protect and enhance Kentucky's environment. Kentucky's remarkable natural resources have helped shape our economy, culture and history. Nevertheless, these resources also provide us with the responsibility of good stewardship. This requires vision, commitment and determination on the part of the agency, Kentucky's citizens and the individuals and companies governed by Kentucky's environmental requirements.

In support of this mission, DEP is proud to recognize and encourage environmental excellence in the Commonwealth through this awards program. We know that individuals, businesses and organizations are committed to protecting and improving Kentucky's environment. Through this program, we would like to take this opportunity to recognize those efforts and activities and provide a platform to tell the stories of the great works taking place in the Commonwealth.

In the following pages, you will find information on how to make a nomination, determine who is eligible and the selection process. If you are an environmental steward or know someone who is, we encourage you to apply. Don't waste this opportunity to recognize those individuals, organizations and businesses that on a daily basis commit to exemplary environmental performance.

Thank you and we look forward to your nomination!

### **Our Commitment**

The Department for Environmental Protection is responsible for protecting Kentucky's air, water and land resources from the adverse effects of pollution. We are committed to working with all of Kentucky's corporate and private citizens to ensure that our environment is healthy and safe.

We realize that protecting the environment is not always easy. The department's Division of Compliance Assistance (DCA) was created in 2004 because we want you to succeed. The division helps individuals and businesses comply with environmental requirements and become one of Kentucky's environmental stewards.

If you need assistance or wish to learn more about becoming more sustainable, please contact us by calling 502-782-6476 or email [envhelp@ky.gov](mailto:envhelp@ky.gov).

***Do you know an environmental leader?***



# KY DEP

## Environmental Excellence Awards

### ***Award Categories***

One award will be given for each of the four categories. Businesses, organizations, communities, and individuals may be nominated or self-nominate for the awards. The KY EXCEL Champion will be awarded to an active KY EXCEL member.

#### **Environmental Pacesetter Award**

Conducts exemplary and innovative efforts to protect the environment and set an example of environmental stewardship for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Special consideration will be given to nominations that demonstrate a comprehensive approach to environmental issues and highlight the relationships between environmental benefit and associated social and economic benefit.

#### **Resource Caretaker Award**

Demonstrates progress in furthering the conservation or improvement of Kentucky's natural resources. Nominations may include the revitalization of underutilized or contaminated land, land management and preservation, habitat restoration, recycling programs, pollution prevention, water-use reductions, and energy efficiency.

#### **Community Environmental Luminary Award**

Recognition for achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach. Environmental education may be organized efforts to teach about how natural environments function and, particularly, how human beings can manage their behavior and ecosystems in order to live sustainably. Environmental education and outreach may include mentoring activities. Nominations should identify the benefits to the local or regional target areas in which the nominee operates or is focused.

#### **KY EXCEL Champion Award**

A KY EXCEL member that demonstrates outstanding stewardship and achieves positive benefits for Kentucky's environment. Nominations must be for a current, active KY EXCEL member and may highlight activities that range from energy conservation, to improving air quality, to minimizing waste, to incorporating citizens to participate in positive environmental stewardship behaviors.

***Nominations are being accepted now through Aug. 3, 2018***