



GOVERNOR

#### STATE OF MAINE **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**



PAUL MERCER COMMISSIONER

Greetings,

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection is committed to protecting our environment as well as improving our State's regulatory climate by creating a stronger culture of cooperation between government, Maine people and businesses. As part of that effort, the Department invites you to participate in the annual Governor's Award of Environmental Excellence. The award program honors businesses, nonprofit organizations and public entities for their extraordinary efforts to protect and improve Maine's environment.

Through this award program, Maine DEP will celebrate and spotlight those who serve as a model by developing innovative ways to shift a culture toward sustainability while investing in infrastructure and creating good jobs. We are looking to recognize applicants with projects and programs born from innovation and collaboration that have resulted in measurable environmental and economic benefits. Successful candidates will be those who are solving environmental challenges through constructive and creative solutions that go beyond standard techniques or regulatory compliance requirements.

Project applications will be subject to a thorough screening process that involves a review of technical merit; an evaluation of environmental benefits and sustainable use of Maine's natural resources; and a review of an applicant's compliance record, if applicable. Eligible applications are reviewed and evaluated by a panel of senior management and staff.

All nomination applications must be submitted to the department postmarked no later than Friday, October 5, 2018.

I encourage you to apply by describing how your project has demonstrated environmental excellence and improved Maine's environment. Thank you for your commitment to protecting Maine's environment and ensuring a sustainable economy for future generations.

Sincerely,

Paul Mercer, Commissioner Maine Department of Environmental Protection



## **2018 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE**

#### Eligible applicants:

- Individual or group of individuals
- Businesses small, medium and large
- Community, town, public sector, nonprofit organization or institution

#### Award Categories:

- Innovation
- Sustainability
- Environmental Stewardship

Note: Multiple awards or no awards may be giving in a Calendar year based solely on the quantity and quality of the applications received during the submission period.

Nominees may be submitted for multiple categories in a given year.

#### Eligible projects must:

- Be located in Maine.
- Have been initiated within the past year, or have been fully operational for less than one year.

Long-term projects may be considered if they have provided a measurable environmental benefit that became realized within the last year and/or the project has been a model and inspiration to other initiated or completed projects within the last year.

- Be submitted on behalf of a nominee who is in compliance with all laws, rules and applicable licenses administered and/or issued by the Maine DEP or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Compliance history will be considered; however, the compliance record of a parent company will not prevent a nominee from a local/regional facility from being considered.
- Be submitted after the date of this posting and before the deadline for submission.
- Be submitted by an applicant on behalf of a nominee that is willing to and agrees to share their project with others through written case studies or other communications or educational initiatives.

- Environmental benefits, improvements and/or remediation cannot be based on gains from conditions, issues or concerns created by the nominee's violation of laws, regulations, the terms of licenses/permits, orders, or department decisions.
- Represent efforts and results above and beyond normal expectations and day to day operations and/or activities.

#### Scoring and Selection Criteria:

Applications will be evaluated and scored based on the criteria below as well as: the compliance history of the nominee; the significant measurable impacts, reductions, improvements and environmental benefit of the project; the repeatability and applicability to others; other social, local and regional impacts; how the project affects the community and individuals other than the nominee.

#### Innovation

- Projects that demonstrate creative and "out of the box" thinking to resolve environmental issues or provide environmental improvements;
- Improving of existing processes in new and innovative ways;
- Development of new processes that create environmental improvements or sustainability:
- Utilization of existing process in new and innovative ways that create a new environmental benefit;
- Utilization of systemic efficiencies that reduce waste, pollution, or improves the environment;
- Reduction or elimination of pollution at its source through pollution prevention concepts;
- Measured improvements of the quality of the environment;
- Accomplishment of project goals and commitment to future environmental goals;

#### Sustainability

- Reduction of energy consumption through process changes and efficiencies;
- Reduction of energy consumption through installation of energy efficient equipment;
- Reduction of transportation costs and other impacts;
- Increase beneficial use of waste materials;
- Increase recycling, repurposing or reduction of waste;

#### **Environmental Stewardship**

Outreach and Education efforts that target Maine citizens or benefit Maine directly by:

- Encouraging and/or providing methods for others to use for environmental improvements; or
- Increased sustainability; or
- Creating awareness regarding critical environmental issues;
- Educating the public about environmental issues;
- Promoting the enjoyment, preservation, benefit and respect of the environment.

Please note: If an applicant submits multiple projects for consideration, each project must be submitted with a separate application.

#### Schedule:

- Applications MUST be postmarked for delivered mail or received via email no later than Friday, October 5, 2018. A confirmation of receipt will be sent by the department.
- Winners will be notified by the department by October 26, 2018.



# **2018 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE**

### **NOMINATION APPLICATION**

NAME & TITLE OF NOMINATOR:

**AFFILATION OF NOMINATOR:** 

NOMINATOR PHONE & EMAIL:

NAME & TITLE OF NOMINEE CONTACT:

PHONE & EMAIL OF NOMINEE CONTACT:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF NOMINEE:

#### NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:

### AWARD CATEGORY (PLEASE CHECK):

- Innovation
- □ Sustainability
- Environmental Stewardship

#### Please provide a written description using plain language of the following:

- Environmental project, strategy or technology employed (please identify the issue that motivated project development and implementation; explain how the project goes beyond standard practices and regulatory compliance standards; and note any creative partnerships, written policies or management practices that demonstrate continued commitment to sustainability goals, financial commitment, etc.)
- Environmental benefit (e.g. pounds of pollutants or waste reduced, reduction in area of impact, energy saved, etc.)
- Economic impact (e.g. dollars saved, jobs created or retained, reduction of environmental, health or safety liability in dollars)
- How does this project demonstrate the nominee's commitment to environmental excellence and leadership in protecting Maine's environment and stewarding the state's natural resources?

- Does the project lend itself to replication by others doing similar work? How?
- Does the project fulfill terms of the specific award category?
- Additional comments:

Submit application no later than Friday, October 5, 2018 to David Madore, Maine DEP at 17 State House Station, Augusta ME 04333-0017 or <u>david.madore@maine.gov</u>

Thank you. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection looks forward to reviewing this nomination. Award winners will be notified by October 26, 2018. For more information about the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence, please visit <u>http://www.maine.gov/dep/govaward/index.html</u> or contact David Madore at (207) 287-5842 or <u>david.madore@maine.gov</u>