



2024 Arkansas Recycling Coalition Annual Awards



Deadline for submitting application is April 15, 2024

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Annual Awards

2024 ARC Annual Awards Program

The Arkansas Recycling Coalition (ARC) unites industry professionals, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, private and public businesses and individuals in a common effort to promote Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose and Recycle as the primary means of Sustainable Materials Management in Arkansas. Comprised of over 250 members, ARC fosters a sharing of ideas by providing its members with opportunities to further their knowledge, increase their industry awareness and network with other like-minded leaders from across the nation. With this mission, ARC strives to increase the effectiveness of resource recovery in Arkansas.

ARC's Annual Awards Program recognizes individuals, small and corporate businesses, organizations, and industry leaders who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of waste reduction, recycling, and sustainable materials management in Arkansas over the past year. This year, the 2024 ARC Annual Awards Program will be held in conjunction with the ARC Annual Conference & Trade show scheduled for September 9-11, 2024, at the Oaklawn Racing ♦ Casino ♦ Resort in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Announcement and presentation of the ARC awards will be made at a special ARC Awards Luncheon to be held during the Conference September 10, 2024.

Recipients, in addition to receiving recognition at the Awards Luncheon, can request assistance in obtaining media coverage in their local communities. If requested, an ARC representative will be available to participate in a re-presentation of the award at a location and to the group determined by the award recipient. Photos taken during the presentation and a Press Release will be sent electronically to the Recipient.

ARC's Annual Awards Program is open to both members and non-members. If you applied in a previous year and did not receive an award, you may reapply in the same or a different category. However, recipients of any ARC Award within the previous three years are NOT eligible to apply.

Award Categories

Individual Recycler of the Year Award

The Individual Recycler of the Year Award honors an individual who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of sustainable materials management in Arkansas over the past year. Judges will be looking for an individual who: demonstrates professional leadership in the pursuit of an integrated approach to waste avoidance, reduction, recycling and sustainability; is a positive community role model; leads by example; seeks opportunities to promote recycling and sustainability within his/her community; uses innovative approaches to educate others; and has a willingness to share information and encourage other persons/businesses/agencies to implement an effective sustainable materials management program .

Community Involvement Award

To receive the Community Involvement Award, a business, organization or individual must have met two (2) criteria. First, the nominee must be a positive community role model. Secondly, nominee must visibly promote waste avoidance, source reduction, beneficial reuse, landfill diversion, and sustainable materials management within the community or region in which it is located. The ideal candidate will support city, county, regional and state recycling activities by being actively involved in the community's waste reduction efforts; seek opportunities to promote recycling and sustainable materials management efforts within the community; educate citizens and peers about recycling; and encourage others to take recycling efforts home.



Annual Awards

Small Business Recycler of the Year Award

The Small Business Recycler of the Year Award recognizes a business who has implemented a culture of effective waste diversion in its daily business practices, operations, procurement practices, and downstream waste management methods. Judges will be looking for applicants whose culture includes an ongoing, comprehensive employee education program, adopted practices that demonstrates its commitment to sustainable materials management; continuous improvements in its waste diversion practices; demonstrates a long-term commitment to its program; adopted waste conscious procurement policies; works upstream with its suppliers to reduce waste and wasteful practices; facilitates a willingness to share information and encourage other businesses, suppliers and the public to implement waste reduction/recycling program. This award will not be given to a business that relies on recycling as its primary means of income.

Corporate Recycler of the Year Award

The Corporate Recycler of the Year Award recognizes a business or organization who has implemented a culture of effective sustainable materials management in its corporate affairs, operations, procurement practices, and downstream waste management methodologies. Judges will be looking for applicants whose corporate culture includes an active, sustainable materials management program that incorporates an ongoing, comprehensive employee education program, administrative/operational policies that demonstrate its commitment to sustainable materials management and continuous improvements in sustainability; long-term commitment to fund/support the program; waste conscious procurement policies for materials and supplies; partnerships with its suppliers to reduce waste and wasteful practices; and a willingness to share information and encourage other businesses, suppliers and the public in implementing a waste reduction/recycling program. This award will not be given to a business that relies on recycling as its primary means of income.

Government Recycler of the Year Award

The Government Recycler of the Year Award recognizes a public employee, public agency, public institution or nonprofit organization that has taken a leadership role in the development and promotion of sustainable materials management as a viable waste management tool. Judges will be looking for a candidate who has implemented a successful Integrated Waste Reduction Program incorporating source reduction, beneficial reuse, recycling and sustainable materials management; utilizes a comprehensive publicity/education program targeting residential and/or commercial sources within that community; has developed/implemented waste conscious procurement policies; purchase recycled/recyclable products for use in their administrative offices and/or operations; pursues an ongoing marketing plan that continually considers the highest/best use for each waste stream; and a program that continually seeks innovative approaches to further expand waste reduction programs within the community.

Recycling Education Program of the Year Award

The Recycling Education Program of the Year Award is presented to the organization, school or individual who has established a proven Recycling Education Program, which offers an integrated approach incorporating waste avoidance, source reduction, beneficial reuse, recycling, and sustainable materials management into a comprehensive educational program within a community or region. To further this cause, the ideal education program will include a comprehensive publicity/education curriculum targeting all age groups (including weekend or nontraditional work hours); will have recognized program success within the community or region by demonstrating positive long-term behavioral changes.

2023 Award Recipients

Corporate Recycler of the Year
Nucor-Yamato Steel Company
Community Involvement Award
Keep Little Rock Beautiful
Recycling Education Program of the Year
Trex Company and Keep Arkansas Beautiful
School Recycler of the Year
Forest Park Elementary
College Recycler of the Year
National Park College
Individual Recycler of the Year
Billy Sawyer

2022 Award Recipients

Corporate Recycler of the Year
Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control
Community Involvement Award
Big River Steel Environmental Team
Recycling Education Program of the Year
AR Environmental Education Association
Small Business Recycler of the Year
The Green Corner Store
Individual Recycler of the Year
Craig Douglass
Lifetime Achievement Award
Don Curran

2021 Award Recipients

Corporate Recycler of the Year
Dassault Falcon Jet
Government Recycler of the Year
Garland County Environmental Services
Recycling Education Program of the Year
City of Fayetteville
Community Involvement Award
E-Waste Warriors NWA

2020 Award Recipients

Corporate Recycler of the Year
Revolution
Community Involvement Award
Peco Foods
Recycling Education Program of the Year
Boston Mountain Solid Waste Management District
Government Recycler of the Year
City of Fairfield Bay
Small Business Recycler of the Year
Pack Rat Outdoor Center
Individual Recycler of the Year
Jacob Gould

2019 Award Recipients

Corporate Recycler of the Year
Mountain Harbor Resort and Spa - Mount Ida
Recycling Education Program of the Year
Conway Department of Sanitation - Conway
School Recycler of the Year
St. Joseph School - Conway
Community Involvement Award
Nucor-Yamato Steel Company - Blytheville
Director's Recognition Award
Max Tackett - Nashville

2018 Award Recipients

Corporate Recycler of the Year
Ace Glass Recycling
Government Recycler of the Year
City of Augusta
Recycling Education Program of the Year
Regional Recycling & Waste Reduction District - Pulaski County
Community Involvement Award
Recycle Saline
Lifetime Achievement Award
Little Roc Mayor Mark Stodola

2017 Award Recipients

Corporate Recycler of the Year
L'Oreal USA - North Little Rock
Government Recycler of the Year
City of Fayetteville - Fayetteville
Community Involvement Award
Conway EcoFest - Conway
Individual Recycler of the Year
John Pope - Van Buren
Lifetime Achievement Award
John Roberts - Little Rock

School/College/University Recycler of the Year Award

The School/College/University Recycler of the Year Award will be given to an outstanding school, college or university that demonstrates a long-term commitment to waste reduction, recycling and sustainable material management both in the classroom and as a means to manage the school's solid waste stream. Judges will be looking for applicants whose efforts include implementation of an Integrated Waste Reduction Program; a long-term commitment to fund that program; waste conscious procurement policies that include the purchase of recycled-content/recyclable products; implementation of a comprehensive education program to instruct students, faculty, and staff about waste reduction and recycling efforts; ongoing volunteer recruitment and retention plan; and student ownership of the program.

Application Procedure

There are two methods to apply and/or nominate an individual or organization:

1. Online - The preferred method for transmitting your Awards Application Form is by applying online at the ARC website: www.recycleark.org (All videos and photos must be uploaded and attached to your application form)
2. Video - Submit your Awards Application video - DVD format. Be sure to include each of the required award criteria as indicated on the Application Form.

Should you not have the means to file the application electronically, please contact the ARC office for assistance.

Deadline for submitting an application is April 15, 2024

For more information contact:
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