



**ATTENTION:**

Assignment Editors, Photo Journalists,  
Business & Environmental Reporters

Friday, April 30, 2010



## **Mayor congratulates winners of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mayor's Environmental Excellence Award**

*Awards honor Dallas residents, groups and students who are building a greener Dallas*

Dallas, TX – Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert is happy to congratulate winners of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Mayor's Environmental Excellence Awards (MEEA). The awards were presented on Earth Day during the City's downtown EarthFest.

During the awards presentation, Mayor Leppert said "The Dallas City Council and I are dedicated to making Dallas the greenest city in America and we're well on our way. The City's Green Dallas initiative is aimed at environmental responsibility and encourages both public and private sector involvement. This is a big task and will take the efforts of all Dallas residents to make it happen."

For that reason, for the second year, Mayor Leppert is recognizing those in the Dallas community who are at the forefront of environmental stewardship; those who are thinking beyond today, beyond the quick-fix. Leppert added, "These awards recognize Dallas residents who are doing some wonderful, innovative, and creative things to help *build a greener Dallas.*"

Here are the winners in the six various categories:

### **Individual or Family category – Winner: Annemarie Marek**

- According to her nominator... Annemarie is "leading by example and doing the right thing at the right time for the right reason," and they call her a "Sustain-o-preneur."
- Ms. Marek is a Dallas resident, small business owner, and president/founder of a sustainability-focused non-profit. She is also a member of the City's Green Building Task Force, responsible for drafting Dallas' Green Building Ordinance/Standard for private construction.

### **Government Agency – Winner: Biofuel Fryer Flyer from Dallas County Schools**

- Dallas County Schools (DCS) operates a fleet of approximately 1,600 buses and transports approximately 60,000 children to and from school safely each day.
- A recent initiative was implemented to reduce fuel costs, recycle waste vegetable oils and reduce pollution.
- The "Fryer Flyer" prototype bus runs on straight waste vegetable oils.

- This initiative is a great step toward fulfilling DCS's commitment to lowering fuel costs and protecting the environment.

**Small Business – Winner: State & Allen Lounge for *Eat Green & Live Green***

- State & Allen is setting the standard for environmental responsibility for restaurants and small businesses.
- This is the only Dallas restaurant to be a “Certified Green Restaurant” by the Green Restaurant Association and must follow very stringent guidelines to uphold their certification and continue setting the pace.
- In 2009, State & Allen Lounge:
  - Recycled 67,604 TONS of materials.
  - Worked cooperatively with Stonewall Garden providing compost from their vegetable scraps in exchange for fresh vegetables.
- State & Allen Lounge continues to improve their operations and community efforts to promote sustainability.

**Large Business – Winner: Energy Future Holdings Managed by Transwestern for *Energy Plaza Green Initiatives***

- Transwestern is a real estate company providing property management for Energy Plaza – one of the major skyscrapers in downtown Dallas.
- The “Energy Plaza Green Initiatives” it is simply that - a variety of green and sustainable operating procedures to reduce the impact that the building has on the environment.
- It is Transwestern’s goal to maintain its property so that their tenants can be proud of where they work and to be a leader in the Green Dallas movement.

**Non-Profit/Not-for-Profit – Winner: Texas Trees Foundation for *Roadmap to Tree Planning and Planting in Dallas***

- The “Roadmap” provides a vision for the future of where trees are planted to maximize their utility value.
- This project is a first of its kind in which planting sites are now identified and prioritized through models using GIS and remote sensing technologies.
- This helps our community plant more wisely to maximize the benefits each species of tree can offer based on the location.

**School or Student Group – Winner: *The Green Team from Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic School***

- *The STA Green Team* is an environmental education and response program which continues to expand its impact on the student and parent community.
- This year’s efforts included hosting a community wide E-Waste Disposal Program.
- They have implemented several campaigns including the *No Waste Lunch* and the *Reduce Your Pawprints* campaigns.
- The Green Team also implemented a monthly recognition program for Green Teachers.

**More about MEEAs:**

Nominations were accepted through March 31<sup>st</sup> for individuals, groups and entities deserving recognition for helping *build a greener Dallas*. Dallas residents who are working in the community to get others involved in improving the environment and creating a sustainable legacy for this generation. Applications for the 2010 Mayor’s Environmental Excellence Awards will be made available this fall.

Efforts can include, but are not limited to:

- |                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Recycling           | Sustainable Agriculture          |
| Energy Conservation | Sustainable Landscaping          |
| Water Conservation  | Stormwater Mitigation/Management |
| Emission Reductions | Green Purchasing                 |

**ABOUT GREEN DALLAS**

The City of Dallas’ Green Dallas initiative is aimed at environmental responsibility and encourages both public and private sector involvement. To find out more about how the City of Dallas is an environmental leader and what residents can do to *‘build a greener Dallas,’* visit the City’s green Web site [www.GreenDallas.net](http://www.GreenDallas.net) . Find us on Facebook [www.Facebook.com/GreenDallasTX](http://www.Facebook.com/GreenDallasTX)