

Governor's Recycling Council
February 11, 2016
Excellence in Recycling Awards Proposal

On May 3, 2016, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), in conjunction with the Governor's Recycling Council, will once again recognize excellence in recycling in Michigan. On April 14, 2014, Governor Rick Snyder announced a statewide plan to increase Michigan's residential recycling rate to 30 percent. During the 2015 Governor's Recycling Summit in Kalamazoo, Michigan, businesses, institutions, government agencies and non-profits were recognized for excellence in recycling in the areas of measurement, education and outreach, access, and marketing. In 2016, the DEQ will award recycling leaders in Michigan that have excelled in creating new or enhanced recycling programs during the year of 2015, outstanding education and outreach programs, and closed loop manufacturing. The purpose of these recognitions is to celebrate increased access to recycling programs, utilization of recycled materials, and creation of recycled products; highlight effective education campaigns; and stimulate others to emulate these successes.

The 2016 Excellence in Recycling Awards will be distributed during an awards ceremony preceding the start of the one half-day 2016 Governor's Recycling Summit on May 3, 2016. It is anticipated one to three awards will be granted for each award type outlined (Outstanding Education Program, New or Enhanced Program in 2015, and Closing the Recycling Loop).

Award Nomination Procedures and Criteria:

1. You may nominate yourself or your business/organization. Nominations are limited to a single award type and award category.
2. The applicant or project must be located in Michigan.
3. The applicant must agree to share their project or program with others.
4. Nominations must be submitted via the online form. The online nomination form is located here: <http://www.deq.state.mi.us/eforms/2016RecyclingAwardNomination.html>. Attachments, such as supporting documentation and photographs, are encouraged and may be submitted to seymourv1@michigan.gov (please include the name of the organization and nominated award type in the message heading).
5. Nominations and supporting documentation must be received by **February 24, 2016**.
6. Winners will be informed of their selection for recognition by March 7, 2016.

Outstanding Education Program Award: From youths to adults, an informed and supportive public is key to increasing recycling. This award recognizes an individual or group for commitment to educating others about the need for, and benefit of, recycling. Specific application criteria include: (1) description of innovative or unique program elements, (2) type and size of audience impacted, and (3) metrics that demonstrate program effectiveness*. Award categories:

- a. Education programs targeting K-12 education institutions and/or youth organizations
- b. Private solid waste and recycling businesses

New or Enhanced Program Award in 2015: A thriving recycling system in Michigan starts with access to recycling programs at a community level. This award seeks to highlight a new or enhanced recycling program that has made noteworthy strides in recycling access in their community during 2015. Specific application criteria include: (1) description of innovative or unique program elements, (2) population served by increased access area, and (3) metrics that demonstrate program effectiveness*. Award categories:

- a. New program
This category describes a new recycling program servicing a municipality, organization, private company, education institution, or other entity that previously had no access to recycling.
- b. Enhanced program:
This category describes an area where recycling service was previously provided and has been expanded upon. Examples include projects such as bins to carts, expansion of materials collected, expansion of access, expansion of reduction or reuse opportunities, etc.

Closing the Recycling Loop Award: This award recognizes businesses that make products from recycled material (such as paper, metal, glass, plastic, or food waste) generated by Michigan households and businesses. We all know that a material isn't truly recycled until it is changed into a new product to be used again. This award will help tell the story that recycling is a supply chain that results in commodities moving from the curb to new products made in Michigan. Specific application criteria include: (1) a description of the product, (2) the type of recycled material used, (3) specific Michigan communities and businesses, to the extent possible, whose recyclables are being used in the product, (4) metrics or data that help demonstrate the amount (in tons) and/or scope of recycled materials used in product development.

Evaluations of Nominations:

A panel of representatives from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality will evaluate all applications.

Information Needed on Nomination Form:

- Name of Company/Association/Organization or Individual being Nominated**
- Mailing Address
- Person Responsible for Preparing Application / Title
- Nominator's Address
- Nominator's Phone Number
- Nominator's E-mail Address
- State Representative's Name and District
- State Senator's Name and District

Category of the Nomination (Nominations are limited to a single award type and award category):

- 1. Award Type: Outstanding Education Program
 - a. Category: Education programs targeting K-12 education institutions and youth organizations
 - b. Category: Private solid waste and recycling business
- 2. Award Type: New or Enhanced Program Award in 2015
 - a. Category: New Program
 - b. Category: Enhanced Program
- 3. Award Type: Closing the Recycling Loop

Description and supporting information:

Provide a brief description of the company, organization or individual nominee, identifying the nominee's contributions to Michigan's recycling program (no more than two paragraphs). Applicants are encouraged to submit attachments that demonstrate program features, but are asked to limit

attachments to no more than three pages. Please include a photograph or logo with your application (to be used in award ceremony, if selected).

Please submit the full package electronically by **February 24, 2016**. The online nomination form is located here: <http://www.deq.state.mi.us/eforms/2016RecyclingAwardNomination.html>.

Attachments such as supporting documentation and photographs may be submitted to seymourv1@michigan.gov (please include the name of the organization and nominated award type in the message heading).

For further information, visit the DEQ Recycling web page at <http://www.michigan.gov/deqrecycling>, or contact your regional DEQ recycling and waste minimization specialist (map and contact information enclosed).

Notes:

*If participation rate is a metric used to demonstrate program effectiveness of a curbside recycling program, please include participation rate as identified by the following definition: the percentage of homes that put their recycling container out for collection at least once during a one month period (this is not the total number of pick-ups).

**Unless otherwise specified on the online form, the NOMINATED party will be informed of a successful award selection. As a nominator, please inform the nominated party that they have been nominated for an award. This will assist the DEQ in reaching the appropriate individual after awardees are selected.

Fiscal Year 2016 DEQ Sustainability Grants

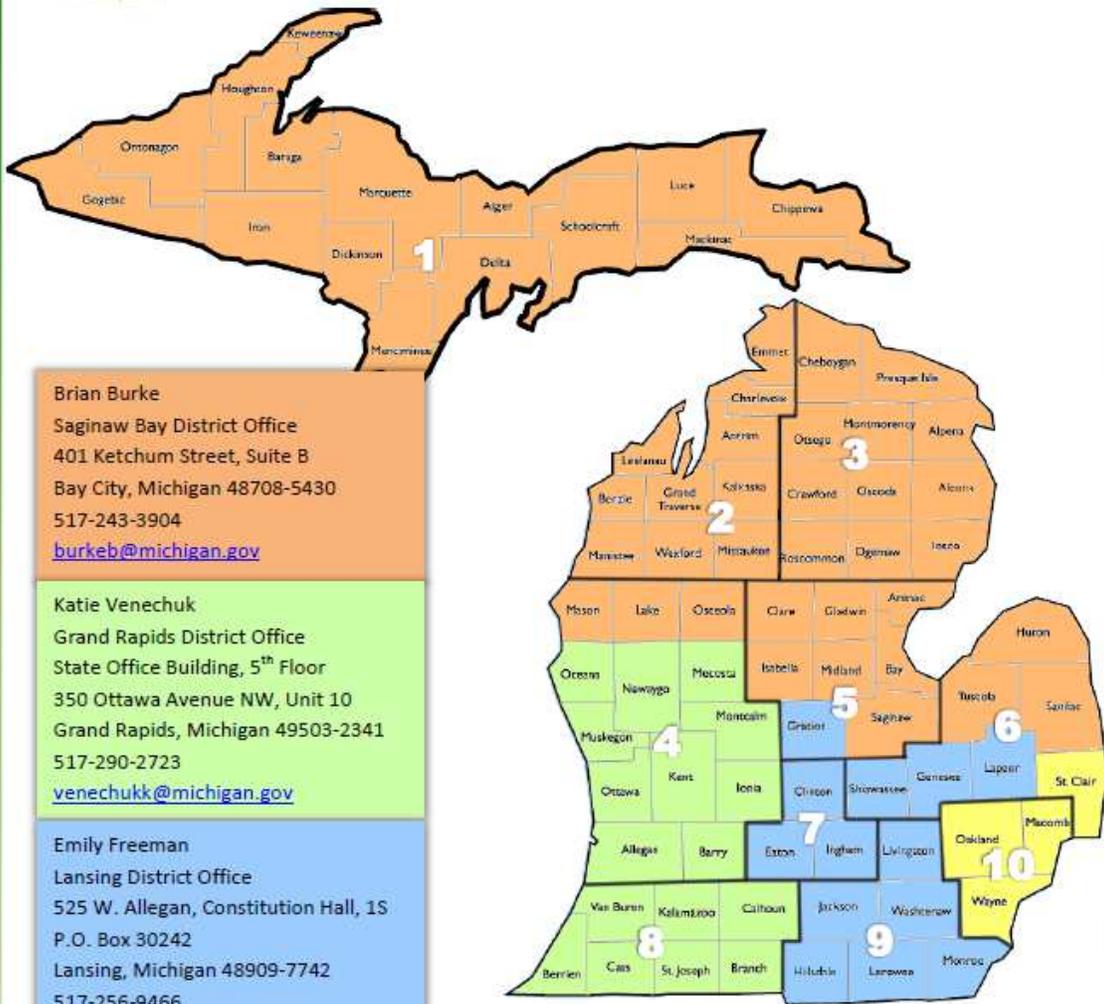
In an effort to raise awareness of and coordinate all recycling awards and opportunities, the 2016 DEQ Sustainability Grants for 2016 are listed below. The application and award process for the 2016 DEQ Sustainability Grants is separate from the process described in this document.

1. Fiscal Year 2016 Residential Recycling Grant, which will provide funding support for municipal curbside recycling carts. Accepting applications until March 31, 2016. The application process is separate from the process described in this document and may be found at:
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/OWMRP_2016_Recycling_Grant_508557_7.pdf?20160104111615.
2. Fiscal Year 2016 Community P2 Grant, which will provide funding support for projects related to reducing and diverting food waste. Accepting applications until February 29, 2016. The application process is separate from the process described in this document and may be found at: http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3585_57765_62565---,00.html.
3. Scrap Tire Grants, which provide funding to clean up scrap tires and develop markets in 2016. Applications were accepted for these grant opportunities until October 30, 2015.; Review of these grant applications is already in process and it is anticipated that awards will be announced soon.
 - a. Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Program Request for Proposals (application process is closed): http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3312_4122-176203--,00.html
 - b. Scrap Tire Market Development Grant Application for Funding (application process is closed): http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-whm-stsw-st-marketdevapp_209033_7.pdf



RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING INITIATIVE

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Recycling and Waste Minimization Specialists



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To report an environmental emergency to the DEQ: 800-292-4706
Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS)

MICHIGAN PROSPERITY REGIONS

1. Upper Peninsula, 2. Northwest, 3. Northeast, 4. West Michigan, 5. East Central,
6. East Michigan, 7. South Central, 8. Southwest, 9. Southeast, 10. Detroit Metro