2014 ELP Award Descriptions

City of West Monroe-Monroe, LA:
The Sparta Re-Use Facility

City of West Monroe is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Special Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention*** for the Sparta Re-Use Facility. Born out of the need to preserve the Sparta Aquifer, this project was designed to reduce the draw on the strained Sparta Aquifer while reducing the flow and nutrient/pollutant loading to the Ouachita River. The project consists of two-50-acre ponds where raw influent sewer is reliant on a completely biological process and a 30-day detention time. Treated, cleaner water is discharged to the Ouachita River via a permitted outfall and treated wastewater is managed for use as process water by the local paper mill in the making of food contact paper. Pumping treated wastewater to the paper mill, rather than the river, reduces the nutrient daily loading and provides a source of process water for the mill, rather than drawing water from the Sparta Aquifer. Recycling all sludge produced in the plant eliminates the need to have that sludge dried and landfilled. This unique first of a kind facility has been showcased for other wastewater reuse projects to EPA drinking water standards for the region, the country and for Third World applications. Industrial firms are reviewing the recycle facilities for other industrial applications.

Lafayette Consolidated Government-Utilities Systems and Public Works Department, Lafayette, LA:
Rain Barrel Program

Lafayette Consolidated Government-Utilities Systems and Public Works Department is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Special Recognition Award in Community Environmental Outreach*** for the Rain Barrel Program. This program is a collaborative effort between the Lafayette Utilities System and the Public Works Department. The purpose of the program is to promote outdoor water conservation efforts in Lafayette Parish and reduce stormwater runoff from entering the Bayou Vermilion watershed. Rain barrels were provided to residents to capture rainwater from rooftops during rain events to be stored for later uses such as watering plants or lawns, washing vehicles, or for any outdoor water-related purposes. By collecting and using rain water, outdoor water consumers are able to supplement their tap water usage and save money on their water bill while conserving a vital natural resource and reducing the amount of surface pollutants introduced into the local watershed.

Diamond Green Diesel, Norco, LA:

Converting Non-Foodstock Grade Wastes to Green Diesel

Diamond Green Diesel is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention*** for Converting Non-Foodstock Grade Wastes to Green Diesel. The plant is the first of its kind to use a patented UOP Ecofining Process to convert waste vegetable and animal oils into *"Green Diesel"*. The end products of the process are green diesel and a minor amount of LPG and naphtha, which is sent for further refining and blending. The green diesel produced by this process meets or exceeds all product specifications of petroleum derived ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD), thereby making a seamless integration into existing supplies of petroleum derived ULSD. The product also offers superior qualities that enhance flexibility of use, allowing winter use with little or no additional refining/blending. Also, the higher oxidative stability benefits end consumers by leading to cleaner thus more efficient engines.

Thibodaux Regional Medical Center, Thibodaux, LA:

Energy Management and Conservation Program

Thibodaux Regional Medical Center is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Large Business Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention*** for its Energy Management and Conservation Program. This regional medical center was able to reduce electricity and natural gas consumption by running the existing heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems more efficiently. The hospital developed a program which reviewed its historical energy and natural gas consumption, then monitored and modified the equipment operation to achieve reductions in electricity and gas consumption. Reductions in carbon dioxide levels were also achieved in 2013.

Rubicon, LLC – Geismar, LA:

Internal Steam Consumption

Rubicon, LLC is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Large Business Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention*** for reducing internal steam consumption in the Maleic Anhydride Plant. The plant produces maleic anhydride used in the production of coatings, polymers, and fiberglass reinforced plastics. The process both utilizes and produces high pressure steam during the reaction process. By utilizing a two-fold steam management process, the plant was able to identify high steam loss areas. Once identified, the facility applied a new Steamloc® design steam traps, which yielded a reduction in steam consumption by 4,000 lb/hr and a cost savings of $175,000. This process has the potential for use across the plant for plant-wide savings and reductions.

Stuller, Inc. of Lafayette – Lafayette, LA:

Scrap Metal Recycling

Stuller, Inc. is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) Large Business* ***Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention*** for recycling scrap metal. Stuller Inc. is a proactive, innovative wholesale jewelry manufacturer that embraces environmental sustainability and corporate social responsibility. As part of its process of making jewelry and in general maintenance of the building, Stuller accumulates various types of scrap metals such as brass, copper, steel and aluminum from different operations. The facility recycled approximately 39 tons of these metals, thereby reducing waste entering landfills and taking a proactive approach toward waste management.

Valero Refining-New Orleans LLC St. Charles Refinery – Norco, LA:

Coker Sludge Injection Process

Valero Refining, St. Charles Refinery is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) Large Business* ***Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention*** for the Coker sludge injection process. The facility added a slurry injection process in the Coker Unit which recovers residual oil from refinery waste and reduces the amount of hazardous material sent to landfills. The slurry injection process treats and centrifuges the waste into separate oil, water and solids components. The recovered oil is returned to the process and the recovered water is sent to the wastewater treatment plant. The centrifuged solids are ground into small particles and water is added to form an aqueous slurry, which is pumped into the Coker unit as part of the water flow used for the quenching process. Prior to this process, Valero sent over 5,800 tons of biosolids to area landfills and a thermal desorber at a nearby refinery. The ability to dispose of wastes in the Coker unit diverts millions of pounds of waste away from area landfills.

Alon Refining Krotz Springs – Krotz Springs, LA:

Air Emissions Reduction Program

Alon Refining Krotz Springs (KSR) is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Medium Business Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention*** for their air emissions reduction program which focused on fuel gas consumed in operating two emergency flares in an effort to reduce criteria pollutant, toxic air pollutant, and greenhouse gas emissions. By optimizing the amount of fuel gas routed to the emergency flares, the facility made a 50% reduction in air emissions. In an effort to improve process heater efficiency, the facility reduced the amount of excess air used in fuel combustion on two process heaters, thereby reducing refinery fuel consumption by 10% in both heaters.

Advanced Specialized Carriers – Pineville, LA:
Pollution Prevention & Beneficial Reuse Program

Advanced Specialized Carriers (ASC) is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Small Business Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention*** for its recycling and beneficial re-use program. The facility promotes recycling of oily water, soapy water, ink-wash water and used oil. It also promotes fuel blending and waste to energy for all hazardous waste by using facilities that utilize these processes for waste streams that cannot be recycled. The facility also sponsors household hazardous waste days by donating time, trailers and costs for disposal, recycling and transport. The facility continues to remain environmentally aware and installed an ecofriendly, energy efficient office facility on the existing property.

Jefferson Parish – Jefferson, LA:
Stormwater Task Force Coalition

Jefferson Parish is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Municipality Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention*** for undertaking a series of activities to educate various stakeholders on water quality issues. The Stormwater Task Force Coalition was formed out of the need to involve as many partners in the region as possible. Jefferson Parish launched a program to educate the public on ways to prevent pollution and keep local waterways clean. Various efforts were utilized to reach target audiences in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of the parish, including classroom demonstrations and storm drain marking programs. Events such as Earth Day, Fight the Trash, and the Leaf Blower & Grass Clipping Campaign placed an emphasis on storm water pollution and encouraged a change in the behavior of local residents.

City of Plaquemine – Plaquemine, LA:
Litter Abatement Program

The City of Plaquemine is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Municipality Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention*** for its Litter Abatement Program. The primary objectives of the program are public education and awareness as a preventative measure, litter control and pickup as a reactive measure and enforcement as a corrective measure. Public education and awareness are created through various informational media, activities and projects. The City sponsored a campaign whereby the youth were challenged to create a commercial on litter abatement that ran on the local cable provider as part of a public service announcement. Various partners were involved with the City, including the Iberville Math and Science-West School, the Plaquemine Post/South, and the City News newsletter. The City continues to challenge the youth to enlist in the litter abatement effort as partners, supporters and participants.

Harry Hurst Middle School- Destrehan, LA:

Green Team

Harry Hurst Middle School is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Schools Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention*** for establishing a track record of environmental activism. Students encourage classmates to recycle paper, plastic, aluminum and cardboard. Approximately 24,000 gallons of recyclable materials were collected in receptacles in the classrooms. The Green Team has also introduced sustainable gardening to their goals along with composting. These projects educate the students on the impact we are creating on the environment and encourage them to seek alternative solutions to current environmental issues. The Green Team students participated in local events such as Audubon Zoo's Earthfest and sponsored a Christmas Wreath Contest, in which wreaths were created from recyclable materials.

Urban Forestry Program, Southern University – Baton Rouge, LA:

Converting Louisiana's Wood waste to Biofuel for Bioenergy Production and Biochar for Increasing Soil Fertility and Environmental Protection

The Urban Forestry Program at Southern University is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***Universities Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention*** for converting wood waste to biofuel for bioenergy production and biochar for increasing soil fertility and environmental protection. The most important environmental improvements are in the areas of wood waste utilization, carbon dioxide reduction and increasing soil fertility through biochar utilization and improved environmental quality. Wood waste is one potentially large source of biomass that appears currently underutilized, but one which can be reused, burned for fuel or otherwise recycled. Biochar from wood waste was used as a soil amendment treatment on live oak saplings during one growing season. Results indicated significant impact on growth and physiology of live oak saplings treated with biochar soil amendment. Some chemical soil properties were also significantly impacted by the soil amendment. The project outcomes benefitted the urban and rural communities by encouraging diversification of energy sources in LA, helped develop rural areas by promoting economic growth emphasizing biobased energy and products, and through enhanced collaboration and coordination of bioenergy research efforts, developed and strengthened R&D programs.

Kenilworth Science and Technology Charter School – Baton Rouge, LA:
Louisiana STEM Expo

Kenilworth Science and Technology Charter School is receiving the *Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)* ***School Achievement Award in Community Environment Outreach*** for sponsoring the Louisiana STEM Expo for middle school students as a means to encourage and support students to take an interest in STEM studies. Students presented demonstrations and competed in the areas of chemistry, life sciences, physics, math and technology with projects that had environmental and/or conservation applications. Kenilworth partnered with other groups that participated as exhibitors, sponsors, partners and judges. More than 500 students, parents and visitors participated. Special guests included Louisiana Commissioner of Higher Education Jim Purcell and former NASA astronaut Duane "Digger" Carey, who piloted the space shuttle *Columbia* in 2002.