



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Environmental Leadership Awards recognize voluntary pollution reductions

BATON ROUGE – Today, DEQ hosted the Environmental Leadership Awards. DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch was joined by Senator Mike Walsworth, chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee and Representative Gordon Dove, chair, House Natural Resources and Environmental Committee, to recognize environmental achievements at the 2013 ceremony. New and existing members of ELP were commended for their voluntary pollution prevention efforts and community environmental outreach initiatives. The ceremony highlighted projects that went above and beyond regulatory compliance to substantially improve the quality of the environment. In 2013, the ELP enrolled 26 new members.

Awards were presented to large, medium and small businesses, municipalities, non-governmental organizations and schools/universities. This year, DEQ presented 15 awards in recognition of the following:

- 219,780,000 pounds (lbs) of pollutants were removed including: criteria pollutants, caustic, GHG emissions, etc
- Reduction in energy usage in the amount of 8,600,000 kilowatt hours (kwh)
- Recycling 163,473 lbs/yr of E-waste
- Recycling 1,857,714 gals/yr of hydrocarbon contaminated water, soapy water, used oil, etc.

This year, of the 15 awards, three were special recognition awards presented to;

- St. Landry Parish Solid Waste Disposal District – Special Recognition in Pollution Prevention
- Martin Ecosystems – Special Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention
- St. Landry Parish S.W. Disposal District – Special Recognition in Community Environmental Outreach

“The Environmental Leadership Program recognizes governmental, schools, businesses and community groups that have gone above and beyond regulation to combat pollution, spearhead community outreach efforts, or present educational programs that make a positive difference in the quality of Louisiana’s environment,” said DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch.

The ELP began in 1995 as a cooperative effort between DEQ and participating companies in the state. Today, any company, federal entity, municipality, non-governmental organization, school or university committed to improving the quality of the state’s environment is eligible to join the program. For more information on the ELP, please contact Linda Brown at 225-219-3954 or visit the DEQ Web Site at www.deq.louisiana.gov/elp