

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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To Request Photos of Winning Teams, please contact jdexter@illinois.edu

Illinois Organizations Honored for Achievements in Environmental Protection

CHICAGO — Twenty-four Illinois companies and organizations were honored today for their significant achievements in protecting the environment, helping sustain the future, and improving the economy. The Governor's Sustainability Awards were presented by the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC) during a ceremony in Chicago. ISTC is a unit of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Since 1987, ISTC has presented Governor's Awards to organizations in Illinois that have demonstrated a commitment to environmental excellence through outstanding and innovative sustainability practices. Any Illinois public or private organization is eligible to apply for the award. Winners are selected through a rigorous process of review and examination by ISTC technical assistance experts.

"Investing in sustainability creates jobs, boosts our economy and is an investment in our future," said Governor Pat Quinn. "These awards foster innovation and encourage our universities and businesses to build a stronger, greener Illinois."

Twelve additional organizations received Honorable Mention Awards to acknowledge organizations whose environmental efforts also embody the spirit of sustainability.

Eight college and university campuses were also recognized at the event by the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact for setting and meeting environmental goals their campuses. The Compact encourages public and private colleges and universities to incorporate sustainability into their campus operations, academic and research programs, student activities and community outreach.

"The linkage between sustainable policies and success in our businesses, our organizations, and our communities has never been stronger," said ISTC Director Kevin O'Brien. "We are proud to call attention to these champions of sustainability who help lead the way by improving our quality of life through their responsible stewardship of people, profit and our planet."

The 2014 award winners are listed below.

2014 Governor's Sustainability Award Winners

AMA Plaza/330 N. Wabash Avenue, L.L.C. — Chicago
Argonne National Laboratory — Lemont
Armstrong World Industries —Kankakee
Baxter Healthcare Corporation — Round Lake
Best Buy Co., Inc. — Downers Grove
Carus Corporation — Peru
Caterpillar Inc. — Joliet Facility — Joliet
Caterpillar Inc. — Reman & Components Division — Mossville
City of Arcola — Arcola
City of Aurora — Aurora
City of Galena — Galena
Eaton's B-Line Business — Troy
Environmental Resources Training Center at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville — Edwardsville
Gabriel Environmental Services — Chicago
J.L. Clark — Rockford
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance — Chicago
Nestlé, USA — Jacksonville
Rockford Park District — Rockford
SAVOR...Chicago — Chicago
Sweet Beginnings, LLC. — Chicago
Thomason Machine Works, Inc. — Rockford
University of Illinois at Chicago, Facilities Management — Chicago
Village of Franklin Park — Franklin Park
Village of Park Forest — Park Forest

2014 Honorable Mention Governor's Sustainability Awards

Cabot Corporation — Tuscola
Caterpillar Visitors Center — Peoria
City of Chicago - Department of Fleet and Facility Management — Chicago
ComEd — Oak Brook Terrace
Compass(x) Strategy — Chicago
DuPage County — Wheaton
Elmhurst Park District — Elmhurst
Public Building Commission of Chicago on behalf of Chicago Public Schools
TMCS INC. & ELSBO — Champaign
UniCarriers Americas Corporation — Marengo
Village of Hoffman Estates — Hoffman Estates
Village of Rosemont's MB Financial Park — Rosemont

Information on the Governor's Sustainability Awards program, lists of previous winners, and information on technical assistance are available from the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, One Hazelwood Drive, Champaign, IL 61820, phone 217/333-8940, <http://www.istc.illinois.edu/>

2014 Campus Sustainability Compact Awards Program

The other recognition was for participants in the Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact, which outlines environmental goals that colleges and universities may adopt on their campuses. The Compact includes objectives such as purchasing renewable energy, implementing green practices, developing sustainable transportation options, improving water conservation, and incorporating sustainable dining practices. The program offers universities and colleges three levels of participation:

- Bronze institutions making a commitment to creating a sustainability program and engaging the campus community.
- Silver institutions which are ready to make targeted commitments to greening their operations and monitoring performance.
- Gold for institutions that are integrating sustainability throughout their campus and working towards measured improvement.

The eight Illinois colleges and universities honored, and their recognition levels were:

Gold – College of Lake County – Grayslake
Gold – Columbia College – Chicago
Gold – Knox College – Galesburg
Gold – Prairie State College – Chicago Heights
Silver – Elmhurst College – Elmhurst
Bronze – William Rainey Harper College – Palatine
Bronze – North Central College – Naperville
Bronze – Oakton Community College – DesPlaines

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The **Prairie Research Institute** at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is the home of the Illinois State Scientific Surveys: Illinois Natural History Survey, Illinois State Archaeological Survey, Illinois State Geological Survey, Illinois State Water Survey, and Illinois Sustainable Technology Center. It was established by statute in 2008 and builds on the Surveys' reputations for basic and applied research and service. www.prairie.illinois.edu

The **Illinois Sustainable Technology Center** (ISTC) was established in 1985 and joined the Prairie Research Institute with the other surveys in 2008. Its mission is to encourage and assist citizens, businesses, and government agencies to prevent pollution, conserve natural resources, and reduce waste to protect human health and the environment of Illinois and beyond. www.istc.illinois.edu