



2008 Clean Air Awards General Information & Criteria

Metro-Wichita Air Quality Improvement Task Force

The City of Wichita and the Wichita Air Quality Improvement Task Force desire to recognize metro area businesses, organizations, communities groups, and individuals that have contributed to improving and preserving air quality in the four-county metro area (Butler, Harvey, Sedgwick, and Sumner Counties).

Contributions that merit a Clean Air Award might include the *following*:

- Implementation of a technology, process, or material substitution that results in the reduction of air emissions at the source. For example –
 - Implementation of a no-idle policy or efficiencies to fleet operations
 - Upgrading to energy-efficient equipment
 - Changes from solvent to powder-coating operations
- Offering alternative commute incentive programs to employees (RideShare, reduced-cost bus passes, loaner bicycles, bike parking).
- Public education projects that educate the community about industry-sector air quality improvement opportunities.

Why apply?

A Clean Air Award will publicly recognize your business' or organization's concern for the community through environmental improvement. Your customers (and potential customers) want to hear about your achievements, and it's great for employee morale.

Clean Air Award recipients will be recognized by the city council and county commission, in a public ceremony as well as profiled in newsletters, and on the city's Channel programming.

Who is eligible to apply?

All four-county metro area businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and governments, as well as community groups and individuals, are eligible for this recognition. *Candidates can be self-nominated.*

How to apply? When is the application due?

Return the completed application by mail, email or fax by December 15, 2008 to Wichita Air Quality Improvement Task Force - c/o John Stark, City of Wichita, Environmental Services Supervisor, 1900 E. 9th Street, Wichita, KS, 67214, JStark@wichita.gov or Fax at (316)268-8390.

Recipients of the Clean Air Award will be announced by mid January and recognized at a luncheon and special awards ceremony at Wichita's Regional Energy Conference and Fair on January 31, 2009 at the WSU Hughes Metroplex, 5015 E. 29th Street N., Wichita, KS.

How are the applications evaluated?

The purpose of the Clean Air Awards is to recognize local organizations and individuals that have made a positive contribution to the regional environment through programs and projects that improve air quality and then recognize as many qualified environmental achievements as possible related to improved regional air quality.



Clean Air Award - 2008

The applications will be evaluated by a panel of up to five judges, represented by individuals from local/state government, business, and non-governmental organizations. Judges will be selected based on their subject knowledge, fairness, impartiality, expertise in air quality, environmental matters, and community affairs.

The panel will review each application looking for environmental achievement that may be expressed quantitatively or qualitatively, depending on the type of program or project. Some projects maybe as simple as documented results from an employee ride-share program or as elaborate as tons of emissions reduced due to a material change at a large industry. All complete applications will be considered.

Judging criteria may include the following:

- Emission reduction of air pollutants - *quantified and documented due to a change in material, process, or technology, not just a downturn in business.*
- Environmental compliance history - *industry environmental compliance history will be reviewed and considered, but a history of minor violations does not make the facility ineligible.*
- Sustainability - *is the practice sustainable?*
- Demonstrates effective collaboration – *did the business or industry document collaboration in order to meet its goals?*
- Demonstrates educational benefits to the community.
- Commitment to promoting clean air and improved air quality – *does the business or industry have a written commitment, like an environmental policy, that demonstrates top management commitment to the environment?*
- Replicability – *can another business or industry replicate these successes?*
- Innovation or uniqueness.
- Technology is commercially viable and can be widely applied.

Checklist for a complete application

Use the attached application form and this checklist to make sure you submit a complete application.

- Did you include the name or title of the program or activity?
- Did you list the responsible individual(s) with the organization, address, e-mail, telephone, and facsimile numbers?
- Did you describe the goals for the project?
- Did you use any new or innovative technologies?
- Did you explain how this project impacts the community?
- Did you list measurable results such as tons of emissions reduced, pounds of hazardous waste reduced, dollars saved on solid or hazardous waste disposal?
- Did you describe or attach evidence of your facility's environmental commitment?

For assistance filling out this application or quantifying environmental and cost savings, contact the Kansas SBEAP at 800-578-8898.