

TCEQ congratulates 2016 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards winners

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 14, 2016 - Nine honorees receive state's highest environmental award

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The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality today announced the winners of the 24th annual Texas Environmental Excellence Awards. These prestigious awards bring attention to the most innovative and effective projects that protect the state's natural resources.

Among this year's honorees are:

- Wichita County producers who develop no-till farming techniques to prevent soil erosion, and who pass their expertise on to their peers, increasing both soil and water conservation throughout the area.
- Two winners whose projects protect and restore the water resources in their communities: salt marsh wetlands in Calhoun County and the beautiful San Marcos River.
- A water education program that creatively enhances the water literacy of its citizens through student-driven projects.
- A science teacher who inspires a legacy of environmental protection throughout his entire school by fostering an understanding of personal environmental responsibility in teachers and students alike.
- A city whose unique and technologically innovative approach to sewer monitoring ensures the reliability of its sanitary sewer system, preventing overflows and saving millions of dollars in repairs.

- A Texas-based business that sets the standard for waste reduction and closed-loop manufacturing in the electronics industry.
- University researchers who spearhead one-of-a-kind tracking of water conservation efforts.
- High school students whose vision for a recycling center goes beyond the walls of the classroom to serve the entire community and keep hundreds of thousands of pounds of recyclable materials out of landfills.

“For years I have been honored to recognize the innovative measures that Texans of all ages, from across the state, take to improve our environment,” said TCEQ Chairman Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E. “and this year is certainly no different.”

“We are inspired by these winners’ commitment to retaining the beauty and natural resources of Texas, from the coastal bend to the upper reaches of the Panhandle,” said Commissioner Toby Baker.

“The individuals, businesses, and organizations represented this year truly serve as a model to others.” said Commissioner Jon Niermann.

This year’s winners will be recognized at a banquet held in their honor on May 4, 2016, as part of the TCEQ’s Environmental Trade Fair and Conference at the Austin Convention Center, May 3-4.

More information is available on the [TEEA website](#) .

2016 Texas Environmental Excellence Award Winners

AGRICULTURE

Brockriede & Lalk Brothers Farms, Wichita County

CIVIC/COMMUNITY

Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Calhoun County

City of San Marcos & Texas State University, San Marcos

EDUCATION

San Antonio Water System, San Antonio

INDIVIDUAL

Trevor Hance, Round Rock

INNOVATIVE OPERATIONS/MANAGEMENT

Fort Worth Water Department, Fort Worth

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Dell, Inc., Austin

WATER CONSERVATION

The University of North Texas Science Education Research Lab, Denton

YOUTH

Kiowa Recycling Center, Booker