

# Business

## & the environment

### Governor's Awards

#### And the Winners Are...

Each year, DEP presents the Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence to Pennsylvania organizations and individuals engaged in pollution prevention or energy efficiency efforts.

About 40 awards are presented each year. All are listed on the DEP website.

The winners represent some of Pennsylvania's best when it comes to demonstrating that environmental stewardship and smart business practices go hand in hand. For more information about the awards, contact DEP at 717-783-9981.

Here's a sampling of the 1999 winners:

#### Technical Assistance Provider Concurrent Technologies Corp.

Johnstown

**Waste Reduction:** 300,000 lbs discharges annually **Savings:** \$15 million via technology transfers

#### Management System Lucent Technologies Microelectronics Group

Allentown

**Waste Reduction:** 4,100 metric tons greenhouse gases annually, 155,000 gallons water daily, 245 tons paper recycled annually, 135,000 lbs household hazardous waste recovered annually, 35,000 BTU's annually **Savings:** \$800,000 annually

#### Pollution Prevention P3 Steering Committee

Erie

**Public Financial Benefits:** Free hazardous waste (mercury) collection, insurance premium reductions, avoidance of medical cost and workers' compensation claims, reduction in regulatory fines and penalties

#### Pollution Prevention Pottstown Plating Works

Reading

**Waste Reduction:** 150,000 gallons water usage daily, 440 tons waste annually, **Savings:** \$150,000 annually from water reduction, \$50,000 annually from treatment chemical reductions

#### Pollution Prevention Morton International

Reading

**Waste Reduction:** 13.7 million gallons annual water usage, **Financial Benefits:** \$100,000 annual water usage savings, \$8,000 annual energy savings; 10 percent return on pollution prevention investment

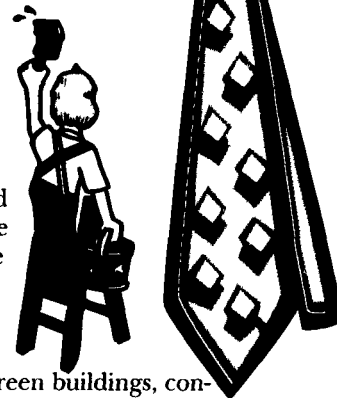
#### Pollution Prevention Mowhawk Flush Doors

Northumberland

**Waste Reduction:** 143.4 tons VOCs annually, 18,700 gallons (hazardous) annually, **Financial Benefits:** 1.24 year payback, \$1.6 million coated surface costs annually; \$183,405 annual energy savings, \$40,792 annual disposal cost reduction

[www.GreenWorksChannel.org](http://www.GreenWorksChannel.org)

## Color your office GREEN



Office buildings that meet their occupants' present and future needs without compromising energy efficiency, sustainable building strategies, telecommunications capabilities, occupant health, comfort, productivity and flexibility are called "green buildings." They benefit owners and managers because they attract a broad range of tenants who are interested in state-of-the-art

technologies and their employees' health, quality of life and productivity.

They benefit tenants because all of their facilities and services are in tip-top order so indoor air quality, environmental programs, wire management systems and building infrastructures are superior. And they benefit the environment because they use fewer natural resources,

produce less pollution and recycle the majority of the resources they use.

For more information about green buildings, contact DEP at 877-PAGREEN. Or visit [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) (directLINK "green buildings").

## BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW

### Land Recycling Benefits Everyone

DEP's Land Recycling Program is a partnership among local businesses, government, financial institutions and DEP to restore contaminated sites to safe and productive uses.

It also promotes the creation of jobs and economic stimuli to distressed communities.

The three-year-old program marks a new direction for environmental efforts. Prior policies required that contaminated sites be

restored to "pristine" conditions—a standard so rigorous that compliance was prohibitively expensive and virtually unattainable. Prior laws also held current owners responsible for cleanup, even if the contamination was caused by previous owners.

The current law, however, while still focusing on producing the desired environmental result—cleanups—provides significant economic benefits to communities. Here's how:

The Land Recycling Program identifies risk-based standards for cleanup, simplifies the approval process and limits future liability when cleanup standards are achieved. In addition, it provides grants and loans to help finance environmental assessments and site cleanups.

Many sites that have been abandoned as companies ceased operations have redevelopment potential. Municipalities and individual companies are interested in restoring sites to usable condition.

Here are the benefits of land recycling at a glance:

- Cleaning up polluted industrial sites protects human health.
- Pennsylvania's environment is cleaner and safer.
- Vacant sites are restored and become productive, helping cities and towns to grow economically.

• Cleanup is voluntary and privately funded—not done at the expense of taxpayers.

• Farmers with undeveloped land need not

face possible choices if contamination is found on their farms.

- Farmland and greenspace are saved from development.
- Changing our practices now will sharply reduce new abandoned sites in the future.

To get involved in the Land Recycling Program, contact DEP at 717-783-7816.



[www.GreenWorksChannel.org](http://www.GreenWorksChannel.org)

### It's not just a good idea, it's a smart idea ENVIROHELP

Small businesses can get free, confidential information on how to comply with local, state and federal environmental regulations by calling the Envirohelp Hotline at 800-722-4743. [www.pa-envirohelp.org](http://www.pa-envirohelp.org)

### This is strictly confidential...

### SMALL BIZ OMBUDSMAN

DEP has a Small Business Ombudsman to provide small businesses with confidential assistance coordinating DEP resources and to investigate complaints from small businesses about DEP. Call Greg Czarnecki, DEP Small Business Ombudsman, at 717-772-8951. [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) (directLINK "ombudsman").

### There's gold in them thar hills

### GRANTS & LOANS

DEP offers grants and loans for everything from air pollution control equipment to prevention of pollution from underground storage. You can get more information from [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) (directLINK "grants").

### What's the alternative? CLEAN FUELS

More and more fleet operators are using alternative fuel vehicles powered by compressed and liquefied natural gas, propane (liquid petroleum gas), methanol, ethanol, biodiesel or electricity, which emit fewer toxic pollutants and promote national energy independence.

[www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) (directLINK "alternative fuels").

