

On April 15, 2013 the **Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)** presented the **2012 Environmental Recognition Awards** to the following recipients:

Voluntarily Exceeding Environmental Regulatory Requirements:

Award:

The SRCSD/SMUD Biogas Enhancement Facility – Together they constructed a co-digestion facility as part of the region's renewable energy efforts. The facility provides a new local disposal option for wastes such as fats, oils, grease, and liquid food processing waste that is turned into bio-gas, captured and purchased by SMUD to generate renewable electricity.

Honorable Mention:

California American Water – for the upgrade of their water mains and installation of new water meters 12 years ahead of the State deadlines.

Providing Leadership Toward the Protection and Enhancement of The Environment in the Greater Sacramento Community:

Award:

The City of Elk Grove for its Rain Garden Plaza – On May 1, 2012, the City of Elk Grove opened to the public, the region's most comprehensive Rain Garden Plaza demonstrating the practices of low impact development, sustainable stormwater engineering techniques, and eco-friendly landscaping. This demonstration garden provides community education for and promotion of cutting edge stormwater quality practices, water conservation, and the improvement of water quality.

Honorable Mentions:

VSP Global for their Headquarters Building – Located in Rancho Cordova, the four buildings that make up the VSP campus have been upgraded to meet LEED standards for existing buildings accomplishing over 91% waste diversion and Energy Star scores of over 90.

Sacramento Board of Supervisors – They were honored for their wide range of efforts to promote sustainability by the approval of policies, programs and county practices to improve environmental and county government operational efficiencies in building, transportation, and energy technologies.

CalPERS Headquarters Building – CalPERS implemented a system of Server Hot Aisle Containments in their almost 18,000 square foot Data Center successfully reducing their Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) by 32%.

Achievement of a Successful Environmental Education/Outreach Program:

Awards:

The American River Natural History Association (ARNHA) – For their production of the 2nd Annual Nature Fest in October of 2012. This event brought together 18 environmental and community organizations to provide educational activities, demonstrations and resource information to over 1,000 participants from the Sacramento Region.

The Sacramento Electric Vehicle Association (SacEV) – For being involved in over 20 events during 2012. Over 100 SacEV volunteers reached out to the community to share experiences with their electric vehicles and knowledge. They provided electric vehicle education and advocacy at events ranging from 50 to 15,000 people, totaling over 50,000 attendees in 2012. They also developed and managed Northern California's largest EV ride and drive event with 100 test drives enabling people to experience driving electric for the first time.

Honorable Mention:

The Rental Housing Association (RHA) and the **Sacramento Area Sanitation District (SASD)** who partnered to educate the RHA's members and tenants about sewer problems related to fats, oils, and grease.