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# SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:  
County of Sacramento  
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## Press Release... SEC Environmental Awards Presented 4/21/14

The Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC) presented their 2013 Environmental Recognition Awards on April 21. The Environmental Recognition Awards were created to recognize the accomplishments and leadership of those who have acted to protect our environmental resources while enabling economic progress.

Any program, individual or organization whose actions or programs positively impact the environment of Sacramento County, were eligible.

### Category 1 Voluntarily Exceeding Environmental Regulatory Requirements:

**Aerojet Rocketdyne**, for its completion of a multi-year effort to demolish 253 inactive or condemned buildings throughout their Sacramento manufacturing facility. Many of these buildings contained lead paint, asbestos and other hazardous wastes that were contained and disposed of properly, eliminating further negative environmental impact. During the demolition process the waste streams were separated for reuse or recycling, and clean concrete rubble was retained and will be reused on site for road construction.

### Category 2 Providing Leadership Toward the Protection and Enhancement of The Environment in the Greater Sacramento Community:

The following six award recipients were participants in the sharps take back program. Awards were presented to:

**Rite Aid 526 East Bidwell Street, Folsom**

**Save Mart, Folsom**

**Safeway, Folsom**

**Folsom Lake Fire Department**

**Revolutions Naturopathic Medical Solutions**

**Innovative Compounding Solutions**

By acting as collection sites for used syringes and needles, these organizations play a vital role in protecting the public and sanitation workers from infection through inadvertent contact with infectious sharps. Sharps are collected in approved biomedical containers and then collected from the drop off site by the City of Folsom Hazmat Division.

**Friends of Lakes Folsom and Natoma**, for their lead role in annual clean up events such as Earth

Day at Beal's Point, Earth Day Kayak clean up, and the Great American River clean up. FOLFAN also engages the public with environmental programs for at risk youth and educational sessions on watersheds at the Electricity Fair at Folsom Powerhouse. Volunteers logged 879 hours on the Adopt –the-Parkway programs to maintain the bike trail east of Hazel Ave. FOLFAN utilizes best practices during their clean up events that include group size management, and education on appropriate dress and safety.

**Atlas Disposal**, for their completed construction of a Compressed Natural Gas fueling station at the County of Sacramento South Area Transfer Station in March 2013. This station fuels much of Atlas' fleet using natural gas rather than diesel, which reduces the emissions of carbon dioxide and other particulate matter. Some of this natural gas is produced by the Clean World Anaerobic Digester facility that produces gas from food waste materials. Atlas could prove to be an example for all fleets in its use of natural gas.

**Sacramento Municipal Utility District**, for its East Campus Operations Center that utilizes LEED lighting and is projected to save 3.7 million kilowatt hours in electricity, avoiding 3.2 million pounds of carbon dioxide emissions and improving local air quality. The operation center will be using 100% renewable energy through the use of skylights, light louvers and LED lighting powered by photovoltaic arrays.

#### **Category 3 For Achievement of a Successful Environmental Education/Outreach Program:**

**Phillip Krehbiel and Reed Aitken** for the production of a winning video for the Folsom Middle Schools video contest on the subject of Household Hazardous Waste Disposal and Recycling. Phillip and Reed's video is both entertaining and informative and was shown to all the Folsom 6<sup>th</sup> graders in 2013.

**Jim Bentley with Foulks Ranch Elementary School**, for his outstanding commitment to environmental education. He is an enthusiastic and dynamic 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher who incorporates film curriculum with environmental awareness and he and his students have produced videos that are being used by the city of Elk Grove for public outreach and education on their website.

**Sacramento City Unified School District**, for its exemplary Project Green program which engages students from 12 schools, and their families, in hands on education regarding energy conservation, recycling, school gardens, and green construction practices. Students perform comprehensive energy audits and work with the Plant Manager and District Sustainability manager to learn about the resources used on campus and have Green Teams that promote recycling on their school campus and act as sustainability ambassadors in their community.

The Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC) was created by the County Board of Supervisors and City Councils in 1988 with a broad charter to provide information, analysis and advice to the elected officials on environmental issues, and to provide assistance and advice to the Environmental Management Department on environmental programs. The appointed members come from diverse backgrounds, frequently representing environmental law, community advocacy, environmental regulation, industry, and land use planning among their areas of expertise and interest.