



2006

*Governor's Environmental
and Economic Leadership Awards*



*Presentation Ceremony
December 5, 2006*



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

December 5, 2006

***Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership
Awards***

I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to those gathered for this year's awards ceremony.

California has a long history of promoting and maintaining a healthy environment for our residents. Many of our state's important economic assets are linked with our natural surroundings: our agricultural industry, fish and game populations and coastal industries, to name a few. Our economic future, therefore, is dependent upon our businesses and residents making the protection of our environment a high priority.

Tonight's award recipients have demonstrated a tremendous commitment to preserving our natural resources, while also contributing greatly to our economy. The individuals, organizations and businesses being honored have my utmost gratitude for pursuing innovative and effective strategies that protect both our environment and the well-being of our business communities.

On behalf of all Californians, please accept my heartfelt congratulations, and I wish you all a memorable evening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Program Events

Welcome and Introductions

Presentation of Awards

Sustainable Practices or Facilities

Children's Environmental Education

Environmental & Economic Partnerships

Ecosystem & Watershed Stewardship

Sustainable Communities

Closing Ceremony

Photographs

Reception

The 2006 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards

The Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards Program is the State of California's highest and most prestigious environmental honor. The program recognizes individuals, organizations, and businesses operating in California that have demonstrated exceptional leadership. This year's winners have all made notable, voluntary contributions to conserving California's precious resources, protecting and enhancing our environment, and building public-private partnerships.

The awards program is administered by the California Environmental Protection Agency and Resources Agency, in partnership with California's Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, State and Consumer Services Agency, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture. This year awards are being given in the following five categories:

- ***Sustainable Practices or Facilities***
- ***Children's Environmental Education***
- ***Environmental & Economic Partnerships***
- ***Ecosystem & Watershed Stewardship***
- ***Sustainable Communities***

Sustainable Practices or Facilities

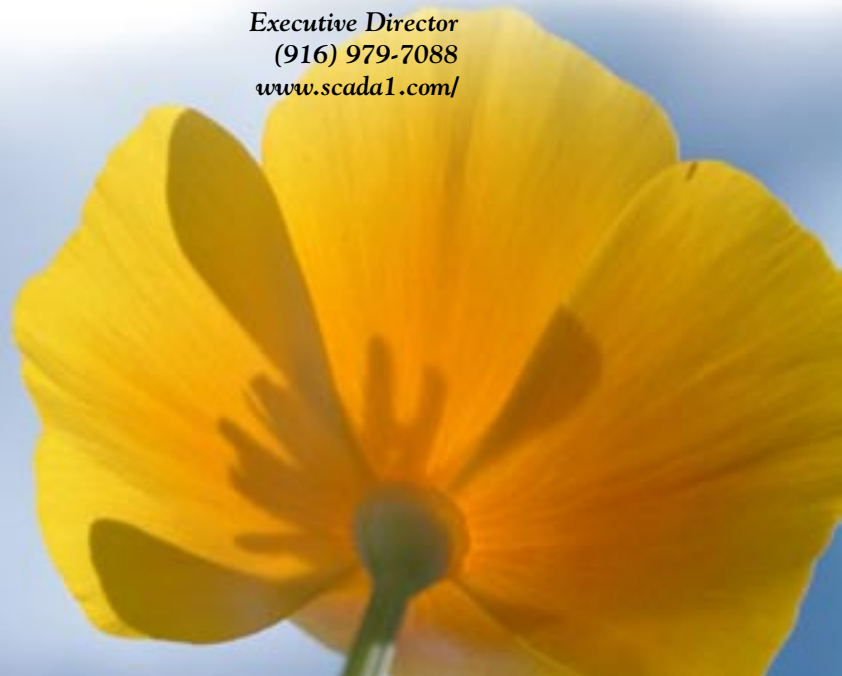
Partners In The Solution

STATE OF CALIFORNIA AUTO DISMANTLERS ASSOCIATION (SCADA)

STATEWIDE

The State of California Auto Dismantlers Association's Partners In The Solution program motivates vehicle dismantlers to achieve a high level of environmental and safety performance. "Partners" is an innovative, industry-led certification program that requires all SCADA member facilities to meet specified environmental, safety, and business and licensing standards. Partners combines best management practices, training, self-evaluation, and independent audits to facilitate improved performance. The program has wide-ranging benefits, including preventing hazardous, reusable, and recyclable components from entering the conventional waste stream; protecting air and water quality; and preventing neighborhood nuisance conditions created by the improper disposal of end-of-life vehicles.

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Sustainable Practices or Facilities

Sustainable Winegrowing Program

LODI-WOODBRIDGE WINEGRAPE COMMISSION

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

The Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission (LWWC) was formed in 1991 and promotes the Lodi region as a producer of premium winegrapes and wine. The organization also promotes use of farming practices that are environmentally sound, economically viable, and socially equitable. LWWC represents almost 800 winegrowers farming more than 90,000 acres that produce 20 percent of California's winegrapes. LWWC's program includes grower education and outreach, field implementation with one-on-one assistance, the Lodi Winegrower's Workbook self assessment, and in 2005, a third-party sustainable winegrowing certification program, The Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing. This program includes California's first sustainable winegrowing standards that have been peer-reviewed by scientists, the academic community, and environmental community. The program is being implemented on a region-wide basis. Fifteen hundred vineyard acres were certified in 2005, and 6,000 acres are enrolled for 2006.

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Sustainable Practices or Facilities

Waldeck's Office Supplies

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

Waldeck's is a 54-year-old, family-owned San Francisco office supply business offering customers products that enhance worker health and productivity while protecting the environment. Waldeck's 3,500-square-foot retail store is filled with recycled, biodegradable, reusable, energy-efficient, non-toxic products. Waldeck's store has also become a center for "green learning" with ongoing environmental presentations by government, business, and nonprofit organizations. Waldeck's accepts used batteries, cell phones, laser/inkjet cartridges, computers, monitors, computer parts, home electronics, and other electronic waste (e-waste) at no cost to customers. More than five tons of the used items have been collected by Goodwill Industries.

**Contacts:
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President
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Children's Environmental Education

Children and Family Program

RECYCLEWORKS

SAN MATEO COUNTY

RecycleWorks began as the San Mateo County Public Works Department's recycling and composting program and has developed into a broad-based countywide resource that encourages local residents, businesses, and schools to become environmental stewards. Nationally known for programs including the Green Dollhouse Project and RecycleWorks KIDS, a website designed to meet curriculum standards for 3rd to 6th grade students, RecycleWorks approaches environmental issues creatively with a local perspective. The Habitats poster, game, and pamphlet, which are correlated to 3rd and 4th grade standards, feature the different ecosystems that are present in San Mateo County and help students and families explore, respect, and protect their local environment. RecycleWorks KIDS, a website that averages 30 classroom visits per day from across the nation, is intended to teach, in a kid-friendly fashion, the importance of reducing the impact to our natural resources, reusing as much as possible, and recycling materials.

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Jill Boone

RecycleWorks Program Manager

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www.recycleworks.org/kids/index.html



Children's Environmental Education

The Hilton Bialek Biological Sciences Habitat

MONTEREY COUNTY

The Hilton Bialek Biological Sciences Habitat offers outdoor learning experiences to students from the Carmel Unified School District, K–12, and to youth from underserved communities throughout Monterey County. Their mission is to inspire students to understand and protect the environment through its various programs: bird banding, bird identification, native plant propagation, habitat restoration, organic gardening, cooking, nutrition, pond and watershed activities, and nature studies. The Habitat features seven acres of land comprised of coastal scrub, chaparral and riparian plants, restored native grasslands, organic gardens, an outdoor kitchen, an amphitheater, a native bee garden, a pond, and numerous demonstration gardens. The program began when a science teacher at the middle school started to involve students in conservation projects on the then-unused land adjacent to the school; local support grew from there. The Habitat substantially increased its programming in 2004 and works closely with teachers and community partners to integrate the organic garden, cooking program, and community restoration projects into every student's educational experience. During the past ten years, more than 7,000 students from throughout Monterey County have participated in its programs.

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Children's Environmental Education

PG&E Solar Schools Program

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

The Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Company Solar Schools Program, now in its third year, provides funding to support public schools in underserved communities throughout Northern and Central California. The Solar Schools Program is a shareholder-funded initiative that reinforces PG&E's commitment to renewable energy and education in a way that benefits schools, students and the community. In 2006, PG&E awarded \$1.7 million in grants to support the installation of solar generation systems for educational use, solar-based training curriculum, and the Bright Ideas grants to eligible schools within its service territory. Through the Solar Schools Program, students learn the financial and environmental benefits of converting sunlight into electricity. PG&E has calculated energy savings of 50,000 kWh, saving schools more than \$9,000 in energy costs and avoiding 30,000 to 50,000 pounds of greenhouse gases. The PG&E Solar Schools Program is proud to partner with National Energy Education Development Project (NEED) and the Foundation for Environmental Education.

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Pacific Gas and Electric Co.
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www.pge.com/solarschools/



Environmental and Economic Partnerships

Colton Dunes Conservation Bank

**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, RIVERSIDE LAND CONSERVANCY,
AND VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY
RIVERSIDE COUNTY**

The Colton Dunes Conservation Bank is the result of a partnership between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Riverside Land Conservancy, and Vulcan Materials Company to protect the habitat for the endangered Delhi Sands flower-loving fly. The insect, similar to a hummingbird, pollinates plants and is important to plant and animal species in the region. Rapid development of critical habitat led to its listing as an endangered species and the cessation of development in the surrounding communities. The partnership decided to use Vulcan's 150-acres of land as a conservation bank in order to conserve the largest remaining area of critical habitat. The partnership utilized a bond to financially guarantee restoration activities and pursued all necessary approvals. This revolutionary concept provided a means for developers to mitigate the habitat impacts of their projects through immediate habitat conservation. Conservation easements will remain permanently with the Riverside Land Conservancy, with Vulcan Materials Company funding an endowment to provide permanent habitat maintenance.

**Contact:
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Environmental and Economic Partnerships

Agricultural Internal Combustion Engine Conversion Incentive (AG-ICE)

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, AGRICULTURAL ENERGY CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION, CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION, SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT, AND SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
SACRAMENTO AND SAN JOAQUIN COUNTIES**

Used primarily to pump water for agricultural crop irrigation, more than 5,700 stationary diesel/gasoline/propane/butane-powered pumps contribute to the Central Valley's poor air quality. Launched in 2005, AG-ICE is a partnership among business, associations, numerous federal, State, and local agencies—and agricultural and environmental groups. The partnership encourages Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Company's agricultural customers to voluntarily convert to less-polluting electric-powered irrigation pumps. To encourage farmers to make the switch, the AG-ICE program offers reduced electricity rates, limits annual customer rate increases, and provides up to \$27.5 million to help farmers cover the up-front costs of connecting to PG&E's system. In the first nine months, the program received more than 1,200 applications. Once fully installed, these systems will translate into approximate reductions of 17,500 tons of nitrogen oxide and 1,200 tons of particulate matter during their expected lifetime. From helping farmers enhance their operations to enabling all Californians to breathe easier, AG-ICE exemplifies the powerful results that can be achieved by working together toward a common goal.

**Contact:
Greg Disse
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Pacific Gas and Electric Co.
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Environmental and Economic Partnerships

ReConnect San Francisco

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES AND DELL INC.

SAN FRANCISCO, SAN MATEO, AND MARIN COUNTIES

ReConnect San Francisco is a partnership between Goodwill Industries of San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin Counties, and Dell Inc. The partnership launched in July 2005. In its first year, ReConnect diverted almost 2 million pounds of e-waste from landfills. Residents of San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin Counties are invited to drop off, at no cost, any type or brand of used computer equipment at any of Goodwill's 30 donation sites or stores in the three counties. Once Goodwill collects the donated items, ownership passes to Goodwill. Goodwill then sorts the equipment for recycling or refurbishment and then resale. Proceeds from the equipment recovery are returned to Goodwill for re-investment in a variety of job-creation and community programs.

Rachael Grossman
Chief of Organizational Advancement
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Environmental and Economic Partnerships

Hearst Ranch Conservation Project

**THE HEARST CORPORATION, AMERICAN LAND CONSERVANCY,
CALIFORNIA RANGELAND TRUST, AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY**

The Hearst Corporation worked with the American Land Conservancy, California Rangeland Trust, and the State of California to create one of the most significant land conservation efforts in history. The 82,000-acre Hearst Ranch is the largest private working cattle ranch remaining on the California coast and is home to the famous Hearst Castle. Completed in 2005, this partnership resulted in conserving 128 square miles of fish and wildlife habitat and a conservation easement on the 80,000 acres east of Highway 1, restricting future development. The State also received ownership of 1,500 acres west of Highway 1, of which 949 acres will become part of the California State Parks System. Public access was secured for a new 18-mile segment of the California Coastal Trail, and some 500 acres was made available to Caltrans for coastal protection and erosion prevention. In addition to the preservation of one of California's most picturesque landscapes, the property is home to nearly 1,000 plant and animal species. Its coast features an elephant seal rookery, more than 19 beaches, coastal creeks, bluff, prairie, and maritime chaparral habitat. This conservation framework specifies the prohibitions on new development, limited development, and public access.

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www.alcnet.org/alc-home.php**



Ecosystem and Watershed Stewardship

Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project

LOWER CLEAR CREEK RESTORATION TEAM

SHASTA COUNTY

The Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project revitalized and restored an environment ravaged by the effects of gold and aggregate mining during the last 150 years. Since 1994 the Lower Clear Creek Restoration Team, comprised of local, State, and federal agencies and organizations, guided the recovery and maintenance of resilient, naturally reproducing salmon and steelhead populations. Project participants also restored riparian plant and animal communities on the floodplain. The project increased the return of the fall-run Chinook salmon from a 1967–1991 average of 1,689 to more than 16,000 in 2003. The team recreated 60 acres of floodplain, reduced juvenile fish stranding by filling old gravel extraction pits, injected 95,000 tons of spawning gravel, all aided by the removal of a dam that opened ten miles of creek for spawning and rearing habitat. The economic benefits of improvements have jumped from \$7.7 million to \$15.7 million.

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Ecosystem and Watershed Stewardship

Leon Lesicka, Desert Wildlife Unlimited

IMPERIAL COUNTY

Leon Lesicka, a resident of Imperial Valley for 74 years and founder of Desert Wildlife Unlimited, has been a driving force in Imperial County for environmental management, wildlife habitat, and water quality. With congressional support and full participation of regulatory agencies, Mr. Lesicka designed, funded, and constructed a wetland system that removes contaminants from the New River, a major source of pollution for the impaired Salton Sea. The Westmorland Wastewater Treatment Wetlands project began in 2005, with Mr. Lesicka heading up a citizen's task force on the New River. Mr. Lesicka's commitment and tenacity resulted in a collaboration of governmental agencies, scientists, and stakeholders on a water quality issue that was daunting. To date, results are promising for treatment and removal of pollutants in the Alamo and New Rivers.

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Sustainable Communities

Vista Montana

CLARUM HOMES

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Founded in 1994 and headquartered in Palo Alto, Clarum Homes is a family-owned development company devoted to building exceptional new home communities and apartments in California. Clarum has adhered to its mission of building sustainable communities since 1999 when the company began installing solar power systems in their homes as standard equipment. Clarum Homes is now recognized nationwide as a leader in green building practices. In 2003, Clarum Homes began construction at Vista Montana in Watsonville, California's largest zero energy home community. Completed in 2005, Vista Montana includes 257 zero energy homes and 132 affordable apartment homes, a 14-acre city park, and a new elementary school. All of the homes at Vista Montana included 1.2 kW to 3.2 kW solar electric power systems and the affordable apartment home community was outfitted with a 60 kW building integrated panel system, which is the largest system installed at an affordable apartment community in California. Clarum's zero energy home model, the Enviro-Home, has earned designations from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Program, ComfortWise, California Green Builder, and the U.S. Department of Energy Zero Energy Home Program.

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Sustainable Communities

Windsor Unified School District and Town of Windsor

SONOMA COUNTY

Since 1992, The Town of Windsor and the Windsor Unified School District have pooled financial resources to help environmental quality by educating students to be environmental stewards. Joint projects have addressed water conservation, reduction of air pollution, and solid waste disposal. These projects have resulted in an annual savings of more than 1.4 million gallons of fresh water. In addition, the district converted school buses to run on cleaner biodiesel or natural gas, resulting in 66,701 fewer gallons of diesel fuel burned. These measures, with extensive school recycling efforts, have significantly contributed to a 55.1 percent waste diversion rate. In 1998, the town executed a new franchise agreement for solid waste, green waste, and recyclables services—the first city in Sonoma County in more than 40 years to bid its solid waste services. The partnership of the Town of Windsor and Windsor Unified School District is viewed as a replicable model of how other municipalities and districts can work together.

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www.wusd.org/





A special thanks to the following individuals and entities that helped make this year's event a success:

- *The California Environmental Protection Agency*
- *The California Resources Agency*
- *California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency*
- *California State and Consumer Services Agency*
- *California Department of Food and Agriculture*
- *California Integrated Waste Management Board's Office of Public Affairs*
- *California State Parks Foundation*
- *The team of award reviewers*

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