

The winners of the 2002 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards are:

Sustainable Practices

1. Thanksgiving Coffee Company – Mendocino

Thanksgiving Coffee Co., based in Northern California and established in 1972, is the specialty coffee industry leader in the roasting of socially, environmentally, and economically responsible coffees in the United States. Thanksgiving Coffee Co. pays significant premiums above market for organically grown, fair-traded and shade-certified coffees. This economic development effort provides small farmer cooperatives in Central and South America with the means to survive the tragic downturn in world coffee prices that has created a crisis in coffee producing countries. Thanksgiving Coffee Co. is committed to using coffee to communicate world issues and communicate to consumers the need to purchase responsibly.

2. Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Fairfield Brewery – Sustainable Practices

Anheuser-Busch's Fairfield brewery has integrated environmental practices and concepts into business decisions for sustainable growth, continued commitment to quality, and environmental protection. The brewery's Environmental Management System (EMS) program minimizes environmental impacts via recycling, reuse, and reclamation and promotes conservation practices for raw materials and energy use. The Fairfield brewery has the distinction of being the only American brewery certified under ISO 14001 and is a charter member of the U.S. EPA's National Environmental Performance Tracking System. In addition, its EMS is used in all Anheuser-Busch breweries in the United States and in China.

3. Yosemite Concession Services Corp. – GreenPath Environmental Management System (Mariposa County)

Yosemite Concession Services Corporation (YCS) is the primary concessionaire in Yosemite National Park, under contract with the National Park Service to provide services and activities for the Park's nearly four million annual visitors. Recognizing its role as a steward of this magnificent Park, YCS has implemented an Environmental Management System, called GreenPath, that incorporates environmental considerations into all business decisions; promotes ecologically sound values through education and interpretive programs for visitors and employees; and is dedicated to sustainable practices designed to reduce potential impacts resulting from concession operations.

4. Association of Bay Area Governments – Bay Area Green Business Program (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Santa Clara, and Sonoma Counties)

The Bay Area Green Business Program has helped hundreds of businesses implement practices that contribute to environmental and economic sustainability. Developed by the Association of Bay Area Governments in partnership with local, regional, state, and federal agencies and industry representatives, the Program assists and recognizes businesses that voluntarily go beyond compliance to prevent pollution, conserve energy and water, and minimize solid and hazardous waste. Launched in 1996 with a focus on small and medium-sized businesses, the Program initially certified auto repair shops in two counties. At the current time the Program has certified businesses in 17 industries and in six counties.

Energy Conservation

1. Wells Fargo Bank – Energy Conservation/Energy Awareness Training (Statewide)

Wells Fargo Bank established a comprehensive energy conservation effort years ago, and in 2000, determined that a company-wide plan was necessary. The primary goals were to reduce energy usage by 20%, to educate Wells Fargo employees in energy conservation methods, and to design and operate energy-efficient buildings. The top-down program was formalized in 2001 with the formation of internal energy teams, the widespread dissemination of energy conservation information, and the implementation of specific energy-efficient equipment and actions. Monitoring in 30 branch locations was begun in June 2001 and between June – December 2001, energy usage for these locations was reduced an average of 24%, saving 784k kwh of electricity. IN the seven largest owned/managed facilities, electrical consumption for 2000/01 was reduced by an average of 16%, a savings of more than 7 million kwh of electricity.

2. County of Alameda – Energy Program (Alameda County)

Alameda County's Energy Program has been in existence since 1990 and focused its efforts in 2001 to help alleviate California's energy shortage and to encourage others to follow its lead in energy efficiency. Using cutting-edge technology, the County became a major producer of electricity from clean, renewable sources. Alameda County is now home of the nation's largest Rooftop Photovoltaic System that generates 1.18 megawatts of solar generated power. In response to California's energy crisis, the County effectively implemented projects that now generate 1.4 million kwh in renewable energy and sustainably reduces its energy usage by an additional 1.9 million kwh at county facilities.

3. Vallejo Sanitation & Flood Control District (Solano County)

The Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District has been very active in energy savings and conservation over the past 15 years. Using technologies that have reduced energy use and air emissions, the District saves over \$400,000 annually on energy costs through readily available energy programs and equipment replacement

projects. To date, the District has received in excess of \$700,000 in rebates for energy projects completed. This comprehensive energy conservation effort has resulted in a total of 7,570,200 kwh saved since 1992.

Children's Environmental Education

1. TreePeople, Inc. – Education Programs (Los Angeles)

Founded in 1973, TreePeople's mission is to inspire the people of Los Angeles to take personal responsibility for the urban forest. TreePeople has since led volunteers to plant a million and a half trees in Southern California and each year involves more than 100,000 students, adults, and community leaders in environmental stewardship. TreePeople provides direct education, including programs supporting more than 100,000 K-12 students and teachers per year. The *Campus Forestry Program* trains teachers and students to design strategic tree plantings for their campuses in a curriculum built upon the State of California's academic standards. To date, more than 20,000 students, teachers, and parents have planted more than 4,000 trees on 60 public school campuses. *Eco-tours* is an exploration-based field trip for elementary school children. This program brings 10,000 students per year to TreePeople's home in Coldwater Canyon Park for hands-on, science-based environmental education. *Generation Earth* is a program of the County of Los Angeles designed and administered by TreePeople. Focusing on middle-school and high-school students, this program trains teachers to integrate environmental service learning with their core curriculum and supports students in creating environmental projects. Last year more than 65,000 students at 64 school participated.

2. Adopt-A-Watershed (San Francisco-based/Statewide)

Adopt-A-Watershed helps communities develop educational programs focused on local watersheds that encourage stewardship and enhance student learning. Their goal is to increase knowledge and positive action regarding watershed habitat health at all levels of the community, while enhancing student educational performance. This goal is met by using local watersheds as living laboratories. Founded in Trinity County in 1989, Adopt-A-Watershed has evolved into an innovative 17-unit interdisciplinary science curriculum and a model that brings together natural resource agencies, community organizations, businesses, educators, and landowners on behalf of their community's environmental and educational welfare. Adopt-A-Watershed has trained more than 20,000 teachers and community leaders who reach more than 200,000 students each year.

3. Santa Clara Valley Water District – Educational Outreach Program (Santa Clara County)

The Santa Clara Valley Water District's Education Outreach Program targets Santa Clara County pre-K through college students and educators with a comprehensive range of environmental curricula, from water conservation and urban runoff issues to flood awareness and watershed stewardship. Popular classroom materials are designed for all grade levels, from the "Water Cycle Boogie" for the younger grades, to the "Which Way To the Bay" game for older students. The program's goal is to establish a foundation for understanding and appreciation of water resources in Santa

Clara County through school/youth-based education programs. The District recently opened two outdoor education sites, one in Campbell and one in San Jose. Both include seating for 30-40 students and opportunities for tours of special features including water quality testing, exploration of a weather station, and wildlife inventories. In the 2000/01 school year, the program reached 18,485 students and 1,182 teachers. It provided 18 in-services for teachers, composed a water conservation pledge, and created a Project WET companion teacher's guide for preschool teachers.

Watershed Management

1. Blue Ridge/Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership (Solano, Napa, Yolo, Lake and Colusa Counties)

The Blue Ridge/Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership is a voluntary group of 40 partners: private landowners, public land managers, regional inhabitants, and recreational users dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and management of over 500,000 acres of natural, wild, agricultural and recreational lands located in the upper Cache and Putah Creek watersheds of Solano, Napa, Yolo, Colusa, and Lake Counties. Examples of the Partnership's successes over the past three years include the protection of nearly 30,000 acres of BRBNA lands by conservation easements and the public acquisition of 25,000 acres with an additional 13,000 under negotiation. Habitat enhancement and invasive weed control projects are ongoing on the Bear Valley Ranch and along significant stretches of Cache and Knoxville Creeks.

2. Spenceville Wildlife Area and Mine Reclamation (Nevada County)

The Spenceville Wildlife Area and Mine Reclamation Project is a unique and successful blending of multiple government and private-sector entities to eliminate a significant environmental and safety hazard while enhancing the recreational opportunities of public lands. Prior to reclamation, this 10-acre site encompassed 60,000 cubic yards of mine waste, and a one-half acre water-filled mine pit. The mine pit contained 7.5 million gallons of pH 2.5 acid mine drainage that leached into Dry Creek and Little Dry Creek in Nevada County. In 1990, the Department of Fish & Game and the Regional Water Quality Control Board entered into a cooperative agreement for reclamation of the site and ultimately, in collaboration with private-sector partners, the reclamation was complete in 2001, enhancing the health of the Dry Creek Watershed.

Environmental Economic Partnerships

1. Placer Legacy Open Space and Agricultural Conservation Program (Placer County)

The Placer Legacy Program was developed to permanently protect the open space resources of Placer County, a county that has been the fastest growing in the State of California. In 1998, the Board of Supervisors recognized a need to balance economic growth with a proactive conservation effort and worked collaboratively with the Sierra Business Council to initiate the project. Together, the County and Sierra Business Council implemented a work plan that included citizen participation, multi-jurisdictional

agency participation, public outreach, and a science-based set of conservation objectives. Completed in 2000, this 30-year plan will protect the diverse and unique open space resources of the County through acquisition and program efforts.

2. **Chino Basin Organics Management Strategy (San Bernardino County)**

The Chino Basin Organics Management Strategy provides an integrated, cross-media program for protecting Southern California water resources through clean-up, treatment and reuse of locally-produced organic materials, including manure, biosolids, and green waste. Developed in 2001 by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency in partnership with the Milk Producers Council, and local, state, and federal agencies, this program uses digester technology to transform waste materials into renewable energy and fertilizer products while providing significant air and water quality benefits. A pilot project constructed in 2002 is one of the largest commercial systems in the U.S. to convert manure to green power.