



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Calypso Cove Marina selected for the Small Business Environmental Stewardship Award

The National Steering Committee (NSC) of Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs) & Small Business Ombudsmen (SBO) have recognized Calypso Cove Marina with the 2024 Small Business Environmental Stewardship Award. The company, based in Norman, Oklahoma, was recognized for its accomplishments in the areas of improving environmental performance, pollution prevention, sustainability, and sharing their knowledge with others to help improve other marinas.

Calypso Cove Marina was recognized for working with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in the Oklahoma Office of Business and Regulatory Affairs (OBRA) on the Clean Marina Program and utilization of the Clean Vessel Act Grant. The grant enabled them to achieve many needed upgrades with a focus on pollution prevention and sustainability as they rebuilt Calypso Cove Marina following several severe storm events. Some of their developments were best management practices that encourage all boaters to keep Lake Thunderbird clean, rainwater barrels, fuel efficient gas pumps, and many other environmental practices. This attracts like minded outdoor enthusiasts and increased traffic and tourism in the area, while keeping it clean. Calypso Cove Marina is also a member of the local Chamber of Commerce and helps share the best management practices that were developed so Calypso Cove has become a model for other marinas to follow. Calypso Cove was the first marina to be awarded in the Clean Marina Program and with this model, at least five other marinas have seen the benefit of the program and joined and become certified under the Clean Marina Program.

Cheryl Dirck, manager of the Clean Marina Program, recognizes Twila Elliott, manager of Calypso Cove, for her outstanding commitment to environmental stewardship. Her dedication to sustainability is evident through the marina's participation in the Clean Marina Program by implementing eco-friendly practices. They are not only protecting the marina environment, but also setting a commendable example for others in the industry. Well, done, Calypso Cove, for your exemplary efforts in promoting a cleaner, greener future for our waterways!

The Office of Business and Regulatory Affairs director, Lloyd Kirk, is excited for the growth of the Clean Marina Program. Calypso Cove is a shining example of the positive economic and environmental impact one marina can have on an industry.

The SBEAP/SBO NSC Awards are the States' premier awards program for recognizing outstanding environmental leadership among small businesses and small business assistance providers. These awards recognize small businesses, SBEAP/SBO programs and individuals, trade associations and other business assistance providers who have made significant contributions to protecting the environment. The awards program is sponsored by the SBEAP/SBO NSC in partnership with U.S. EPA Asbestos and Small Business Office.

More information about the state SBEAP/SBO is available at <https://nationalsbeap.org/>.

About the Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs and Small Business Ombudsmen

The Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAP) and Small Business Ombudsmen (SBO) were created under Section 507 of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. For more than 25 years, the SBEAP/SBO have provided extensive, hands-on technical assistance to small businesses across the country to help them understand and comply with complex environmental regulations. The SBEAP/SBO website, <https://nationalsbeap.org/>, is a resource for program participants and small businesses. Find your state specific contact at: <https://nationalsbeap.org/states>. #SBEAP #SmallBusiness