



SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Serving Small Businesses and the Environment

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Illinois Receives 2016 Small Business Environmental Assistance Program Award

The National Steering Committee (NSC) of Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs) & Small Business Ombudsmen (SBO's) chose the Illinois Small Business Environmental Assistance Program to receive the 2016 Small Business Environmental Assistance Program Award for excellence at their annual conference held in conjunction with National Small Business Week May 3-5, 2016 in Arlington, VA.

The Illinois SBEAP was nominated by their peers and chosen by the SBEAP/SBO National Steering Committee for their leadership and outstanding efforts in fostering compliance assistance, sustainability, advocacy and collaboration.

"The Illinois Small Business Environmental Assistance Program is honored to be selected by our state counterparts for the 2016 Small Business Environmental Assistance Program Award. Like the small businesses and entrepreneurs we serve, the professionals in these programs are some of the most creative and passionate problem-solvers in government. Through partnerships with our environmental regulators and the business community, the Illinois program is proud of our efforts to bridge the communication gap to help ensure Illinois small business owners have the tools and understanding they need to achieve compliance and protect the environment," said Annette Fulgenzi, Manager of the Illinois Small Business Environmental Assistance Program located in the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity.

"The Illinois Small Business Environmental Assistance Program serves as a tremendous advocate at both the national and state level for the small businesses they serve. Through their efforts to simplify compliance requirements and provide technical assistance, the program is ensuring Illinois small businesses know how to comply with complex regulations which is often one of the biggest challenges for them to overcome in achieving compliance," said Sara Johnson, NSC Chairman of the Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs & Small Business Ombudsmen.

The SBEAP/SBO NSC Awards are the premier environmental awards program for recognizing states' outstanding environmental performance, programs and individuals. The awards honor and recognize small businesses, individuals, trade associations and others who have made significant contributions to protecting the environment.

The NSC would also like to recognize Rivanna Natural Designs for their creative awards and their continued support of green manufacturing. For more information on Rivanna Natural Designs please visit www.rivannadesigns.com.

More information about the state Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs is available at <https://nationalsbeap.org/>.

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About the Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs)

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