

APPENDIX C

FAIRFAX COUNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Fairfax County Environmental Excellence Awards have been established to recognize county residents, organizations, businesses and county employees who unselfishly dedicate time, energy and expertise for the betterment of the environment in support of countywide environmental goals and initiatives. Award recipients are selected by the Environmental Quality Advisory Council, and the awards are presented each fall during a meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The recipients of the 2014 Environmental Excellence Awards were:

County Resident Award:	John DeNoyer and Ann Csonka (posthumous)
Organization Award:	Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center, George Mason University
Business Award:	Davis, Carter, Scott Ltd
Business Award:	Guernsey Office Products
County Employee Award:	Joyce Doughty

“Fairfax County, the Town of Herndon and the greater environmental community lost a very good friend when Ann Csonka passed away on March 1, 2014. But the contributions she made, collectively with her husband, John DeNoyer, will remain with us in perpetuity.” The nomination for **John DeNoyer and Ann Csonka** goes on to highlight many of these contributions, including Dr. DeNoyer’s 14 years of service on the Herndon Town Council (including two terms as vice mayor), his service on and chairmanship of the Environmental Quality Advisory Council and his expertise and vision regarding a wide range of environmental issues in the Town of Herndon and Fairfax County, including stormwater management, tree preservation, conservation, recycling, water supply protection, environmentally-sensitive land management and ecosystem protection. The nomination also highlights Ms. Csonka’s expertise and passion for teaching others about conservation and ecology. Of their many contributions, the nomination included the following highlights:

- Their support for enactment of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.
- Their founding in the early 1980s of Tree Action, the predecessor to Friends of Runnymede Park.
- Organization in 1987 of the first Sugarland Run and Runnymede Park Cleanup, which continues on an annual basis.
- Leadership of Discovery Walks and youth outreach/engagement in Runnymede Park.
- Organization of the recording of 450 plant species in Runnymede Park, resulting in the park being designated as a Native Plant Registry Site.

- Many other efforts in support of Runnymede Park, including: the design and construction of an information kiosk; establishment of a native plant garden; installation of trail markers; production of informative brochures, including the official map and brochure of the park; and organization of the first NatureFest event, celebrating the park's birthday.
- Participation in the Herndon Environmental Network (recipient of an Environmental Excellence Award in 2013).

The nomination states: *“Ann and John have spent their lives engaged in our community, speaking out on behalf of the environment and for nature. They have served as leaders in the efforts to protect our natural resources.”* Dr. DeNoyer's leadership of EQAC during the early 1990s continues to have a substantial influence on the council's activities to this day.

The **Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center** at George Mason University, directed by Professor R. Christian Jones, has been recognized for its use of scientific research, restoration, education and policy analysis in support of county environmental initiatives. The Center's annual ecological studies of Gunston Cove (see the Water Resources chapter of this report), conducted since 1984, have documented the recovery of this tidal body of water as a result of strengthened pollution control efforts at the county's Noman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant. The Center has shared this success story with county decision-makers, residents, students and environmental managers regionally and nationally. The Center's faculty also prepared the county's community-wide inventory of greenhouse gas emissions (see the Climate Change and Energy chapter of this report), co-authored George Mason University's first greenhouse gas inventory and Climate Action Plan and contributed to an energy and greenhouse gas assessment for Reston. The nomination for PEREC also highlights numerous educational initiatives for school students as well as training for educators. Of particular note is the delivery of Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences, including watershed field investigations through the Bay Watershed Education Program, for over 20,000 Fairfax County secondary school students since 2010. PEREC has also trained naturalists from the Fairfax County Park Authority to provide similar educational experiences for county life science students. PEREC faculty's participation on the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Climate, Energy and Environmental Policy Committee, along with PEREC's hosting of the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Potomac Watershed Trash Summit attests to contributions to regional environmental policy implementation.

Davis, Carter, Scott Ltd is an architectural and interior architectural firm that is headquartered in Tysons Corner. The firm has, for decades, been a leader in sustainable design. As noted in its nomination, in 1975, the firm designed the Terraset Elementary School in Reston as a “school-in-the-hill,” applying earth cover and other innovative energy strategies. More recently, the firm has designed over 13 million square feet of office, civic, residential and educational space for certification in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) program, with over 7,500,000 square feet of space achieving or planned to achieve a rating of LEED Silver or better. Many of the firm's projects are located in or near Fairfax County. Over half of the firm's

staff members are LEED-Accredited, and the firm's outreach efforts include an annual "Green Week" symposium providing lectures, product expos, site visits and training. The firm has been represented on panels addressing sustainable buildings and has held a number of leadership roles for related organizations. In addition, the firm served on the Chairman's Private Sector Energy Task Force.

The firm's nomination states: *"At Davis Carter Scott, we firmly believe that it is our responsibility as architects and planners to use our knowledge and skills to develop innovative ways of designing our buildings and planning our cities to achieve sustainable places in which to work and live, and reduce our footprint on the planet."*

Guernsey Office Products has been recognized for its proactive leadership in support of the "greening" of the county's office supply program in a fiscally beneficial manner. The nomination for the firm highlights that the county needed to overcome significant challenges in order to improve the environmental and financial impact of its office supply purchases—the nomination cited over 1,000 purchasers, hundreds of delivery locations, a catalog of over 20,000 products and "an infinite number of employee opinions." The nomination states:

"Guernsey's leadership helped the county shift to greener products, enhance recycling programs and save \$200,000 in the process. No prior office supplies contractor has been able to match these achievements. Guernsey's success is most deserving of recognition because the company was not required to do any of it. There were no contractual requirements for Guernsey to provide environmentally focused programs and their prime responsibility to provide next day deliveries further minimized expectations. Instead, Guernsey took on a leadership role, invested time and effort and shared expertise with county staff."

Guernsey took the time and effort to discuss its environmental initiatives with county staff and brainstorm ideas as to how to improve the county's environmental impact. Results of the firm's efforts included: a custom printer cartridge recycling program for Fairfax County offices that simplified earlier efforts, resulting in a significantly improved cartridge recycling rate; the use of remanufactured printer cartridges; and piloting of a box reuse program to mitigate the environmental impact of shipping. Guernsey continues to share its environmental insights and information in a manner that "enables Fairfax County to position itself as an environmental leader rather than a follower."

Joyce Doughty is a frequent supporter of EQAC, having provided, for decades, guidance on complex solid waste management issues to EQAC through briefings at EQAC meetings and contributions to Annual Reports on the Environment. She is being recognized for her lengthy career with Fairfax County and the numerous environmental innovations that the county has pursued under her guidance. She was at the helm of the solid waste management program during the construction and development of the Energy/Resource Recovery Facility, which combusts about 3,000 tons per day of waste and which generates about 80,000 megawatts of power, which

is sold to Dominion Virginia to support the operation of the county's solid waste management program. Other initiatives directed by Ms. Doughty have included:

- Installation of landfill gas collection/recovery at both of the county's closed landfills for power production.
- Reuse of landfill gas for processing of wastewater solids from the Noman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant (saving approximately \$500,000 per year in fuel costs) and for additional facility heating at the I-95 and I-66 landfill complexes.
- Development of a wastewater reuse project through which treated wastewater from the aforementioned facility is used as process water at the E/RRF, replacing the use of about 1.3 million gallons of potable water per day with the use of treated wastewater.

Ms. Doughty continues to pursue environmental innovations actively, including the exploration of alternative energy generation capacity at the closed I-95 Landfill through a solar panel array that would be installed on the landfill cap.

As highlighted in the nomination, Ms. Doughty has managed the development and construction of the county's current solid waste management infrastructure while managing the finances of the entire program, which has been self-funded through disposal fees and energy sales. The nomination concludes: *"Ms. Doughty's superior management skills over a heavily-regulated and technically-difficult practice have provided environmental protections for county residents for almost a quarter of a century, a monumental task indeed."*

EQAC congratulates all award recipients.

In past years, Environmental Excellence Awards have been awarded to the following people and organizations:

2013

County Resident Award:	Alan Ford
Organization Award:	Herndon Environmental Network
Business Award:	Burgundy Farm Country Day School
Business Award:	Potomac Vegetable Farms
County Employee Award:	Sean Duffy
County Employee Award:	Randall G. Miller

2012

County Resident Award:	Elaine Tholen
County Resident Award:	Betsy Washington
Organization Award:	ServiceSource
Business Award:	Walker's Grille
County Employee Award:	Ron Tuttle

<u>2011</u>	Organization Award:	Fairfax County Restoration Project
	Organization Award:	Fairfax County Dept. of Vehicle Services
<u>2010</u>	County Resident Award:	Maureen Goble
	Business Award:	Project Performance Corporation
	County Employee Award:	Meghan Fellows
<u>2009</u>	Organization Award:	Earth Sangha
	Business Award:	Allen Wayne, Ltd.
	County Employee Award:	Carl Sivertsen
<u>2008</u>	County Resident Award:	Chet McLaren
	Organization Award:	Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter Project Management Team
	Business Award:	“Jack-the-Ripper” Certified Arborists, Inc.
<u>2007</u>	County Resident Award:	Scott Birdwell
	County Resident Award:	Eleanor Quigley and Penelope Firth
	Organization Award:	Great Falls Citizens Association
	Organization Award:	Invasive Management Area Volunteers
	County Employee Award:	Judy Fincham
<u>2006</u>	County Resident Award:	Ken Andrews
	Organization Award:	Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District
	Business Award:	Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.
<u>2005</u>	County Employee Award:	Janet Rahman
<u>2004</u>	County Resident Award:	Ned Foster
	Organization Award:	Reston Association
<u>2003</u>	County Resident Award:	Joseph Chudzik
	Organization Award:	Students Against Global Abuse
	County Employee Award:	Noel Kaplan

2002

County Resident Award:	Charlie Creighton
Organization Award:	Hickory Farms Community Association

2001

County Resident Award:	Chris Koerner
Organization Award:	Bailey's Beautification Alliance

2000

County Resident Award:	Norma Hoffman
Organization Award:	Friends of Sugarland Run
County Employee Award:	Gary Roisum

The nomination period for the Environmental Excellence Awards occurs during the spring of each year. EQAC encourages interested individuals, organizations, county employees and businesses to submit nominations.