

President's Environmental Youth Awards

K-12th grade
students

Today's Youth Protecting Tomorrow's Environment

The President's Environmental Youth Awards (PEYA) promote awareness of our nation's natural resources and encourage positive community involvement. Since 1971, the President of the United States has joined with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to recognize young Americans for protecting our nation's air, water, land, and ecology. Each year the PEYA program honors a wide variety of environmental projects developed by young individuals, school classes (kindergarten through high school), summer camps, public interest groups, and youth organizations to promote environmental awareness.

Your project – or one you are sponsoring – could be an award winner. Encourage one or more students you know to apply for a PEYA and see what a difference they can make for the environment with an award-winning project. Applicants from all 50 states and U.S. territories are eligible to compete for an award.

How the Program Works

The PEYA competition has two parts — a regional certificate and a regional award. The regional certificate program is conducted year-round. Therefore, applications for this program can be submitted at any time. All qualified applicants will receive a certificate signed by the President honoring them for their efforts to protect human health and the environment.

The regional award program is conducted once a year. Following the July 31 deadline, the regional awards panel for each of EPA's 10 regions reviews applications to select the winner. The 10 regional award winners receive a presidential plaque at an EPA-sponsored award ceremony.

How to Apply

A blank application is provided in this brochure. An electronic version of this document can be viewed or downloaded in portable document format (pdf) at EPA's PEYA Web site at www.epa.gov/enviroed/awards.html. Past projects have included building nature trails, reversing the decline of endangered species, starting recycling programs, restoring native habitats, creating schoolyard habitats, and many other creative, sustainable efforts. To learn more about past award-winning projects, please visit the PEYA Web site.



At a PEYA awards ceremony, the EPA Administrator said that "These young people are leading the way in the protection of public health and the environment. Through these projects and their commitment, these students are setting an example for all of us in making our communities cleaner and healthier."

Youth who submit an application will receive a signed certificate from the President of the United States. One outstanding project in each of the 10 EPA regions will be selected to receive a presidential plaque and to attend an EPA-sponsored award ceremony.

Complete instructions on how to apply for a PEYA are provided on page 2.



The Application

Step 1: Review the Eligibility Criteria

- Project is completed while the student(s) are in kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Student(s) are citizens of the United States or its territories or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residency.
- Project is sponsored by at least one adult.

Step 2: Complete an Application

- Sponsor must sign and date page A-1 of the application.
- Project must be summarized on the pages provided in the PEYA application form, or separately on 3 to 5 pages of 8½- by 11-inch paper.
- Typed, double-spaced applications are recommended. The applicant should type or write on only one side of each page.
- Project must be described based on the criteria (see column to the right). These criteria will be used by a regional awards panel to evaluate the application.

Applicants are encouraged to submit photographs, newspaper articles, and other supporting materials if they provide a more comprehensive view of the project.

Step 3: Mail the Application

- Each application must be mailed to the regional PEYA coordinator. Applications cannot be submitted electronically.
- A current mailing address for each regional PEYA coordinator is provided in the application (see page 3).

Application Deadline

For the regional certificate program, applications may be submitted at any time during the year. For the regional award program, the deadline for submitting applications is **July 31** of each year.

A note about sponsors. Each young person or group of young people applying for the PEYA program must be represented by a sponsor. The sponsor must be an adult and may be a parent, teacher, youth group adviser, summer camp counselor, community leader, or other interested individual. The adult sponsor plays an important role in helping a young person or group of young people carry out a project and apply for a PEYA. Typically, a sponsor offers suggestions and advice throughout the project to: develop a sound project approach; implement the project; work with other groups and individuals in the community; complete the application form(s); and prepare accompanying materials. The sponsor must also sign and date the application.

Questions about the role of a sponsor should be directed to your regional PEYA coordinator.

How PEYA Projects are Judged

Each application under consideration for a regional award is evaluated by a regional awards panel. The panel's members are usually EPA staff who review and evaluate each application based on the criteria. A maximum of 100 points can be awarded to a given application.

Evaluation Criteria

Positive environmental impact on the local community and society. Describe the extent to which the project positively affected the community. 15 points

Accomplishment of goals. List the goals of the project, and describe how they were accomplished. 15 points

Environmental need for the project. 10 points

Long-term environmental benefits derived from the project. Describe any long-term environmental benefits or outcomes of the project. 10 points

Extent to which the project was designed, coordinated, and implemented due to the young person's or persons' initiative. Explain how the project was created and completed through the initiative of the student participant or participants. The impetus and driving force for the project must be the student or students, not the sponsor. 10 points

Community partnerships. Describe the positive ways that the project involved the participation of others in the community. Identify community resources, expertise, leadership, or publicity used. 10 points

Innovation. Describe how the participants used innovative approaches to achieve positive environmental results. 10 points

Soundness of approach, rationale, and scientific design (if applicable). 10 points

Environmental appropriateness of the project. 5 points

Clarity and effectiveness of the presentation of the project. 5 points

EPA Regional PEYA Coordinators

Region 1

CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT

Wanda Rivera

U.S. EPA

One Congress Street, Suite 1100

Boston, MA 02114-2023

(617) 918-1113

Email: rivera.wanda@epa.gov

Region 2

NJ, NY, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

Cecilia Echols

U.S. EPA

290 Broadway

26th Floor

New York, NY 10007-1866

(212) 637-3678

Email: echols.cecilia@epa.gov

Region 3

DE, MD, PA, VA, WV, DC

John Blickensderfer

U.S. EPA

1650 Arch (3C GOO)

Philadelphia, PA 19103

(215) 814-5572

Email: blickensderfer.john@epa.gov

Region 4

AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN

Kathy Armstrong

U.S. EPA

61 Forsyth Street, S.W.

Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

(404) 562-8225

Email: armstrong.kathy@epa.gov

Region 5

IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI

Megan Gavin

U.S. EPA

77 West Jackson Boulevard (P-19J)

Chicago, IL 60604-3507

(312) 353-5282

Email: gavin.megan@epa.gov

Region 6

AK, LA, NM, OK, TX

Patty Senna

U.S. EPA

1445 Ross Avenue

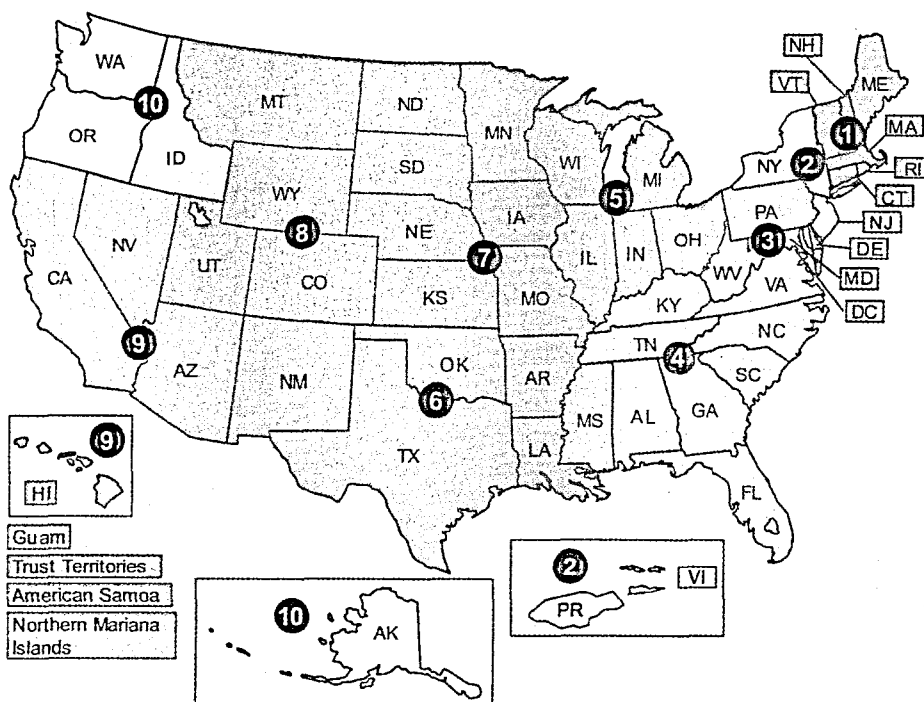
Suite 1200 (6XA-CI)

Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

(214) 665-7178

(800) 887-6063

Email: senna.patty@epa.gov



Region 7

IA, KS, MO, NE

Denise Morrison

U.S. EPA

901 North 5th Street

Kansas City, KS 66101

(913) 551-7402

Email: morrison.denise@epa.gov

Region 8

CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY

Christine Vigil

U.S. EPA

One Denver Place (8-OEE)

999 18th Street, Suite 300

Denver, CO 80202-2466

(303) 312-6605

Email: vigil.christine@epa.gov

Region 9

AZ, CA, HI, NV, American Samoa, Guam, Mariana Islands

Kathy Goetz and Bruce Sivils

U.S. EPA

75 Hawthorne Street (PPA-1)

San Francisco, CA 94105

(415) 972-3702 (Kathy)

(415) 972-3350 (Bruce)

Emails: goetz.kathy@epa.gov and

sivils.bruce@epa.gov

Region 10

AK, ID, OR, WA

Sally Hanft

U.S. EPA

1200 Sixth Avenue (ETPA-086)

Seattle, WA 98101

(206) 553-1207

(800) 424-4372

Email: hanft.sally@epa.gov

A note about the PEYA coordinators. EPA has 10 regional offices, each responsible for several states and some of which are responsible for U.S. territories. In each regional office there is a coordinator who manages the PEYA program for that region. The coordinator answers any questions about the program, oversees the review of submitted applications, and works with the sponsors on follow-up activities.

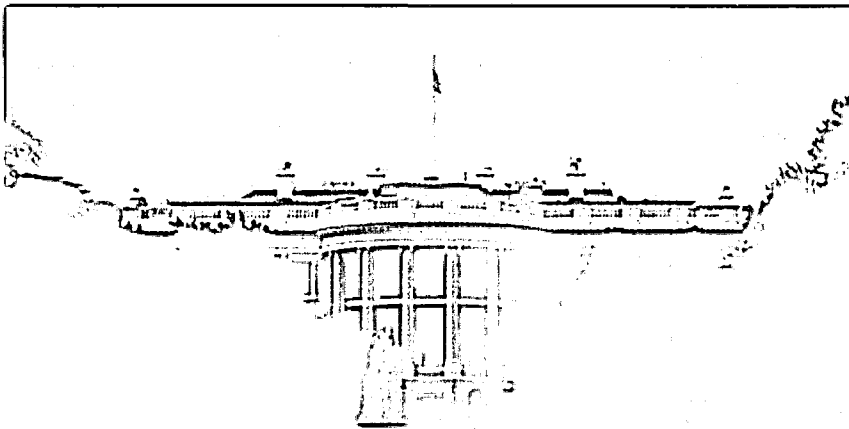
United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC 20460
Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300



Office of Public Affairs
Office of Environmental Education

EPA-171-E-05-001
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www.epa.gov/enviroed

RG-12



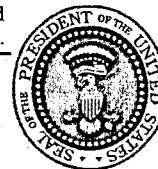
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Today's Youth Protecting Tomorrow's Environment

*Young people from
around the country are
invited annually to participate
in the awards program which
encourages individuals, school
classes, summer camps, public
interest groups, and youth
organizations to promote
environmental awareness and
positive community involvement.*

Application

This is a voluntary program. Applications should be filled out only by those who wish to participate.



All eligible applicants will receive a certificate signed by the President of the United States honoring them for their efforts. To be considered for the regional award program, applications must be postmarked by the July 31 deadline and mailed to the appropriate regional PEYA coordinator.

Individual/Group/School Name _____

Title of Project _____

Number of regional certificates requested _____

Eligibility Guidelines

- ✓ Project is completed while students are in kindergarten through 12th grade
- ✓ Participants are citizens of the United States, its territories, or lawfully admitted to the U.S. for permanent residency
- ✓ The project is sponsored by at least one adult

Participants

List the names, addresses, and grade levels of the youth participants. Please continue on a separate sheet, if necessary.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Age _____ Grade _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Age _____ Grade _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Age _____ Grade _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Age _____ Grade _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Age _____ Grade _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Age _____ Grade _____

Sponsors

List the name(s) of the adult sponsor(s). Application must be signed by the adult sponsor or sponsors.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Telephone _____

Business Telephone _____

Email _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Telephone _____

Business Telephone _____

Email _____

Signature _____



Date project began _____

Date project ended _____

Did project receive press coverage? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "yes", attach press clippings.

Please indicate what you are applying for:

☐ Regional Certificate Only

☐ Regional Awards Program

Applicants for the regional awards program are advised to refer to the evaluation criteria on page 2 when describing their project. EPA regional award panels cannot make site visits, so applicants are encouraged to creatively present a comprehensive view of the project.

Description of the Project

Please describe the project and identify the results achieved.

Applicants for the Regional Awards Program

You may attach up to four additional pages to provide details about the project.