

## 11th Annual Raleigh Environmental Awards 2018

The 11th Annual Raleigh Environmental Awards ceremony was held in Downtown Raleigh on March 22 to honor individuals and organizations for outstanding work protecting the environment and promoting sustainability in the Capital City.

Mayor Nancy McFarlane presented awards in seven categories.

The Raleigh Environmental Stewardship Award went to **The Neighborhood Ecology Corps (N.E.C.)**, an environmental education initiative involving minority youth who focus on the health of the Walnut Creek watershed. Teams of students strengthen their community by examining cultural, ecological, health, livability, and safety issues related to environmental stewardship.

**Dr. Norman Camp**, a lifelong resident of southeast Raleigh and a leader of Partners for Environmental Justice through the Episcopal Church, received the Green Hero Award. Doctor Camp's work helped transform 50-plus acres of City-owned land adjacent to Walnut Creek and Rochester Heights into Walnut Creek Wetlands Center and Park where all children can experience and learn about nature.

**Lester Clay**, who has worked tirelessly on urban agriculture projects in southeast Raleigh for Inter-Faith Food Shuttle and now for Passage Home, received the Urban Stewardship Award. Mr. Clay formed vital partnerships with local restaurants who rely on the produce he and his team grow. His efforts are growing not only a garden, but a neighborhood and community, as well.

The **Ann and Jim Goodnight Museum Park at the North Carolina Museum of Art** received the Land Stewardship Award. The 164-acre campus uses intentional design that promotes natural resource conservation, access to social and recreational spaces, and experiences with art. The park, once a state prison site, is a destination for art and culture and has forever changed the character of the museum.

The Waste Reduction Award was presented to **Zero Waste Wolfpack (ZWW)**, an initiative that strives for zero waste for North Carolina State University athletic events. From its launch in 2015 at Carter-Finley Stadium, ZWW has increased recycling by 70 percent and collected nearly 41,230 pounds of compost. ZWW proves that sustainability and sports can enrich our lives and planet.

**Beaverdam Lake Conservation Easement**, a beautiful tract of mainly forested land in northeast Raleigh, received the Water Quality Award. Van Webb, Frances Bobbie, and Beaverdam Lake Incorporated worked with Triangle Land Conservancy to protect 133 acres through a conservation easement graciously donated by the property owners. The land and lake help filter and retain runoff before it reaches the Neuse River, protecting and improving water quality.

The **Poe and Grow Garden at The Poe Center for Health Education** received the Urban Agriculture Award. This is an interactive outdoor classroom in southeast Raleigh where children and families can learn about gardening, nutrition, soil, composting, plant science, pollination, and more. The garden features eight garden planters, a composting zone, a pollinator garden,

outdoor classroom seating and an educational garden mural. The vegetables are used in classes, camps and donated to families to help increase access to produce and increase enjoyment of nutritious food.

In addition, special awards were presented to artists and videographers whose work focused on water protection by educating about stormwater. The Capture It! Stormwater Arts Contest gave three awards:

- Top honors in Stormwater Video went to local high school students **Ryan Bauguess, Rachel Young, and Kira Badrova**. Their video presents three ways Raleigh citizens can help protect the City's water supply and keep watersheds clean. The video, which is inspired by oceanographer Silvia Earle, is intended to encourage individuals to preserve the environment and to take action so future generations have a clean and healthy city.

- **Genna Stott's "All Drains Lead to the Neuse"** won the award for best Storm Drain Stencil Design. With its representation of the Carolina mudpuppy, the stencil illustrates the local and statewide impacts of stormwater runoff when it goes from storm drains in Raleigh to the Neuse River. The drawing conveys that pet waste, chemicals, oils, or other garbage can impact the environment when entering local water sources.

- Top honors in Rain Barrel Artwork Design went to high school students **Izabel De Angelo, David Lingle, Jonathan Clymer, and Taylor Gantt**. Their design, "Which Side are you on?" conveys the importance of protecting and caring for the environment. The rain barrel painting demonstrates both the positive and negative outcomes associated with stormwater runoff to showcase the impact of citizens' actions to either pollute the environment or preserve it.

Finally, the Trashion Design Competition recognized clothing and accessories designed with at least 75 percent recycled or reused materials. The goal of the competition is to change the way we think about waste through the creation of unique garments and accessories constructed from items that would otherwise be tossed in the trash.

Trashion Awards were given in five categories:

- **Marie Claire Eto** won Grand Prize in High School category. Her garment is made from 100 percent housing materials. The top of the garment is made from a rice sac. Bubble wrap and plastic bags are sewn onto the bottom portion of the top with wrapping paper underneath to fluff the skirt. A ribbon is used to hold the garment together, and spray paint is used to finish the look;

- **Sadie Barker** received the Grand Prize in Adult category. Her bracelets, earrings, and necklaces are constructed from paper beads made of wrapping paper that cannot be recycled due to its foil content. By combining these beads with elements from used jewelry found in thrift shops, Sadie created this collection by adding one new piece - the wire on which they are strung;

- The Grand Prize in College category went to **Celine Borthayre**. The bodice of her garment is made from soda can tabs that were cut, interlocked and designed to resemble shiny fish scales.

The voluminous shoulder pieces were crocheted using a variety of sizes from scrap yarn. The bottom of the outfit introduces an exciting silhouette and another original textile, including hundreds of pom-poms crafted from old cassette tapes found at a local scrap exchange store.;

- **Brooke Connolly** won Honorable Mention for her piece in the College category inspired by lava rocks and made from recycled plastic milk jugs and black trash bags. The trash bags have been pulled apart and polished red to form the dress. The garment is complete with a detachable milk jug piece on the left side that has been melted and painted with acrylic to look like lava; and,

- **Kiana Bonollo** received Honorable Mention in the College category for her design entitled Queen Conch, which was inspired by a garden snail. This design was created during her first semester at North Carolina State University. The goal of the project was to create an avant-garde look using unconventional and recycled materials. This design embodies the rounded shapes, various textures, and reflective properties of a snail.