

The Environment Award recognizes individuals, community groups or businesses that engage and take action in initiatives that protect and enhance Surrey's natural environment.

Discussion

The positive actions by residents, community groups, school groups, organizations and businesses help to ensure local ecosystems are healthy, protected and appreciated. These people act as custodians of Surrey's land and water, and the wide biodiversity of species that thrive in these habitats.

The Environment Awards recognize the significant efforts by contributors to drive projects that spark positive change or encourage others to take action. Their initiatives help protect Surrey's rich ecosystem diversity and sensitive habitats.

Award Categories

Environment Awards will be granted in three categories, in recognition of achievements in successfully implementing positive change in Surrey's local environment:

- **Outstanding Individual**
- **Community Group (Neighbourhood or Non-Profit)**
- **Business**

Eligibility

All Surrey residents, groups, organizations and businesses are eligible. To be considered for an award the project(s) must have taken place in the last four years (2020-2023).

Nomination/Submission Criteria

A nomination form will be posted on the City's website. It will ask for:

- contact information for the nominee and nominator;
- approximately 250 words outlining why the nominee should be considered for the award; and
- contact information for at least two references who support the nomination and can be contacted to provide further information about the nominee.

The submission requirements and process will be described on the Civic Distinction Awards web page, and nominations will be accepted until the advertised closing date. The nominator will make a submission by completing the online submission form through the City of Surrey's website, or by hard copy delivered to City Hall.

Nominations may be submitted without the permission or knowledge of the nominee. If the nominee is short-listed for the award, they will be contacted to request their permission to be considered.

Selections/Evaluation Process & Criteria

A selection committee, comprised of City's Engineering and PRC staff, will review eligible nominations and recommend award recipients to the Environment and Climate Change Committee (ECCC). The ECCC will then make recommendations to the Mayor and Council for their consideration.

Consideration will be given to:

- the overall creativity of the project(s);
- the overall success and demonstrable impact of the project(s); and
- the extent of community involvement.

Recognition

Award recipients will be recognized through the Civic Distinction Awards program and will be presented with awards of excellence. Recipients will also be recognized by the City through a press release, social media campaign, and website acknowledgement.

The City reserves the right to award multiple Environment Awards, or none, within the award cycle.