

2020 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Awards

INSTRUCTIONS



The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership proudly presents the Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Awards each year in celebration of the extraordinary volunteer and professional efforts made to protect and improve lakes in Wisconsin. The awards honor and celebrate all of the incredible work that goes into securing a bright future for Wisconsin's lakes. New nominees this year will join nominees from the past two years in consideration for awards in 2020. The 2020 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award winners and new nominees will be celebrated at the Wisconsin Lakes & Rivers Convention, April 1-3, 2020 in Stevens Point.

Nomination Steps

I. Choose a Category: Choose one of the five categories (described on page 2) that fits most closely. The Selection Committee may elect to move a nominee from one category to another.

II. Complete the nomination form: Please fill in all of the information requested on the nomination form. The nominee may help the nominator complete the form or any other part of the nomination.

III. Letters of Support: Gather at least 2 but no more than 5 letters of support explaining why the nominee is deserving of an award. Letters should be from individuals or groups with knowledge of the nominee's efforts. Those with experience working with the person or group nominated are especially powerful. Letters of support should be no more than 2 pages. Remember, quality is more important than quantity – more letters of support do not necessarily translate to a higher ranking for the candidate.

IV. Supporting Information: Gather no more than 3 pieces of supporting information that demonstrates why the nominee deserves a Lake Stewardship Award. Examples of the kinds of materials that may be submitted include: news articles highlighting the nominee's efforts and contributions, materials developed by the nominee, or other awards and recognition the nominee has received for their lake-related efforts. Choose concise materials that are relevant to your nomination encouraging the nominee's selection. No more than 3 pieces of supporting information will be accepted. Please provide materials electronically, if possible.

Awards Timeline:

November 1-December 23: Nominations are accepted. Nomination materials are available on wisconsinlakes.org

December 23, 2019: Nomination deadline

January 2020: The WI Lake Stewardship Awards Selection Committee reviews the new nominees and eligible nominees from the past two years and meets to select the winners. Winners are notified.

**Nominations due
December 23, 2019!**

Send the completed nomination form and supporting materials to:

Preferred:

Email the nomination package to info@wisconsinlakes.org, with "Lake Stewardship Award Nomination" in the subject line

If submitting via mail, send to:

Wisconsin Lakes
ATTN: Lake Stewardship Awards Committee
716 Lois Dr
Sun Prairie WI 53590

STEWARDSHIP AWARD CATEGORIES

Nominators place their nominee in the category they feel best fits the nomination, but the Selection Committee reserves the right to move a nomination to a different category if it finds such a move warranted. Reasons for such a move include but are not limited to the suitability of the nominee to a particular category or a desire to spread nominations across categories (e.g. a Citizen nominee that runs a youth program could be moved to the Youth/Educator category if a large number of citizen nominees are eligible in that year). The presence of nominees in a particular category also does not guarantee an award will be granted in that category in that year.

No more than five awards total will be awarded for 2020.

Citizen

The Citizen category celebrates the many dedicated individual volunteers whose actions are protecting our lakes and encouraging other to do the same. They may advocate for lakes and waters with decision makers, educate others about lake issues, secure funding for lake management, or lead lake protection efforts to name just a few qualities.

Organized Group

The Organized Group category recognizes the many types of partnerships for lake protection: lake associations, lake management districts, countywide lakes and rivers associations, conservancies, friend's groups, and other collective efforts. A commitment to involving a diverse set of people in lake management decisions and being a catalyst for lake protection initiatives are among the traits of previous award winners in this category.

The Selection Committee may divide this category into an award for "single lake" organizations (standard lake associations or districts) and "multiple or regional" groups (countywide associations or other regional organizations) when numbers and quality of nominees so warrants.

Public Service

This category honors public officials and employees from state and local agencies who make a unique and special contribution towards lake protection in their work. Building meaningful relationships, overcoming big challenges, and teaching people how to make well-informed lake management decisions are a few traits that distinguish nominees in this category.

Youth/Educator

This category recognizes young lake leaders, youth groups, or adults excelling in environmental education around our lakes and waters. Past winners engaged in projects to get others excited about lakes, monitored or studied lakes or waters, or participated in lake related projects in their communities.

Business

Businesses a key component for those working for clean, safe, healthy lakes for everyone. This category recognizes those that demonstrate outstanding commitment to the ecological health of our lakes by providing products or services to lake communities.

WISCONSIN LAKE STEWARDSHIP AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

Representatives from Wisconsin Lakes, UW-Extension Lakes Program, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources comprise the selection committee. In lieu of a scoring system to determine a winner in a given category, the Committee discusses each nominee at length and comes to a consensus as a winner. Award recipients tend to feature a larger body of work with one or two especially unique or impactful projects or accomplishments.



2019 Lake Stewardship Award Recipients

Citizen ~ Nate & Jessica Rice
Group (Multiple Lakes/Regional) ~ North Lakeland Discovery Center
Group (Single Lake) ~ Beaver Dam Lake Management District (Barron County)
Youth/Educator ~ Communities at Oshkosh North, Fall of 2017
Public Service ~ Sandy Wickman

For more information and a list of 2020 eligible nominees carrying over from last year, go to www.wisconsinlakes.org/lakestewardshipawards/.
Questions? email us at info@wisconsinlakes.org or call (608) 661-4313.