

ECOLOGICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD
Sponsored by the [Firman E. Bear Chapter](#)
of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) and
[Pinelands Nursery](#)

\$500 Cash Award

An award will be given annually to an individual contractor, construction company, designer or organization that displays excellence in an ecological restoration project, unique soil and water conservation stabilization project, or innovative habitat development or enhancement project. A \$500 cash award and plaque will be given to the recipient or to a non-profit organization of the recipient's choosing.

CRITERIA

- The project must be completed and functioning.
- The project must be in New Jersey.
- Nominees may include firms from outside of New Jersey

ACCEPTABLE PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Ecological restoration, such as wetland, riparian or upland restoration or enhancement, reforestation or similar projects
- Unique soil and water conservation or stabilization projects
- Unique fish or wildlife habitat development or enhancement projects

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Use of new or innovative techniques
- Use of native plant materials
- Educational value to the public and the ecological restoration community
- Opportunity for this technology to be used elsewhere

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Any agency, organization or individual may nominate a project for the ecological excellence award. The agency or organization must send in a completed award nomination form. In addition a written description of the project, not to exceed 500 words, on why this project merits recognition, any adverse conditions encountered, any unique construction or planting techniques used, and how it meets the criteria listed above should be included. The package may also include letters of support.

Nominations must be received before **March 15th**. Award recipient will be selected by the Awards Committee and approved by the Executive Board of SWCS. The award will be presented at the annual spring/summer meeting of the Firman E. Bear Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society. Contact Tim Dunne, Awards Committee Chairman of the Firman E. Bear Chapter of SWCS, at (908) 735-0733 ext. 104.

Ecological Excellence Award Nomination Application

Project Name:

Nominator:

Date of Project Completion:

Project Location:
(please attach a location map)

Type of Project:
(wetland restoration, streambank stabilization, etc.)

Unique Techniques or Innovative Measures:

Attach a written description of the project outlining the use of innovative techniques, use of native plants, educational value, opportunity for technology transfer, or other information you feel is important. Limit the written description to 500 words or less.

Attach at least two color photos of the project.

Send completed applications to:

Tim Dunne
USDA NRCS
54 Old Route 22
Clinton, NJ 08809

All applications must be received by **March 15th**. Winners will be notified by May 1st. The award will be presented at the annual spring/summer meeting of the Firman E. Bear Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society. Contact Tim Dunne, Awards Committee Chairman of the Firman E. Bear Chapter of SWCS, at (908) 735-0733 ext. 104.