

Sponsored by the partnership of the
Gulf of Mexico Program
to recognize environmental
stewardship in the five
Gulf Coast States.

Gulf Guardian Award 2004

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2004 APPLICATION GULF GUARDIAN AWARD

Gulf of Mexico Program *One Gulf . . . One Community*

Gulf of Mexico Program Mission

To facilitate the protection and restoration of the coastal marine waters of the Gulf of Mexico and its coastal natural habitats; to sustain living resources; to protect human health and the food supply; and to ensure the recreational use of Gulf shores, beaches, and waters in ways consistent with the economic well-being of the region, through a network of citizens and institutions.

Gulf of Mexico Program Vision

A Gulf of Mexico flourishing in all its natural richness and variety - beaches glistening in the sunlight; thriving coastal vegetation; and abundant fish, shellfish, and waterfowl. The Gulf ecosystem is of incalculable value in itself, but our vision also embraces the human uses of the Gulf which are part of the cultural fabric of the region and which are critical to the economic well-being of the region and the nation.

Gulf Guardian Awards

The Gulf Guardian Awards were created in 2000 by the partnership of the Gulf of Mexico Program to recognize environmental excellence in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. All 18 winners receive an impressive marble and glass memento, press coverage on their project, and recognition by their peers. First place winners receive a professional three-minute video about their project or efforts.

2004 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS & REQUIREMENTS
Application deadline for the 2004 Gulf of Mexico Program
Gulf Guardian Award is April 15, 2004

Winners will be notified in June 2004 and awarded at a special function later in the year.

Award categories are:

- ◆ Business
- ◆ Government
- ◆ Civic/Nonprofit Organization
- ◆ Youth/Education
- ◆ Partnerships
- ◆ Individual

Indicate the category that best describes your organization by checking the appropriate box on the front of your application. The Gulf of Mexico Program will make the final decision on the appropriate category for your project. Applications will be scored in only one category.

If you want to submit several projects for consideration, the application form may be photocopied. Complete a new application if you want to resubmit a project from last year. Your project will be scored according to the information provided on the application. Please complete your application in detail and show your project's results.

Please consider the following requirements when filling out your application. Applications not adhering to these requirements will not be considered.

Please complete one application per project using only the space provided on the application (note the word count stipulations). Electronic submissions are preferred.

- ◆ Mail completed entry to the address listed at the end of this form or email your application to gulf.guardian@epa.gov. Electronic submissions are preferred.
- ◆ Your application must be **postmarked by April 15, 2004**, for consideration for the 2004 Gulf Guardian Award.
- ◆ In the interest of fairness, past winners from the same company or organization must wait two years before submitting a new application. (2002 winners can reapply in 2004).
- ◆ Type sizes should be no smaller than Times 12-point or comparable.
- ◆ Projects must show measurable results to be considered. Projects must either be complete or demonstrating measurable results as an ongoing effort.
- ◆ Support material (videos, brochures, press clips, photos, manuals, etc.) will not be accepted. However, you may be asked to submit additional materials at a later date.

2004 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS & REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

Application deadline for the 2004 Gulf of Mexico Program Gulf Guardian Award is **April 15, 2004**.

The Gulf Guardian Award Selection Committee will recommend winners. The Gulf of Mexico Program Management Committee will determine final winners.

Selection of the winning projects will be based on the following criteria:

INNOVATIVE

Does the project contribute new information on how to improve the Gulf of Mexico? Is it a new concept or process? Has it ever been executed successfully before? Is it a creative solution to a problem?

BENEFICIAL

Does it make a significant contribution to improving the Gulf of Mexico? Does it reduce health risk or conserve resources? Does it reduce a large volume or significant percent of water contaminants, hazardous/toxic or solid waste? Is it beneficial to the economy, the environment, or local community? Are people participating? Does it tackle a difficult task? Is it effective?

MEASURABLE

Describe your project results. Can we measure its contribution to environmental quality? Is the measure specific?

EDUCATIONAL

Does the project promote public awareness or education? Does it include employee training or technology transfer? Does it include "how to" guidelines/brochures/videos? Does it encourage other environmental efforts? Are employees involved in development and implementation? Does it serve as a model for other efforts?

COOPERATIVE EFFORT

Does this project involve a cooperative effort between multiple entities or organizations (city/state government, industries, civic groups, schools, citizens, associations)?

EXCEPTIONAL

Is the project self-sustaining or ongoing? Does it go significantly beyond legal requirements? Does it address other social needs, such as environmental equity? Does it solve a serious environmental problem or result in a significant positive impact on the environment?

2004 GULF GUARDIAN AWARD APPLICATION

Application must be postmarked by April 15, 2004.

Please complete the following information, as applicable, when submitting your environmental project, or an individual, for consideration for the 2004 Gulf of Mexico Program Gulf Guardian Award. Please adhere to the word count specifications in narrative sections. (Type size smaller than what is used on this page - Times 10-point - will not be accepted.) If you want to submit several projects in different categories, the application form may be photocopied. Please submit only one application per project. Electronic submissions are preferred. Do not send additional support materials. See Application Instructions & Requirements for guidelines on filling out the application. An electronic application is available at <http://www.epa.gov/gmpo> or email gulf.guardian@epa.gov and request that an application be emailed to you.

PROJECT NAME:	
Name of Person Submitting Application	
Organization Name	
Street Address	
City, State, and ZIP Code	
Type of Organization	
Business Subsidiary of:	
Number of Employees:	
Phone (with area code):	
Fax (with area code):	
Email Address:	
Are you submitting this application on behalf of someone else?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
If yes, please provide name, address, city, state, ZIP Code, and phone number for the person you are nominating. NOTE: Correspondence will be addressed to person in second line above, unless otherwise directed.	Name: Address: City/State/ZIP: Phone: Email:
Award Category:	<input type="radio"/> Business <input type="radio"/> Youth/Education <input type="radio"/> Government <input type="radio"/> Civic/Nonprofit Organization <input type="radio"/> Individual** <input type="radio"/> Partnerships **Follow guidance for individual category
Focus Area	<input type="radio"/> Public Health: Does project protect the public's health? <input type="radio"/> Habitat: Does project protect or restore critical Gulf of Mexico coastal habitats such as wetlands, marshes, seagrass beds, mangrove forests, and coral reefs? <input type="radio"/> Nonindigenous Species: Does project prevent the introduction of nonindigenous plants and animals into the Gulf of Mexico and/or encourage the use of native plants and animals? <input type="radio"/> Nutrient Enrichment: Does project reduce nutrients introduced to our streams, rivers, bays, and the Gulf?
Total Number Projects Submitted	
If a winning entry, who will most likely accept the award (name and title)?	Name: Title:
Suggested Media Outlets	In the event your entry wins a Gulf Guardian Award, please suggest media outlets in your area that would like to receive a news release. Attach a separate sheet of paper and list media outlet name, reporter name, address, phone and email for each outlet.

ALL CATEGORIES (EXCEPT INDIVIDUAL)

Position the cursor in the blank box. As you type, the box will expand to accommodate the text you input.

(1) Summarize the project in one paragraph. Include project dates, who was involved, activity and location, and why the project was initiated. (Summarize in 100 words or less.)

(2) Describe the project in detail [date of event(s), site(s), number of people participating, purpose, goals, history, description of the problem, accomplishments to date, etc.]. What type of environmental improvement was made and how was the improvement accomplished? (Describe in 600 words or less.)

3) Is this project innovative or creative in its use or application of technology or personnel? If so, please explain. (Explain in 100 words or less).

(4) Describe how the project benefits the environment. (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(5) How do you specifically measure the success of the project? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(6) Describe any educational, training, or outreach component to your program (brochure, video, manual, classes, seminars, etc.). Have you worked with another school, city, or other organization to help them establish a similar program? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(7) Does this project involve the cooperation of different types of public, private, community, business, or citizen groups? If so, please explain the cooperative effort and list all participating entities and their respective roles. (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(8) Estimate cost of the project. Give specifics, if applicable. (Give specifics in 100 words or less.)

(9) Describe anything exceptional about your project. For example, is it financially self-sustaining? Does it go above and beyond legal requirements? Does your project address issues of environmental equity? Does it result in a significant positive impact to the environment? Does your project take place in a critical region? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(10) Briefly describe the schedule or timetable of the project, including start date and dates of any major mile-stones. Will this be an ongoing project? What additional resources and/or

activities would allow you to improve this project? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY APPLICANTS

(1) Summarize the individual's accomplishments in one paragraph. Include dates of accomplishment, activity and location, and why you believe this person deserves an award. (Summarize in 100 words or less.)

(2) Describe the individual's accomplishments in detail (date of event(s), site(s), number of people participating, purpose, goals, history, description of the problem, accomplishments to date, etc.). What type of environmental improvement was made and how was the improvement accomplished? (Describe in 600 words or less.)

(3) Has this individual used innovative or creative methods in application, technology or personnel? If so, please explain. (Explain in 100 words or less.)

(4) Describe how this individual's efforts benefit the environment. (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(5) How do you specifically measure the success of this person's accomplishments? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(6) Describe any educational, training, or outreach component to this individual's efforts (brochure, video, manual, classes, seminars, etc.). Has the individual worked with another school, city, or other organization to help them do similar things? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(7) Does this individual seek the cooperation of different types of public, private, community, business, or citizen groups? If so, please explain the cooperative effort and list all participating entities and their respective roles. (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(8) Estimate the cost of this individual's efforts. Give specifics, if applicable. (Give specifics in 100 words or less.)

(9) Describe anything exceptional about this individual. Are the individual's efforts financially self-sustaining? Does he/she go above and beyond legal requirements? Do his/her efforts address issues of environmental equity? Do his/her efforts result in a significant positive impact to the environment? Do his/her efforts take place in a critical region? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

(10) Briefly describe the schedule or timetable within which this individual has worked, including start date and dates of any major mile-stones. Will his/her efforts be ongoing? What additional resources and/or activities would allow this individual to improve their efforts? (Describe in 100 words or less.)

Mail this application postmarked by April 15, 2004, to: Gulf of Mexico Program, Attn: Gulf Guardian Award, Mail Code: Bldg. 1100, Rm. 220F, Stennis Space Center MS 39529-6000. OR Email this application in Microsoft Word format by April 15, 2004, to: gulf.guardian@epa.gov Note: Email preferred.