Illinois Sustainability Awards

The Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC) and the Office of the Governor are honoring twenty-two Illinois companies and organizations this year for their significant achievements in energy efficiency, waste reduction, pollution prevention, and environmental programming.

Since 1987, the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, a division of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has presented Illinois Sustainability Awards to organizations in Illinois that have demonstrated a commitment to environmental excellence through outstanding and innovative sustainability practices. Any Illinois public or private organization is eligible to apply for an award. Winners are selected through a rigorous process of review and examination by ISTC technical assistance experts.

Illinois Sustainability Award winners are an elite group of committed leaders reducing environmental impact, contributing to the growth of a more sustainable Illinois economy. By prioritizing sustainability throughout their operations, programs, technology, products and company culture, they serve as a model within their industry and community.

“Sustainability is no longer a “nice to have”, it has become a “must” for businesses and their operations. The leadership in sustainability shown by Illinois based businesses attracts forward thinking businesses to the state. We are privileged to celebrate and highlight these leaders in this award ceremony.”
Kevin C. O’Brien, Ph.D., ISTC Director
2017 Illinois Sustainability Awards

Presented by:
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC)
Prairie Research Institute (PRI)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Technical Symposium

8:30  **Continental Breakfast & Registration**

9:00  **Welcome**
Program Moderator: Debra Jacobson – Senior Operations Manager, ISTC

**Keynote Address**
*Embracing Sustainability in Food Manufacturing*
Rich Berger – Vice President of Engineering, Food Supply, Clif Bar & Company

10:00 **Exhibitor/Coffee Break**

10:30  **Ozone – Non-Thermal, Low Energy Sanitation for Clean in Place, Surfaces, Water Reuse and Product Water**
Beth Hamil – O$_3$ Consulting

*Future Farming in Cities*
John Edel – Founder, Plant Chicago and Owner and Developer of the Chicago Sustainable Manufacturing Center

11:45 **Exhibitor/Coffee Break**
2017 Illinois Sustainability Awards

Presented by:
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC)
Prairie Research Institute (PRI)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Awards Ceremony

12:00  **Luncheon**

1:00  **Award Ceremony***
Moderator:
Richard Winkel – Director of Policy, PRI

Kevin O’Brien – Director, ISTC
Welcome Remarks and Introduction

Mark Ryan – Executive Director, PRI

**Keynote Address**
*Abbott’s Sustainability Journey*
Nancy Liaboe, Director, Global Commercial Environment, Health and Safety, Abbott

2:00  **Presentation of the Sustainability Awards**
Kevin O’Brien – Director, ISTC
Mark Ryan – Executive Director, PRI

3:00  **Adjourn: Photo Session & Networking**

*Presentation of speakers subject to change.*
Rich Berger

Rich Berger is Vice President of Engineering, Food Supply for Clif Bar & Company, a leading maker of nutritious and organic foods and drink for people on-the-go. Guided by the company’s five bottom lines – Sustaining our Brands, our Business, our People, our Community and the Planet – he oversees the design and build of Clif Bar’s self-manufacturing facilities.

Rich joined Clif Bar & Company in January of 2014 and has worked alongside the Food Supply team to ensure its facilities are designed to meet the high standards set by the company.

Prior to Clif Bar, Rich worked as the director of engineering for Bimbo Bakeries USA, the Sara Lee Corporation, EarthGrains Baking Companies, and Anheuser-Busch Breweries. His experience, coupled with his knowledge of facility improvement and greenfield construction projects, has been invaluable to Clif Bar & Company’s ongoing sustainability efforts.

Rich is the recipient of Sara Lee’s “Get It Great” award; Sara Lee’s highest level of employee recognition. Baking & Snack Magazine named him its “2003 Rising Star”. In addition to Rich’s many accolades, he was awarded a US patent for “The Method and Apparatus for Making Sliced Bread Loaves Crustless”.

Rich serves on the Missouri University of Science & Technology’s Advisory Council- his alma mater where he received a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He is also a guest
Rich is a lecturer at the University of California Berkeley’s College of Engineering, a Resident of Kansas State’s AIB Certified Baker Program, a delegate of BEMA’s Baking Industry Forum, a Certified EIT Professional Engineer in State of Missouri, former officer of the American Society of Baking, and a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineering, the Biscuit & Cracker Manufacturer’s Association, LEED Professionals, The Institute of Sustainable Infrastructure, the National Association of Corrosion Engineers, the Baker’s Dozen, and Past Board Member of St. Alban Roe Catholic School. Rich has given numerous speeches regarding his project management and life experiences to the American Society of Baking, the Biscuit and Cracker Manufacture’s Association and the Baking Industry Forum.

Rich resides in San Francisco, CA with his wife and two children. In his spare time, he enjoys training for triathlons and spending time outdoors with his family.

**Nancy Liaboe**

Nancy Liaboe is the Director, Global Commercial Environment, Health and Safety at Abbott with responsibility for over 30,000 commercial employees worldwide. Nancy joined Abbott 30 years ago and has had increasing responsibilities within Environment, Health and Safety and Product Stewardship.

Nancy is a Certified Industrial Hygienist, Board Certified Safety Professional and is certified as a Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence by the American Society of Quality. Nancy is a founding board member for the Product Stewardship Society and past President of the Chicago Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association. She currently serves on the Network for Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS) board of directors.
ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

John Edel

John Edel is both an eco and social entrepreneur. His most recent endeavor, The Plant, is a project combining adaptive industrial reuse and aquaponics to create the nation’s first vertical farm and food-business incubator. Located in a former meatpacking facility in Chicago’s historic Stockyards, The Plant will be powered entirely by the waste of neighboring businesses.

John also is the owner and developer of the Chicago Sustainable Manufacturing Center, a green business incubator in the Stockyards Industrial Corridor. As General Contractor, Edel took the facility from a burnt-out shell to 100% occupancy while using a mixture of waste-stream recycled materials and leading edge technology to make the building exceptionally energy efficient and pleasantly non-toxic. The renovation was assisted by a core group of volunteers and by bartering with suppliers, tenants and scrappers. The building’s green roof is a photo of Edel’s daughter Zoe rendered in 9,600 sedum plants, each of which is a pixel in her image.

In previous careers, Edel taught computer graphics, designed sets for broadcast television, art directed video games and worked as a chef on private railroad cars. He has a lifelong dream of combining industrial preservation, agriculture and food production in a sustainable fashion.
Beth Hamil

During Beth Hamil’s 31-year tenure at DEL Industries (DBA DEL OZONE, a full-scale ozone system manufacturer) her responsibilities included corporate operations, regulatory compliance, design, development and utilization of ozone sanitation systems for multiple applications. This required Beth to be a student, teacher, researcher, collaborator, designer and published author of ozone technology and its associated microbial efficacy and human/environmental safety, (including regulatory compliance and sustainable practices), in all aspects of successful ozone integration. She is uniquely qualified to offer this extensive knowledge to those who are seeking a better understanding of ozone sanitation practices and sustainable sanitation solutions.

Debra F. Jacobson

Debra F. Jacobson, CSP, Senior Operations Manager manages the Technical Assistance Program at the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center a unit of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois.

In addition to her work within Illinois, Ms. Jacobson is an auditor for the Sustainable Green Printing Partnership (SGP) and is also Director of the USEPA OECA funded Printer’s National Environmental Assistance Center established in 1995, one of the 19 national compliance assistance centers.

Ms. Jacobson is an active member of numerous national, regional, and local professional and trade associations, including the Air & Waste Management Association (AWMA).
Kevin C. O’Brien

Kevin C. O’Brien, Ph.D., is the Director of the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC) – an organization dedicated to the use of sustainability to drive economic development within the state of Illinois. The ISTC assist organizations in enhancing their “Triple Bottom Line”, i.e. impact on people, planet, and profits. This enables job growth and regional development while maintaining the natural resources of Illinois.

Dr. O’Brien’s over two decades of experiences range from early stage venture organizations to Fortune 500 corporations. This experience enables him to infuse entrepreneurial spirit within multi-national organizations. He has managed multi-million-dollar programs related to renewable and sustainable technologies and practices in the U.S. and abroad. His international project experience includes Europe, Middle East, and Asia. Among his professional awards are R&D Magazine’s R&D 100 award and a Federal Laboratory Consortium Award for Technology Transfer. His experience includes close collaboration with the US Department of Energy on a variety of sustainable and energy efficiency based projects.

Mark R. Ryan

Mark R. Ryan recently was appointed Executive Director of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois. Prior to that he spent 31 years at the University of Missouri. There he held the William J. Rucker Endowed Chair in Wildlife Conservation and a Curator’s Distinguished Teaching Professorship at the University of Missouri (MU). For his last 10+ years he served as Director of MU’s School of Natural Resources.
Dr. Ryan holds a B.S. in Wildlife Science from the University of Minnesota, a M.S. in Wildlife Biology and Ph.D. in Animal Ecology from Iowa State University. At the University of Missouri, Dr. Ryan received the prestigious Wm. T. Kemper Award for Teaching Excellence in 1993. And, in 2001 he was recognized with U.S. Dept. of Agriculture’s National Award for Excellence in College and University Teaching. He received MU’s President’s Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2004 and, in 2006, the MU Alumni Association awarded him their Faculty Alumni Award.

Dr. Ryan’s research program is focused on the ecology and conservation of birds in grassland, wetland, and agricultural ecosystems. His primary research foci since the early 1980’s has been related to endangered bird ecology and conservation (with special emphasis on Piping Plovers) and on the impacts of federal farm legislation on the population dynamics of grassland birds. He has published over 75 refereed journal articles, including several related to teaching and learning. Dr. Ryan was elected as a Fellow of The Wildlife Society, the international professional society of his discipline in 2012.

**Richard J. Winkel, Jr.**

Richard J. Winkel, Jr. is Director of Policy, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois, where he is developing a policy research program related to natural and cultural resource conservation and management, initially focusing on water-related issues with special emphasis on supporting the Resilient Watersheds Initiative, as well as energy and public health initiatives.

Mr. Winkel is also the Director, Office of Public Leadership, Institute of Government and Public Affairs, University of Illinois, where he is responsible for leading the Edgar Fellows executive leadership program, its alumni, and a campaign to raise $8
million to endow the program.

Mr. Winkel was an Illinois state senator from 2003 to 2007 and a state representative from 1995 to 2003. He practiced law for 24 years in civil practice. Mr. Winkel earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (B.A. Economics, 1979) and law degree at DePaul University College of Law (J.D., 1982).
EXHIBITORS

360 Energy Group
BA Lighting
Caterpillar, Surface Mining & Technology Division
ComEd
DQS Inc.
Earth Friendly Products (ECOS)
Hey and Associates, Inc.
Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
Mightybytes, Inc.
RadTech International
Restoration Works, Inc.
Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce/
Green Music Fest
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

SUSTAINING SPONSOR

ComEd
Energy Efficiency Program

SUPPORTING SPONSORS

Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group
Peoples Gas/North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Programs
RadTech

FRIENDS OF THE AWARDS
# 2017 Illinois Sustainability Award Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AbbVie</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aisin Manufacturing Illinois, LLC</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomington Public Schools District 87</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMO Harris Bank</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3 Presents, LLC - Lollapalooza in Chicago</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caterpillar Inc. - Peoria Proving Ground</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caterpillar Inc. - Surface Mining and Technology</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamic Manufacturing Inc.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCA US Belvidere Assembly Plant</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden State Foods</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilton Chicago</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakeshore Recycling Systems</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Land Community College</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marathon Petroleum Company LP</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illiniois Refining Division</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mightybytes, Inc.</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naperville Park District</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTN-Bower Corporation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration Works, Inc.</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silgan Closures</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce and Green Music Fest</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Greening Elements</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Illinois Sustainability Award Winners

AbbVie – North Chicago
Previous Winner

AbbVie is a global, research-based biopharmaceutical company that markets medication in more than 170 countries. The company’s mission is to use its expertise, dedicated people and unique innovative approaches to develop and market advanced therapies that address some of the world’s most complex diseases. AbbVie employs approximately 8,000 people in Illinois and 28,000 worldwide.

AbbVie’s environmental stewardship initiatives help to build a strong organization that focuses not only on improved efficiencies and cost reduction, but on sustainable approaches to pharmaceutical manufacturing. Throughout 2016, AbbVie cross-functional teams in Lake County worked together to develop and implement several projects with environmental, economic, and social benefits. The projects resulted in:

- Total annual energy reduction of 238,700 kWh
- Total annual CO\textsubscript{2} emissions reduced by 1,137 metric tons
- Total annual savings of $285,416
- Surveying and engaging more than 107 vendors within AbbVie’s supply chain to promote sustainability practices.

AbbVie has set aggressive targets to reduce their environmental footprint and support global initiatives. By 2025, AbbVie as a whole aims to achieve the following absolute goals:

- 25% reduction in CO\textsubscript{2} equivalent emissions
- 50% increase in renewable energy
- 20% reduction in total water intake
- 20% reduction in total waste disposal (normalized by sales).

By 2035, AbbVie is committed to even more aggressive reduction goals that aim to protect the environment for generations including:

- 50% reduction in CO\textsubscript{2} equivalent emissions
- 50% reduction in total water intake
- 100% reduction of total waste disposal.
Aisin Manufacturing Illinois, LLC – Marion
First Time Recipient

Aisin Manufacturing Illinois (AMI) AMI is an automotive manufacturer who produces a wide range of products, including sunroofs, slide and back door components, center pillar garnishes, roof rails and door handles. AMI has been hard focused on environmental management and sustainability since 2006, earning ISO14001:2004 Environmental Management System (ISO14001:2004) certification.

Beginning in 2008, energy saving activities have reduced CO₂ emissions by 1.7 tons, reduced consumption of 2,032,985 kWh, and saved $212,982. Between 2009 and 2016, AMI redirected over 24,079,200 pounds of material from landfills. 73% of this material was recycled, while 27% was sent to a waste-to-energy facility that generates power by using waste materials as fuel.

AMI encourages its employees to purchase environmentally friendly products through a “Go Green” incentive program, which rewards employees for participation. AMI also sponsors various community events and for the past decade, Aisin has hosted a biannual road trash clean-up through the Illinois Department of Transportation’s Adopt-A-Highway Program. AMI also became involved in the county’s Recycle Williamson County program. Through this program, AMI purchased 4 recycling trailers which are placed throughout the county.

In celebration of Earth Day 2016, AMI introduced milkweed into the onsite wetland and planted a butterfly garden in order to sustain monarch populations. In an effort to support Illinois prairies and reduce emissions, 9.5 acres of AMI land is now planted with native grass species endemic to Illinois.

Bloomington Public Schools District 87 – Bloomington
First Time Recipient
Established in 1857, Bloomington Public Schools District 87 hosts 5,615 total students and 703 employees. The Facilities Management Department for the school district services 11 different buildings. Three years ago a grassroots movement for sustainable practices in Bloomington School District was initiated by the Facilities Management Department.

As a result of their efforts and the administration’s support, along with bond support from the Illinois State Board of Education and grants from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to fund capital projects, facilities upgrades to mechanical, control and lighting systems in school facilities have been implemented. Assisted by contractors and design professionals, they measured and analyzed each building’s performance to prioritize which buildings received upgrades.

The upgrades reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 41% for the four facilities with a corresponding economic benefit of $155,000 dollars annually. The upgrades also made the buildings more thermally comfortable, creating the social benefit of a more productive and healthy learning environment.

A recycling program has been implemented to make students more mindful of their waste practices. In addition, sustainable activities are now part of the district’s cafeterias. Older students mentor younger students in cafeteria waste management as they choose between landfill, recycle and compost bins. The compostable material is sent to Illinois State University Farm for furthering collegiate research opportunities. Cafeterias have eliminated the use of plastic utensils and students have the option of donating excess food to a share table, where it can be consumed by other students or donated to the local food pantry. District 87 endeavors to create and lead sustainable practices in all facets of education as well as nurture its student body.
BMO Harris Bank – Naperville
First Time Recipient

BMO Harris Bank (BMO) is committed to sustainability organization-wide. Their ECO5 Strategy focuses on five key areas of sustainability: Energy Reduction and Efficiency; Sustainable Transportation; Sustainable Materials; Waste Management and Sustainable Procurement. Their Naperville Operations Center (NOC) continuously seeks opportunities to contribute to these efforts and support the multiple approaches, goals, and commitments that BMO has made as an organization.

The NOC is one of the largest buildings in BMO’s portfolio and is a marquee site for flagship environmental programs and operational efficiencies. Built in 1985, and renovated in 2012, the NOC has achieved efficiency and environmental stewardship year after year through its design and continued operation. Over the past year, additional energy savings has been realized by installing occupancy and daylight harvesting controls, night and holiday system setbacks, exterior LED signage, LED lighting in the adjacent parking garage and installing a reflective roof. Waste has been reduced by installing automatic soap, sink, and toilet controls in the restrooms. Sustainable commuting is encouraged by offering electric vehicle charging stations at no cost to the employee, along with free shuttle service to public transportation stops and bike storage. BMO engages employees by hosting annual sustainability events including an electronics recycling drive, Earth Day demonstrations, Earth Hour participation, and an office supply exchange.

C3 Presents, LLC – Lollapalooza in Chicago
First Time Recipient

Launched by founder Perry Farrell in 1991 as a touring festival, Lollapalooza remains an innovator in festival culture over 25 years later. Lollapalooza was the first festival to make its home
in an urban city center and is one of the premier destinations both for music fans in the United States and abroad. In celebration of the 25th Anniversary, Lollapalooza expanded to four days in 2016, featuring more than 170 artists performing on 8 stages, bringing in over $210 million dollars in local economic impact.

The organizers of Lollapalooza have embraced environmental impacts and opportunities for sustainable events. They have implemented a series of initiatives to spread the environmental message and lessen the festival’s overall environmental impact. This includes water bottle avoidance, waste diversion from the landfill and offsetting the CO$_2$ created by production emissions. Each year these initiatives are evaluated for improvements and expansion. Accomplishments in 2016 include avoiding 1,136,313 plastic bottles, with over 3.1 million bottles avoided since 2010; with the help of fans and staff diverting 42% or 147.31 tons of waste from landfills through composting, repurposing and recycling waste; and to date, 21,685,230 pounds of CO$_2$ have been offset.

They achieved these 2016 milestones by implementing a waste diversion program called DivertIt!, which was organized in conjunction with Loyola University’s Chicago Institute of Environmental Sustainability, promoting the use of electronic programs; offering hydration stations to discourage bottled water consumption, providing eco-friendly transportation options made available to staff and fans through a bike sharing and valet program, and fueling generators with biodiesel.

Goals of spreading social responsibility and educational activations onsite are planned by increasing messaging and staffing efforts in sustainability in 2017 and beyond.

**Caterpillar, Inc. – Peoria Proving Ground – Washington**

*First Time Recipient*

Caterpillar, Inc. is the world’s leading manufacturer of
construction and mining equipment, diesel and natural gas engines, industrial gas turbines and diesel-electric locomotives. Caterpillar’s Peoria Proving Ground (PPG) is a facility dedicated to robust validation of Caterpillar machines. Established in 1948, PPG has been a leader in sustainability efforts through their protection of wetlands and waterways for many years. Since 2008, the Facilities and Environmental Health & Safety teams, with support from facility management, have worked together to improve sustainability in three primary areas: energy and water conservation, land and natural resource conservation, recycling and composting. The facility established challenging goals aligned with these areas, and the Caterpillar corporate objectives, to set expectations, implement and measure progress.

Since 2014, landfill disposal has been minimized by expanding composting efforts, diverting 11,000 pounds per year and recycling about 43,800 pounds of material per year. During this timeframe the facility has also undertaken a forestry management program to reduce erosion and removing invasive species. In addition to the aforementioned programs, the facility has implemented numerous energy efficiency and by-product reduction projects that provide an annual savings of nearly $1.2M and 2.98 million kWh. Energy reductions were largely achieved by installing 1191 energy efficient light fixtures throughout the campus. PPG plans to continue their pursuit of their 2020 sustainability goals.

Caterpillar, Inc. – Surface Mining and Technology – Decatur
Previous Winner

In 2015, Caterpillar Surface Mining and Technology committed to improving its environmental management by adopting the concepts and aspects of ISO 14001: Environmental Management System (EMS). The EMS helps the site ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, provide the framework for continual improvement, and reduce its environmental, personnel, and operational risks.
As a result of implementing the continual improvement plans of the EMS, the site completed an outside LED lighting replacement project, which involved 204 hi-mast lighting fixtures resulting in 69.3% annual energy savings. In 2011, in cooperation with the Agricultural Watershed Institute of Decatur and the City of Decatur, the site converted approximately 65 acres of property adjacent to the facility to warm season Prairie Grasses. The site provides a demonstration plot to show local farmers and land owners of the viability and advantages of warm season Prairie Grasses as a biomass crop.

The site has also adopted a goal of “Zero Landfill” by December 2018. They created a by-product catalog and have devised a “plan for every waste”. By December 2016, the site had reached a 12-month rolling average of 90.2% of solid waste being recycled. This process will continue until the site is at Zero Landfill.

In conjunction with their “Zero Landfill” efforts, the site hosts a “Community Chest” program that supports local charities and agencies. Funds received from the recycling returns are deposited into the “Community Chest”. Since 2011, $965,536.40 has been contributed to the community. Other community efforts include employees adopting 2.1 miles of City of Decatur roads to eliminate trash accumulation.

Dynamic Manufacturing Inc. – Melrose Park
Previous Winner

Dynamic Manufacturing, Inc. (DMI) is a family owned and operated organization formed in 1951 with 7 facilities in Melrose Park and Hillside. DMI restores automotive transmissions and torque converters back to “as-new” quality products by using only a fraction of the energy and raw material required to build these products from scratch. The nature of being a remanufacturer has led to a sustainable business model. Since 2012, DMI’s sustainability efforts
have resulted in a significant reduction in their footprint by focusing more resources to improve their environmental and sustainability performance.

DMI reduced their electricity usage by over 30% by installing high efficiency light fixtures. An on-site solvent recovery program has been expanded over three years, resulting in 35,000 gallons of solvent being recycled in 2016, netting savings of $232,000, a 48% savings over shipping the solvent off-site for disposal/recycling.

DMI’s new wastewater pretreatment system treats and discharges nearly 200,000 gallons/year which eliminated offsite transportation and treatment of wastewater saving $111,939 in off-site disposal in 2015 and 2016. The Plant Recycling Program diverted 1,067 tons of recyclable material from landfills since its inception in 2014. Annual hazardous waste generation was reduced by over 3,000 pounds and saved $3,844 by installing an aerosol puncturing device in 2016.

In 2016, DMI conducted their first annual Earth Day celebration to educate their employees on environmental stewardship and ways to minimize their personal environmental footprint. As part of giving back to the community and carrying on the legacy of the founder of DMI, the Partipilo Family donated a former 13,900 square foot facility to the Village of Stone Park that is now used as a Community Center.

**Fiat Chrysler Automobiles US Belvidere Assembly Plant – Belvidere**  
*Previous Winner*

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) US uses World Class Manufacturing (WCM) as its primary manufacturing management system, which includes environmental management. Through the WCM Environment Pillar, the Belvidere Assembly Plant (BVP) has reduced hazardous waste, maximized recycling and reuse, minimized air emissions, and proactively integrated
chemical risk reduction and energy conservation into new systems and processes.

Projects include converting solvent parts washers to a heated water-based solution that reduced hazardous waste and VOC emissions from this equipment. A root cause analysis of weld spatter led to quality improvements and the complete elimination of a paraffinic chemical leading to VOC emission and regulated waste reductions, along with significant cost savings.

An assessment of cloth wipes and how they are used resulted in reduced material costs and landfilled waste. Improvements to their metal finishing processes for anti-corrosion resulted reducing water consumption by 1,034,000 gallons, eliminating 13,200 pounds of phosphate sludge, and 26,400 pounds of filter media. Transport truck optimization led to reduced vehicle miles traveled and 2,469,000 pounds of CO$_2$ emission reductions.

FCA’s comprehensive environmental and sustainability program has resulted in the elimination of 45,000 pounds of hazardous waste, 301,596 pounds of solid waste to landfill. Energy efficiency efforts have resulted in 11,712,646 kWh of electricity and 759,174 therms of natural gas savings. They have realized a combined savings of $1,596,414.

Golden State Foods – McCook
Previous Winner

Golden State Foods (GSF) is headquartered in Irvine, CA with a distribution center in McCook. The Illinois location serves 455 quick service restaurants in the Chicagoland area.

GSF has continued to expand their sustainability and community engagement efforts by building on existing and implementing additional projects to promote sustainability. They reduced product loss and damage, resulting in 855,000 pounds of waste diverted from landfill. Transportation costs
were significantly reduced with a reduction of miles driven and fuel consumption savings of over 20,000 gallons. Seven tractors and ten trailers were retired from their fleet and replaced with new fuel efficient equipment. The facility also reduced reefer fuel consumption by 51,334 gallons by using their new Safe Connect electric standby program.

Through the GSF Foundation, Chicago associates volunteer at multiple events throughout the year. 100% of the proceeds raised through the GSF Foundation are donated back to the local community. Their back to school program in the fall last year saw that 1,050 children received backpacks filled with necessary tools to participate in school, and they provided grant funds to plant gardens in two local public schools for educational purposes.

**Hilton Chicago**  
*Previous Winner*

Since being recognized in 2013, Hilton Chicago hotel has continued to expand their commitment to sustainability and social responsibility initiatives. In 2016 a comprehensive guestroom renovation effort took place. The renovation included the installation of LED lighting in guestrooms and all meeting spaces. New water devices were also installed, including new faucet aerators in bathroom sinks, low flow shower heads and toilets. Since completing installation in May 2016, water consumption was reduced by 5.8 million gallons in that year.

Guestroom renovations also included replacement of some furniture. Rather than selling the unneeded guestroom furniture to a liquidation company, Hilton Chicago chose to donate all of the furniture to Catholic Charities which focuses on providing food, clothing, shelter and counseling to Chicago residents in need.

Hilton Chicago has partnered with Windy City Harvest, a social
enterprise that provides a nine-month certificate training program and internship for Chicago students in sustainable horticulture and urban agriculture, providing essential business skills and farming techniques. The Hilton is proud to have become one of the program’s largest supporters by receiving much of their produce for use in their kitchens.

Hilton’s food composting program, which began in 2010, has provided employee engagement as well as landfill diversion, composting 168 tons of food and 23% waste diversion in 2016. Their commingled recycling program diverted over 56 tons of waste in 2016, and their glass recycling program now annually captures 80% of all glass used at the hotel. Their continued commitment to sustainability has earned them a number of national and international environmental and sustainability awards.

Lakeshore Recycling Systems – Morton Grove
First Time Recipient

Serving Chicagoland for nearly 20 years, Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) specializes in recycling and waste diversion programs, roll-off container services and waste removal for over 24,000 Chicagoland businesses and residential homeowners. LRS operates seven Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs), a fleet of fuel-efficient natural gas-powered trucks and has over 720 full-time employees. Diverting over 2.3 million tons of solid waste material annually, LRS does not own a landfill and is committed to creating a more sustainable business model to better impact the community.

As the largest privately-held waste company in Illinois, LRS is committed to delivering exceptional service and value through customer satisfaction and preservation of the environment. To respectfully hold this title, LRS takes sustainable practices seriously through ground-breaking industry initiatives and cutting-edge technology.
In partnership with Closed Loop Fund (a leading social impact investment fund), LRS constructed a state-of-the-art single-stream recycling system at its Heartland Recycling location which created over 100 jobs in Cook County in March 2016. A second material recovery facility has been optimized to provide comprehensive recycling and diversion services to residents and businesses in suburban Chicago and created an additional 25 new jobs. The new equipment allows LRS to efficiently sort, separate and allocate recyclables, as well as increase recycling participation rates across Chicagoland.

LRS has continued sustainable initiatives through strategic acquisitions, streamlined operations, service enhancements, innovative technology implementation and an elevated safety culture. LRS works relentlessly to serve Illinois as the top sustainable hauler, from increasing C&D diversion rates to over 80%, to being one of the first waste haulers in the nation to implementing radio frequency identification technology into its operations, and being one of the first waste haulers to offer an eco-friendly curbside compost collection program to its customers.

**Lincoln Land Community College – Springfield**  
*First Time Recipient*

Lincoln Land Community College serves approximately 12,000 students annually. Students, faculty and staff at Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) have committed to campus sustainability identifying sustainable campus operations.

To date, $1.2 million in energy efficient upgrades to campus facilities have included installing roof top solar panels (also used for educational purposes), replacing aged boilers and chillers with high efficiency units, replacing constant volume air handlers with variable air volume handlers, replacing windows with energy efficient models, and installing energy management systems. The college further integrated sustainability into their fabric by adopting the use of green
cleaning products and switching all vending machines to ENERGY STAR® compliant models. The college paper reduction project has reduced paper usage across the campus by an average of 13%.

Communal garden space has grown from 16 garden beds to 42 beds, two bee hives and two high tunnel greenhouses used to raise vegetables year round. The garden program provides fresh produce for the college culinary programs. It also educates students and the community through hands on learning.

Furthermore, the campus established native prairie landscapes in areas that replaced high maintenance grass, thereby creating habitats for native wildlife while saving the college money, time, and an estimated savings of 200 gallons of gas annually. LLCC currently has 15.75 acres of native plantings. Maintenance savings to the college for conversion of grass spaces to prairie spaces thus far is over $11,000 per year over the past two years. Not only does the college enjoy the monetary savings but the different plant species that have been added to the grounds have brought a variety of additional teaching aspects to the biology and environmental students enrolled at the college.

**Loyola University Chicago**
*First Time Recipient*

Loyola University Chicago has made a commitment to address climate change and the associated disruptions to natural and social infrastructure and systems as a key aspect of their mission of social justice. Announced as part of a series of events around the release of Laudato si’, Pope Francis’ Encyclical, Loyola released ‘A Just Future’, their climate action plan with a carbon neutrality goal of 2025. As a Catholic, Jesuit, urban university, Loyola addresses climate through three main strategies; campus, curriculum and community engagement.
Loyola is now home to eleven Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified buildings across three campuses, and a student-run biodiesel production program that fuels their shuttle buses and provides hand soap made from waste vegetable oil. New academic programs offer nine different degrees incorporating sustainability, and their core curriculum incorporates foundational environmental literacy for all students.

Through their new high-performing buildings and efficiency retrofits at the Water Tower and Lake Shore campuses they have reduced their natural gas consumption by 168,900 therms per year, resulting in an annual savings of $130,000. Water retrofits and behavior change initiatives resulted in a reduction of 1,469,000 gallons per year, or $11,126 saved annually. Through management changes they are better able to track progress and have decreased landfilled waste by 555,150 pounds and increased recycled material by 438,851 pounds. Additionally, 351,920 pounds of organic waste (mostly food) was composted last year. Greenhouse gas emissions were also reduced, with an annualized reduction of 2,411 metrics tons CO$_2$e.

**Marathon Petroleum Company LP, Illinois Refining Division – Robinson**  
*Previous Winner*

The Marathon Petroleum Company LP (MPC), Illinois Refining Division in Robinson continues to prioritize the reduction of pollution and to educate employees on the importance of pollution prevention and waste minimization. The Robinson refinery received the federal government’s ENERGY STAR® certification in 2016, for the third consecutive year.

The Robinson refinery has implemented a number of efforts, including reusing a clean soil stock pile from excavation and construction projects. In 2016, the Robinson refinery was able to reuse 10,000 cubic yards of soil on site saving the company
$200,000. Other efforts resulted in reducing 8,860 pounds of sulfur dioxide emissions, 2338,558 pounds of hazardous waste and 25,700 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions.

The refinery realized $813,000 in overall savings from waste minimization, pollution prevention and sustainability efforts. These results were achieved through the efforts of project coordinators, maintenance personnel and operations personnel working together.

The Robinson refinery maintains 247 acres of wildlife habitat certified through the Wildlife Habitat Council. This includes an 80 acre Pollinator Prairie. They are also engaged with the community, including supporting fire safety education to students in the community.

**Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance – Chicago**
*Previous Winner*

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) has been administering the Savings Through Efficient Products (STEP) Program since 2012 on behalf of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The goal of the program is to reduce energy and operation costs within public facilities. STEP has served over 675 Illinois public facilities and provided them with approximately 9,045,756 kWh electric energy savings and 290,640 therms of natural gas savings.

In 2016, MEEA was able to take the STEP program to new heights as the operational budget was increased so that the program could reach even more customers. With the assistance of other partners, STEP increased the State’s footprint in energy efficiency by offering products to State-run buildings. These included Correctional facilities which benefited greatly from the savings provided by the products. With the successes and savings achieved during 2016, MEEA is working hard to continue to provide public facilities around the State with access to energy efficiency upgrades and create
Mightybytes, Inc. – Chicago
First Time Recipient

The internet has a carbon footprint larger than that of the airline industry. Using this as a motivator, Mightybytes, a Chicago-based digital marketing agency, has adopted internet sustainability as its champion cause and became a Certified B Corp in 2011. B Corp certified businesses meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency.

They have endeavored to raise awareness and create sustainable design solutions that drive down emissions. They have become a leader in the field of sustainable design, producing tools and educational media that help clients and other agencies around the world create digital products that are both people- and planet-friendly. While there are no industry standards for calculating website environmental impacts and precisely quantifying emissions, the company supports reducing its impacts in all aspects of the business and shares this message across countries and industries. Mightybytes proudly powers all its websites with 100% renewable energy.

Naperville Park District - Naperville
Previous Winner

Naperville Park District is proud to be a leader in environmental sustainability in its daily operations, capital projects and outreach to the community. The District manages 2,400 acres of park land, offers 1,500 recreational programs and serves a city of more than 145,000, the fifth largest city in Illinois. Guided by a strategic plan which includes sustainability as one of its core values, the District is committed to finding economical ways to protect natural resources, reduce waste, and provide beautiful places where people can enjoy and
appreciate nature.

One of the Park District’s major accomplishments was the construction and 2014 opening of Knoch Knolls Nature Center. In its first two years of operations, the LEED Platinum building welcomed 52,333 visitors, harvested 332,120 gallons of rainwater in a cistern, which provided 70% of the building’s water use, and generated 53,171 kWh of renewable energy through its solar panels. Solar panels also were installed at two other locations at the Park District between 2014 and 2016. The District’s total annual renewable energy production is approximately 77,250 kWh, eliminating 54.3 metric tons of carbon emissions. Indoor and outdoor lighting improvements resulted in a total savings of 1,606,380 kWh of electricity and a reduction of 1,129 metric tons of carbon emissions. With the help of volunteers, grants funding and partnerships with other organizations, the District is restoring native shorelines, prairies and woodlands to protect habitat for wildlife and to provide beautiful open space for the community.

**NTN-Bower Corporation – Macomb**

*First Time Recipient*

NTN-Bower Corporation is a manufacturer of bearing and bearing related sub-assemblies servicing the industrial, agricultural, and automotive markets. Their campus in Macomb consists of two manufacturing plants whose combined square footage is 959,667 ft². NTN-Bower has made significant efforts to reduce energy and water consumption in its goal towards sustainability.

NTN-Bower redesigned and upgraded lighting systems to LEDs and installed occupancy sensors throughout the two buildings. As a result they were able to reduce annual energy costs and completely eliminate 40 high-bay fixtures. They have also installed a lighting control panel that is integrated with their building automation system to automate light scheduling. Other energy saving projects included reducing
compressed air usage, and replacing standard drives with variable frequency drives. Total energy savings from these projects equates to approximately 4 million kWh and $212,322 per year.

Production expansion lead to re-engineering water usage processes. As a result of adding centrifugal separation, process water can be reused saving 922,080 gallons and $92,234 annually. Other equipment upgrades to their facility water system (boiler, cooling tower, reverse osmosis) and the waste water treatment system has enabled them to eliminate the storage and use of 280,000 pounds of hazardous chemicals and reduce waste water treatment costs by $42,677 and 463,494 gallons of water.

Through employee and community engagement initiatives, they have installed water bottle filling stations throughout the plants. These stations have eliminated an estimated 38,862 disposable water bottles.

**Restoration Works, Inc. – Bradley**

*First Time Recipient*

Restoration Works, Inc. (RWI) is a woman-owned, privately held business in Bradley that is passionate about saving America’s historic architectural features. Established in 1982, they are a pioneer in the field of restoring historic windows, doors, and other wood or steel architectural features. Within the last three years they have developed and proven a patent-pending “Light Stripping” technology that eliminates the need for hazardous solvent stripping chemicals. This new coating stripping technology is now available to professionals around the United States. RWI’s unique sustainable process benefits the environment while simplifying the paint stripping needs of a number of industries.

In just over 35 years, RWI has restored thousands of windows on hundreds of buildings across the United States, beautifying
the public way, while avoiding the environmental costs of discarding the old and creating brand new windows. The firm’s work spans the gamut of building types: commercial, institutional, government, museums, mansions, and multifamily residences. Their authentic historic restoration work meets or exceeds the National Park Service Standards, and more than fifty of the restoration projects RWI has contributed to can be found on the National Register of Historic Places.

 Millions of these rare windows have been thrown away over the last 30 years, but millions are still left and many people are coming to the realization that discarding them is a mistake. The founder’s vision is to make RWI the #1 restoration facility in America, to service window restoration projects so that more of the original forest wood windows can be saved in a safe and efficient manner.

Silgan Closures – Champaign
First Time Recipient

Silgan Closures owns and operates a plastic closure manufacturing facility in Champaign. The facility forms plastic resin into container caps. The facility practices Lean Manufacturing and actively seeks ways to improve safety, minimize waste, cut energy consumption, and lower emissions. Silgan approaches sustainability from the “bottom-up” by engaging in the ideas of crew members and supporting those ideas with resources and leadership.

In 2016, Silgan’s Champaign facility completed several projects that support Silgan’s goal of becoming a more sustainable company. One of Silgan’s projects incorporated a change in the transport of some of their raw material from truck load to rail delivery. This resulted in cutting down the number and frequency of shipments, increased on-time deliveries, and reduced CO₂ emissions by 2,592 MTCO₂/yr.
The Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce (WPBCC) is a 501(c)6 business association that works to strengthen the vitality of two adjacent neighborhoods on Chicago’s north side. Their environmental sustainability work includes a business district recycling program, waste reduction efforts at major street festivals, and farmers markets encouraging the purchase of local food. They engage the community, promote arts & culture, develop better transportation options, guide development within their borders, and support clean, green, and safe sidewalks and streets.

Their commercial district street side recycling program diverted 44 tons of waste last year; five single-day e-cycling/shredding community events recycled 11 tons of paper and 1 ton of electronics. Community improvement projects, including the 86 new trees planted will avert 1,118 pounds of carbon annually; and 8 new sidewalk benches and 20 new bike racks installed within the neighborhood have improved the pedestrian / cyclist infrastructure in the community. Furthermore, their partnership with Cleanslate - a social enterprise not-for-profit that provides jobs in neighborhood beautification – has contributed to more than 100 transitional jobs. A building façade improvement rebate program awarded $24,000 in 2016 to five buildings in the district, and helped spur economic development.

For the past 9 years, Wicker Park has hosted the Green Music Fest. The fest is one of the country’s most sustainable festivals. In 2016, 89% of the solid waste generated at the event was diverted from landfill disposal by strategically locating 10 Eco Stations, staffed by over 30 enthusiastic and engaging Eco Educators throughout the weekend.

Beyond recovering resources, Green Music Fest educated
attendees at the Eco Education Tent which included driving ENERGY STAR® pledges, recycling clothing and securing adopters for Norway Spruce seedlings. Additional eco impacts included setting standards for vendors and sponsors, showcasing a People Powered Stage, discounting qualifying Green vendors and taking steps to measure attendee travel and the event’s water footprint.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!!
CONFERENCE GREENING ELEMENTS

We would like to thank the Union League Club of Chicago for working with us to provide a facility and services that met our expectations for environmentally sustainable event practices.

For today’s event, we have arranged:

- Recycling in meeting rooms
- Collection of kitchen scraps and leftovers for composting
- Coffee, tea and water served in reusable cups and containers
- Food, condiments, and snacks served on reusable wherever possible

The Union League Club of Chicago has the following best practices in place at their facility:

- Support of the farmers market and local farmer
- Recycling in kitchen
- Ability for guests to reuse towels, bedding and toiletries
- High accessibility to mass transit
Creating a Brighter Future
The Illinois Sustainable Technology Center is a division of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.