Environmental Stewardship Awards-To be Read at Commission Meeting

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Agriculture

Award Recipient: Cleverdon Farms

Cleverdon Farms is recognized for its conservation of 400 acres of farmland in Baldwin County through the Georgia Alabama Land Trust. Cleverdon Farms' conservation work is an inspiration, and they deserve recognition for their distinguished service and strong commitment to the environment and our community.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Forestry

Award Recipient: B&B Outdoors Quality Forestry Solutions

B&B Outdoors has been a leader in sustainable forestry practices. They are recognized for their efforts in forestry and wildlife habitat restoration throughout Baldwin County.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Small Business

Award Recipient: Streamline Environmental

Streamline Environmental is recognized for their efforts in stream and wetland restoration throughout Baldwin County including streams in the D'Olive, Magnolia, and Fish River Watersheds.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Education Program

Award Recipient: Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium

The Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium is being recognized for the implementation of its Living Shoreline Program along the coastal areas of Baldwin County. The program assists citizens with the design of environmentally friendly shoreline stabilization.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Education Teacher

Award Recipient: Charlotte Roberts

Mrs. Roberts is recognized for her passion for environmental education. She works diligently with students of all ages teaching the importance of the environment and ways they can be good stewards.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Non-profit

Award Recipient: Alabama Coastal Foundation

Alabama Coastal Foundation is being recognized for improving and protecting Baldwin County's environment by providing a variety of environmental programs including Share the Beach Sea Turtle Conservation Program, Coastal Kids Quiz and Utilities United.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Government Agency

Award Recipient: Natural Resource Conservation Service

The NRCS is being recognized for its implementation of the Conservation Programs for the farmers of Baldwin County. The programs include the Environmental Quality Incentives

Program, Longleaf Pine Initiative, Gopher Tortoise Initiative, and New & Beginning Farmer Program.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Government Employee

Award Recipient: Mark Wetzel

Mark manages the Five Rivers Delta Resource Center. Mark is passionate about his job and goes out of his way daily to help wildlife and educate visitors. His passion for environmental teaching is known across the state.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Individual Citizen

Award Recipient: Ben Raines

Mr. Raines is being recognized for his work as an environmental journalist, filmmaker and adventurer. His works include: The Last Slave Ship Clotilda book, The Underwater Forest film, Carnivorous Kingdom, the Last Estuary film and America's Amazon film. His passion for the environment is seen in all his work.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Student Initiative

Award Recipient: Mason Hobgood

Mason is our first-grade environmental hero whose goal is to make the world a cleaner, better place by dedicating his free time to picking up trash at the state parks, on beaches and while walking to school. Mason's passion is contagious. He is impacting students and adults of all ages.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Special Recognition

Award Recipient: Baldwin County Solid Waste Authority

The Solid Waste Authority is being recognized for its effort to create a sustainable future for Baldwin County residents. This year, the Solid Waste Authority opened the first Materials Recovery Facility in south Alabama. This facility will serve the southeast region and will be capable of processing plastics 1-7, aluminum, tin, mixed paper and cardboard. The Solid Waste Authority is a leader in environmental stewardship for Baldwin County and the State of Alabama.

Environmental Stewardship Award Category: Special Recognition-In Memory of **Award Recipient:** Our last award will be in honor and memory of the late Casey Fulford whom we lost tragically last year. Casey was a Coastal Restoration Planner for the Alabama Association of Conservation Districts who was highly skilled in grant writing and organizing stakeholders for conservation efforts. Casey was very passionate about farmland protection. She was instrumental in bringing together a group of farmers and others to form the Farmland Protection Committee. She worked tirelessly to educate farmers about the benefits of conservation easements. Casey will be remembered as an exceptional planner who cared deeply for her community and environment. Her environmental and farmland protection legacy is an inspiration and deserves recognition.