

ENCOURAGING ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP CRITERIA EVALUATION

October 3, 2017

The Encouraging Environmental Excellence (E3) Program recognizes an organization's exceptional achievements in environmental stewardship. Any business, industry, trade association, professional organization or local government of Ohio can be recognized for their commitment to environmental excellence. Applications are evaluated using environmental stewardship criteria developed by Ohio EPA. The goal of environmental stewardship is to reduce the impact of business or organizational activities on the environment beyond measures required by any permit or rule, producing a better environment, conserving natural resources and resulting in long-term economic benefits.

Ohio EPA will evaluate applications using nineteen environmental stewardship criteria. Applicants should provide one narrative incorporating the criteria that apply to their environmental stewardship program. Each of the applicable criteria will be evaluated using a six-point scale based on the five parameters listed below. Points will be awarded to these criteria based on whether the information meets the requirements of five parameters. The following parameters are used to evaluate the criteria where applicable.

Indicative of Environmental Stewardship - Explains how the information provided to meet this criterion describes an activity that is indicative of the applicant's environmental stewardship.

Adequate Detail - Provides a level of detail that allows the reviewer to gain a complete understanding of how the application meets this criterion.

Quantifiable - The information provided to meet this criterion clearly describes the amount of materials reduced, pollution prevented and/or other numerical data. Applications that provide actual amounts of reductions achieved (*e.g., pounds of pollution reduced per year, quantities of inputs no longer purchased, amount of energy reduced, gallons of water conserved, etc.*) and numerical cost savings data (*e.g., \$5,000 cost savings in energy purchased, \$12,000 savings for no longer needing to treat and dispose of hazardous waste, \$10,000 saved in chemicals no longer needing to be purchased, etc.*) will receive higher scores than applications that do not include this data.

Comprehensive - The information provided to meet this criterion describes an activity that has been applied in a comprehensive manner across the organization.

Innovative - The information provided to meet this criterion describes an activity which is deemed to be new or rarely used by other similar organizations based upon the knowledge and experience of the reviewer.

The following table demonstrates how point totals are determined using this evaluation method:

Score	Indicative of Environmental Stewardship	Adequate Detail	Quantifiable	Comprehensive	Innovative
0	Not mentioned, mentioned in the negative or mentioned and not implemented				
1	Yes	No			
2	Yes	Yes			
3	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
4	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- 0 - Not mentioned, mentioned in the negative or mentioned and not implemented for any parameter
- 1 - Meets definition of **Indicative of Environmental Stewardship** parameter
- 2 - Meets definition of **Indicative of Environmental Stewardship** and **Adequate detail** parameters
- 3 - Meets definition of **Indicative of Environmental Stewardship**, **Adequate detail** and **Quantifiable** parameters
- 4 - Meets definition of **Indicative of Environmental Stewardship**, **Adequate detail**, **Quantifiable** and either **Comprehensive** or **Innovative** parameters
- 5 - Meets definition of all parameters

Additional Information and Questions

Questions regarding evaluating environmental stewardship criteria should be directed to:

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Application materials are available at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/ohioe3.aspx> or by calling (800) 329-7518. **Applicants are encouraged to call Howard Dong at (614) 644-2130 or our hotline at (800) 329-7518 with questions anytime during the application process.**