

## ***The DCNR/PRPS Green Parks Award***

**Purpose of the Award: To recognize excellence in the public park community for those that demonstrate the integration of green and sustainable park practices based upon the following criteria:**

- 1. Sustainable site related principles, including but not limited to:**
  - Preserves existing natural resources (habitat, tree cover).
  - Repairs damaged ecosystems.
  - Protects critical habitat for species of special concern.
  - The site is a “brownfield” or previously developed site.
  - Existing buildings will be rehabilitated or reused.
  - Adaptive reuse of significant architectural or historic resources or buildings.
  - The site is located in or adjacent to a developed area with infrastructure.
  
- 2. Natural Landscaping Principles, including but not limited to:**
  - Existing trees and native plants are protected.
  - Removal and/or management of invasive species.
  - Enhanced tree cover.
  - Biodiversity promoted.
  - Reduction in the amount of turf lawn area.
  - Creation of native wildflower and warm season grass meadows.
  
- 3. Connecting People to Nature, including but not limited to:**
  - Provides opportunities for children to partake in unorganized play.
  - Alternative transportation methods are provided for people to access the park.
  - The site connects key community assets and/or neighborhoods by walkways, bikeways and/or greenways.
  - The site educates or builds visitor awareness of the outdoors (interpretive signage, environmental education programs, etc.).
  - Provides opportunities for passive recreation and interaction with nature (interpretive trails, viewing areas, sensory gardens, etc.)
  - Provides optimum site accessibility (meeting all Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines), safety and way-finding.
  
- 4. Manage Stormwater Naturally, including but not limited to:**
  - Contains natural stormwater management features (rain gardens, bio-swales, rain barrels, etc.).
  - Riparian buffers are created or enhanced.
  - Wetlands/headwaters are protected.
  - Promote groundwater infiltration and eliminate runoff through the use of permeable surfacing on parking lots, trails, walkways, etc.
  - Protects, enhances or repairs wetlands, floodplain functions, seasonal pools, riparian areas/wetland buffers and/or streams.
  - Construction pollutants and site runoff will be controlled and retained on the site and post construction runoff will be managed and cleansed onsite.
  - Cleans up/reclaims polluted lands and/or waters.

**5. Conserve Energy/ Integrate Green Design and Construction Practices, including but not limited to:**

- Use of alternative sources of energy.
- The site will produce its own energy for consumption.
- Strives to protect night skies.
- Green design and construction practices will be integrated through the use of “LEED” guidelines.
- Emulates natural systems.
- Impacts to the existing landscape will be minimized to the extent possible given the project objectives. For example, site topography (steep slopes, hillsides, forests, and rock outcroppings), trees, soils, etc. will be protected during site construction.
- Measures taken to reduce the amount of energy used on the site.
- A maintenance plan is developed to ensure equipment is operating efficiently.

**Award Application Submission Requirements:**

Agency must submit a narrative description of the nominated park site for consideration by DCNR/PRPS **GreenParks** Committee describing the actions taken to develop, maintain and/or enhance the green/sustainable park.

The submission timeline will follow that of the regular PRPS Awards Program.

**Award Selection:**

Award applications will be evaluated against the above criteria and a winner selected by the DCNR/PRPS **GreenParks** Committee. The award will be presented at the Annual PRPS Conference.

Adopted by the PRPS Board of Directors on November 18, 2009.

## ***The Annual DCNR/PRPS Green Parks Award***

2010 Nomination Form  
Deadline to Apply December 31, 2009

Agency Name:

Chief Executive/Director:

Contact Person:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Application Date:

### ***Submission Requirements***

**Pictures:** Include with the application pictures of green park practices that you have implemented. **Digital format is preferred, submitted either electronically, via email or on CD. Please do not submit more than a total of 12 pictures.**

**Narrative:** Elaborate on the green design practices used on your site as they relate to the following categories. Use examples found on the first page of this application as guidance. Note: use only the space provided for each section. **Please use a font size of no smaller than 10 no larger than 12.**

**Sustainable Site Related Principles:**

**Natural Landscaping Principles:**

**Connecting People to Nature:**

**Managing Stormwater Naturally:**

**Conserve Energy/ Integrate Green Design and Construction Practices:**

AS AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AGENCY NAMED ABOVE, I HEREBY  
DECLARE THAT:

1. We are applying for ***The Annual DCNR/PRPS Green Parks Award***. We understand that materials submitted for review by the **GreenParks** Committee become the property of DCNR and PRPS and may not be returned.
2. I have the authorization to release the attached green parks award nomination form and other documents to PRPS.
3. We understand these documents will be reviewed by the DCNR/PRPS **GreenParks** Committee for the purpose of selecting an award winner.
4. We understand that regardless of whether our Agency receives an award our park may be showcased on the DCNR and or PRPS websites as a model case study of a green park.
5. The information contained in this nomination form and attachment(s) is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

Date:

Print Name:

Title:

**Nomination packets must be received by 4:00 PM on December 31, 2009**

Electronically send to: [eschnellbaugh@prps.org](mailto:eschnellbaugh@prps.org)

Or

By Mail: DCNR/PRPS Green Park Committee, 2131 Sandy Drive, State College, PA 16803-2283.