



# Sample Application and Information

## NSSGA Environmental Excellence Award

### About the award

NSSGA's Environmental Excellence Awards provide national recognition for active producer member operations demonstrating a commitment to the exemplary use of environmental controls and systems. A facility receiving a gold category designation is automatically recognized for five years and not eligible to apply again during that time. After five years, the facility is eligible to apply again for award recognition. For questions regarding the Environmental Excellence Awards, please contact the NSSGA Director of Sustainability.

**NOTE:** Awards in the Gold category are good for five years. Winning facilities cannot earn a second Environmental Excellence Award during that time.

### The application process

All award applications must be completed online, through the application submission page at [nssga.secure-platform.com](https://nssga.secure-platform.com).

The online application will request your name and contact information as the applicant, as well as information about the facility.

### Application questions

You will be asked to provide information in the twelve categories below. All questions must be answered to the best of your abilities.

**NOTE:** Please have all supporting documentation available in upload-ready format prior to beginning the application process.

**1. Carbon Footprint/Energy Efficiencies:** What has this facility done to decrease its carbon footprint and/or energy demand in the last 5 years?

**2. Recycling:** Are there any SPECIAL or UNIQUE RECYCLING projects/initiatives this facility does?

**3. Natural Resources:** Are there any other SPECIAL or UNIQUE NATURAL RESOURCES (e.g., air or water) projects/initiatives (beyond compliance) this facility does?

**4. Biodiversity:** Does your operation have a biodiversity management plan (please attach diversity plan and/or describe the scope and achievements of your current plan)?

**5. Land/Species:** Has this site engaged in activities with a focus on any of the following (select all that apply):

#### Land:

- Wetlands
- Land remediation
- Marine/intertidal zones
- Land conservation agreements
- Grasslands
- Forests
- Deserts

#### Species:

- Reptiles and amphibians
- Pollinators
- Mammals
- Bats
- Birds
- Other

**6. Project Goals:** For each box checked above in 250 words or less describe the activity.

A) Give a high-level overview of the project. Include:

- Project goals
- How long the project has been on the ground
- Partners
- How it is managed
- How it is monitored

B) What measurable impacts have there been?

**7. Reclamation:** What is the reclamation plan for this quarry (planned or concurrent)?

**8. Renewable Energy:** What has this facility done to implement renewable energy solutions as part of the production process (can include on-site renewable projects, biofuels usage, Renewable Energy Credits purchases, etc.)?

**9. Engage Staff:** What has this facility done to engage staff in sustainability efforts (e.g., staff took a sustainability class, staff gained new certification, brought in outside speaker for staff on sustainability, etc.)?

**10. Sustainability Education:** What has this facility done to engage in sustainability education for the community?

**11. Sustainability Awards:** Has the quarry received any sustainability awards, certifications, etc. in the last 5 years?

**12. Special Projects:** Are there any other SPECIAL or UNIQUE PROJECTS/INITIATIVES this facility does (beyond compliance) that you have not yet shared?