



2009

**New England Association of
Resource Conservation & Development Area Councils**

Awards Program

NEW ENGLAND RC&D ASSOCIATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Introductory Statement

The goal of the Association's Award Program is to encourage and recognize effective planning and follow-through of RC&D projects and of RC&D Councils. Through this program, we hope to create an awareness and appreciation of the value of RC&D Councils in the New England region and nationally.

Program Evaluation Guide

This is a guide to evaluate the effectiveness of your RC&D's Program at the New England and National level.

Time Frame

The Awards Program will cover a one year period which coincides with the RC&D Councils last fully completed year. Entries must be submitted according to a schedule that follows below.

Entry Requirements

1. Entry in the Awards Program requires that you submit a write up of no more than two, double-sided pages to each judge. (Please use 12 font) Type the name of your RC&D Council, City and State and Award Nomination Category on the upper right hand corner of the 1st page of your nomination write up.
2. Each page should contain a header with the nominee's name.
3. Organize your narrative in the same order as the evaluation criteria. Have you answered each question?

Categories (N=National Award Category; R=Regional Award Category)

- A. Outstanding Performance by a Council (R & N)
- B. Outstanding Performance by a Council member (R & N)
- C. Outstanding Supporting Organization (R & N)
- D. Chuck McCarty Award for Outstanding Performance by a Coordinator (R & N)
- E. Outstanding Youth Involvement Award (R & N)
- F. Outstanding Performance by Council Staff (R)

Judge's Qualifications

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service personnel, Coordinators, Councils Members, New England Association of RC&Ds and National Association of RC&Ds officers and staff are **not** eligible to be chosen as a state judge for this Awards Program.

Awards

- | | R = Regional | N= National |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| A. Outstanding Performance by a Council | | (R & N) |
| • 1 st | | |
| • 2 nd | | |
| • 3 rd | | |
| B. Outstanding Performance by a Council member | | (R & N) |
| • 1 st | | |
| C. Outstanding Supporting Organization | | (R & N) |
| • 1 st | | |
| D. Chuck McCarty Award for Outstanding Performance by a Coordinator | (R & N) | |
| • 1 st | | |

E. Outstanding Youth Involvement Award

(R & N)

- 1st

F. Outstanding Performance by Council Staff Including Program Assistant/Secretary

- 1st

(R)

Awards are based on the Judges' combined scoring. In case of a tie both parties will receive equal recognition. In addition to these awards, the host RC&D is encouraged to recognize the most improved RC&D and/or outstanding contributions from citizens, groups, units of government, Councils, et cetera, during the awards ceremony.

 **Everyone Wins** 

Every participating RC&D Area nominee is a winner, regardless of its ranking by the Judges. This competition provides an incentive to do an even better job of resource development in your communities. Moreover, participation in the New England RC&D Awards program may lead to National honors for your Area. As a result, the RC&D Area organization, its towns and your Area as a whole benefit.

Schedule

Deadlines

Activities

August 25, 2009

Each RC&D mails write-ups to each judge
(include write up & score sheet to each judge).

September 11, 2009

Deadline for submissions by RC&D Councils to Judges.

September 28, 2009

Each judge returns score sheets to:
Skip Babineau, Coordinator
St John Aroostook RC&D Area
735 Main St., Suite #3
Presque Isle, Maine 04769
skip.babineau@me.usda.gov
Phone: 207-764-4126 ext #5

October 5, 2009

Awards purchased.

October 30, 2009

Awards presented at the 2009 New England Association of RC&D Areas Fall Conference in Portland, Maine.

November, 2009

Combined scores, ratings and thank you letters sent to each judge and RC&D Area.

Judges Information Page

Send nomination write ups & score sheets to each Judge no later than September 11, 2009

1. Connecticut Judge
2. New Hampshire Judge
3. Rhode Island Judge
4. Vermont Judge
5. Maine Judge
6. Massachusetts Judge

Archive Copy to: Skip Babineau - Coordinator
St John Aroostook RC&D Area
735 Main St., Suite #3
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Council's Name: _____

State: _____

**New England Association of RC&D Areas Award For
A. Outstanding Performance by a Council**

Evaluation Criteria:

A. Innovation/Spirit: (30 points total for this section)

1. Demonstrates a balanced approach to projects with social, economic, and environmental purposes in response to local priority concerns.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Identifies and implements efficient and effective ways of completing RC&D tasks and projects.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Effectively promotes an area-wide understanding and involvement in RC&D effort.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

B. Outreach/Team Building: (30 points total)

1. Demonstrates that all cultures within the community are involved in developing and implementing the RC&D Area Plan.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Successfully involves numerous resource partners in the planning, implementation, and maintenance of community improving measures.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Council membership reflects community's cultural diversity.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

C. Coordination: (20 points total)

1. Maintains and uses a current Area Plan and Annual Plan of Work.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
2. The Council directs RC&D activities based on well defined priority needs.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
3. Uses a variety of financial and technical resources to complete projects.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
4. Ensures that all those who participate are appropriately recognized.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)

D. Documentation: (20 points)

1. Results are documented.
SCORE _____ (18 pts.)
2. Followed application directions.
SCORE _____ (2 pts.)

Judge: _____ Date: _____ TOTAL SCORE _____

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Council's Name: _____

State: _____

Name of Nominee: _____



**New England Association of RC&D Areas Award For
B. Outstanding Performance by a Council Member**

Evaluation Criteria:

A. Innovation/Spirit: (30 points total for this section)

1. Demonstrates a balanced approach to RC&D Council business.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Identifies and implements efficient and effective ways of completing RC&D Program tasks and projects.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Demonstrates a commitment and the leadership ability to carry out the RC&D Council's mission.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

B. Outreach/Team Building: (30 points total)

1. Has the desire and ability to involve all cultures in RC&D Council activities.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Demonstrates an ability to build partnerships and coalitions with other community leaders and organizations.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Effectively identifies and utilizes to great advantage the talents of RC&D volunteers.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

C. Coordination: (20 points total)

1. Effectively utilizes a current RC&D Area Plan and Annual Plan of Work to make program decisions.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
2. Instrumental in identifying and utilizing a variety of financial and technical assistance resources to carry out the Annual Plan of Work.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
3. Does an outstanding job of eliminating barriers to completing RC&D tasks.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
4. Ensures that all program participants receive recognition for their efforts.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)

D. Documentation: (20 points)

- 1 Results are documented.
SCORE _____ (18 pts.)
2. Followed application directions.
SCORE _____ (2 pts.)

Judge: _____ Date: _____ TOTAL SCORE _____

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Council's Name: _____

State: _____

Name of Nominee: _____



**New England Association of RC&D Areas Award For
C. Outstanding Supporting Organization**

Evaluation Criteria:

A. Innovation/Spirit: (30 points total for this section)

1. Supports innovative solutions and/or processes.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Provides financial and/or technical resources to implement RC&D activities.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Provides motivated and quality representation to the Council.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

B. Outreach/Team Building: (20 points total)

1. Implement projects, which benefit disadvantaged citizens.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Develop partnerships with others to jointly implement community benefiting activities and projects.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

C. Coordination: (30 points total)

1. RC&D Council and Supporting organization's objectives are complimentary.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Works effectively with other organizations in promoting and supporting RC&D.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Shares responsibility and credit with participating organizations.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

D. Documentation: (20 points)

1. Results are documented.
SCORE _____ (18 pts.)
2. Followed application directions.
SCORE _____ (2 pts.)

Judge: _____ Date: _____ TOTAL SCORE _____

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Council's Name: _____

State: _____

Name of Nominee: _____



**New England Association of RC&D Areas Award For
D. Outstanding Performance by a Coordinator**

Evaluation Criteria:

- A. Innovation/Spirit: (20 points total for this section)
1. Demonstrates the implementation of a balanced RC&D program.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 2. Identifies and utilizes efficient and effective ways of completing RC&D Council activities and projects.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 3. Maintains a positive "can do" attitude with Council Members, sponsors, volunteers, and the public.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 4. Keeps RC&D Council efforts and activities focused on multi-county and area wide activities.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
- B. Outreach/Team Building: (30 points total)
1. Effectively works with all cultures within the project area.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
 2. Provides alternatives which strengthen and diversify the Council and committees.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
 3. Successfully works with the Council in development of partnerships and coalitions which develop effective working relationships.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
- C. Coordination: (30 points total)
1. Insures that the Area Plan and Annual Plan of Work focus on current resource priority concerns.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 2. Keeps Council focused on Area Plan and Annual Plan of Work.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 3. Facilitates the flow of new knowledge and opportunities.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 4. Continually builds upon the strength of Council leadership.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 5. Creatively mitigates barriers to achieving RC&D Council objectives and goals.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
 6. Ensures that RC&D Council and Public are effectively involved in Area Plan and Annual Plan of Work/ Operation development and maintenance.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)

(continued)

D. Outstanding Performance by a Coordinator (cont'd)

D. Documentation: (20 points)

1. Results are documented.
SCORE _____ (18 pts.)
2. Followed application directions.
SCORE _____ (2 pts.)

Judge: _____ Date: _____ TOTAL SCORE _____

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Council's Name: _____

State: _____

Name of Nominee: _____



**New England Association of RC&D Areas Award For
E. Outstanding Youth Involvement Award
(FOR YOUTH INVOLVEMENT OR INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 18)**

Evaluation Criteria:

A Innovation/Spirit: (30 points total)

1. Involved with solutions and/or processes that benefit their community.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Provides ideas, plans and/or goals that enhance the RC&D Area Plan.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Undertakes the activities that enhance the RC&D Area Plan.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

B. Outreach/Team Building: (20 points total)

1. Enhances the capacity of the RC&D Council and enriches experiences.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Is highly involved in the local community.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

C. Coordination: (30 points total)

1. RC&D Council and the Youth's involvement are complimentary.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Fosters maturity and contributes to leadership development.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Shares responsibility and credit for projects.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

D. Documentation: (20 points total)

1. Results are documented.
SCORE _____ (18 pts.)
2. Followed application directions.
SCORE _____ (2 pts.)

Judge: _____ Date: _____ TOTAL SCORE _____

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Council's Name: _____

State: _____

Name of Nominee: _____



**New England Association of RC&D Areas Award For
F. Outstanding Performance by a Council Staff Including Program
Assistant/Secretary**

Evaluation Criteria:

A. Innovation/Spirit: (30 points total)

1. Assists in carrying out efficient and effective ways of completing RC&D Council activities and projects.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
2. Maintains a positive "can do" attitude with Council Members, sponsors, volunteers and the public.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)
3. Keeps RC&D Coordinator and Council informed regarding activities focused on multi-county and area-wide activities.
SCORE _____ (10 pts.)

B. Outreach/Team Building: (20 points total)

1. Effectively works with all cultures within the project area.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
2. Provides alternatives which strengthen and diversify the Council and committees.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
3. Successfully works with the Council in development of partnerships and coalitions which will achieve RC&D goals.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)
4. Has developed effective working relationships with numerous technical, financial and political institutions.
SCORE _____ (5 pts.)

C. Coordination: (30 points total)

1. Facilitates the flow of new knowledge and opportunities.
SCORE _____ (15 pts.)
2. Continually builds upon the strength of Council leadership.
SCORE _____ (15 pts.)

D. Documentation: (20 points total)

1. Results are documented.
SCORE _____ (18 pts.)
2. Followed application directions.
SCORE _____ (2 pts.)

Judge: _____ Date: _____ TOTAL SCORE _____

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