



Nomination Form

COMMUNITY STAR is an award program that recognizes a business, community organization, collaborative partnership, or individual in South Carolina that is going above and beyond environmental requirements to build better community relationships, promote environmental sustainability and resiliency, and/or improve quality of life for communities.

The **COMMUNITY STAR** award program also recognizes new collaborations where South Carolina businesses or community organizations have shown enhanced leadership in developing community engagement strategies, but whose strategies have been in practice less than one year.

Helpful tips for completing the form:

- Provide clear, thorough details about each section
- Include any graphs, charts, and/or graphics that will be helpful in explaining the data and statistics
- Any photos, videos, press releases, etc., would be excellent supplements for your nomination

All nomination materials and/or questions should be directed to:

Rebecca Sproles

Office of Environmental Affairs

sprolemr@dhec.sc.gov (Note **Community Star** in the subject line of your email.)

(803) 898-3139

Part 1

Complete the nominee information below. We recommend you inform the business, community organization, collaborative group, or individual you are nominating.

Name of Business, Organization, or Individual Being Nominated:

Mailing Address:

Location (if different from above):

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Contact Information for Individual Submitting Nomination (if different from nominee):

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Choose one or more that represents the nominee:

Business

Community Organization

Collaborative Partnership

SC Environmental Excellence Program Member

Part 2

Provide a detailed narrative describing the nominee and why it is a **COMMUNITY STAR**. Demonstrate how the nominee utilizes community engagement in its initiatives and decisions to uphold environmental requirements while promoting community resilience and sustainability. Be sure to include each of the following categories in your narrative.

- **Know and Lead your Community**

- Describe in detail how the nominee is a proven leader within your community.
 - Does the nominee have regular engagement with the community? (i.e., convenes citizen advisory groups or participates in other community-led groups)
 - If so, how were the community partners identified? What are the contributions and roles of participants?
- Describe in detail how the nominee collaborates with the community to develop initiatives that are sustainable and benefit the community and/or environment.
 - What was the community's contribution to defining the initiatives/goals?
- Provide details about how the nominee assists in addressing the community's needs and concerns.

- **Engage your Neighbors**

- Describe in detail how the nominee interacts with its nearby community members.
- Describe the nominee's efforts to promote cultural awareness and community engagement. Specifically describe in detail the nominee's efforts to overcome any cultural or communication barriers in the community.
- Provide details, if any, about how the nominee has ensured the community has been involved in the development and implementation of its emergency response plans.

- **Shooting for the Stars**

- Describe in detail how the nominee's initiatives improve or will improve the quality of life in the community.
 - Has the nominee gone above and beyond permit and regulatory requirements to have a positive impact on the community? If so, describe in detail.

- **Creative Solutions**

- Describe in detail any creative solutions or innovative technology the nominee is using to communicate, engage or partner with the surrounding community. (Examples: personal sensors and citizen monitoring or a community forum to provide suggestions from the community).

Part 3

Letter of Reference

Include a letter of reference from a community partner. This letter should describe how the nominee works together with community members to improve environmental sustainability, resilience and the quality of life in the community. References from the letter of support will be contacted and interviewed based on established criteria.

Reference Contact Information:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____