

2019 SOUTH SHORE ESTUARY RESERVE COUNCIL
STEWARDSHIP AWARD

Identified as an Implementation Action in the South Shore Estuary Reserve (Reserve) Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) the revised Reserve Council Stewardship Award recognizes a wider range of Reserve work from a larger pool of eligible nominees. The Reserve Council Stewardship Award continues to recognize citizens, organizations, businesses, municipalities, or other entities in New York State that have made significant contributions to preserve and protect the Reserve's unique natural environment and maritime traditions.

I. Eligible nominees

Nominees should demonstrate initiative and innovation in advancing one or more of the Reserve CMP implementation outcomes: Improve and maintain water quality; Protect and restore living resources; Expand public use and enjoyment of the Reserve; Sustain and expand the estuary-related economy; Increase education, outreach, and stewardship; and Promote a resilient and sustainable estuary.

Nominees can include, but may not be limited to:

- Environmental groups, Civic organizations, Non-profit organizations, Neighborhood associations
- Researchers, Scientists
- Educational institutions, Educators, Mentors, Students
- Photographers, Artists, Writers, Authors
- Electronic and print media groups/individuals
- Businesses, Corporations, Water-dependent users
- Elected officials, Community leaders, Citizens-at-large
- Government agencies

II. Nomination procedures

The Award Announcement and a downloadable PDF Nomination Form will be available on the DOS/South Shore Estuary Reserve website at www.dos.ny.gov/opd/sser. Nominators are instructed to fill in all sections within the space provided to demonstrate the nominee's contributions to protect and restore the Reserve's unique natural environment and maritime traditions. Multiple nominations will be accepted from one nominator; however, each nomination requires a separate form to be submitted per nominee. Completed Nomination Forms can be postal mailed to the South Shore Estuary Reserve Office, 250 Veterans Memorial Highway, Room #2A15, Hauppauge, NY 11788, or, E-mailed to the Reserve Office at sser@dos.ny.gov.

Nomination forms are due July 31, 2019.

Nomination form content is subject to verification by the DOS and Award Review Committee (see below).

III. Nominee evaluation and selection procedures

An Award Review Committee will consist of volunteer members from the Reserve Council and the Reserve Citizens Advisory Committee. Once the nomination period closes, DOS will verify that the contact information on each nomination form received is complete. DOS will then distribute duplicate copies of the nomination forms to the Review Committee members for scoring. Each Review Committee member will independently score each nomination submitted. The scores of each Review Committee member will then be averaged to select the award recipients.



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During the scoring, the Review Committee members will verify and agree that the Project, Activity, or Work Description section of the nomination form contains sufficient information to evaluate the Significant

Contributions section. If the Project, Activity, or Work Description is significantly lacking requisite information, the Review Committee through the DOS, may contact the nominator for clarification, or decide to reject the nomination.

For consistency in scoring nominations, percentage points were assigned to each of the four Significant Contributions sections below. Scoring criteria for each category, as shown on the evaluation record form, includes (number of possible points is in parentheses):

1. Advancement of Reserve CMP Implementation Outcomes (40 possible points)
 - Project, activity, or work advances one or more of the Reserve CMP implementation outcomes (25)
 - Project, activity, or work captures the interest of the public and/or reaches significant numbers of people (10)
 - Project, activity or work lends itself to replication in other Reserve communities or regions (5)
2. Benefit to the Reserve (30 possible points)
 - Project, activity, or work has achieved environmental, social, cultural, or economic benefits to the Reserve (15)
 - Need for the project and appropriateness (15)
3. Stewardship (20 possible points)
 - Nominee demonstrates commitment and/or leadership to improve or increase stewardship of the Reserve (10)
 - Nominee inspires and motivates others to become active stewards of the Reserve (10)
4. Innovation, Sustainability and Partnerships (10 possible points)
 - Project, activity, or work incorporates practices that are innovative or original (4)
 - Nominee demonstrates initiative and takes steps beyond traditional environmental protection efforts or stewardship activities (3)
 - Project, activity or work increases the sustainability of natural resources and/or created or strengthened partnerships (3)

IV. 2019 Award Timeline

The following timeline is proposed.

Nomination period opens (nomination forms available online)	June 10, 2019
Nomination period closes	July 31, 2019
Award Review Committee evaluates nominations	Aug. – Sept. 2019
DOS notifies winner(s)	October 2019

