

BRING YOUR DREAMS.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BROOKINGS MAYOR'S SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS
NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS**

Applications due July 1, 2019

The Brookings Mayor's Sustainability Awards recognize excellence in sustainable practices demonstrated by local businesses, organizations, and individuals, while promoting a culture of resiliency. Award winners contribute to a more sustainable city by embracing and promoting an approach to business and daily living that balances environmental responsibility, economic prosperity, and community equity. There are five categories for awards.

AWARD CATEGORIES

The award categories include examples of areas of focus, but are not the limit of projects available for an award. Choose the category that best fits your project:

1. ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE – *Programs in this category focus on environmental infrastructure, conservation, or resource management, such as:*

- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – land conservation or restoration, wildlife protection, fire-shed management, watershed management, air quality
- WATER – water-related education programs, stewardship of the watershed, water conservation programs/projects in the community, water capture and reuse
- ENERGY – solar programs/projects, energy efficiency programs/projects, energy conservation program/project, access to renewable energy for all
- WASTE – waste reduction, recycling education campaigns, recycling business or organization, addressing food waste, composting, product stewardship

2. SOCIAL/QUALITY OF LIFE – *Projects and programs that focus on sustainability and social benefits help ensure that all Brookings residents gain from quality of life improvements, through programs such as:*

- EDUCATION – public education campaigns, sustainability education in schools, marketing campaigns
- FOOD SECURITY – ensuring access to healthy food, food security, innovative farming projects, provider of community food services
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING – ensuring low-income people have access to affordable housing, ensuring that the workforce can afford to live in Brookings
- HEALTH AND WELLNESS – public outreach campaigns, fair and equitable access to services

3. **ECONOMIC VITALITY** – *Applications in this category should reflect sustainable economic benefits through stewardship programs, such as:*
 - BUILT ENVIRONMENT: BUILDINGS AND LAND USE – energy reduction in commercial or residential buildings, innovative residential home or commercial development, renewables in schools, etc.
 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – green collar job training programs, innovative green business, greening business, import replacement
 - TRANSPORTATION – program, project or business helping to reduce cars on the road, car and ride sharing programs, low carbon vehicles and transit, access to public transit

4. **SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP/INNOVATIVE BEST PRACTICES** – *This category is for individuals in the Brookings community making a difference in any of the sustainability arenas.*
 - Leadership or service as a volunteer, in a non-profit, government, or private sector

5. **TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE** – *Outstanding all-around programs that address all core considerations, integrated across the three aspects of sustainability. Nominations **must include aspects of Social Equity, Environmental Resilience and Economic Vitality** such as:*
 - ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE – reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation to changing climate
 - SOCIAL EQUITY – community campaigns; organizations focused on taking care of others, the environment and our economy; projects that empower and engage residents across income spectrums and include groups that have been left largely out of climate & sustainability solutions
 - ECONOMIC VITALITY – sustainable economic benefits through stewardship programs

Applications are due July 1, 2019

Please submit nominations via email to jmeshke@cityofbrookings.org or by mailing to the Assistant to the City Manager, Sustainability Council, City & County Government Center, 520 Third Street, Suite 230, Brookings, SD 57006. The winners of the Mayor’s Sustainability Awards will be recognized at a combined award event on **Thursday, September 26 at at the McCrory Gardens Visitor Center.**

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**BROOKINGS MAYOR'S SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS
NOMINATION FORM**

Award Guidelines

- Eligibility
 - Individuals, organizations, and businesses are eligible
 - Nominees must live or have their principle place of business in the City of Brookings
 - Nominations must specifically describe and highlight a milestone or significant achievement within the past year (January 2017 – April 2018) to be considered
- More than one nomination is allowed.
- Please submit a separate response for each category, if you would like to be considered for more than one award.
- Self-nomination is permitted.
- Please be concise as possible.
- If you are nominating someone other than yourself, please double check with whom you are nominating to assure that the information provided is accurate and complete.
- Provide a photo of the nominee.

Nominee Information:

Name:

Email:

Phone/Cell phone:

Address:

Website address and Facebook page (if applicable)

Nominator Information:

Name:

Email:

Phone/Cell Phone:

Address:

Award Category (check the one that fits best):

- Environmental Resilience
- Social/Quality of Life
- Economic Vitality
- Sustainability Leadership/Innovative Best Practices
- Triple Bottom Line

1. Write a short introductory synopsis describing the nominated project/individual for the award program.

2. In detail, describe the project or person nominated for the award. How does this exemplify the ideas/principles/actions described in the examples for the category chosen?

3. All sustainability projects cross boundaries. In addition to the category chosen, explain how this project addresses all three legs of sustainability: Environmental Resilience, Social/Quality of Life, and Economic Vitality.

4. What kind of challenges are overcome or addressed by this project? How does it provide solutions to the issue addressed and advance sustainability principles and programs?

5. Optional: Include supplementary materials such as digital images, advertisements, photos, articles, etc.

Selection Process: The Sustainability Council serves as the selection committee. Winners will be notified in July and will be invited to accept their award at a combined award event on September 26th at the McCrory Gardens Visitor Center.

Award Criteria:

Categories: The project/initiative must meet at least one of the following project achievement areas:

- Environmental Resilience
- Social/Quality of Life
- Economic Vitality
- Sustainability Leadership/Innovative Best Practices
- Triple Bottom Line

Has a Positive Impact: The project/initiative must have a meaningful and demonstrable impact in Brookings by helping protect the environment or enhance the quality of life for residents.

Embraces Innovation/Creativity: The project/initiative should reflect a new concept, technology, or practice in Brookings and should employ new or improved ideas in the industry.

Overcomes Challenges and Barriers: The businesses and organizations nominated should be able to explain what challenges were overcome.

Transferable: The projects/initiative should be able to be replicated by others in similar situations.

Demonstrates Personal Initiative: The projects/initiatives should reflect how the business or organization took action to move sustainability forward in their position or community.

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