CIANJ and COMMERCE Magazine Honor Environmental Leaders

The Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey (CIANJ) and its flagship publication, COMMERCE Magazine, celebrated environmental leadership in the business community at a special awards breakfast this week.

More than 150 consultants, attorneys, accountants, engineers, licensed site remediation professionals and others, who work in the environmental sector, gathered at the Glen Ridge Country Club for the first annual event. Amy R. Tuininga, PhD, director of the Montclair State University’s PSEG Institute for Sustainability Studies, was invited to deliver the keynote speech.

CIANJ President Anthony Russo said the event was held to showcase the extraordinary environmental work done throughout New Jersey. “CIANJ has a long history in the environmental industry and we wanted to honor the leaders for their accomplishments and dedication,” he said.

As a statewide general business association, CIANJ represents more than 900 corporate members from every sector. A lion’s share of CIANJ member, however, are part of its Environmental Business Council (EBC) – the state’s largest environmental trade group.

Tracy Straka, an executive vice president at Creamer Environmental, Inc., and a former CIANJ chairwoman, established the environmental trade group, in 1996. It provides a forum for mid- and senior-level environmental professionals to explore creative approaches, best practices and current statutory regulations and case law developments relating to environmental issues in New Jersey and across the country. The trade group was originally known as the Environmental Business Association of New Jersey. It was merged into the CIANJ in 2002 and became the EBC.

At the award ceremony, Straka was inducted into the CIANJ Environmental Hall of Fame, along with Edward A. Hogan, a member of the Norris McLaughlin, P.A., law firm and Lanny S. Kurzweil, a partner at McCarter & English, LLP. Hogan was the first co-chair of the EBC with Straka. When he stepped down in 2007, Kurzweil took over as co-chair. They were honored for their lifetime achievements.

CIANJ and COMMERCE Magazine also honored an array of companies for their environmental leadership in recycling, pollution prevention, green building design, environmental conservation, energy conservation, community impact, manufacturing innovation, and brownfield redevelopment. They were chosen from nominations submitted to the magazine by CIANJ member and the business community at-large. The environmental awards were the cover story of COMMERCE this month. More than 60 pages were dedicated to stories of the companies’ accomplishments. Read their stories at commercemagnj.com.

The honorees, who all received trophies made from recycled materials, included:

AECOM
AeroFarms
Amy S. Greene Environmental Consultants, Inc.
City of Paterson and US Natl Park Service
Peak Environmental LLC
PennJersey Environmental Consulting
Pfister Energy
Rampapo College of New Jersey
Riker Danzig
Rutter & Roy, LLP
RWJBarnabas Healthcare System
Sadat Associates, Inc.
Saint Peter's Healthcare
SBM Management Services
SESI Consulting Engineers
The Steve Rich Group
Stockton University
Tectonic Engineering & Surveying Consultants, PC
Tetra Tech
The Elm Group
Trinitas Regional Medical Center
Valley Health System

Whitestone Associates, Inc.
William Paterson University