

Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council

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2021 Environmental Action Awards Winners

The Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) presents awards biennially to individuals and groups for endeavors and projects that result in a positive benefit to the environment and have the potential for long-term community environmental benefit in each of three categories: Educational Outreach, Positive Practices, and Student Engagement.



Student Engagement

The **Student Engagement Award** goes to **Elsa Schoberg!** Her initiative led to the creation of the Environmental Action Club at her high school. Her efforts to reach out to other interested students through her school and social media generated great interest. Under her leadership, the Club completed a biological survey of Copps Branch in Westminster. They used the results to develop a three-step recovery plan to help restore Copps Branch, which was approved by the Westminster City Council. Implementation is under way.

Honorable Mentions go to Caring for Our Climate for its youth-led climate and composting initiatives and **Zach Wetzel** for his stream clean-up efforts.

Educational Outreach

Kris Phillips, and her husband, JP Miller receive the Educational Outreach Award. Kris and JP led an effort to address noxious weeds while protecting bird habitat on a four-acre field at Krimgold Park. Regular mowing of the field was precluded by an easement, as the area was intended to be maintained long-term as a forest. Instead of mowing, together with a group of other volunteers, and in coordination with Carroll County Bureau of Facilities, they regularly monitor the field to remove noxious and invasive species.

Positive Practices

This year's winner of the Positive Practices Award is JeannieBird Baking Company. JeannieBird takes a comprehensive "Leave No Trace" approach to environmental stewardship that permeates all aspects of the bakery's operations and decisions. Ingredients are sourced from local farmers and producers to reduce transportation carbon footprint. Lower impact and reusable packaging are used. Recycling and reduction of the bakery's solid waste stream is a priority, including composting of food waste. Energy efficient and "smart" devices are used to maximize energy savings.

Sponsors

Atlantic Blue Water Services in Westminster sponsored the \$500 scholarship for the Student Engagement award winner. A \$25 gift card was also donated by Olive Garden. Salerno's Restaurant & Catering in Eldersburg donated \$75 in gift cards each to the winners of the Positive Practices and Educational Outreach awards.







For more information about the Environmental Action Awards, please visit the Environmental Advisory Council's Awards webpage at https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/boards-commissions/environmental-advisory-council/environmental-action-awards/.