

NEWS RELEASE

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ADEQ Recognizes 12 New Members of Rapidly Growing Voluntary Environmental Stewardship Program

PHOENIX (Jan. 20, 2016) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) officials recognized today the 12 newest members of its Voluntary Environmental Stewardship Program (VESP), adopted by the state Legislature and signed into law to provide recognition and incentives for organizations to go above and beyond environmental law requirements.

To view the list of ADEQ VESP members, please visit: http://www.azdeq.gov/downloads/vesp_participants.html

"This important program highlights the positive changes Arizona businesses and municipalities are making in their operating procedures to protect the environment," ADEQ Ombudsman Ian Bingham said. "We encourage others to join VESP to proactively and cost-effectively apply innovative technologies, tools and strategies and to showcase their activities statewide," he added.

The ADEQ VESP offers five levels of recognition for businesses, municipalities, non-profits, and schools large and small for showcasing their environmental responsibility and contributions, which protect and enhance Arizona's unique environment for future generations. VESP member incentives include reduced inspection frequency and coordination of multiple on-site inspections; reduced reporting requirements; early notice of enforcement rulings; conferences; and recognition.

For more detailed information about the ADEQ VESP, please visit http://www.azdeq.gov/vesp.html, or to learn more about joining the program, contact ADEQ Ombudsman Ian Bingham at (602) 771-4322, or by email at idb@azdeq.gov.

About ADEQ

Established by the Arizona Legislature under the Environmental Quality Act of 1986, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality is the state agency responsible for protecting and enhancing public health and the environment of Arizona.

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