



**GOVERNOR'S
ENERGY EXCELLENCE
AWARDS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 11, 2016

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Governor's Energy Excellence Awards Presented to Eight Honorees for Reducing Energy Waste

LANSING — Eight individuals and organizations from across Michigan today received the Governor's Energy Excellence Award for their extraordinary efforts to reduce energy waste. The winners were announced by Gov. Rick Snyder at a ceremony at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

"Reducing energy waste will be a critically important part of an energy policy that will preserve Michigan's comeback and protect our wonderful natural resources for decades to come," said the governor. "The individuals and organizations honored today should be proud of their innovative efforts, and I encourage all Michiganders to take the necessary steps to be more energy efficient."

Winners of the Governor's Energy Excellence Awards by category are:

Best Commercial Project (Private)

Odawa Casino Resort, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, *Petoskey*

Best Commercial Project (Public)

Western Michigan University, *Kalamazoo*

Best Residential Project

Michael Eick, *Clinton Township*

Best Industrial/Manufacturing Project

Cargill Inc. — Cargill Salt, *St. Clair*

Best Agriculture Project

Weiss Centennial Farms, *Frankenmuth*

Contractor of the Year

Oscar W. Larson Company, *Clarkston*

Best Communication or Education Program

Habitat for Humanity of Kent County, *Grand Rapids*

Innovator of the Year

Dennis Schultz — Terra Caloric, *Alpena*

The honorees' energy solutions ranged from installing energy efficient, state-of-the-art heating, cooling and lighting systems to common-sense, lower cost steps like caulking windows and adding insulation.

"Continuing to reduce our energy waste is one of the main ways we can keep energy prices affordable in Michigan," the governor said. "Reliable and affordable energy fuels our state's economy."

Also honored today were 15 award finalists:

Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, *L'Anse*
Visteon Corporation, *Van Buren Township*
East Jackson Community Schools, *Jackson*
Parchment School District, *Parchment*
Matthew Grocoff, *Ann Arbor*
Peter McWethy, *Kalamazoo*
Graphic Packaging International, *Battle Creek*
GDW Farms, *Holland*
Miller Family Farm, *Carney*
Bel-Aire Heating and Air Conditioning, *Portage*
Performance Engineering Group, Inc., *Livonia*
City of Holland
Muskegon County Department of Veterans Affairs, *Muskegon*
John Slagter — The Mackinac Technology Company, *Grand Rapids*
Venntis Technologies, LLC, *Holland*

Seven others received an honorable mention for their efforts:

PK Housing and Management, *Okemos*
Michigan State University, *East Lansing*
Whitney Jones, *Kalamazoo*
Coveyou Scenic Farm Market, *Petoskey*
Randazzo Mechanical Heating and Cooling, *Macomb*
Michigan Farm Energy Program, *East Lansing*
Nextek Power Systems, *Detroit*

Information about the honorees' innovative energy solutions can be found at www.mienergyexcellence.org.

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The [Governor's Energy Excellence Awards](http://www.mienergyexcellence.org) recognize Michigan organizations and individuals for their commitment to responsible energy consumption. The awards are supported, in part, by a grant from the Michigan Energy Office (MEO) with funding from U.S. Department of Energy Award #DE-EE0006226. (The MEO is a federally designated state agency within the Michigan Agency for Energy). Other event sponsors include CLEAResult, Consumers Energy, DNV-GL, DTE Energy, SEMCO Energy Gas Company, Solutions for Energy Efficient Logistics, and The Dow Chemical Company. For more information, please visit www.mienergyexcellence.org.

Links:

Finalist photos and project descriptions: <http://mienergyexcellence.org/award-finalists-and-winners-2016/>