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Governor Recognizes Michael Eick for Reducing Energy Waste

Best Residential Project in Second Annual Governor's Energy Excellence Awards Competition

LANSING — Clinton Township resident Michael Eick was among eight organizations and individuals that received the Governor's Energy Excellence Award for their successful efforts to reduce energy waste. The award winners were announced by Gov. Rick Snyder and honored at a ceremony at Michigan State University in East Lansing on August 11.

Eick was selected as Best Residential Project for, among other things, installing new windows and an energy-efficient furnace, adding insulation, caulking moldings and doors, and sealing duct work. He even changed the way he charges his electric car.

"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."

The award for Best Residential Project is presented each year to a homeowner who has performed retrofits that produce significant energy savings. Finalists in the category this year were Matthew Grocoff of Ann Arbor and Peter McWethy of Kalamazoo. Honorable mention went to Whitney Jonas also of Kalamazoo.

Following is a comprehensive list of the other 2016 honorees by category.

Best Projects — Commercial (Private)

Winner: Odawa Casino Resort, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Petoskey Finalist: Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, L'Anse Finalist: Visteon Corporation, Van Buren Township Honorable Mention: PK Housing and Management, Okemos

Best Projects — Public

Winner: Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo Finalist: East Jackson Community Schools, Jackson Finalist: Parchment School District, Parchment Honorable Mention: Michigan State University, East Lansing

Best Projects — Industrial/Manufacturing

Winner: Cargill Inc. — Cargill Salt, St. Clair *Finalist:* Graphic Packaging International, Battle Creek

Best Projects — Agriculture

Winner: Weiss Centennial Farms, Frankenmuth *Finalist:* GDW Farms, Holland *Finalist:* Miller Family Farm, Carney *Honorable Mention:* Coveyou Scenic Farm Market, Petoskey

Contractor of the Year

Winner: Oscar W. Larson Company, Clarkston Finalist: Bel-Aire Heating and Air Conditioning, Portage Finalist: Performance Engineering Group, Inc., Livonia Honorable Mention: Randazzo Mechanical Heating and Cooling, Macomb

Best Communication or Education Program

Winner: Habitat for Humanity of Kent County, Grand Rapids Finalist: City of Holland Finalist: Muskegon County Department of Veterans Affairs, Muskegon Honorable Mention: Michigan Farm Energy Program, East Lansing

Innovator of the Year

Winner: Dennis Schultz — Terra Caloric, Alpena Finalist: John Slagter — The Mackinac Technology Company, Grand Rapids Finalist: Venntis Technologies, LLC, Holland Honorable Mention: Nextek Power Systems, Detroit

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The <u>Governor's Energy Excellence Awards</u> 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 <u>www.mienergyexcellence.org.</u>

Links:

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