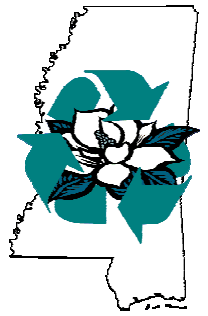


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Mississippi Recycling Coalition Announces 2008 Environmental Heroes

(JACKSON, MS) – The Mississippi Recycling Coalition (MRC) recently held its annual conference in conjunction with the Southeast Recycling Development Council's Recycling Summit 2008 in Point Clear, AL. During the conference, the Mississippi Recycling Coalition announced the recipients of this year's Environmental Hero awards. The Environmental Hero awards are presented annually to honor outstanding environmental efforts in business, education, local governments, and state/federal agencies. Nominees are judged by a panel of MRC members based upon how each nominee works to create a better community by promoting recycling, continues efforts instead of just completing a one-time project, increases awareness of environmental stewardship, and improves community waste handling and environmental practices.

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2008 Environmental Hero awards:

- The [City of Oxford](#) was awarded the Local Government Environmental Hero award for its efforts to grow and expand curbside recycling within the city. The City of Oxford currently accepts aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic, mixed paper, newspaper, and cardboard through the curbside recycling. Additionally, the city plans to allow businesses to use the existing drop-off recycling locations as residential use tapers off as well as processing recyclables for the University of Mississippi and the City of Pontotoc.
- [Hinds Community College](#) Honors Program was awarded the Educational Institution Environmental Hero award for expanding their recycling program to include stadium recycling at all HCC home games and for teaming up with the Hinds County Sheriff's Office and Coca-Cola Bottling Company to offer plastic bottle recycling at the Mississippi State Fair. The money raised by the HCC recycling program is returned to the [Honors Program](#) for use as scholarships.
- [Harrah's Entertainment](#) was awarded the Corporate Environmental Hero award for implementing a recycling and conservation program at all of their casinos and hotels in Tunica, MS. Harrah's recycles cardboard, paper, glass, plastic, and aluminum. Conservation activities include motion sensor paper towel dispensers, motion sensor water faucets, choosing eco-friendly vendors and lead-free manufacturers, and allowing guest to opt for linen and towel reuse instead of daily laundering. Harrah's is the first gaming company in Tunica and one of the first

gaming companies in Mississippi to institute a recycling and conservation program.

- [North Mississippi Regional Center](#) (NMRC) was awarded the State/Federal Agency Environmental Hero award for their support of the City of Oxford's curbside recycling program. The NMRC works with the City of Oxford to find NMRC clients that are able to work at the Oxford-Lafayette Recycling Center to sort and bale recyclables that come into the recycling center. Additionally, the NMRC has an in-house recycling program that covers most of their buildings with recycling bins.

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition also awarded certificates of recognition to [Jackson State University](#) for their Computer Recycling and Refurbishment Program and both the [Mississippi State University Student Association](#) and [Mississippi State University Recycling Club](#) for their efforts in expanding and improving the campus recycling program.

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition is a consortium of recycling companies, local governments, state agencies, and other interested organizations in the State of Mississippi. The MRC Conference is held annually to provide recycling education on various issues to the MRC membership. For more information on the MRC and the MRC Environmental Hero awards, please visit the new MRC web page at <http://www.msrecycles.org/>.

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