



GEORGIA CONSERVATION VOTERS

E-Newsletter

May 5, 2009

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Congratulations to the Winners of the 2009 Environmental Leadership Awards & Draper Lifetime Achievement Award

Join us for this special event to honor state legislators who have distinguished themselves through their work to protect Georgia's environment.

Wednesday, May 20, 2009
6:00pm – 8:00pm

Georgia Railroad Freight Depot, Blue Room
65 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets or call 404-522-8144 for more information.



2009 Environmental Leadership Award Recipients

Senate

Jeff Chapman (R-Brunswick)

Bill Cowsert (R-Athens)

Seth Harp (R-Midland)

Steve Henson (D-Tucker)

Jack Hill (R-Reidsville)

Dan Moody (R-Alpharetta)

Kasim Reed (D-Atlanta)

Preston Smith (R-Rome)

Doug Stoner (D-Smyrna)

Dan Weber (R-Dunwoody)

House of Representatives

Stacey Abrams (D-Atlanta)

Terry Barnard (R-Glenngville)

Stephanie Benfield (D-Decatur)

Tyrone Brooks (D-Atlanta)

Debbie Buckner (D-Junction City)

Calvin Hill (R-Canton)

Jan Jones (R-Alpharetta)

Judy Manning (R-Marietta)

Chuck Martin (R-Alpharetta)

Doug McKillip (D-Athens)

John Meadows (R-Calhoun)

Billy Mitchell (D-Stone Mountain)

Mary Margaret Oliver (D-Decatur)

Chuck Sims (R-Ambrose)

Richard Smith (R-Columbus)

Brian Thomas (D-Lilburn)

Wendell Willard (R-Sandy Springs)

Joe Wilkinson (R-Sandy Springs)

The **Draper Lifetime Achievement Award**, awarded annually at the Environmental Leadership Awards to an individual who has provided inspiration and leadership to the conservation community over the course of their career, will be presented this year to **Stacy Shelton** for her work as the Atlanta Journal Constitution's environmental reporter.

Governor Signs Environmental Bills into Law

Governor Perdue has until May 13, 40 days after the end of the legislative session, to sign bills into law or veto them.



Last week, the Governor signed [House Bill 552](#), sponsored by Rep. Terry Barnard (R- Glennville), which extends the moratorium on injecting chemically-treated sewage or water into the Floridan aquifer until 2014. The Floridan aquifer is a major source of drinking water for thousands of residents of southeast Georgia and the coast. The conservation community identified the passage of this bill as a *Leading Georgia into a Sustainable Future* priority.

In April, the Governor signed [House Bill 473](#), sponsored by Rep. Ben Harbin (R-Evans), which creates a clean energy commercial grant program for solar, wind, energy efficiency and geothermal projects. The program's funding is contingent upon federal stimulus dollars. Similarly to the clean energy tax credit passed last year, the grant program creates an incentive to keep clean energy businesses in Georgia and helps reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

Sincerely,

Chris Osborne,
Executive Director

About Us:

Georgia Conservation Voters works to preserve and enhance the quality of life for all Georgians by making conservation a top priority with Georgia's elected officials, political candidates and voters. GCV understands that the most important decisions made on the environment are made by elected officials, so one of the most important things we can do to protect the environment is to elect pro-conservation candidates.

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