

SWANA'S WASTE CONVERSION & ENERGY RECOVERY TECHNICAL DIVISION
NOMINATION FORM for the 2020 TRAILBLAZER AWARD

The annual **Trailblazer Award** recognizes a distinguished individual who has not yet received the award for service to SWANA's Waste Conversion & Energy Recovery Technical Division, service to employers, support of SWANA's mission to advance the practice of MSW management and overall long-term service to the Waste Conversion & Energy Recovery industry. The winner receives a trophy and a full conference registration to the annual **SOAR** Conference, and will be recognized at **SOAR**.

Candidates for the Trailblazer Distinguished Individual Achievement Award must be nominated by a SWANA Member. The nominee also must be a SWANA Member.

SUBMISSION FORM

⇒ **Contact Information For Nominee**

Nominee Name & Professional Title: _____

SWANA Member number: _____

Organization: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

⇒ **Nomination Submitted By**

SWANA Member Name and ID# _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

⇒ **Entry Requirements** (*Please check that each item is in your nomination packet*)

- Completed nomination form with signed release statement
- A photo of the nominee (1MB or larger)
- Supporting documentation demonstrating that the nominee meets the criteria for the award
- Electronic copy of the application sent via email to dwalter@swana.org by January 15, 2021, at midnight eastern time.

Questions? Please contact: **Darryl Walter**, Director of Membership, dwalter@swana.org

⇒ **Release Statement:**

I certify that the information provided in this nomination is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Nominations become the property of SWANA. My signature gives SWANA the right to reprint or make available, with discretion, certain portions of this nomination for publication.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Organization of Nomination

The release statement should be the first document in your submittal. The Waste Conversion & Energy Recovery Technical Division Awards Committee established categories by which nominees will be evaluated for individual excellence. **Nominations should address each category if possible;** however, nominees are not required to answer every question. However, having a complete application for each section improves chances of receiving the Award. This listing serves as a guide for your nomination. Application limit is 15 pages.

Evaluation Criteria

1. Executive Summary

(Not scored)

In addition to describing your career/involvement in the Waste Conversion and Energy Recovery industry, explain why you are applying in this category and why you deserve to win an award. Answer the question: What makes you a Trailblazer in this field?

OPTIONAL: In addition to a written executive summary of no more than 150 words, you may include a link to a video of no more than 90 seconds that tells the story of your waste conversion and energy recovery journey. Award winners are required to make a short video for use by SWANA to promote award winners and showcase their impact on the Waste Conversion and Energy Recovery community.

2. Service to SWANA's WC&ER Technical Division

15%

- *Current SWANA Member and WC&ER Technical Division Subscriber* - Extended years actively involved in the Division are a factor in evaluating candidates.
- *Committee Service* – Noted, serious, and extended participation in one or more committees of the WC&ER Technical Division will receive favored scoring consideration. Participation means active and measurable contributions, such as drafting materials for a committee, serving as a faculty member for SWANA WC&ER training courses, providing comments and reviews of committee materials, etc.
- *SWANAPALOOZA, NAWTEC, or WASTECON® Attendance* – Attendance and participation in SWANA-related WC&ER meetings are considered essential. Documentation of regular attendance at the annual SWANAPALOOZA, NAWTEC, and WASTECON® will receive favorable consideration.
- *Presentations given at SWANAPALOOZA, NAWTEC, or WASTECON®* – Preparation and presentation of presentations will be given strong consideration. Documentation by the inclusion of a listing of presentations and other publications specific to these criteria must be included with a candidate's nomination. Only presentations in the proceedings of SWANAPALOOZA, NAWTEC, or WASTECON® will be given favorable consideration.
- *Division/Committee Leadership* – SWANA and WC&ER Technical Division members who have served in leadership roles (Chairs/Vice-Chairs, working groups, special assignments, etc.) in committees and the Division structure will be given favorable consideration over candidates who have not provided leadership to the mission of the Division.

3. Service to Employer

10%

The Awards Committee favors candidates who have demonstrated, on a long-term basis, significant contributions to the success of their employer(s). Each of the criteria listed that can be demonstrated to that measure will enhance a candidate's consideration.

- *Work History* – The Awards Committee will look for measurable contributions by candidates with each of their employers. Measurable growth through a progressive increase in either management or technical responsibilities will be given favorable consideration. An unblemished technical and professional career is a necessity for any successful candidate.
- *Other Employer-Related Service* – This criterion would be used to note service to an employer that might not be WC&ER related but was important to the economic and business success of an employer.

4. Service to the Waste Conversion & Energy Recovery Industry

30%

- *Professional Achievements and Contributions* (international, national, local) – This criterion is to recognize measurable professional contributions to the field of WC&ER. Contributions might be participation in international organizations, the development of theories, applications of theories, new equipment or techniques that have been

adopted in practice, membership and leadership in other professional organizations which help advance professional and ethical practices in a chosen field of endeavor, etc. Achievements may include development of new technologies, patents held, scaling-up of pilot-scale technologies, other industry awards and recognition, etc.

- *Advocacy Work* (legislative, regulatory, other) – This criterion notes valued and measurable contributions by a candidate to the advancement of WC&ER management at the community, professional, local, state, provincial, national or international levels. Examples would include serving on advisory committees involved in legislative, regulatory, educational, or professional development, advancement or implementation of:
 - Standards, regulations, and legislation;
 - Codes or guidelines for good practice;
 - Educational curriculum;
 - Public education and understanding;
 - Community outreach;
 - Similar efforts.
- *Non-SWANA Publications* – This criterion notes all publications that were not published in a SWANA publication. Only printed and published works will be considered. Papers in related media and fields will be given consideration. A listing of publications must be included with a candidate’s nomination.

5. Support of SWANA Mission 15%

Active involvement in the work of SWANA is essential for candidates. The following criteria will be used in evaluating a candidate’s support of the SWANA mission.

- *SWANA Membership* – Extended membership in SWANA will be given favorable consideration. At a minimum, documentation of membership for a continuous five-year period leading up to the date of the nomination will be considered a committed SWANA member. (*Five-year membership in SWANA is not a requirement for this award, however*).
- *Chapter Support* – Chapters are an essential part of the SWANA mission. A SWANA Member automatically is a member of the local SWANA Chapter. Active participation in Chapter activities is considered a valuable part of the contributions of a SWANA member to the SWANA mission. Documentation of Chapter support must be provided with the candidate’s nomination.
- *SWANA Support* (Board, other SWANA Divisions, Committees) – The success of SWANA depends on a vital and active voluntary membership. Candidate involvement in SWANA activities other than the Chapters and WC&ER Technical Division will be given favorable consideration. Involvement would include such activities as serving on the SWANA Board, a non-technical committee (intern, certification, etc.) other Technical Divisions, serving as a mentor with SWANA’s Mentor Match program, etc.

6. Contributions to the Solid Waste Management Field 10%

Since the waste conversion and energy recovery is part of the broader practice of integrated solid waste management, this criterion is used to measure a candidate’s involvement in solid waste management beyond waste conversion and energy recovery.

- *Integrated Solid Waste Management Roles and Responsibilities* – Activities that might be included in this category are participation in public/citizen activities associated with the planning and implementation of solid waste programs, active membership in environmental organizations, corresponding and parallel work in another non-WC&ER practice, etc.
- *WC&ER Presentations to Other Organizations* – This criterion recognizes those contributions of candidates that help promote an understanding about waste conversion and energy recovery with other organizations not closely aligned with the practice of waste conversion and energy recovery.

7. Other 15%

This criterion is provided to recognize the broader character of candidates by considering their participation in activities that are not associated with their livelihood which help protect, improve, or increase the quality of life and the environment. Membership, active participation, and contributions in civic, political, religious, non-profit, educational, environmental, youth, or charitable organizations will be given favorable consideration.

8. Application Quality 5%

This is a judges’ category only, not to be addressed in your application. Your application will be judged on its organization and presentation, and on editorial and technical quality.