



# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**WINNERS OF 2003 SECRETARY'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ANNOUNCED AT STATE HOUSE**

*Great Hall ceremony salutes winners from 45 towns across Massachusetts*

As part of the annual Earth Day celebrations, Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Roy Herzfelder announced the winners of the ninth annual Secretary's Awards for Excellence in Environmental Education at a ceremony held today in the Great Hall of the State House. The Secretary's Awards are given to teachers and administrators who have made significant contributions to the field of environmental education in Massachusetts over the past year.

"I am pleased to report that environmental education is flourishing in our state's classrooms. This year's winners have shown unprecedented creativity and initiative in their programs and they should be commended for taking steps to create new generations of environmental leaders." The 48 winners of the 2003 Secretary's Awards represent 45 towns from across Massachusetts. Programs include: art projects, wetlands projects, recycling programs, biodiversity projects, environmental clubs, environmental studies courses and programs to reintroduce native species.

A total of \$5,000 was paid out to help nurture and sustain these programs in the coming year. Certificates of Excellence ranging from \$100 to \$300 were awarded for exemplary programs. Certificates of Merit and Certificates of Honor were also awarded. Co-sponsors of the this year's Secretary's Awards for Excellence in Environmental Education included the Massachusetts Environmental Trust and Veryfine Products, Inc.

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## 2003 EE Award Winners

**Arlington**     \$300.00

*Bishop School and Stratton School*

Award Winner: The Arlington Reservoir Art Project

Program: The Arlington Reservoir Art Project

**Ashburnham**     \$300.00

*J.R Briggs Elementary School*

Award Winner: The EIC (Environment as an Integrating Context) Team

Program: Wetlands Investigation Program

**Ashburnham**     Certificates of Merit

*J. R. Briggs Elementary School*

Award Winner: Mary Gagnon

Program: Wetlands Investigation Program

**Ashland**     Certificate of Merit

*Ashland Middle School*

Award Winner: Mr. John Anderson

Program: Ashland Down Under

**Barnstable**     \$300.00

*Barnstable Middle School@ Marston Mills*

Award Winner: The Living Classroom: Operation Wetlands

Program: The Living Classroom: Operation Wetlands

**Billerica**     Certificates of Merit

*Shawsheen Valley Tech High School*

Award Winner: Ms. Ellen Mountain

Program: Paper Recycling Program

**Boston**     \$200.00

*Raphael Hernandez School*

Award Winner: Ana Vaisenstein

Program: School Gardening Projects

## 2003 EE Award Winners

**Boston**                    \$200.00

*Farragut Elementary School*

Award Winner: Patricia Keyo and Janet Bertucci

Program: Fenway Garden Intergenerational Program

**Boylston**                    \$100.00

*Tahanto Regional Middle High School*

Award Winner: Sue Moore and the Envirothon Team

Program: Biodiversity on the Tahanto Nature Trail

**Braintree**                    \$200.00

East Middle School

Award Winner: Biodiversity Project

Program: Biodiversity Project

**Brockton**                    \$200.00

*Huntington School*

Award Winner: Huntington Peer Leaders

Program: Recycling and Beautification Projects

**Byfield**                    Certificates of Merit

*Triton Regional High School*

Award Winner: The Environmental Science and Honors Biology Classes

Program: Reintroduction of Native Species

**Chelmsford**                    Certificates of Merit

*McCarthy Middle School*

Award Winner: Mr. Robert Noonan

Program: Earth Force Environmental Club

**East Bridgewater**    \$100.00

*Gordon W. Mitchell Middle School*

Award Winner: Trout in the Classroom

Program: Trout in the Classroom

## 2003 EE Award Winners

**East Taunton**            \$300.00

*East Taunton Elementary School*  
Award Winner: Kids in the Garden  
Program: Kids in the Garden

**East Wareham**            \$100.00

*East Wareham Elementary*  
Award Winner: Mercury Thermometer Exchange Program  
Program: Mercury Thermometer Exchange Program

**Edgartown**            \$100.00

*Edgartown Elementary School*  
Award Winner: Ms. Gale Meister, Mrs. Elizabeth Hauck, and Mr. Chip Story  
Program: Wind Farm Presentation

**Fitchburg**            Certificates of Merit

*Crocker Elementary School*  
Award Winner: Crocker Nature Club  
Program: Crocker Nature Club

**Heath**            \$300.00

*Heath Elementary School*  
Award Winner: The EIC (Environment as an Integrating Context) Program  
Program: Watershed Investigation Project

**Holden**            Certificates of Honor

*Catch the Science Bug*  
Award Winner: Kim Bent  
Program: Catch the Science Bug

**Holyoke**            \$100.00

*John J. Lynch Middle School*  
Award Winner: The Lorax and the Environment  
Program: The Lorax and the Environment

## 2003 EE Award Winners

**Hudson**                    \$100.00

*Forest Avenue School*

Award Winner: Dawn Sather

Program: The Johnson-Sather Wetland Program

**Hyannis**                    \$100.00

*Barnstable Middle School*

Award Winner: Scott Blazis

Program: Rainforest Biology Project

**Littleton**                    \$100.00

*Littleton Middle School*

Award Winner: The Sixth Grade Class

Program: Implementation of an Interdisciplinary Bird Unit

**Lunenburg**                    Certificates of Merit

*Lunenburg High School*

Award Winner: Chuck Tarleton

Program: Environmental Studies Course

**Marlborough**                    \$200.00

*Marlborough Middle School*

Award Winner: Ms. Laura Kirshenbaum and Mr. Larry Keating

Program: Project Earth Wise

**Marshfield**                    Certificates of Merit

*Daniel Webster Elementary School*

Award Winner: Ms. Brenda Steele

Program: Beautification and Recycling Programs

**New Bedford**                    Certificates of Honor

*Buttonwood Park Zoo*

Award Winner: Buttonwood Park Zoo

Program: Buttonwood Park Zoo

## 2003 EE Award Winners

### **New Bedford**            Certificates of Honor

*Schooner Enerstina Commission*

Award Winner: Schooner Enerstina Commission

Program: Schooner Enerstina

### **Newton**                    Certificates of Merit

*Bigelow Middle School*

Award Winner: Joan Yasi

Program: School-wide Recycling Program

### **North Attleborough** Certificates of Merit

*North Attleborough High School*

Award Winner: David Vito, Noreen Kiff, and Pam Musk

Program: Vernal Pool Study Project

### **Norton**                    Certificates of Merit

Norton Public Schools

Award Winner: Carol St. John, Deborah Soares, Frank Tarnopol, Bonnie Tarpool, Rebecca Staples-Ramsey, Maryann Almeda

Program: Environmental Awareness Week

### **Orange**                    \$300.00

*Butterfield School*

Award Winner: The EIC (Environment as an Integrating Context) Team

Program: The EIC Program

### **Pittsfield**                \$100.00

*Silvio O. Conte Community School*

Award Winner: Silvio O. Conte Community School

Program: Storm Drain Stenciling Program

### **Provincetown**            Certificates of Merit

*Provincetown High School*

Award Winner: Environmental Science Class

Program: Invasive Species Survey

## 2003 EE Award Winners

### **Quincy**                      Certificates of Merit

*Snug Harbor Community School*

Award Winner: The Earth Day Groceries Project

Program: The Earth Day Groceries Project

### **Quincy**                      \$100.00

*Central Middle School*

Award Winner: Darlene Koestner

Program: Water and Air Quality Investigations

### **Scituate**                      \$100.00

*Gates Intermediate School*

Award Winner: Jean Chambers

Program: The Environmental Club

### **Seekonk**                      \$100.00

*Seekonk High School*

Award Winner: Angela Cardono McBride

Program: Advance Placement Biology Class

### **Somerville**                      \$300.00

*John Cummings School*

Award Winner: The Cummings School and Somerville Growing Center

Program: Horticultural Program

### **Springfield**                      Certificates of Merit

*Springfield Public Schools*

Award Winner: Environmental Center for Our Schools (ECOS)

Program: Environmental Center for Our Schools (ECOS)

### **Townsend**                      \$200.00

*Squannacook Elementary School*

Award Winner: Squannacook Community Garden

Program: Squannacook Community Garden

## 2003 EE Award Winners

**Topsfield**                    Certificates of Merit

*Masconomet Regional Middle School*  
Award Winner: Ms. Robin Tomasino  
Program: Ipswich River Watershed Investigations

**Truro**                        Certificates of Merit

*Truro Central School*  
Award Winner: Fourth Grade Class  
Program: Pamet Makes Truro Unique

**Wareham**                    Certificates of Merit

*Wareham Middle School*  
Award Winner: Youth Empowerment Council  
Program: Youth Empowerment Council

**Wareham**                    Certificate of Honor

*Wareham Land Trust*  
Award Winner: Wareham Land Trust and Community Preservation Committee  
Program: Environmental Publishing Project

**Wellfleet**                    Certificate of Merit

*Wellfleet Elementary School*  
Award Winner: Heidi Ferreira and Jan La Tanzi  
Program: Kettle Ponds in the National Seashore Curriculum

**Westford**                    \$100.00

*Blanchard Middle School*  
Award Winner: Ubiquitous Life Project  
Program: Ubiquitous Life Project

**Winchester**                    \$200.00

*McCall Middle School*  
Award Winner: McCall Community Service Club  
Program: Recycling and Beautification Projects

**Worcester**                    \$200.00

*Burncoat High School*  
Award Winner: The Horticulture Program  
Program: The Horticulture Program