

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD WINNERS!**

The Department of Commerce Energy and Environmental Stewardship Awards Program recognizes personnel who have gone above and beyond to promote energy efficiency, environmental stewardship, and sustainability. Please join us in congratulating the following recipients of the 2023 Department of Commerce Energy and Environmental Stewardship Awards!

### **Category: Energy and Water Conservation Project Category**

#### **Winner: NOAA Sustainable Science at Sea**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, Marine Operations, NOAA Ship Reuben Lasker, La Jolla, CA

##### Team Members:

DOC: Julie Wagner, Colin Davis, RDML Chad Cary, CDR Jonathan Heesch, CDR Claire Surrey-Marsden, NOAA Ship Reuben Lasker Crew

For reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions on the NOAA Ship Reuben Lasker through comprehensive and collaborative energy management - such as using efficient onboard ship generators, reducing ship speeds when possible, changing onboard lighting systems to more efficient options, regulating power consumption through automation, repairing refrigeration and energy leaks, and better maintaining scientific freezers - impacting nearly every aspect of ship operations.

### **Category: Environmental Stewardship Project Category**

#### **Winner: NIST Helium Recovery and Recycling System**

Physical Measurement Laboratory & Office of Facilities and Property Management, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD

##### Team Members:

Gerald Fraser, Steven Blankenship, Krishna Krishnamoorthy, Warren Livengood, Joseph Stroschio, Sungmin Kim

For establishing a helium recycling system on the NIST Gaithersburg campus to recover and reliquefy helium gas boil-off from labs using liquid helium. The system is capable of producing 120 liters of liquid Helium per day from recycling, a savings of \$1,500,000 per year, as well as lowering greenhouse gas emissions associated with regular delivery of helium to the NIST campus by as much as 750 kg per year.

#### **Runner Up: Reforestation on the NIST Gaithersburg MD Campus**

National Institute for Standards and Technology, Office of Facilities and Property Management, Gaithersburg, MD

##### Team Members:

John Palmer, Mark Liao, Patrick Murphy, David Fawley, Kathy Thomerson, Adam Yuhas

For planting 3,850 trees in 15 areas of the NIST Gaithersburg campus. The reforestation of the site improves the quality of water entering the Chesapeake Bay water shed by slowing down the speed the water runs off surfaces through ground absorption (rather than running off asphalt). This project also decreases erosion, treats water through increased water absorption in the dirt and roots, increases the absorption of greenhouse gases, purifies the air, improves the appearance of the campus, and provides a more diverse wildlife habitat.

**Category: Environmental Stewardship Program Category**

**Winner: Advancing Waste Reduction Across the National Ocean Service**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of Response and Restoration/Marine Debris Program, Silver Spring, MD

Team Members:

Amanda Dwyer

For the recognition of the leadership of Amanda Dwyer in advancing waste reduction across the National Ocean Service (NOS). In FY 2022 she accomplished a significant effort to reduce waste generation, promote reuse, increase awareness, and affect behavior across the organization to promote the Zero Waste Action Plan.