



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS / APRIL 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FINALISTS



[SARAH CLARK]
[SOUTHWEST DETROIT ENVIRONMENTAL VISION]

Sarah Clark, Acting Director and Director of Land & Water with Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision (SDEV). Sarah has extensive experience managing neighborhood improvement projects. As the Program Director of the EPA EJCPs grant from 2014-2017, Ms. Clark formed a diverse stakeholder group to identify vacant, blighted, illegal dumps sites to clean up and transform into safe, attractive, productive community places.

In overseeing the Clean Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI), her leadership led to numerous accomplishments, including an increase in: number of organizations and individuals playing an active role in monitoring and eliminating blight in their neighborhoods; number of blocks being monitored and cleared of blight issues; knowledge of environmental concerns and appropriate steps for addressing concerns in the community; discussions between the community and proper authorities; number of trainings provided to community groups for cleanup and graffiti removal; and number of Neighborhood Champions and community volunteers organizing clean up events.



As the EPA CARE II Healthy Business Program Manager, she formed partnerships and collaborations with local businesses, residents, schools, churches, and other non-profit organizations to address priority issues and build partnership sustainability. She is responsible for the coordination of the Merritt Street Neighborhood Improvement Plan from 2013 to present, and coordinates the work of hundreds of volunteers to remediate illegal dumping to subsequently repurpose vacant lots and create two productive community-gathering spaces, Scarcyny Park and Cadillac Urban Garden. She recruited and coordinated over 12,000 volunteer



hours during the 2017 season (with over 4,000 hours completed by youth), recruited 50 community partners and 70 business partners, conducted 14 illegal dumping clean up events, and led the effort to repurpose shipping crates from General Motors to distribute to 20 community gardens in Southeast Michigan; replicating the success of Cadillac Urban Gardens, in which fresh fruits and vegetables are grown for and with neighborhood residents.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FINALISTS [cont.]

THE
KRESGE
FOUNDATION

[DR. JALONNE WHITE-NEWSOME]

[THE KRESGE FOUNDATION]

Advocate, Engineer, Researcher, Philanthropist, Teacher, fighter for equity and environmental justice. For over 25 years, Dr. Jalonne White-Newsome has dedicated her

professional and volunteer work to environmental protection, promoting public health and "doing something good for the environment", spanning various sectors including manufacturing, state government, academia, advocacy, and the environmental non-governmental organizations. As a Senior Program Officer in the Environment Program at The Kresge Foundation, she is responsible for managing two bodies of grantmaking: The Climate Resilient & Equitable Water Systems (CREWS) Initiative and work focused at intersection of climate change, equity and public health. Jalonne is also a member of the Kresge Operationalizing Racial Equity Team working to address institutional racism in the foundation and beyond.



Before joining Kresge in early 2016, Jalonne served as director of federal policy at West Harlem Environmental Action Inc. (WE ACT), a community based environmental organization. Her work helped ensure that the concerns of low-income communities of color were integrated into federal policy, particularly on clean air, climate change and health issues. She has taught at Kettering University and continues as an adjunct professor in the Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., continuing to engage in research on climate, health and equity with her colleagues at the University of Michigan. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences Board



on Environmental Change and Society, and a co-author for the human health chapter for the 4th National Climate Assessment. She is most known for her research uncovering the disproportionate health impacts of climate change on the elderly and the response and preparation of local health departments to handle extreme heat, particularly her studies in Detroit and Wayne County. A native of Detroit, Jalonne earned a Ph.D. in environmental health sciences from the University of Michigan School of Public Health; a master's degree in environmental engineering from Southern Methodist University; and a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University. She on the Executive Board of the US Climate Action Network, is

co-chair for Health Environmental Funder's Network, and a 2017 Fellow with The Funder's Network. Jalonne has been recognized for her advocacy by several organizations: The Michigan League of Conservation Voters Advocate of the Year in 2017, Kingdom Living Temple "Friends of the Environment Award" in 2017, and "The Clean Power Plan Enforcer" by Grist Magazine in 2016.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FINALISTS [cont.]

[TIM COLE]
[ECO PARTNERS]



"Maybe, instead of sending the solvent to an incinerator, it could be reused..." Out of that notion, Tim Cole formed environmental services company Eco Partners. With their primary approach to the business being to recycle, reuse, and repurpose everything for their clients, Eco Partners' guiding ethos is "disposal is always a last resort." Manufacturing facilities should find a solution that's better than dumping their



waste into America's landfills — not only because dumping is bad for the planet, but also because there's a race to be seen as "green" in the eyes of consumers. Cole says that Eco Partners can help companies be truly green by finding practical, often money-saving, alternate pathways for their waste, stating "[that's] largely what we do for our client. We are an industrial recycle-reuse-repurpose ideas company. And it really doesn't matter if it's oil, if it's carbon, if it's glycerine, or recovered solvent off of a process, we will find a recycle/reuse option for that material as opposed to a conventional disposal or outlet for that material."

Cole worked for ten years in the '80s-'90s for an industrial waste disposal company, when the thought struck him that maybe the millions of gallons of solvent used in the industrial parts washers he serviced could be cleaned somehow and reused. The expense of trucking millions of gallons to be incinerated in off-site kilns was such an obvious waste. "Somebody should be able to use this material," Cole thought. There must be a way to reclaim and reuse material that otherwise would go up a smokestack. The company gained momentum by 2000, where they were diverting probably 20, 30 truckloads a week that were previously being burned. Then customers were using that material as a product, in place of buying virgin material, thus becoming a huge step in conserving natural resources. In the previous decades Cole has tackled solvents, oil, food waste — from hazardous material to the innocuous garbage that ordinarily is dumped in landfills, Eco Partners figures out a way to make it usable. Finding new solutions to use old waste is one part of his job that excites Cole. The other part is that he's truly driven to make the world a better place.



LEGENDS of the ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRY AWARD

For the second year in a row, the EMA is inducting a new member to the Legends of the Environmental Industry, which recognizes individuals for their longstanding positive impact and achievements within the environmental industry. Their demonstrations of forward progression in the push towards environmental change for their accomplished excellence during their tenure are evaluated in five core areas: leadership, innovation, commitment, collaboration, and education. This year, we are excited to honor **Robert "Willy" Williams of Inland Waters Pollution Control**.



Robert "Willy" Williams' over 48 years in environmental services actually started in the United States Coast Guard, where he enlisted in 1967 attaining the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class while serving in the Alaskan Sector as well as Sector Detroit over the next four years. In 1973, Willy co-founded Inland Waters Pollution Control (IWPC), and served as the President and Chief Executive Officer until his retirement from the company in 2008. IWPC, was a leading provider of high value-added solutions for critical infrastructure and specialized industrial environments. Under his leadership the company grew to over \$80M in annual revenue with operations throughout the Midwest. Willy currently is president of Bulk Trailer Leasing Company which he founded in 1991 and has ownership interests in several other ventures.

An accomplished and dedicated leader, Willy has been one of the pioneers of industrial cleaning and environmental service providers for so long it is difficult to adequately quantify or qualify the impact that he has had on our industry and its people. However, it is easy to find one of legions of former IWPC employees that will proudly tell you that he or she worked for Willy at Inland.

2019 SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT WINNERS



FIRST PLACE

Graphene Sand Synthesis and Applications in Water Filtration and Desalination

SECOND PLACE

Increasing Soil Fertility via Carbon Sequestration with Slow Release Biochars

THIRD PLACE (2)

Measure the Effect of Earthworms versus Chemical Fertilizer on Grass Growth

This year's EAA ceremony will be on THURSDAY APRIL 18th, 2019 at the DETROIT ATHLETIC CLUB

FOR MORE INFORMATION on event registration and sponsorships, please contact
Executive Director Tricia Wanamaker at emadirector@gmail.com
OR visit our website at <http://www.emaweb.org/events/eaa>