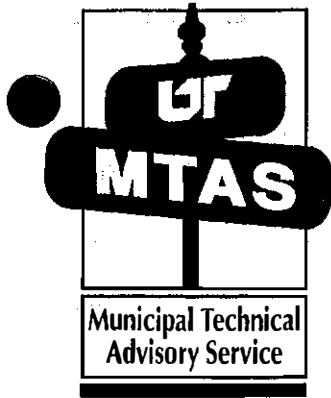




*A University of Tennessee*

# Technical Bulletin

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June 1997

## National Awards Programs Highlight Municipal Strengths

*By David Wysocki, MTAS Intern*

Numerous organizations involved in municipal assistance and advancement sponsor awards programs that recognize accomplishments in all municipal areas.

Tennessee cities are encouraged to apply for awards programs. The local and often national recognition that winning provides can spark economic growth, community cohesiveness, and civic pride. In addition, awards programs stimulate community awareness of social issues and

encourage innovative solutions to problems cities face nationwide.

Often the awards application process can unite organizations and help them make an honest assessment of program strengths and weaknesses. Thus, the application process can be just as rewarding as winning an award.

One of the most prestigious awards earned by cities is the All-America City Award. This program involves an intensive application process that

usually involves the formation of a community-based committee. Awards are given to towns, cities, and neighborhoods that "work together to solve community problems through concerted and effective citizen action."

The Innovations in American Government Awards Program is co-sponsored by the Ford Foundation and Harvard University. Award winners receive national attention for programs that address important local issues.

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### All-America City

**Description:** The All-America City Program is co-sponsored by the National Civic League and the Allstate Foundation. The goal is to encourage and recognize civic excellence by honoring communities of all sizes (cities, towns, neighborhoods, and regions) in which citizens, government, businesses, and voluntary organizations work together to address critical local issues.

Applications are due in March of each year.

#### **Information/Application:**

##### **All-America City Awards Program**

National Civic League

1445 Market Street, Suite 300

Denver, CO 80202-1738

1-800-223-6004

Contact: Dianna Marvell

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## **Christmas Tree Recycling Excellence Awards**

**Description:** The Solid Waste Management Association of North America (SWANA) recognizes Christmas tree recycling programs' outstanding cost effectiveness, recovery rate, quality program promotions and education, and community involvement.

Applications are due in April of each year.

### **Information/Application:**

**SWANA**

P.O. Box 7219

Silver Spring, MD 20907-7219

(301) 585-2898, ext. 235

Contact: Nancy Copen

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## **City Cultural Diversity Awards**

**Description:** Co-sponsored by the constituency groups of the National League of Cities, the awards are given to cities that have demonstrated quality and innovation in initiating creative and effective programs that improve cultural diversity.

### **Information/Application:**

**National League of Cities**

1301 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Washington, DC 20004

(202) 626-3169

Attn: Diversity Awards

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## **City Hall Public Information Awards**

**Description:** The contest honors governments for excellence in communicating with the general public and their employees. The goal of the contest is to encourage the improvement of modern communication techniques by city governments that keep their employees and residents informed about municipal developments. Categories include Periodicals for Employment, Recreation Catalogs, Annual Reports, General/Special Publications, Employee Training Publications, Community Relations Publications, Community Citizen Projects, Video: PSA's for TV, Video: Employee Training Programs, and Video: General Audience.

### **Information/Application:**

**City Hall Communications**

P.O. Box 910

Franklin, NC 28744-910

(704) 369-8678

Fax: (704) 369-8678

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## **Environmental Awards**

**Description:** The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation recognizes the many voluntary efforts throughout the state that improve environmental and conservation stewardship.

**Information/Application:**

State of Tennessee  
Department of Environment and Conservation  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-1551  
1-800-734-3619

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## **Excellence in Affordable Housing Awards**

**Description:** Co-sponsored by the National Affordable Housing Training Institute and the National League of Cities, the award program recognizes successful, exemplary HOME funded projects throughout the nation.

**Information/Application:**

National League of Cities  
1301 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 626-3169

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## **Excellence in Municipal Solid Waste Management Awards Program**

**Description:** The Solid Waste Management Association of North America (SWANA) sponsors this awards program in order to encourage outstanding management practices and innovation in solid waste management.

Applications are due in April of each year.

**Information/Application:**

SWANA  
P.O. Box 7219  
Silver Spring, MD 20907-7219  
(301) 585-2898, ext. 235  
Contact: Nancy Copen

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## **Exemplary State and Local Awards Program**

**Description:** The National Center for Public Productivity (NCPP) and the Graduate Department of Public Administration of Rutgers University sponsor this award program to recognize public initiatives that improve the quality of government services and operations.

Only electronic applications will be accepted and are due in June of each year.

### **Information/Application:**

The application can be accessed and submitted via the Internet at the following addresses:

<http://newark.rutgers.edu/~ncpp/ncpp.html>

<http://www.login-localgov.com/com/ncppexsl.html>

For further information contact:

Graduate Department of Public Administration  
701 Hill Hall, 360 King Blvd.  
Rutgers University  
Newark, NJ 07102  
(201) 648-1351

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## **Grassroots Government Leadership Award**

**Description:** The National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT) presents awards to local officials whose community services exhibits dedication, creativity, ability, and leadership. Leaders who are association members from towns, townships, and other small governments with populations of 10,000 or less are eligible.

### **Information/Application:**

**NATaT**

1522 K Street NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 737-5200

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## **IACP Civil Rights Award**

**Description:** The IACP Civil Rights Award is given to a law enforcement agency, unit, or individual in recognition of exceptional innovation in the investigation, elimination, and/or prevention of civil rights violations. In presenting the award, the association seeks to honor relentless dedication to containing and minimizing the number and serious effect of hate crimes perpetrated in communities throughout the world.

Applications are due in April of each year.

### **Information/Application:**

**Civil Rights Committee**

**IACP Headquarters**

515 N. Washington St.  
Alexandria, VA 22314

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## ICMA Awards

**Description:** Created to recognize exemplary local government professionals and innovative programs. ICMA presents the awards for program excellence, career development, public safety programs, and exemplary efforts to improve the local democratic process.

Applications are due in April of each year.

**Information/Application:**

**ICMA Annual Awards Program**  
777 North Capitol Street, NE, #500  
Washington, DC 20002-4201  
(202) 289-4262

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## **Innovation Awards**

**Description:** The Innovation Awards program recognizes exemplary local government sponsored programs. The topics of the competition varies from year to year, but have included Economic Adjustment, Criminal Justice Programs, and Community Collaboration.

**Information/Application:**

**National League of Cities**  
1301 Pennsylvania, Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 626-3181  
Contact: Nathan Ridnour

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## Innovations in American Government

**Description:** The program was founded in 1985 by the Ford Foundation to honor exemplary programs that address important social and economic issues and to foster their replication. Applications are encouraged from all levels of government and from large and small jurisdictions.

Applications are due in January of each year.

**Information/Application:**

**Innovations in American Government**  
Taubman Center for State and Local Government  
John F. Kennedy School of Government  
Harvard University  
79 JFK Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138  
(617) 495-0558

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## **James C. Howland Urban Enrichment Awards**

**Description:** This award program highlights and encourages the efforts that have preserved and enriched the environmental quality of life of cities and towns. The awards are sponsored by the National League of Cities and CH2M HILL.

**Information/Application:**

**National League of Cities**  
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 626-3181  
Contact: Nathan Ridnour

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## **NACo Achievement Award Program**

**Description:** The National Association of Counties Achievement Award Program promotes county government initiatives that have improved service delivery, achieved greater cost efficiency, provided finer customer service, and helped to develop a better trained workforce. Awards are made in more than 20 categories.

**Information:**

**National Association of Counties**  
440 First Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 393-6226

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## **NACo Disability Award**

**Description:** The National Association of Counties in collaboration with the National Organization of Disabilities honors counties serving disabled Americans. The goal is to encourage members to strive toward active participation of people with disabilities in communities across the country.

Nominations are due in March of each year.

**Information:**

**National Association of Counties**  
440 First Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 942-4246  
Contact: Kelly Schulman

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## **NACo Multicultural Diversity Award**

**Description:** The National Association of Counties honors county governments for their efforts to promote cultural awareness. Nominations should be made for county programs that recognize and highlight the dynamics of our diverse society. Example programs include staff training to foster cultural awareness; ethnic festivals which bring the community together; museum or gallery exhibits of ethnic artistry; or celebrations of contributions made by racial or ethnic minorities.

Nominations are due in March of each year.

**Information:**

**National Association of Counties**  
440 First Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 942-4279  
Contact: Peggy Beardslee

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## National Preservation Awards

**Description:** Each year, the National Trust for Historic Preservation celebrates the "best of preservation." The awards recognize the efforts of individual, local organizations, and corporations whose skill and determination have given new meaning to their communities through preservation.

Nominations are due in May of each year.

### **Information/Application:**

**National Preservation Award Coordinator**  
**National Trust for Historic Preservation**  
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 588-6039

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## **Neighborhood Partnership Awards**

**Description:** The purpose of this award is to recognize and encourage the diverse collaborative initiatives that have been undertaken by representatives of the supermarket industry and local governments to enhance economic and social viability of neighborhoods.

Applications are due in February of each year.

### **Information/Application:**

**National League of Cities**  
1301 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 626-3181

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## **NII Awards**

**Description:** Sponsored by industry, government, and community leaders, the National Information Infrastructure (NII) Awards recognize and honor superior accomplishment in applications of the Internet and information superhighway. The awards program celebrates those projects that show the world the power and potential of networked and interactive communications.

### **Information:**

**E-mail NII Awards:** [info@gii-awards.com](mailto:info@gii-awards.com)  
**E-mail NII Staff:** [staff@gii-awards.com](mailto:staff@gii-awards.com)

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## **PTI Technology Awards**

**Description:** The PTI Achievement Awards and the PTI Technology Awards are open to PTI member cities and counties. The goal of the awards programs is to encourage innovations in the use of technology to improve municipal or county operations and improve service to citizens. Categories include Telecommunications and Information, Energy/Environment/Sustainable Development, Finance, Management, Transportation, and Leisure Services.

### **Information/Application:**

**PTI**  
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 626-2400  
1-800-852-4943

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## **PRSA Silver Anvil Awards**

**Description:** The Public Relations Society of America sponsors this award program that recognizes outstanding public relations programs. There are several categories including government programs.

Applications are due in March of each year.

**Information/Application:**

**PRSA**  
Silver Anvil Awards  
33 Irving Place, 3rd Floor  
New York, NY 10003  
<http://www.prsa.org>

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## **Rebuild Tennessee**

**Description:** Sponsored by the Rebuild Tennessee Coalition, this award program recognizes entries that strive to build public awareness, encourage government action, promote innovative financing, and foster joint cooperation for quality infrastructure investment.

Nominations are due in November of each year.

**Information:**

**Rebuild Tennessee**  
P.O. Box 40645  
Nashville, TN 39204  
(615) 741-2335

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## **3CMA Savvy Awards**

**Description:** The City-County Communications and Marketing Association recognizes innovative cities that reinforce and strengthen community through the use of creative citizen outreach and community visioning programs that utilize such techniques as videos, online services, newsletters, and annual reports.

**Information/Application:**

**3CMA**  
P.O. Box 20278  
Dulles International Airport  
Washington, DC 20041  
(202) 488-7100

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## **TML Achievement Awards**

**Description:** The Tennessee Municipal League recognizes cities throughout Tennessee for their progress and exceptional programs. Award recipients are recognized each year in June at TML's annual conference. Most nominations are made by MTAS field consultants who witness cities' accomplishments.

**Information:**

Tennessee Municipal League  
226 Capitol Blvd., Suite 710  
Nashville, TN 37219-1894  
(615) 255-6416

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## **The Three Star Program**

**Description:** The Tennessee Three Star Program for the Community Economic Preparedness is designed to assist small communities in their efforts to prepare for economic development, and as a result, become more attractive locations for economic enterprises. The goals of the program include the preservation of employment, the creation of new employment opportunities, the improvement of Tennessee family incomes, and the opportunity for all Tennesseans to improve their quality of life.

**Information:**

**Department of Economic and Community Development**  
6th Floor Rachel Jackson Building  
320 6th Ave  
Nashville, TN 37243-0405  
(615) 741-2373

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## **Tree City USA**

**Description:** Sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation, Tree City USA provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in communities of every size.

Call our write for the *Tree City USA* booklet.

**Information:**

**The National Arbor Day Foundation**  
100 Arbor Avenue  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
(402) 474-5655

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## **Water Environment Federation Honors and Awards**

**Description:** The Water Environment Federation recognizes individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to the water environment profession. The purpose of the awards program is to encourage individuals to aid in achieving cleaner waters. Numerous awards are presented to both individuals and organizations. Selections are made by subcommittees of the WEF.

Nomination forms are due by the first week of April. However, some of the awards may have other specific due dates.

**Information/Application:**

**Water Environment Federation**  
Federation Awards Department  
601 Wythe Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-1994  
(703) 684-2477



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The University of Tennessee  
Municipal Technical Advisory Service  
Conference Center Building, Suite 120  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-4105

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