



CONFERENCE / AWARDS COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

Conference Committee

The Conference is typically the organization's largest fund raiser and networking opportunity of the year. The Committee is chaired by two (2) board members, two (2) or more general members and will include, from time-to-time, involvement from all members of the Board. It generally begins meeting at least nine (9) months prior to the Conference, has monthly meetings for the full committee and additional meetings of the subcommittees. The IRF Annual Meeting is normally held during the Conference.

Subcommittees that have formed in the past include: Agenda (includes topic identification and speaker search); Entertainment; Workshop; Tour (includes transportation arrangements); Keynote Speaker Search; Finance; Awards. The President is kept informed and some items are subject to Executive Committee approval.

Awards Committee

The Committee typically consists of at least one (1) board member and two (2) additional members from the Board or the membership.

Each year the Board establishes award categories for the year's awards and criteria or examples of accomplishments that qualify recipients of each award. Reach out to board members and general membership in advance of the Annual Meeting to solicit nominations for award recipients. Select award recipients and submit to full board for approval. Recipients are recognized at the Annual Meeting; in the case of the Recycler of the Year award with an engraved award; in the case of other awards an engraved award, plaque or certificate may be deemed appropriate depending upon type of award and available budget. A brief description of the person's or group's accomplishments for receiving the award is announced at the Annual Meeting. The most prestigious award is the Steve Apotheker Recycler of the Year award. It is given to someone who has dedicated significant time and talents to promote and advance the recycling industry.

Other possible categories used in the past which may be considered:

- Outstanding School Recycling Program. This can be an elementary, middle school or high school program. Activities by environmental clubs, recycling champions, classroom activities or a school-wide effort to reduce-reuse-recycle are examples of how schools earn this award.
- Outstanding Public Sector Recycling Program. This recognizes a community, county or public funded institution for a recycling effort, program or event that successfully achieves or promotes recycling.
- Outstanding Private Sector Recycling Program. This recognizes a company's efforts in initiating, supporting or expanding recycling efforts which show significant results.
- Outstanding Communications or Education Program. This recognizes an educational program to inform or promote recycling, source reduction or re-use programs.

President's Award. Traditionally this award is designated by the President of the IRF to recognize a person, program or effort of significance and does not require committee criteria or approval. IRF will determine if such an Award will be offered in the future.

2021 Committee Members:

Chair, Marta Keane; Members, Mary Margaret Cowhey, Kim Cronin