# Environmental Stewardship Initiative Updates

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#### ESI Overview

### PEER-TO-PEER PROMOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

- DEQ recognition and leadership program
- Free and voluntary
- Promotes outstanding environmental performance and networking
- Support going beyond compliance by conserving natural resources and resulting in economic benefits
- Grown from 28 members in 2002 to 107 members at 210 sites





# Membership Updates



#### 107 members at 210 sites

30 Stewards

10 Rising Stewards (1 new)

65 Partners



#### **Applications**

7 new members since last conference

2 pending

1 new Rising Steward Application



### Membership Overview

























































Jowat 🗃





TWO RIVERS

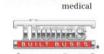
We are TRU to our customers!



**DENSO** 

Crafting the Core











North Z







INAMAR















**AJINOMOTO**<sub>0</sub>



REVLON













































## Environmental Stewards

StanleyBlack&Decker

















































# DEQ/ESI Updates

- Open positions
  - Section Chief
  - 2 coaches
- Completed EJ overview for all Stewards-available by request for other levels
- Added EJ Business Toolkit in new member welcome packet
- Created outreach overview guidance document
- Finalized new online tool annual report submission through Laserfiche
- Shared new employee ESI overview slides to assist with onboarding
- Completed development of individual member profiles
- Updated new Success Stories
- Applied for 2024-2026 EPA P2 grant



Community Involvement Guidance NC Department of Environmental Quality Environmental Stewardship Initiative

As members of the Environmental Stewardship Initiative, you've shown a commitment to going beyond the minimum requirements to lead by example. ESI members are a key part of the communities where they do business, and the ESI program encourages members at all levels to engage with their communities.

#### Background

Each level of ESI membership has specific requirements and Rising Stewards and Stewards are reviewed by the ESI Advisory Board for both initial advancement and every 5 years thereafter. At the Steward level, members are required to "have an interactive process for communicating with the local community about environmental program activities and progress toward performance goals." It is encouraged, though not required for Rising Steward or Partner members.

In 2022, the <u>ESI Advisory Roard</u> highlighted the importance of community involvement because ESI Stewards should be known as "good neighbors" within their community. The board requested examples of member outreach activities be shared during the review process for Rising Stewards and Stewards. The board also noted that sharing this information provided valuable benchmarking amongst members. In addition, during a breakout session on community involvement at the 2022 ESI annual conference, members supported development of community involvement guidance.

57% of members reported community involvement activities during the 2022 annual report period.

#### Purnos

This document provides broad categories of environmentally focused community involvement activities including corresponding examples. The examples are not exhaustive and ESI staff are open to discuss your ideas and to connect members who may be conducting similar activities. Since Stewards are required to have interactive community involvement it also highlights which activities are most interactive and would also be considered meaningful involvement should ESI members want to include environmental justice principles in planning future community outreach efforts.

[Intercommental Justice (E) is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. According to the <u>US Environmental Protection Approx (EPA), meaningful involvement means</u>:

- People have an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health;
- . The public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decision;
- Community concerns will be considered in the decision-making process; and
- . Decision makers will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.

In June of 2023, DEQ's EJ program developed a business toolkit reviewed by the Secretary's Environmental Justice and Eguity Advisory Board, NC Department of Commerce, and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina. The ESJ program encourages members to review the <u>Fill Business Toolkit</u> and its recommendations regarding outreach practices. The EJ Business Toolkit outlines resources available to gather information about community composition surrounding an ESJ member's



## Overview of Events

- EBS: Uchiyama Manufacturing America LLC, ProMoss
  - October 2023
- NC State Course mentorship
- Steward/Rising Steward PFAS discussions
  - October 2023 & March 2024
- Chemical Manufacturing networking event
  - April 16 at US EPA
- EMS Module training series
  - June- December
- Advisory Board Meeting
  - Spring & Fall
  - 17 member renewals
- Steward Forum
  - July 2024
- Environmental Symbiosis Meetings with Grifols and Novo Nordisk
  - April & August
- DEACS volunteer days (stream clean up and food bank)
- 4 Conference Booths
  - NCWGA, Wilmington Safety School, NCMA-EEHS, Carolina Star



# 2023 Annual Report Results

- Laserfiche Updates
  - May allow for retrieval of prior year report moving forward
  - Includes save function
  - Password staff can access if forgotten

Reductions	Value	Units	
Material Consumption	54	Tons	
Air Emissions	750	Tons	
Hazardous Waste	2,050	Tons	
Wastewater Pollutants	25,300	Tons	
Landfilled Waste	63,906	Tons	
Greenhouse Gas Emissions*	842,766	Metric Tons CO <sub>2</sub> e	
Energy Use	1,068,305	MMBtu	
Water Use	235,238,400	Gallons	
Wastewater Volume	527,240,672	Gallons	

Reuse	Value	Units	
Biomass Recovery**	1,043	Tons	
Total Recycled Volume	4,242	Tons	

\$6,270,591

**Total Cost Savings** 

<sup>\*\*</sup>Category created for compost/mulch related goals



<sup>\*</sup>Indirect not reported in energy reductions

# ESI Advisory Board

Representation	Organization	Term (end date)	Representative	Term	Steward
Academia	NCSU	9/30/2027	Dr. William Paige	Second	No
Agribusiness	Smithfield Packing - Wilson	12/31/2024	Brandon Farley	First (Rnd 2)	Yes
At Large	TE Connectivity	12/31/2027	Michelle Kareis	Second	Yes
At Large	John Deere Turf Care	12/31/2026	Dan Budreau	Second	Yes
At Large	Firestone Fibers and Textiles	12/31/2026	Rosie Huffman	Second	Yes
Environmental and Citizen NGOs	open				
Industrial Trade Group	NCMA	12/31/2026	Jimmy Carter	Second	No
Large Business	Daimler Trucks North America - Cleveland	12/31/2026	Garrett Christy	Second	Yes
Large Business	Grifols Therapeutic	12/31/2027	David Auge	Second	Yes
Large Business	Leggett & Platt ON64	12/31/2027	Bill Covert	Second	Yes
Local Government	Mecklenburg County Solid Waste	12/31/2024	Darren Steinhilber	First	No
NC DEQ - Chair of ESI	DEQ	Continuous	Andy Miller	Continuous	No
Small Business (Temp)	Uchiyama MFG America LLC	12/31/2025	Teddy Chrisman	First	Yes
Small Business (Temp)	Eaton - Youngsville	12/31/2025	Jarred Botts	First	Yes
State or Federal Facilities	US EPA	12/31/2025	Kaitlin Hartman	First	Yes

## Upcoming Events

- EBS: MCSW
  - December 17
- Environmental Symbiosis Meeting
  - December TBD
- Chemical Manufacturing Sector networking event
  - December-TBD
- EMS Module 5 training
  - November 13
- Steward/Rising Steward PFAS discussion
  - January -TBD
- Fall Advisory Board Meeting
  - November 19<sup>th</sup>
  - 6 members renewal/new RS
- Working to reschedule regional networking event





# Questions



