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## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual NEHA Excellence in Sustainability Award was presented to the City of Plano, Texas

The City of Plano's "Live Green in Plano" program was awarded the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual National Environmental Health Association's (NEHA's) Excellence in Sustainability Award on June 22 at NEHA's Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition in Tucson, AZ. The "Live Green in Plano" program created a culture within the organization that advanced sustainable building practices in both commercial and residential development, as well as future remodel and re-development projects.

Tom Gonzales, chair of NEHA's Sustainability Committee, commented that the City of Plano's program "drastically reduce fuel consumption, air emissions, solid waste, and promoted reusable energy." He also pointed out that it successfully created partnerships with other city and county departments, media outlets, corporations, and the community.

Applicants for NEHA's Excellence in Sustainability Award were scored on ten different attributes:

1. Did the program demonstrate use of the practices that exemplify outstanding creativity or introduce new approaches?
2. Did the applicant clearly demonstrate leadership in the field of sustainability?
3. Is the program environmentally sound and economically feasible?
4. Is the program self-sustaining or is there funding to sustain the program?
5. Does the program result in a significant and measurable environmental benefit?
6. Were quantifiable results presented?

7. Did the program clearly demonstrate the applicant's commitment to environmental excellence?
8. Does the program lend itself to replication by other organizations?
9. Was adequate supporting information provided to support the application?
10. What were the benefits of any outreach efforts?

About NEHA:

The National Environmental Health Association was incorporated in 1937 to create a national professional society for environmental health practitioners. NEHA's mission, "to advance the environmental health and protection professional for the purpose of providing a healthful environment for all" is represented in the services provided for the profession. NEHA serves as a constant resource for the environmental health professional by offering seven national credentials, producing the Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition, publishing the widely-respected and peer-reviewed Journal of Environmental Health, serving as a "one stop shop" for publications in virtually every area of the environmental health field through its online bookstore, providing networking and committee participation opportunities, and developing positions on timely and serious environmental health concerns.

For additional information about NEHA and NEHA's Excellence in Sustainability Program, visit [www.neha.org](http://www.neha.org).

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