

Headlines



Rock Island Receives 2008 Environmental Hero Award from Lt. Governor Pat Quinn

Date: April 21, 2008

On Monday, April 21, 2008 Lt. Governor Pat Quinn celebrated Earth Week in the Council Chambers of Rock Island City Hall. He saluted the City of Rock Island for its forward-looking green initiatives and presented Mayor Mark Schwiebert with a 2008 Environmental Hero Award. This is the City's second Environmental Hero Award. The City was first presented



with one in 2005 for the Rain Gardens for Rock Island Program. Awards are made to recognize the commitment to providing and maintaining a healthful environment for current and future generation in Illinois.

"It is especially important during Earth Week to celebrate the achievements made in greening the State of Illinois," Quinn said. "I salute Rock Island for realizing the importance of making our state more sustainable."

A leader in green initiative, Rock Island has implemented a series of innovative energy solutions, including the purchase of a hydroelectric dam to power city facilities; the creation of the Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT) that offers business owners free advice on sustainable applications; and the creation of the Advanced Technology & Sustainability Consortium (ATSC) to support technology-oriented businesses offering sustainable concepts, processes or products.

"I want to encourage other cities across the Land of Lincoln to follow the lead of Rock Island and make a commitment to sustainable practices and to think green," Quinn said.

Recognizing the importance of environmental sustainability, the Rock Island "Green Team" brings together all city departments to provide creative green practices for local businesses and individuals. "We also see this team as affording an opportunity for saving taxpayer dollars through reduced utility charges, and for exploring new opportunities for economic growth," said Rock Island Mayor Mark Schwiebert. The team's mission is to create a healthier, safer city that encourages and implements sustainable growth and maintenance throughout the community.