

# SURFACE MINE RECLAMATION AWARDS

## The Washington Surface Mine Reclamation Program

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recognizes excellence in reclamation and reclamation-related research by offering annual surface mine reclamation awards. These awards are intended to honor individuals, miners, operators, companies, or government agencies performing exemplary surface mining reclamation or related research in Washington State.



### POTENTIAL AWARD CATEGORIES

- ▶ Best reclamation plan
- ▶ Best small operation reclamation
- ▶ Best public works site reclamation
- ▶ Best segmental reclamation
- ▶ Best land-use-specific reclamation—Non-development subsequent use (forestry, recreation, agriculture)
- ▶ Best land-use-specific reclamation—Development subsequent use (residential, commercial, industrial)
- ▶ Best operator—Company whose efforts have made contributions to successful reclamation
- ▶ Outstanding reclamationist of the year—Individual whose skills and efforts have made contributions to successful reclamation
- ▶ Good neighbor—Company or individual who works unselfishly with neighbors, community, and (or) tribes in a spirit of cooperation and mutual benefit
- ▶ Most innovative reclamation techniques—Possible examples include planting techniques, topsoil preservation and usage, site contouring, or other BMPs that could be applied elsewhere
- ▶ Best voluntary reclamation—Outstanding reclamation of mined land not subject to the Surface Mining Act



SCAN TO READ MORE!

DNR will honor as many as three individuals or entities per year by issuing an award to each that may include one or more of the categories listed above. Nominations for awards can be made by the public, permit holders, tribes, DNR, or other agencies.

**Fill out the nomination form to nominate an individual, business, or agency**

▷ [https://dnr.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2025-12/ger\\_smp\\_awards\\_form\\_2025.pdf](https://dnr.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2025-12/ger_smp_awards_form_2025.pdf)

**DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31 OF EVERY YEAR**

**For more information check out our website:**

<https://dnr.wa.gov/washington-geological-survey/smp-awards>



WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**  
WASHINGTON  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY