****

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 28, 2018**

Contact:

Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt

SBEAP National Steering Committee Chair

WI Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

Phone: (608) 266-6887

Email: [lisa.ashenbrennerhunt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:lisa.ashenbrennerhunt@wisconsin.gov)

**Brewers Association Receives 2018 Business Assistance Providers Environmental Leadership Award**

The National Steering Committee (NSC) of Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs) & Small Business Ombudsmen (SBO’s) has recognized the National Brewers Association, headquartered in Boulder, Colorado, for its leadership nationwide in the areas of improving environmental performance, pollution prevention, sustainability, and mentoring.

The National Brewers Association was recognized for working with the Colorado SBEAP on their Sustainable Brewing Summit, supporting breweries by providing guidance on energy, solid waste, water and wastewater reduction measures, and creating a benchmarking tool so that craft breweries can anonymously enter environmental efficiency data and compare their progress to others in their industry.

A ceremony was held June 14, 2018, at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) in Denver, Colorado, where the award was presented by Martha Rudolph, Director of Environmental Programs for CDPHE, to Chuck Skypeck, Technical Brewing Projects Manager for the National Brewers Association. Mr. Skypeck and John Steir, Sustainability Mentor for the National Brewers Association, shared "It is extremely exciting for our organization to be recognized for work that by its nature provides gratification. As a member driven organization, it is important to realize that this honor is shared by the large number of brewers that contribute time and resources to position small and independent breweries as environmental leaders in their communities. The association provides the brewing community with extensive resources to help brewers maintain a healthy balance between stewardship, social enrichment and economic vitality including [manuals](https://secure-web.cisco.com/1FbuAtEvszR3kkBNFoIBdbtR7G4yhkWJo7Lcg2ZQrTgLdRombmIkqUicKQ6PXbMJOqmBw7AsJ_ipr96ihCd3bKi9S62-7R-tHUmBVz_Hx0gpmNJED-W8VD8zzYTPptsMhmGNTKHV4qFfVMEGSZHyv0XKodPpf45Mg2DXTZ0sYTp4BOETUUVkfru_zs-1RlAx--JU0usWHvCZrqbV1EGUn9z6YZ_Im4DakashhWTSH8hPu7s8PkfLTTVvlWALLkt9I/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.brewersassociation.org%2Fbest-practices%2Fsustainability%2Fsustainability-manuals%2F), [benchmarking tools](https://secure-web.cisco.com/1fV2mVp3SIhufHp1vzjnbI1b7yvPidBZyZOMis7UWWlNke8Ovs1DMVmWfAIaeo0h6TTfYe_kNwF53wba_SbSupKtUU1fx0HNTHDrl06t709-iCw6UA93I80EMTOMLN2r4VCe_8Zs8tK1HfCbEbukCsb1zpWEDGPZyr1czDxHER1oN5hlUuF-2C98ESj6pgUVtv4GmNSUneUGE-V3klUbxdjAmYrzrqPSFlTuC6-ZbSyCXKP_3z7WOSzINTY0cZFCe/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.brewersassociation.org%2Fbest-practices%2Fsustainability%2Fsustainability-benchmarking-tools%2F) and [mentoring](https://secure-web.cisco.com/1BTnfDywj1owuH29GFctQrBrogUb-HxsOY0cAFlet0DU6CTD4XJol4pOY6fxFngOszD_BLzq7hXsw2-w5xqM5E_WkBPx5NrUibaPxzWtQ-61lr4I0TvY3CKQe8WXs7werlm1sjfweMLAcJJk9aFjMiMvOu6-4_Q4n3vj5SRR64BYiqdGNXbXzF1RvbkS0D-9m9vZGvV4rZKZl5jZMcezy8SA_HNbRCmv_OPIMG6SoBP8JxLe_z_-OtMthBmXZqabm/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.brewersassociation.org%2Fbest-practices%2Fsustainability%2Fsustainability-mentor%2F).”

"We probably learned as much or more from the National Brewer's Association than the assistance we were able to provide; it is the collaboration between all of us that made the CO Brewers Summit such a rewarding experience," said Kaitlin Urso, Small Business Assistance Program at CDPHE.

The SBEAP/SBO NSC Awards are the States’ premier awards program for recognizing outstanding environmental leadership among small businesses and small business assistance providers. These awards recognize small businesses, SBEAP/SBO programs and individuals, trade associations and other business assistance providers who have made significant contributions to protecting the environment. The awards program is sponsored by the SBEAP/SBO NSC in partnership with U.S. EPA Asbestos and Small Business Office.

The NSC Awards were presented at the 2018 Annual SBEAP Training in the Washington, D.C. area in conjunction with National Small Business Week, May 1-3, 2016.

The NSC would also like to recognize Rivanna Natural Designs for their creative awards and their continued support of green manufacturing. For more information on Rivanna Natural Designs please visit [www.rivannadesigns.com](http://www.rivannadesigns.com).

More information about the state SBEAP/SBO is available at <https://nationalsbeap.org/>.

###

**About the Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs and Small Business Ombudsmen**

*The Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAP) and Small Business Ombudsmen (SBO) were created under Section 507 of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. For more than 25 years, the SBEAP/SBO have provided extensive, hands-on technical assistance to small businesses across the country to help them understand and comply with complex environmental regulations. The SBEAP/SBO website,* <https://nationalsbeap.org/>*, is a resource for program participants and small businesses. Find your state specific contact at*: <https://nationalsbeap.org/states>