



California Stormwater Quality Association®

Dedicated to the Advancement of Stormwater Quality Management, Science and Regulation

2026 CASQA Awards: Call for Nominations and Submittal Instructions

Nomination Deadline: Friday, May 29, 2026, by 5:00 PM PST

Purpose

The CASQA Awards Program aims to identify individuals, projects, and programs that exemplify the advancement of [CASQA's Vision for Sustainable Stormwater Management](#). Acknowledging and rewarding outstanding work in the stormwater field elevates those individuals and projects that are making a difference. Recognition of excellence establishes examples for other organizations to aspire to and follow. It creates a bar that can continuously be raised, thereby advancing the stormwater profession.

In addition to projects and programs, people are the heart of CASQA. Rewarding and recognizing their leadership not only respects those who serve (demonstrating our Core Values of Excellence, Respect, and Stewardship), it encourages and inspires others. Achieving our goals requires leadership from so many individuals, including inspiring future leaders to come.

Current CASQA members are invited to nominate a worthy individual, project, or program for an award. All nomination submittals must be submitted in accordance with the submittal instructions provided in this document.

Award Categories

LEADERSHIP

- Geoff Brosseau Leadership Award

PROJECTS OR PROGRAMS

- Outstanding Stormwater BMP Implementation Project or Program
 - Subcategories: Phase I, Phase II, Construction, Industrial
- Outstanding Public Outreach / Engagement Project or Program
- Outstanding Stormwater Science Project or Program
- Outstanding Stormwater Capture and Use Implementation Project or Program
- Outstanding Stormwater Funding Initiative or Financial Strategy
- Outstanding Advancement of True Source Control

STUDENTS

- Stormwater Scholar Award (Note: This award has a separate and specific Call for Applications. It is included here to ensure all members are aware of the availability of the award. Please see the separate [Call for Stormwater Scholar Applications](#) for all applicable details).

Nomination Rules and Guidelines

WHO MAY NOMINATE

- Only current CASQA members may submit an award nomination.
- Membership dues must be current at the time of nomination.

WHO / WHAT MAY BE NOMINATED

- Leadership Award: The nominee must be a current CASQA member with a significant contribution to CASQA.
- All other Award categories: A nominee need not be a member of CASQA or affiliated with a CASQA member. Awardees must be the project owner or implementing entity (e.g., municipality, agency, organization). Consultants, design firms, or vendors may be acknowledged as contributors but may not be designated as the primary award recipient.

LIMIT ON NOMINATIONS

There is no limit on the number of nominations a CASQA member can make in total (e.g., a member can submit multiple projects for an award). However, we do ask that each project is only nominated in one category and to the extent feasible, that each project is nominated only once (e.g., avoid multiple nominations in the same year for the same project; do not submit the same project under multiple categories).

LIMIT ON AWARDS

CASQA reserves the right to determine the number of awards to be made in each category.

REVIEW OF NOMINATIONS

CASQA reserves the right to consider a nomination in additional or different categories. If a nomination is considered more appropriate for another category, CASQA may request additional information from the nominator to facilitate review in the applicable category.

DUPLICATE SUBMITTALS

In the event that two or more CASQA members nominate the same project for an award, the project would be eligible for only one award at CASQA's discretion (e.g., no multiple awards for the same project).

Content of Nominations

The content of a nomination varies by the award category. There are two types of content: mandatory content and recommended content:

Mandatory Content: All nomination categories include general mandatory content (e.g., name of nominator, name of nominee, contact information, etc.). All categories also include category specific mandatory content which is listed under the requirements for each award category. Failure to submit mandatory content will disqualify a nomination.

Recommended Content: Recommended content may be submitted to highlight the nominee's attributes. Recommended content can be helpful in making a successful nomination (e.g., demonstrating how the project is outstanding). Recommended content must meet the guidelines set by CASQA for media, format, and file size (see How to Submit a Nomination).

NOTES:

- CASQA reserves the right to seek and consider additional content and information from the nominator, the nominee, or other sources.
- CASQA reserves the right to verify information submitted or otherwise obtained regarding any nomination.

Nomination Coordination

Nominators are strongly encouraged to coordinate with their nominees during the nomination process and prior to the submittal of the nomination. CASQA will require that nominees selected to receive awards grant permission to CASQA to display examples of the winning work on the CASQA website and other CASQA publications.

As a condition of eligibility, nominators must agree to assist the Awardee, to the extent necessary, in producing the information and content required for the Awardee to receive the benefits identified below (see Awardee Benefits and Acknowledgments).

Notification and Announcements

All nominations will receive a response from CASQA by early August 2026. For nominations not selected for an award, notification will be provided to the nominator only. For nominations chosen for an award, notification will be provided to both the nominator and the nominee.

CASQA will formally announce awardees in various formats, which may include the Bi-Weekly Update, CASQAlert, social media posts, press releases, etc. Awardees may not publicize their award selection until after CASQA's formal announcement is made.

Awardee Benefits and Acknowledgments

2026 CASQA ANNUAL CONFERENCE – OCTOBER 26-28, 2026, IN SACRAMENTO, CA

- Awardees will be presented with a physical award during the conference plenary session.

Awardees will be invited to develop a **2-minute video** that highlights the project / program. All awardee videos will be shown during the conference plenary session (this benefit is optional but strongly encouraged).

Awardees will be invited to develop a poster to feature the project / program in the conference Poster Session. If an awardee's abstract was submitted and accepted, it will be identified as an awardee in the Technical program. Technical presentations are NOT a benefit of receiving a CASQA Award. (Please note the conference abstract submittal deadline: May 4, 2026.)

- Awardees will be featured in the conference program.
- Awardees will receive a graphic for use in promotional materials (e.g., annual reports and social media posts). Awardees may not use CASQA's logo for this purpose.

AWARD PRESENTATION IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

- Ceremonial award presentations in the local community (e.g., Council Meeting, Board Meeting, Company Meeting, etc.) may be arranged with CASQA (to occur after the conference).

How to Submit a Nomination

All nominations must be submitted via [CASQA's website](#). Nominations WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED via email or other means.

Certain mandatory content must be entered into the form on CASQA's website (e.g., information about the nominee, nominator, name of the project). Other mandatory content (e.g., the information to be evaluated) must be uploaded as a PDF, image, video, or audio file. The file size is limited to 10 MB. Videos are limited to a maximum 5-minute duration (hyperlink must be included within the uploaded PDF file). See each award category for specific requirements.

Nomination Deadline

Complete nominations must be received by **Friday May 29, 2026**. CASQA reserves the right to extend the deadline by notice on the CASQA website.

Submittal Acknowledgment

Upon submittal, the nominator will receive a submittal acknowledgment via email.

Questions

- Send via email only to: CASQA@casqa.org
- Subject: Question: 2026 CASQA Award Nomination
- Content: Include your name, your question, and telephone number

Geoff Brosseau Leadership Award

This is CASQA's top award, named after CASQA's first Executive Director, Geoff Brosseau. It is awarded to a member that has shown outstanding leadership within CASQA and has made exceptional contributions to the stormwater profession over a significant time period.

Nominees must be current members of CASQA.

Award Selection Evaluation Criteria: Include but are not limited to:

- In what ways has the nominee demonstrated exceptional leadership in CASQA?
- How has the nominee significantly impacted and influenced the stormwater profession?
- How does the nominee exemplify exceptional character and integrity?

Mandatory Content:

An award proposal that addresses all of the following information (note: the award proposal must be uploaded and submitted as a PDF file not to exceed 10 MB) via [CASQA's website](#):

- Description of the individual's exceptional leadership contributions to the stormwater profession, demonstrating the qualities in the Evaluation Criteria above.
- Background information on the nominee similar in content to a professional resume, including degrees, employment, professional accomplishments, personal accomplishments, professional involvement, CASQA project references, and community service.
- Personal and professional references, including the name, agency / company, address, and contact information for each reference. A minimum of 3 references shall be provided. These references should be able to speak to the accomplishments identified in the nominee's background information (e.g., resume), and have first-hand knowledge of or experience with the nominee's work.
- Letters of recommendation. A minimum of 3 recommendations must be provided. Letters of recommendation should speak to the nominee's demonstration of the qualities in the Evaluation Criteria and have first-hand knowledge of or experience with the nominee's work. The authors of the letters of recommendation may not be the same individuals as those providing the required personal or professional references.

Outstanding Stormwater BMP Implementation Project or Program

Subcategories: Phase I, Phase II, Construction, Industrial Stormwater

This is CASQA's award for outstanding stormwater BMP implementation. There are four separate award categories for each major stormwater program: Phase I, Phase II, Construction, and Industrial. The subcategories will be assessed separately.

Projects or programs may be either public or private and must have been placed into operation at least 6 months prior to the deadline for submittal of nominations.

Note: Stormwater Capture and Use is a separate award category. Stormwater capture projects should NOT be submitted under this category.

Award Selection Evaluation Criteria: Include but are not limited to:

- Is the BMP effectively integrated into the target site or program?
- Does the BMP target the project priority pollutants of concern or conditions of concern?
- Does the BMP achieve the intended objectives and/or provide valuable results (e.g., monitoring data)?
- Does the BMP include outstanding and / or exemplary elements that distinguish the project from other BMPs?

Mandatory Content: An award proposal that includes all of the following information **and addresses the Evaluation Criteria** (note: the award proposal must be uploaded and submitted as a PDF file not to exceed 10 MB) via [CASQA's website](#):

- Description of the project, including:
 - Type of project (e.g., detention basin, stormwater treatment facility)
 - Location (e.g., site address and/or a detailed location map)
 - Description of the size, extent, and/or area served by the BMP
 - Date BMP was placed into operation (must precede the nomination cutoff date)
- Demonstration of how the project meets each of the Evaluation Criteria
- Identification of the BMP design, development, construction, operation, and implementation team(s).
- Assessment of the BMP's effectiveness (e.g., a summary of measured pollutant reduction, a summary of measured changes in behavior, etc.). Where applicable, nominations should include quantitative data demonstrating outcomes (e.g., pollutant reduction, participation rates, funding secured, behavior change).

If quantitative data are not available, nominators should provide qualitative or proxy measures that reasonably demonstrate effectiveness and impact.

Recommended Content:

- Videos or photographs of the BMP implementation project or program. Video content must not exceed 5 minutes.
- Description of any mass media or professional paper, presentation, magazine, or journal coverage.

Outstanding Public Outreach / Engagement Project or Program

This is CASQA's award for outstanding public outreach and engagement for a stormwater project or program. Projects or programs may be either public or private and must be released to the public or published prior to the deadline for submittal of nominations. Outstanding outreach projects and programs educate communities on stormwater as a resource and how to protect local waterbodies and watersheds. They raise awareness and change behavior.

Note for 2027: CASQA will add a Rain Ready subcategory to recognize organizations that have advanced and elevated the Rain Ready outreach program in exemplary ways.

Award Selection Evaluation Criteria: Include but are not limited to:

- Did the program / project raise awareness and / or change behavior?
- Did the project or program focus on stormwater as a resource and / or how to protect local waterbodies and watersheds?
- Did the program / project incorporate elements that amplify Rain Ready California and / or other elements of CASQA's Vision for Sustainable Stormwater Management?
- Were there measurable results documented for the program / project?
- Did the program / project have the intended impact on the target audience?
- What was the level of creativity of the program / project?
- Does the outreach / engagement project or program include outstanding, innovative, or exemplary elements that distinguish it from other outreach / engagement projects or programs?

Mandatory Content: An award proposal that includes all of the following information and addresses the Evaluation Criteria (note: the award proposal must be uploaded and submitted as a PDF file not to exceed 10 MB) via [CASQA's website](#):

- Description of the project / program, including:
 - Type of outreach / engagement (e.g., social media, traditional media outreach, collaboration opportunities, passive or direct community outreach, etc.).
 - Date program/project was initiated and completed (must precede the award nomination due date).
 - Description of the target audience and its size.
- Demonstration of how the project / program meets each of the Evaluation Criteria.
- Identification of individuals engaged in the creation and / or implementation of the project / program.
- Photographs and / or links to the Public Outreach / Engagement Project or Program.
- Description of results following the outreach/engagement efforts (e.g., increased awareness, calls for information, changes in behavior, including a discussion of how these results were documented).

Recommended Content:

- Videos or photographs of the BMP implementation project or program. Video content must not exceed 5 minutes.
- Description of any mass media or professional paper, presentation, magazine, or journal coverage.

Outstanding Stormwater Science Project or Program

This is CASQA's award for an outstanding stormwater science project or program. Projects or programs may be either public or private and research results must have been published prior to the deadline for submittal of nominations.

Award Selection Evaluation Criteria: Include but are not limited to:

- Were the goals and objectives of the science project or program clearly explained?
- Were the findings and the conclusions clearly explained?
- Was the nature of the project or program exemplary or outstanding?
- Does the project or program provide a benefit for the stormwater community?
- Does the science project or program include outstanding elements that distinguish the project from other science projects or programs?

Mandatory Content: An award proposal that includes all of the following information and addresses the Evaluation Criteria (note: the award proposal must be uploaded and submitted as a PDF file (not to exceed 10 MB) via [CASQA's website](#)):

- Description of the project / program, including:
 - Type of science project or program (e.g., BMP program study, water quality study, BMP effectiveness study).
 - Dates for start and end of the science project (end date must precede the award nomination due date).
 - Description of the size, extent, and area covered by the science project or program.
 - A concise summary of the science project or program goals, objectives, findings, conclusions, and key recommendations.
- Demonstration of how the project / program meets each of the Evaluation Criteria.
- Complete bibliographic reference to science project or program report including (as applicable) but not limited to identification of the title, authors, publication dates, publisher, etc. The research results must have been made public or published prior to the deadline for submittal of nominations.

Recommended Content:

- Videos or photographs of the BMP implementation project or program. Video content must not exceed 5 minutes.
- Description of any mass media or professional paper, presentation, magazine, or journal coverage.

Outstanding Stormwater Capture and Use Project or Program

This is CASQA's award for outstanding stormwater capture and use projects or programs. Projects / programs may be either public or private and must have been placed into operation prior to the deadline for submittal of nominations.

Award Selection Evaluation Criteria: Include but are not limited to:

- Are there multiple benefits realized by this project (water supply, pollutant load reduction to receiving waters, mitigation of localized flooding/combined sewer overflows or others)?
- Does the project or program accomplish quantifiable water supply benefits (e.g. groundwater recharge; managed addition of stormwater to wastewater recycling systems; treatment and onsite use; or other offsets to the use of potable water)?
- Does the project provide community benefits (e.g., additional open space, green street, street trees)?
- Does the project exemplify the three indicators of sustainability (environmental responsibility, social equity and economic success)?
- Does the project or program address priority pollutants of concern or conditions of concern?
- Does project or program achieve the intended objectives and / or provide valuable results?
- Does the project or program include other outstanding elements that distinguish the project from other stormwater capture projects?

Mandatory Content: An award proposal that includes all of the following information and addresses the Evaluation Criteria (note: the award proposal must be uploaded and submitted as a PDF file not to exceed 10 MB) via [CASQA's website](#):

- Description of the project / program, including:
 - Location (e.g., site address and/or a detailed location map or program focus area).
 - Description of the size, extent, and area served by the project / program.
 - Date project was completed, or program was initiated (must precede the award nomination due date).
 - Narrative / description of the multiple benefits realized by this project (stormwater reuse, water conservation, groundwater recharge, water reclamation, or green building).
 - Narrative / description of community benefits (e.g., additional open space, green street, street trees).
- Demonstration of how the project / program meets each of the Evaluation Criteria.
- Supporting materials of the project / program (e.g., photographs, video).
- Identification of the design, development, construction, operation, and implementation team(s).

Recommended Content:

- Videos or photographs of the BMP implementation project or program. Video content must not exceed 5 minutes.
- Description of any mass media or professional paper, presentation, magazine, or journal coverage.

Outstanding Stormwater Funding Initiative or Financial Strategy

This is CASQA's award for outstanding stormwater funding initiatives and financial strategies. Projects / programs must have been placed implemented prior to the deadline for submittal of nominations.

Award Selection Evaluation Criteria: Include but are not limited to:

- Did the Funding Initiative or Financial Strategy result in significantly new resources for a stormwater program?
- Did the Funding Initiative or Financial Strategy employ new, novel, or creative approaches to funding a stormwater project or program?
- Did the Funding Initiative or Financial Strategy result in a new dedicated source of funding for a stormwater program?
- Did the Funding Initiative or Financial Strategy leverage resources from other partners/ collaborators to implement a stormwater project or program that would distinguish the approach from existing funding strategies (e.g., is it outstanding and advancing the field of sustainable stormwater management)?

Mandatory Content: An award proposal that includes all of the following information and addresses the Evaluation Criteria (note: the award proposal must be uploaded and submitted as a PDF file not to exceed 10 MB) via [CASQA's website](#):

- Description of the project / program.
- Demonstration of how the project / program meets each of the Evaluation Criteria.
- Identification of the funding sources and any collaborators.
- Description of the resources that have been realized (e.g., how much funding was raised in the strategy? How much ongoing funding will result from the initiative?).
- Description of how the funding will be used to advance sustainable stormwater management.

Recommended Content:

- Videos or photographs of the BMP implementation project or program. Video content must not exceed 5 minutes.
- Description of any mass media or professional paper, presentation, magazine, or journal coverage.

Outstanding Advancement of True Source Control

This is CASQA's award for significant contributions to advance the field of True Source Control for pollutants of importance in stormwater.

Award Selection Evaluation Criteria: Include but are not limited to:

- Was a specific milestone achieved that clearly shows progress toward true source control, such as establishment of a regulation, ordinance, policy, or a commitment from a manufacturer?
- If establishing specific pollutant controls, are measurable results documented or quantitatively predicted?
- What is the level of significance to stormwater of the controlled pollutant(s)?
- What was the nominee's role in achieving the cited progress?

Mandatory Content: An award proposal that includes all of the following information and addresses the Evaluation Criteria (note: the award proposal must be uploaded and submitted as a PDF file not to exceed 10 MB) via [CASQA's website](#):

- Description of the project / program, including:
 - The method for implementing true source control (e.g., regulation, ordinance, policy, commitment from a manufacturer).
 - Description of the achievement, including a discussion of why it is exemplary or outstanding.
- Demonstration of how the project / program meets each of the Evaluation Criteria.
- Identification of individuals and organizations who contributed to the success of the project or program.

Recommended Content:

- Videos or photographs of the BMP implementation project or program. Video content must not exceed 5 minutes.
- Description of any mass media or professional paper, presentation, magazine, or journal coverage.