

Re: The 2025 Environmental Stewardship Award

Good evening, everyone. My name is Matt Ross, and I am the current Chairman of the Lower Makefield Twp. Board of Supervisors.

Tonight, I have a pleasant duty to perform the presentation of the 2025 EAC Environmental Stewardship Award. The award includes a \$1000 stipend, has been in effect over 18 years and recognizes outstanding, creative environmental efforts that have made significant contributions to the quality of life in our town.

The winner of the 2025 Environmental Stewardship award is the Refillery. Located in the heart of Yardley, the Refillery has the distinction of being the first refill shop in Bucks County. The Refillery store is based on the simple concept of Low Waste Living. Customers bring in their own containers and fill them with quality bulk essential goods. All products are sold by weight, so you only have to buy what you need. And, since their opening in September 2023, they have diverted over 50,000 containers that would have ended up in landfills. Wow, that is simply amazing.

Since the Refillery is a for-profit business the award guidelines stipulate that the \$1000 award stipend be given to a local environmental entity chosen from a selected list. The Refillery chose the Delaware River Keeper Network as the recipient of the \$1000 stipend. The River Keeper Network was established in 1988 and their mission is to "Champion the right of our communities to a Delaware River and tributary streams that are free flowing, clean, healthy and abundant with a diversity of life". Good choice Refillery.

I would personally like to thank all of you for attending tonight and being a part of this celebration.

After the award ceremony it would be fitting if the award recipients would introduce themselves and say a few words about their agency/business and being chosen for the award.

At this time the formal award ceremony will begin. Will all the recipients please come forward to the right side of the dais.

JJB 2-12-26