**NOMINATION FORM:**

**2023 REFUGE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**

**The deadline for submission is Friday, March 17, 2023.**

Each year when the nominations are reviewed, we are always impressed that the National Wildlife Refuge System seems to bring out the best in everyone! The things that people do for national wildlife refuges all over the country are incredible and we appreciate the time that you are taking to tell others what your nominee has done to deserve an award.  Our reviewers have a tough job of selecting the top one in each category and that is always hard! That makes your job as a nominator critical to making sure that your nominee gets all the credit that they deserve.

We have found that many of the best-written nominations are group efforts, where several people work together on the application. Not only does this spread out the workload, but it also helps ensure that all the nominee’s accomplishments get included. Metrics are always helpful as well. We know that this will help your nomination. Just be certain that the same project/activity isn’t duplicated throughout the nomination form.

**Electronic nominations are required.**

Include any additional information that you feel would be helpful to the selection committee in their review of the specific evaluation categories.  Photos are okay but entire newsletters and brochures are discouraged. Endorsement letters that repeat material already covered without adding substance to the nomination are also discouraged.

To submit your nomination, please email the completed form to Debbie Harwood at [dharwood@refugeassociation.org](mailto:dharwood@refugeassociation.org). You will receive email confirmation that your nomination has been received.

Questions? Email [Debbie Harwood](mailto:dharwood@refugeassociation.org)

**NOMINATION FORM:**

**2023 Refuge Volunteer of the Year Award**

**The deadline for submission is Friday, March 17, 2023.**

This award recognizes outstanding accomplishments of volunteers in support of the operation and management of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The award will be presented to a volunteer or pair of volunteers who are judged to be the most outstanding of the candidates nominated based on the accomplishments and attributes in the evaluation categories outlined on the next page. \**To clarify, Friends Group members who also volunteer at a refuge are eligible for this award.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Nominee or Nominees: |  |
| Nominee’s Mailing Address: |  |
| Nominee’s Telephone Number: |  |
| Nominee’s Email address: |  |
| Refuge: |  |
| Refuge Mailing Address: |  |
| Refuge Telephone Number: |  |
| Refuge Manager: |  |
| Refuge Manager’s Email Address: |  |
| **Nominated By** |  |
| Name: |  |
| Title/Relationship to Nominee: |  |
| Mailing Address: |  |
| Email Address: |  |
| Telephone Number: |  |
| Date: |  |

Please describe the accomplishments and attributes of the nominee in each of the following evaluation categories.

**Electronic nominations are required.**

***Nominations that do not follow the outline below will be returned.***

1. Commitment to conservation of our natural resources and refuge management that demonstrates:

a. Personal Dedication.

b. Effective use of job talents.

2. Superior skills in organization that support resource protection and management, such as:

a. Training and mentoring other volunteers.

b. Experience assisting the refuge staff in accomplishing a variety of tasks.

3. Innovation in handling refuge assignments that include the use of new ideas/approaches and problem solving.

4. Effectiveness in dealing with the public, other volunteers and other refuge users as demonstrated by specific accomplishments.

5. Dependability as demonstrated by years of service, support of refuge programs, integrity and recognition by others for refuge volunteer service.