

# PA Environment Digest

## An Update On Environmental Issues In PA

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Winner 2009 [PAEE Business Partner](#) Of The Year Award

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### **Gov. Ridge To Be Honored By 10,000 Friends For Smart Growth Initiatives**

[10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania](#) is honoring Gov. Tom Ridge with Mark C. Schneider Award for his Smart Growth initiatives and to celebrate his accomplishments as Governor as part of its Commonwealth Awards Program.

A special event will be [held on June 19](#) at the Crowne Plaza in Harrisburg to honor Gov. Ridge.

Among the landmark achievements of Gov. Ridge's gubernatorial administration were the creation of the 21st Century Environment Commission, the Interagency Land Use Team, the Growing Greener initiative and numerous departmental initiatives to preserve open space and green space, promote sound land use, and reinvest programmatically in existing communities.

As his administration advanced environmental and "green" initiatives before they were commonplace and commonly accepted, please join us in honoring the leadership, vision, commitment, and dedication

Gov. Ridge has shown through a lifetime of service in government, as an elected official, and in the private sector to the cause of protecting and preserving Pennsylvania's natural resources, promoting responsible land use, and revitalizing our existing communities.

10,000 Friends is the leading statewide voice for great places to live and work. As the leading advocate for responsible land use, we work with citizens, organizations, and public officials to create land use, infrastructure, and governance policies, projects, and practices that protect our resources, strengthen our economy, and improve our quality of life.

The group supports local and state government agencies, regional and community leaders, private firms and practitioners working to preserve or build great places.

The Mark C. Schneider award, formerly known simply as the "Friend of Pennsylvania" award, is 10,000 Friends' highest honor. The award, which honors the exemplary service and contributions of our late friend and Board Chairman, is exclusive-only seven have been awarded since the

Commonwealth Awards began in 2003.

The Mark C. Schneider Award is given "In Recognition of Exemplary and Outstanding Contributions to Policies and Projects that Advance the Vision and Mission of 10,000 Friends to Improve the Quality of Life for all Pennsylvanians through Responsible and Efficient Land Use."