

# NEWS RELEASE

**Contact: Jeff Cowen, Community Liaison, (775) 589-5278**

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## **TRPA SEEKING BEST IN THE BASIN NOMINEES**

**Lake Tahoe, CA/NV** – The nomination period is open for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency’s 2011 Best in the Basin awards program, which annually recognizes environmentally compatible projects in the Tahoe Basin that stand out as the best designed, planned and implemented.

The Best in the Basin program calls attention to projects of all categories – from natural restoration to commercial or residential construction – that carry with them environmental net gains for Lake Tahoe and its communities.

For more than two decades, the Best in the Basin program has recognized those property owners, contractors, architects and planners whose work and investment should be held up as examples to follow.

“Lake Tahoe is on a world stage when it comes to integrating environmental stewardship with the projects that are designed and built in and around our communities,” said Jeff Cowen, Best in the Basin program coordinator. “With these awards, we recognize the best of the best.”

The TRPA also initiated this year the Lake Spirit Awards honoring real people making real improvements to restore Lake Tahoe. While the Best in the Basin Awards will continue to recognize outstanding projects, the two award programs together provide a spotlight for extraordinary environmental work being completed throughout Lake Tahoe communities.

The nomination period ends Friday, October 21. Categories are:

- new residential
- residential modification
- rebuild projects

- new commercial
- commercial modification
- commercial rebuild
- shorezone
- green building
- public service
- erosion control
- restoration
- BMP retrofit
- defensible space
- forest fuel reduction
- mixed-use project
- green remodel.

To qualify, projects must have been complete or near completion in the 2011 calendar year and before the close of the nomination period. For an entry form and information about last year's winners, go to [www.trpa.org](http://www.trpa.org).

Winners will be selected by a panel of area professionals in the fields of architecture, landscaping, planning, engineering, and resource management.

Those selected to receive awards will be publicly honored by the TRPA Governing Board in January 2011. Photographs and summaries of the projects will be displayed by the TRPA until the following year's winners are chosen.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency cooperatively leads the effort to preserve, restore, and enhance the unique natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region now and in the future. For additional information, call Jeff Cowen or email to [icowen@trpa.org](mailto:icowen@trpa.org).

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