

The Tim Bunnell Community Hero Recognition Program is created in honor of *Tim Bunnell*, a dedicated long-term advocate for improving the quality of life and health of those who live in and around Harrisburg. Tim understood that protecting groundwater begins with the individual; and that everyone can be impacted by the quality and quantity of available groundwater.

Tim had oversight of his community's drinking water and waste water systems, and truly understood the need to protect groundwater quality for the highest and best use. It was natural for Tim to be elected 10 years ago as the first Chair of the Southern Willamette Valley Groundwater Management Area (SWV GWMA) Committee. Tim was also an essential leader and contributor in the development of the Groundwater Management Area Action Plan, and someone who was always ready to help with the numerous requests asked of him.

This program is created in Tim Bunnell's honor to formally recognize other *Community Heroes* and their passion for protecting groundwater as a vital resource for their community.

Type of Program: Merit Recognition. This award provides recognition for excellence in serving as a leader for groundwater stewardship, or for a demonstrated advocacy or achievement regarding protection of the groundwater resource.

Recognition award eligibility: Affiliates of the Southern Willamette Valley Groundwater Management Area, such as: committee members; volunteers; agency staff; City, County and State staff; and other partners and advocates of this GWMA project.

Description of the recognition award criteria: There is no time table for this award. It may be a once-a-year event, or it could more or less frequent. Candidates for recognition will be evaluated based on their actions, commitment and/or passion for protecting the groundwater resource. Those who make a substantial contribution to groundwater stewardship, and have been or are actively engaged as a leader in their 'community', are eligible candidates for this recognition. Potential candidates can be nominated anytime through the SWV GWMA Coordinator. The recognition selection committee, comprised of SWV GWMA Committee leadership and staff, will make the final decision of any recognition award.

Description of the Award: This recognition program is a non-monetary award. However, at times, the nominating committee may find an appropriate item that highlights the successful partnership and achievements of the recipient.