



# JOHN R. KASICH

GOVERNOR • STATE OF OHIO

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## Communication Department

November 30, 2012

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### **KASICH PRESENTS GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE**

COLUMBUS – Governor John R. Kasich and Ohio Department of Administrative Services Director Bob Blair today recognized the work of outstanding state employees by presenting them with the Governor's Award for Employee Excellence. The awards honored seven employees from four state agencies and commissions and were presented this morning in the State Room of the Ohio Statehouse.

State employees who received the Governor's Award for Employee Excellence were as follows:

#### **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HONOREE: Lee Thatcher**

As a project manager focusing on improving efficiencies that impact the construction industry, Lee Thatcher led a team at the Ohio Department of Commerce through a process of selecting, installing and implementing new computerized systems that coordinate how the Department dispatches inspectors. The new system has reduced the time it takes to issue permits from three days to one, saving valuable time and money for these job creators. The improved system is projected to save the industry more than \$78,000 per year.

#### **OHIO EXPOSITION COMMISSION HONOREE: Chris Buxton**

The landscape designs maintained by the Ohio Exposition Commission are admired each year by the more than 800,000 patrons of the Ohio State Fair, as well as the 2.7 million visitors to the Ohio Expo Center. As a groundskeeper for the Center, Chris Buxton has led an effort to transition away from being dependent on others to grow, harvest and transplant plants and flowers to fulfilling those responsibilities in-house. Buxton's efforts will result in a 75 percent cost savings valued at approximately \$61,000 per year.

#### **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION HONOREE: Dan Kinsel**

Committed to the Southeastern Correctional Institution's mission of saving valuable taxpayer dollars and being good stewards of the environment, Correction Sergeant Dan Kinsel led the team that created a transfer station to sort trash and recyclables, and compost food. Kinsel established the protocols for gathering, sorting and hauling the trash, and elected inmate workers to sort bins from other institutions. Kinsel also identified available resources that were then used to load recyclables on a daily basis, saving storage and delivery time. As a result of these efforts to "go green," the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction estimates that more than \$130,000 has been saved on trash pickup fees and trash bags alone.

#### **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HONOREES: Lisa Bose, Anthony Pamer, Thomas Powell, Jason Young**

When considering the negative impact a predicted two-year, four-mile highway rehab project on I-77 could have on Akron-area residents, business owners and travelers, a project team from the Ohio Department of Transportation set out to find an innovative plan to substantially reduce completion time for this major project. Lisa Bose (project manager), Jason Young (project engineer), Anthony Pamer (area engineer), and Thomas Powell (in-house design manager) developed a plan for the roadwork to be completed in only 56 days. Not only did their work cut more than a year off the construction time, it is estimated that nearly \$20 million was saved by taxpayers and motorists.

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