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Area Media

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Duck River Electric Receives 2006 QVM Project Habitat Award For Responsible Vegetation Management

Duck River Electric has been named as a winner in the 2006 Quality Vegetation Management Project Habitat Awards, announced at the first annual awards banquet in Orlando, FL in January. Partners who worked on the project were also recognized at the banquet and include QVM Certified Applicators Progressive Solutions and Southeast Woodlands.

The QVM Project Habitat Awards is an annual awards program designed to honor quality vegetation management programs across the U.S. It rewards vegetation management professionals that uphold high standards of vegetation management and work by the QVM Principles and Practices.

Entrants competed in 16 categories, including Forestry, Utility, Roadside, Invasive Vegetation Management, Aquatic and Specialty. Submissions were judged on criteria including a description of their vegetation management problem, the solution and the results of their application. They were also asked to evaluate the success of their program and the impact of using a QVM Certified Applicator or other partners.

Entrants had to explain how their project exemplified the QVM Principles and Practice and how they achieved the following: restore and improve plant, animal and human habitats; seek out and support professional certification and technical training; strive to always make a positive environmental change; apply herbicide responsibly using the appropriate amount to achieve the desired results; protect threatened and endangered species; and follow label recommendations.

Duck River's herbicide program helped the utility to combat power outages, customer complaints and provide better access to their rights-of-way. They were able to balance environmental concerns, public needs, safety and cost effectiveness.

"Duck River Electric is a great example of a company that is able to make a positive environmental change through their daily work. By simply making a commitment to maintain a higher standard, they are showing the rest of the industry how you can be successful and responsible at the same time," said Amie Dunn, communications manager for BASF Professional Vegetation Management.