

FORCE recipient of Environmentalist of the Year award | FlamboroughReview.com

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June 17, 2013

Friends of Rural Communities and the Environment (FORCE) is one of two groups being recognized with the Dr. Victor Cecilioni Award for the Environmentalist of the Year for 2012.

The Flamborough-based grassroots anti-quarry group, as well as Friends of the Eramosa Karst (FOTEK), was identified by the Hamilton Environmentalist of the Year Awards Committee as this year's recipients for the group's exemplary actions to organize and defend their community and environment.

FORCE is being recognized for its nearly decade-long battle to successfully stop the construction of a large aggregate quarry in Flamborough.

According to the committee, "FORCE quickly lived up to its acronym and became a powerful force to protecting the whole ecosystem by engaging the community and presenting a professional, science-based response to the quarry proposal."

FOTEK is being recognized for its long-term efforts to save, preserve, expand and enhance the Eramosa Karst lands in Hamilton.

The awards were slated to be presented to both groups, as well as other award recipients, including Robert Edmondson (Lifetime Achievement Award), Elysia Petrone, Horizon Utilities Corporation and The Windermere Basin Wetland Creation Project (Awards of Merit), at the 34th annual Environmentalists of the Year awards dinner on June 5 at the Michelangelo Banquet Centre in Hamilton.