



The Vermont Natural Resources Council (VNRC) is pleased to accept nominations for the 2023 Arthur Gibb Award for Individual Leadership. We seek to honor an individual whose leadership has brought about positive and lasting change in the way communities across the state integrate growth and conservation. The Art Gibb Award was founded in 2006 by Smart Growth Vermont (SGV), which merged with VNRC in July 2011. VNRC protects and enhances Vermont’s natural environments, vibrant communities, productive working landscapes, rural character and unique sense of place. We are committed to continuing the important work of SGV and celebrating the land use leaders who care for these important assets.

A Life Dedicated to Protecting Vermont’s Landscape

Arthur Gibb dedicated much of his life to ensuring that Vermont would be a better place for future generations of Vermonters. Beginning his public service as a “fence viewer” in the town of Weybridge, Arthur went on to serve his community and state in countless ways until his death in 2005 at the age of 97.

Arthur was first elected to the Vermont Legislature in 1962, where he chaired the House Natural Resources Committee. He was deeply involved in passing legislation to ban billboards, enact the state’s bottle deposit law, regulate junkyards and modernize statutes governing local and regional planning.

In 1969, Governor Deane Davis appointed Arthur to chair the Governor’s Commission on Environmental Control, commonly referred to as the “Gibb Commission.” The commission held many public hearings over the summer of 1969. The result of its work was Act 250, Vermont’s pioneering land use law.

In 1971, Arthur moved to the Vermont Senate, where he served successively as Chair of the Natural Resources and Finance committees. He was held in high esteem for creating an atmosphere of mutual respect and building consensus. When he took a position on an issue, there was never a doubt that he was motivated by the best interests of Vermont. At the end of his lengthy service in the Legislature, his colleagues found the funds to commission his portrait. The painting – one of only four on the Statehouse walls that does not honor a former governor or general – is testimony to his imprint on Vermont history.

Arthur also served for twelve years on the Vermont Environmental Board, including a year as Chair at the age of 86. Through service on the Board, which was charged with the administration of Act 250 as well as hearing appeals of Act 250 cases, Arthur once again demonstrated his commitment to maintaining Vermont’s reputation for healthy communities and a clean environment.

An Award Recognizing Vermont's Land Use Leaders

Arthur Gibb's success and reputation as a public servant were directly attributable to his strong character and personal convictions. Every year, in honor of Arthur's legacy of commitment to safeguarding Vermont's values and unique landscape, the Vermont Natural Resources Council recognizes an individual whose leadership, vision and courage has similarly brought about positive and lasting change in integrating growth and conservation.

The Arthur Gibb Award will be presented to a Vermont resident who, in service to community, shares these characteristics while working to implement smart growth principles. Nominations should explain clearly and in detail how a nominee meets each of the criteria listed below. VNRC encourages nominees that represent the diversity of Vermont's residents and communities.

Selection Process

- 1. Nomination**
Citizens from around Vermont nominate candidates
- 2. Evaluation**
A committee made up of colleagues, friends, and family of Arthur Gibb review all applications
- 3. Presentation**
The award is presented at a ceremony hosted by VNRC in the fall

Award Selection Criteria

Leadership and the ability to motivate others around shared goals related to community planning and the preservation of Vermont's landscape, unique sense of place, and economic well-being.

Vision to recognize the challenges facing Vermont's environment, landscape and communities now and in the future, and understand how those challenges can best be addressed through public policy and personal initiative.

Humility, expressed through respect for others, including those holding opposing viewpoints, and a willingness to work cooperatively and share recognition for accomplishments.

Diligent and persistent **Commitment to Public Service** over a sustained period of time.

Creativity in crafting innovative solutions, policies and programs that maintain Vermont's community life and unique sense of place.

The ability to **Balance** competing interests in order to forge consensus and build bridges between those holding opposing views.

Integrity and steadfastness in public service that earns the respect of colleagues, neighbors and diverse interest groups.

2023 Arthur Gibb Award Cover Sheet

Note: PDF contains typeable fields.

Nominee Information

Nominee: _____

Organization (if any): _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Person submitting nomination

Name: _____ Affiliation (if any): _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Submission Requirements Checklist

Please submit, in hard copy or electronically (*electronically preferred*):

- this cover sheet;
- a detailed description of how the individual nominated has brought about positive and lasting change in the way communities around Vermont integrate growth and conservation; and
- two letters of reference from people familiar with the nominee's accomplishments. Letters should include examples and should be included in the application packet.

In both applicant description and reference letters, please be specific about how the individual has demonstrated the characteristics on the previous page. Please limit the narrative to two pages or less.

Materials may be submitted in hard copy or electronically to the addresses below.

All materials must be received by **Thursday, June 1, 2023** to be considered.

Mail to:

Vermont Natural Resources Council
11 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
www.vnrc.org

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS



Questions & Electronic Submissions:

Kati Gallagher
Sustainable Communities
Program Director
(802) 223-2328, x114
kgallagher@vnrc.org