



**2011 Texas Project Learning Tree Outstanding Educator Award
(2011 Texas winner will be nominated for 2012 National PLT Outstanding
Educator Award)**

**Nominations must be received by September 24, 2011
e-mail all nominations to: educationintexas@texasforestry.org**

Nomination Format

1. Background Information (*One page limit*) (2 Points)

Nominee's Name

Title (as it should appear in press releases and other promotion materials)

If a classroom teacher, list the school, subjects and grade levels taught.

If a resource specialist or other nonformal educator, list the organization, professional title, topics typically taught, and associated student age ranges.

Work address, phone number, and email

Home address, phone number, and email

In what year was the nominee first trained in PLT?

Is s/he a PLT Facilitator? If so, in what year did s/he become a facilitator?

2. Letters of Recommendation (*One page limit*) (8 Points)

Please provide two typed one-page letters of recommendation specifically related to this award. The letters of recommendation may be from the PLT State Coordinator, the

nominee's workplace supervisor, or other appropriate colleague. (Please note: As these materials may be submitted as email attachments, some letters of recommendation may not appear on letterhead or be signed. This is acceptable, given the limits imposed by transmitting these documents electronically.)

3. Commitment to Environmental Education and PLT (*One page limit*) (10 Points)

Describe the nominee's commitment to environmental education and Project Learning Tree over the course of his/her career. For example, has the nominee attended more than one PLT workshop, a teachers' tour, summer institute, or other advanced professional development? Support this description with examples, anecdotes, etc. that help demonstrate this commitment to others. You may also include information as to whether the nominee has presented EE sessions at conferences, provided leadership within your State EE Association, advocated for legislation that benefits EE, or received EE or education related awards.

4. PLT Work (*One page limit*) (20 Points):

Provide an example(s) of how the nominee's use of PLT has impacted student learning. Examples might relate to:

- Using PLT as a basis for significantly impacting curricula and/or programs.
- Getting students outside, while learning about environmental concepts and issues with PLT.
- Preparing preservice educators to use PLT with their future classes.
- Increasing student test scores by using PLT.
- Supporting PLT's AKCA (Awareness, Knowledge, Challenge, Action) model.
- Using PLT in environmental service-learning projects (for example, *GreenWorks!* and/or *GreenSchools!*)

5. PLT Outreach (*One page limit*) (20 Points)

Write a description summarizing the level of PLT outreach the nominee has done over the course of his/her career with regard to, for example, providing leadership within the state PLT program; training educators and others in PLT through workshops and other events; promoting PLT to educators and others as an effective environmental education program; etc. For example, has the nominee gained support for implementing PLT and EE with, for example, school principals, superintendents, curriculum supervisors, or other human resources staff?

6. Photos

In an effort to ease the nomination process for PLT State Coordinators, we will only ask for photos after the formal announcement of awardees and honorees in February 2011. Photos

will only be required from the awardees, not the honorees. Awardees and PLT State Coordinators will have 2-3 weeks from the time the announcement is made in February to provide the National Office with 10 high-resolution (300 dpi) photographs (in digital format, via CD or email.) The photos should include at least one headshot of the nominee for use at the Awards Luncheon and for the feature *Branch* newsletter article. The remaining photos should show the nominee “in action,” such as leading a PLT activity or PLT project, conducting a PLT workshop, etc. Please provide photo captions, and whether the photo depicts students doing a particular PLT activity.

Note: National PLT must have signed release forms from all individuals, including the nominee. Please submit release forms for all individuals pictured in the photos (if a person’s face is obscured then s/he does not need to sign a release). A photo release form can be found at the end of this document.

By nominating an educator from your state, you commit to preparing and sending at least 10 digital photos to the PLT National Office within 2-3 weeks of the announcement. You may consider gathering photos over the next several months to make the process easier for you.

Scoring Summary for Nomination Materials:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Point Value</u>
1	2
2	8
3	10
4	20
5	20
Total possible points	60



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Photo and Video Release Form

Individuals over the age of 18 may sign for themselves; those under 18 must have this release signed by their parent or guardian.

I hereby consent to the use of photographs and/or video of my child/dependent/self in any editorial and/or promotional material produced and/or published by the American Forest Foundation (AFF) and its program Project Learning Tree (PLT).

I expressly grant to AFF and PLT unlimited permissions to use, re-use, publish, and re-publish information about me and reproductions of my likeness (photographic or otherwise), with or without my name, for purposes of advertising, public relations, marketing, trade, or any other lawful use. I waive the opportunity to inspect and/or approve the finished product, promotional copy, or other use that it may be used in connection therewith.

I understand that signing this release does not guarantee publication of a photo and/or video.

Name of person photographed (PLEASE PRINT) Age (if minor)

Address

City, State, and Zip Code

Signature Date

Consent of parent or legal guardian if above individual is a minor.

Signature Relationship