

Role Models FOUNDATION

Role Models Foundation

Environmental Stewardship Award

In collaboration with

Combating Invasive Species in Florida

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

IFAS Extension
Center for Aquatic
and Invasive Plants

Application Deadline: December 4, 2009

\$100 AWARDS

What is an Environmental Steward?

Environmental stewards are high school students who consider the welfare of the environment in their everyday actions. They try to make changes that will encourage conservation awareness with their involvement in environmental activities and organizations. Stewards also attempt to teach members of their community and future generations what they have learned in order to effect change on a larger scale.



What are the Entry Requirements?

- Must be a group of high school students
- Must be nominated by an adult representative from a high school or community organization

What Do I Need to Submit?

You Must Complete and Submit the Following:

1. Nomination form



2. Group Background and Participant List

Provide a short background of your group and list of the names, grades, genders and race (optional) of each active student of the group nominated for the award.

3. Project Application Narrative

A two-page maximum application narrative that explains in detail how your group will combat invasive species in your community.

Please visit Florida Invaders online as a resource at www.rolemodelstoday.org/2008FloridaInvaders.pdf.

The narrative should answer the following questions:

- What is the goal of your project?
- What are the intended outcomes of this project? What invasive species problem does this project help to solve in your community?
- What volunteer activities will be completed by your group for this project?
- What is the educational impact of this project for your school or community?
- What is the proposed timeline to complete this project?

How Do I Submit my Application?

Applications must be postmarked by December 4, 2009 and submitted to:

Role Models Foundation, Inc.
4300 NW 23rd Avenue, PMB 144
P.O. Box 147050
Gainesville, FL 32614-7050

SEE BACK FOR MORE INFORMATION

Frequently Asked Questions

What is an Invasive Exotic Species?

Invasive exotic species are not constrained by the natural factors that existed in their native habitats - other native species, diseases and predators. Their rapid growth and spread has the potential of altering what remains of Florida's natural areas, resulting in economic or environmental harm or harm to human health and well being. (www.rolemodelstoday.org/2008FloridaInvaders.pdf)

How will I know if I have won?

Winning groups will be announced on the Role Models Today website at www.rolemodelstoday.org in February 2010 and will receive by mail a check to assist in their continued efforts to help the environment and their community.

How are award recipients selected?

Groups will be selected to receive \$100 awards based upon the evaluation of completed applications by environmental consultants and sustainability advocates from among Role Models Foundation, University of Florida IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, The Nature Conservancy and Santa Fe College. Winning groups will receive a certificate and check. Applications must be postmarked by **December 4, 2009**.

What will happen to my application?

All applications become the property of Role Models Foundation. All Project Applications received may be edited and published on *Role Models Today* online publication at www.rolemodelstoday.org and *Wildland Weeds*, a publication devoted to invasive plants. Groups will be notified by email if their statement is published.

Resources:

For more information about invasive plants and species, please visit The Nature Conservancy at www.nature.org and the University of Florida IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants at <http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu>.