

2006 Promoting Active Communities Awards Announced

On November 13, 17 communities will be recognized for their commitment to promote and encourage active, healthy lifestyles. The 2006 Promoting Active Communities Awards will be presented in East Lansing at the Designing Healthy Livable Communities Conference.

The Promoting Active Communities Award is like no other in the country. To be eligible for the award, a team of community members evaluate their community's environments and policies related to promoting and supporting physical activity. Points are earned in three categories: Current Environments, Policies & Planning, and Programs & Promotion. This unique online self-assessment tool was created in partnership with the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Michigan State University, and the Prevention Center of Michigan to recognize innovative Michigan communities who are making it easier for their residents to lead an active lifestyle.

The Promoting Active Communities Award winners are awarded a level of achievement based on their assessment score. Ten of the 17 communities in 2006 were first time participants. The following is the breakdown of the award level each community received.

Copper: Communities have made a commitment to becoming a healthier place to live and have begun to take steps toward removing barriers to physical activity.

Communities: Quincy

Bronze: Communities have taken important steps toward making it easy for people to be active.

Communities: Chelsea, Howell, Lansing, Manistee, Montague, and Wyoming

Silver: Communities have achieved significant progress toward making it easy for people to be active.

Communities: Canton Township, Detroit-Chene, Eaton Rapids, Jackson, Middleville Village, Muskegon, Novi, St. Clair, and Ypsilanti

Gold: Communities can document outstanding achievements in making it easy for people to be active.

Communities: Ann Arbor

Platinum: Communities are models of commitment to healthy, active living.

Communities: None

The Governor's Council on Physical Fitness is coordinating the Promoting Active Communities Award because it encourages Michigan communities to take steps to ensure that residents can integrate physical activity into their daily routines. For more information on the Promoting Active Communities Award call (800) 434-8642 or visit www.michiganfitness.org.