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## Anheuser-Busch Cartersville brewery to be honored for water conservation

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The Anheuser-Busch Cartersville brewery will be honored with a Greenie Award by the Coosa River Basin Initiative at the Green Gala on April 2 for its efforts in water conservation.

2015 is the inaugural year for the Greenie Awards, which, according to a press release from CRBI, will be honoring one local government and four local businesses, including Anheuser-Busch.

“These businesses and local governments deserve recognition for their efforts in solving environmental problems and preserving our land and water,” said CRBI Executive Director David Tucker in a press release. “CRBI is excited about initiating this tradition of recognizing the good works of citizens living in North America’s most biologically unique river basin.”

CRBI, according to its website, seeks to “influence water resource

policy in both Georgia and Alabama so that clean and plentiful water is available today and for future generations.” The Greenie Awards are meant to honor organizations for their intelligent use of natural resources.

Amos Tuck, CRBI’s upper Coosa riverkeeper, said the selection process included a panel of judges with environmental professional backgrounds.

“We had a nomination form,” he explained. “[Anheuser-Busch] explained what they have done, striving for water conservation throughout the past few years. Then we take those nomination forms and a panel of judges read [them].”

Tuck added that organizations who applied for a Greenie award did not choose the award they wanted to win. The award an organization received, if they received one, was decided by the judges and based on that specific organization’s environmental conservation efforts.

“What really set Anheuser-Busch apart, in terms of water conservation, is the strides that they’ve made in their plant that’s a heavy water user, and they’ve made great strides in reducing the amount of waste water they have,” Tuck said. “They’re the most water-efficient Anheuser-Busch plant in the world.”

According to the press release, from 2009 to 2012, the Anheuser-Busch Cartersville location had the lowest water user globally out of Anheuser-Busch InBev’s 129 breweries. Initiatives at the plant developed in 2013 reportedly have the potential to save an additional 40 million gallons of water per year. Anheuser-Busch’s website also states that a water conservation effort started by the company in 2010 has led to a 37 percent reduction in water usage across all its breweries in the United States.

The Green Gala will take place at Barnsley Gardens Resort in Adairsville. Also receiving awards will be the city of Lyerly, for outdoor recreation; Calhoun-based flooring company Mohawk Industries, for sustainability; Green Carbon Inc., an affiliate of Rome-based OTR Wheel Engineering, for innovation; and the Rome law firm of McRae, Stegall, Peek, Harman, Smith and Manning, for land protection.

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For more information about CRBI or to purchase tickets or a table for the Green Gala, visit [coosa.org](http://coosa.org).

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