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Lafayette to Receive Community Achievement Award for Durkees Run

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) announced the City of Lafayette has been named a **2014 IACT Community Achievement Award** winner in the more than 50,000 population category for its Durkees Run Stormwater Park. The City of Lafayette will receive its award during the Annual Awards Luncheon presented by Umbaugh, Wednesday, Sept. 10, at the 2014 IACT Annual Conference & Exhibition in Fort Wayne.

In a plan to reduce raw sewage overflows and improve the water quality of the Wabash River, the City of Lafayette created the Durkees Run Stormwater Park. The beautiful park combines beauty and education all while diverting 100 million gallons for stormwater annually from the Lafayette wastewater treatment plant and preventing sewer overflows. The park includes an outdoor classroom amphitheater, stormwater wetlands, cascades and planters that will improve stormwater quality as it flows through the site. The Durkees Run project is part of the city's long term control plan.

"Working with Lafayette Jefferson School High School to create a space that serves an educational purpose and protects our environment has been hugely rewarding," said Lafayette Mayor Tony Roswarski. "I'm so proud of the commitment of our award-winning team who looked at this project as a way to make a difference for the entire community."

IACT Executive Director and CEO Matt Greller noted, "Projects like the Durkees Run Stormwater Park highlight the creativity we have going on in our cities and towns. To take the technical requirements of a long term control plan and create a space that has a much broader purpose is something to be celebrated."



Indiana Association *of* Cities and Towns

In its 38th year, the IACT Annual Awards program, presented by Umbaugh, recognizes communities and individuals in municipal government for excellence and outstanding achievement. A nine-member panel of qualified judges selected this year's winners from a competitive field of nominees from around the state.

Media are welcome to attend the awards luncheon. Please notify Jennifer Simmons (jsimmons@citiesandtowns.org) at your earliest convenience to secure a media credential.

The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) is a coalition of municipal officials who seek to improve the quality of life in Indiana through effective government, and is a member of the National League of Cities. Founded in 1891, IACT is one of the oldest state municipal organizations in the country, with 470 cities and towns as members. IACT advocates for municipalities as the official voice of municipal government in Indiana, and promotes good government through education, training and leadership.

<u>Conference Facts</u>: 2014 IACT Annual Conference and Exhibition September 9-11 Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne Attendance: 1,000 (pending final registration count) Further information: www.citiesandtowns.org