



www.state.de.us/planning/coord/dgdc

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
Thursday, June 1, 2006

Contact: Mike Mahaffie
Office of State Planning Coordination
(302) 739-3090 or (302) 381-2838
Mike.Mahaffie@state.de.us

William (Sandy) Schenck Honored for Contributions to Delaware's Community of Geospatial and Geographic Data Users

William (Sandy) Schenck, of the Delaware Geological Survey (DGS), was honored with the *2006 Geographic Community Service Award* at the annual Delaware GIS Conference on June 1, 2006, in Newark. Mr. Schenck was honored for his many years of leadership in the geospatial data community.

For more than 20 years, Sandy Schenck has been a leader in promoting the use and sharing of geographic information and geospatial data in Delaware. He has shared his knowledge of geology and geography with generations of Delaware students through the Earth Science Information Center at the DGS. He has headed the State Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC), was a founder of the Delaware Geographic Data Committee (DGDC), and is an active member of that group and of the Delaware Spatial Data Implementation Team.

Sandy is a respected member of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) and was awarded the USGS' *John Wesley Powell Award* in 2003 for his work on the team that developed the Delaware Data Mapping and Integration Laboratory (DataMIL). He leads the Geographic Names Committee for the State and helps to represent Delaware on interstate boundary issues.

"Sandy Schenck is an educator, a leader, and a mentor," said Mike Mahaffie, lead staff for the DGDC. "His dedication to the use and sharing of geospatial information makes him a natural choice for this award. I'm pleased to call him my colleague; I'm proud to call him my friend."

The *Geographic Community Service Award* is given annually in memory of the late Vernon C. Svatos, a seminal figure in GIS in Delaware. The award honors those who demonstrate a commitment to furthering geographic knowledge and understanding in the State. Nominations come from members of the GIS Community.