



GLEE's 2nd Annual Green Living Awards

Agency/Organization Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1st 2009

Name of Agency/Organization:

Name of Applicant and relation to Agency/Org:

Summary

The park's native plant nursery started out in 1995 to produce native plants used in park lands restoration projects. The project has grown to educating others in the nearby community on the importance of planting native plants. With every event we attend or native plant we give away, more people have been educated to be a part of the effort to live "green." If by being nominated, more people will learn the importance of planting local native plants, than we are already winners.

Part 1: The Keyswide Sustain-Ability Project

GLEE's Goal: Involve all major policy makers in the Keys in systematic emissions reductions & conservation actions. Involving all 6 municipalities, 3 utilities, federal, state and local agencies, non-profits, mentor governments from the mainland, and other national resources, the Keyswide Sustain-Ability Project (KSAP) aims to meet quarterly, researching and convening experts on subjects requested by its participants. The projects strengths include economy of scale, cross pollination of ideas and collaboration on new projects and funding opportunities.

- My Ag/Org is not currently a KSAP member, but we do intend to and can check off some KSAP tenets.
- My Ag/Org is not currently a KSAP member, and will probably not become one.
- I am a KSAP member, but I do intend to become one

The KSAP checklist:

- Adopt [Mayors Climate Protection Agreement tenets](#) (date signed):
- Establish a Green Team, & Staff liaison: Liaison & Team Names:
- Hold monthly Green Team meetings: # of Meetings Held:
- Develop a baseline of emissions: Date Began, Completed:
- Create an action plan: Date Began, Completed, Acted on:
- Participate in quarterly KSAP meetings: # Mtgs Attended:

Part 2: Accomplishments

<u>Renewable Energy</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of renewable energy.
<u>Clean Transportation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of smart, clean and economically efficient uses of biodiesel, fuel cells, and hybrid vehicles. Or no vehicles at all!
<u>Clean Boating</u>	Demonstrated adherence and/or promotion of eco-friendly actions whilst on the water, including cleaning products, propulsion, water conservation, fisheries conservation, catch and release techniques, and use of Florida Clean Marinas, Boatyards, and Retailers .
<u>Energy Conservation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of energy-efficient appliances, energy audits, and retrofits for financial savings and pollution reduction.
Promote the planting of Keys' native plants to reduce water and energy consumption.	
<u>Green Building</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of green techniques and technologies during retrofits on existing buildings and efficient designs for new buildings.

<u>Green Financing</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of tax credits, rebates, and other incentive programs that help finance, sustainability projects. Also includes Socially Responsible Investing.
<u>Healthy Living</u>	Demonstrated adherence and/or promotion of green procurement, green consumerism and healthy choices through buying organic foods and other non-toxic, healthy and sustainable products.
Promote the use of soaps instead of chemicals for plant pest control.	
<u>Land Conservation</u>	Demonstrated adherence and/or promotion of conservation of natural habitats by using Keys-Friendly landscaping practices and use of GreenThumb Certified Nurseries .
Since we are a nursery ourselves, we do use GreenThumb Nurseries. However, we have assisted them with native plant information. In addition, we make sure that our plant giveaways are on the small scale, in an effort to introduce people to planting native, and educate people about the native plants to request and look for at their local nurseries. Restoration projects are being done throughout the Key Largo State Parks' properties. Landscaping projects also include (but are not limited to) the butterfly garden and entrance at Dagny Johnson KLHBSP, and at Pennekamp. Plants have been donated to the butterfly garden at Crocodile Lake NWR.	
<u>R4 #1: Reduce</u>	Demonstrated reduction of waste through bulk buying, refillable products, double-sided printing, avoiding over-packaged products, closing the loop by purchasing products made of recycled, post consumer content; implementation of policies which encourage and/or mandate waste reduction.
We use email to inform nursery volunteers of information and use both sides of paper when printing. We purchase products we use in bulk.	
<u>R4 #2: Reuse</u>	Demonstrated reuse of products, buy second hand, donate unneeded items, and avoid disposables, and share magazines /other publications before recycling them.
We reuse plant pots and dirt within the nursery.	

<u>R4 #3: Rot (Compost)</u>	Demonstrated waste diversion through composting of food scraps and yard trimmings
<p>We just put in a compost for plant trimmings and dead plants.</p>	
<u>R4 #4: Recycle</u>	Demonstrated recycling of items accepted by local waste hauler and/or other items which may be recycled elsewhere (e.g., electronics, CFL light bulbs, cell phones, printer cartridges); implementation of policies which encourage and/or mandate recycling practices
<p>We recycle paper, printer cartridges, aluminum, and plastic.</p>	
<u>Water Conservation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of water use reduction through efficient irrigation, xeriscaping, cisterns, rain barrels, water audits and/or use of reclaimed water.
<p>All volunteers are trained in the most efficient way of watering plants, and it is stressed not to over water.</p>	
Water Quality	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of wastewater treatment, storm water retention, phosphorus free products, slow release fertilizers, animal waste reduction, etc.
<p>We use fertilizer only when absolutely necessary and we use the slow-release type.</p>	
Youth Leadership	Involve local students in projects and research for healthy long-term choices in any of the above for the future of all.
<p>The nursery crew has lead work/learning days with both university students and high school students, including but not limited to Alternative Spring Breakers and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden's Environmental Immersion Day. Currently we are in the process of assisting Key Largo School develop a butterfly garden and have taught them about nectar and host plants.</p>	

GLEE Participation	Actively involved with GLEE via ideas, time and/or membership to help further GLEE's Mission and Goals .
<p>In 2007 we participated in the GLEE Expo and disseminated information and gave away 45 native plants.</p> <p>Unfortunately we could not participate in the Expo 2008 because most of our volunteers have headed north by late April. None of the handful of year-round residents is available on the Expo date this year.</p>	
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!
<p>All projects since last year's GLEE were sent by separate email.</p>	

Part 3: Other Agency/Organization Factors

Team Commitment	List staff or other supportive people on your "Green Team"
<p>2008 nursery crew volunteers are Mary Baker, Bunny Bradov, Mary Ann Clark, Jackie DeGayner (Volunteer Nursery Manager), Wendy Entenmann, Orva Heissenbuttel, Kathy Hulbert, Jean Jefferiss, Mel Johnson, Susan Kolterman, Nancy McClelland, Sloan Muench, Lonell Rice, Veronica Setera, Daryl Stone, and Lynda Williams.</p>	
Communications	How are your environmental efforts visibly communicated to staff, locals, tourists, shareholders, customers and/or vendors?
<p></p>	
Certifications/Memberships	Do you currently hold any green certifications or memberships?
<p></p>	

Part 4: Green Pledge

I certify that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

