



GLEE's 2nd Annual Green Living Awards

Agency/Organization Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1st 2009

Name of Agency/Organization: FDEP Green Lodging Program

Marathon

City/Island

Name of Applicant and relation to Agency/Org: Celia Stearns

Program Assistant

Summary

The FDEP Green Lodging Program has become an overwhelmingly successful endeavor for both the state and Monroe County. Statewide, there are over 400 properties currently participating in the program. Locally, we have over 24 Green Lodges in Monroe County making us the 3rd highest ranked in the state of Florida. This totals over 2,135 rooms throughout Monroe County that are "Green" certified. This program supports the overall mission of GLEE to become a more sustainable island community. We exemplify, by example, that "going green" can be easily achieved and that the Keys can become a sustainable, green destination. We are grateful for the nomination and support of organizations such as GLEE who have been instrumental in the success of the program.

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

<p><u>Renewable Energy</u></p>	<p>Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of renewable energy.</p>
<p>*Promote Green Lodges to support installation of Renewable Energy equipment and/or purchasing green power.</p>	
<p><u>Clean Transportation</u></p>	<p>Demonstrated use and/or promotion of smart, clean and economically efficient uses of biodiesel, fuel cells, and hybrid vehicles. Or no vehicles at all!</p>
<p>*FDEP staff demonstrate use of Clean Transportation by using hybrid vehicles to conduct program activities. *Demonstrate support by training local staff to assist with program to decrease need for Program Coordinator to travel from District office in Fort Myers.</p>	
<p><u>Clean Boating</u></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>*Encourage Green Lodges with a marina to receive their Clean Marina designation.</p>	
<p><u>Energy Conservation</u></p>	<p>Demonstrated use and/or promotion of energy-efficient appliances, energy audits, and retrofits for financial savings and pollution reduction.</p>
<p>*Promote Energy Conservation by requiring Green Lodges to meet minimum E/C criteria to be in the program. Some of these include switching to energy efficient lighting, installing EnergyStar-rated appliances and programmable thermostats, and/or use of a Energy Management System.*Encourage properties to conduct an Energy Audit- both internally by logging KWhs and externally by signing up for a free audit from local electrical company.*FDEP Marathon staff practice Energy Conservation throughout our office.*FDEP Green Lodging program estimates that Monroe County Green Lodges are saving 18,830 KWh/day by participation in the program. This is the greenhouse gas equivalent to taking 2.5 cars off the road for a year or powering 1.5</p>	
<p><u>Green Building</u></p>	<p>Demonstrated use and/or promotion of green techniques and technologies during retrofits on existing buildings and efficient designs for new buildings.</p>
<p>*Promote Green Building by listing Green Suppliers on our FDEP website to allow Green Lodges to easily find new Green technologies and retrofits available. *Encourage older buildings to retrofit with water efficient fixtures</p>	

<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.
<p>*Promote installation of Energy Conservation equipment such as solar that allow properties to take advantage of tax rebates.</p>	
<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.
<p>*Promote Green Lodges to address Clean Air practices by requiring them to purchase non-toxic cleaners, install high-quality air filters, and keep a maintenance log for cleaning a/c coils and units regularly. We also encourage them to decrease/eliminate rooms where smoking is allowed.</p>	
<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 .
<p>*Encourage properties to use eco-friendly landscaping techniques such as xeriscaping.</p>	
<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.
<p>*Promote and/or mandate waste reduction measures such as bulk purchasing, reduced packaging, manufacturer take-back programs, and purchasing a minimum of 30% post-consumer paper products. *Encourage properties to find creative waste reduction practices such as eliminating daily newspaper distribution to occupied rooms. *FDEP Green Lodging program estimates that the 24 existing Monroe County Green Lodges are saving over 4 tons of trash/day by participation in the program.</p>	
<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.
<p>*Promote linen & towel reuse programs to extend the life of these items. *Encourage properties to find creative waste reuse measures such as donation of used equipment/bedding to charitable groups or refilling ink cartridges.</p>	

<u>R4 #3: Rot (Compost)</u>	Demonstrated waste diversion through composting of food scraps and yard trimmings
*Encourage properties to divert waste by composting food scraps & yard waste.	
<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
*Promote recycling by requiring properties to meet minimum program criteria (for both staff and guests). These include recycling items such as paper, plastic, cardboard, and used cooking oil. *Require recycling of regulated hazardous wastes such as used oil, lighting, and batteries. *Promote recycling of e-waste such as televisions and printers.	
<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.
*Promote Water Conservation by requiring/encouraging installation of low-flow equipment, water-efficient clothes & dishwaters, and automated faucets. *Encourage xeriscaping techniques, reuse/reclaimed water measures, and collection of water usage data for tracking purposes.	
Water Quality	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of wastewater treatment, storm water retention, phosphorus free products, slow release fertilizers, animal waste reduction, etc.
*Require regulatory compliance with FDEP regulated activities such as wastewater treatment plants and all necessary Environmental Resource permits.	
Youth Leadership	Involve local students in projects and research for healthy long-term choices in any of the above for the future of all.
n/a	

GLEE Participation	Actively involved with GLEE via ideas, time and/or membership to help further GLEE's Mission and Goals .
<p>*Work with trained members of GLEE to assist with Green Lodging assessments.</p> <p>*Participate in GLEE Expo by giving presentation on Green Lodging program and setting up a booth to promote program.</p>	
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!
<p>*Governor Charlie Crist signed an Executive Order on January 1, 2008 stating that state agencies and departments may not contract for meetings and conference space with hotels or conference facilities that have not received the DEP "Green Lodging" certification for best practices in water, energy, and waste efficiency standards.</p> <p>*FDEP Marathon staff stay at Green Lodges while travelling for business (where available).</p>	

Part 3: Other Agency/Organization Factors

Team Commitment	List staff or other supportive people on your "Green Team"
<p>*FDEP Marathon staff, including Devon Villareal, Greg Wright, Steve Johnson, and Celia Stearns, have added local Green Lodging program support to their daily job responsibilities to decrease the strain on Agency resources including personnel time, travel expenses and associated consumption of resources. This local presence also improves customer service and response times and improves relationships with local supporting partners including Lodging Associations, TDC, and GLEE. *The Green Lodging program requires properties to nominate a "Green Champion" and create a "Green Team" to participate in the program.</p>	
Communications	How are your environmental efforts visibly communicated to staff, locals, tourists, shareholders, customers and/or vendors?
<p>*The program requires certain communication measures to ensure program effectiveness including a feedback mechanism for guests, making Environmental Policy available for guests to view, and encouraging guest participation.*The program encourages vendors to offer green products and decrease their footprint by requests from program participants.*The program aims at promoting guest awareness and staff participation in hopes that the practices will be spread beyond the individual property into people's daily lives.*Certified Green Lodges reach thousands of guests and employees throughout the state to help spread this message of conservation *The program is promoted through State tourism websites, the FDEP website, and through</p>	
Certifications/Memberships	Do you currently hold any green certifications or memberships?
<p>*The FDEP Green Lodging Program provides the green designation to others!!</p>	

Part 4: Green Pledge

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

