



GLEE's 2nd Annual Green Living Awards

Individuals Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1st 2009

Name of Applicant: Amy Jones

Key West

City/Island

Application Summary

After getting recycling off the ground in two large school communities, I have seen people recognize the importance of reducing and reusing. In both locations I have witnessed the amount of waste cut 50% because of these three "R's." By involving over 75% of the Key West High School teachers and many students, the education effect is invigorating. In my endeavor to "practice what I preach" I have spoken in over a dozen public forums to support sustainability and continue to reduce my personal consumption.

Detailed Accomplishments

Be as detailed as possible when summarizing your green achievements. Dates enacted, money saved, waste diverted, emissions saved and other such facts factor heavily in final awards.

<u>Renewable Energy</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of renewable energy.
In April of 2007, as a Sierra Club volunteer, I spoke on behalf of responsible renewable energy as an alternative to a planned increase of nuclear power plants throughout Alabama and Tennessee. The Tennessee Valley Authority supplies much of the southeast power companies with electricity. They invited the public to speak and provide input about their alternative energy choice in order to meet increased demands for electricity. I, along with others, brought to their attention the absence of solar and wind energy from their plan.	
<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!
I carpooled to work for over a year in Tennessee before moving to Key West. I ride my bike or walk when possible on the island and use the bus to travel the Keys. I am also a proud supporter of our Alternative Energy Program (formerly Key West High Biodiesel Project) at the school where I am employed. I educate whenever I can about the wonderful things that Josh Clearman makes happen at the "Crisco Disco!"	

<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 .
<p>I fish often and am very adamant about proper catch and release practices. Also I enjoy educating others about how to read the water and stay out of the seagrass, etc. I have (through education) helped my sister-in-law and brother, as well as friends of theirs, understand the importance of using eco-friendly products rather than the "cheap but bad for our water" products when cleaning the boat. So they are now more responsible boat owners.</p>	
<u>Energy Conservation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of energy-efficient appliances, energy audits, and retrofits for financial savings and pollution reduction.
<p>I bought an Energy Star rated refrigerator and washing machine before moving to Key West. I hang my laundry to dry on a clothesline on my porch. I also strive to always have a full load before washing laundry, and I use eco-friendly detergents and softeners when needed. I use CFLs in my indoor and outdoor lighting. I also unplug electronic items when not in use.</p>	
<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.
<p>I read Mother Earth News and know a lot about green building, but not "applied" very much other than sharing my past issues with home owners I know that approach me with questions.</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>I have investigated "green" and Socially Responsible Investment groups for my mutual fund/ stock market purchase choices.</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>I always buy organic and locally when available. Also I buy the eco-friendly cleaner and paper household products. Also I reduce my paper consumption by using cloth napkins and old clothing for cleaning rags.</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>When using state parks and public use areas, I always pack out what I carry in. I strive to use native species when selecting flora for gifts and household decor.</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>I do all of the above and have sent e-mails to my peer teachers at my school about how to make double-sided copies, as well as front and back copies. I buy in bulk when available, I refill soaps and other products around my home and work, and actively search out and buy products made from post consumer content.</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>I shop yard sales, FreeCycle, and second hand shops for needed items before going to buy them new. I also reuse non-recyclable containers for storage, organizing, leftovers, sharing food with neighbors and family. Also rather than recycle a lot of my glass jars and containers, I take them to school and use them in labs and for storage because they are often clear and I can see what is inside without opening it, time saving too!</p>	
<u>R4 #3: Rot (Compost)</u>	Demonstrated waste diversion through composting of food scraps and yard trimmings
<p>I had a LARGE compost (that was used by myself and neighbors) for a year while living in Tennessee (2006-2007.) Since I moved, the neighbors created their own compost. When I moved to Key West in 2007 I had a small compost when I lived on Thomas Street but now am in a complex/ condo situation investigating storing and then taking my compost to the Community Garden.</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>I recycle everything possible at home and school (old cell phones, batteries, printer cartridges to OfficeMax, etc.) When I worked at Ombudsman here in Key West last year, we recycled. I started working at Key West High School in August 2009 and implemented a school-wide recycling program that has been very successful. We now have a cardboard recycling dumpster and recycle ten 96-gallon containers of waste each week. Our dumpster size is less than HALF the size it was when I started working there in August. The people I work with are so amazing! I continue to give teachers information about recycling at home and with the school board.</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>I try to conserve water through simple and mindful practice at home. I save my sink water for rinsing recyclables. Also, I do not flush unnecessarily. I also went to FKAA and requested (and received) a water-saving showerhead.</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>I use and teach my students (and anyone who will listen) about phosphate free products and the importance of this to our delicate water supply. I also use Project Wet activities in my classroom throughout the school year (since 2004.)</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>I am in the process of forming a "sustainability club." KWHS students are in the process of submitting their ideas for an official name and we will vote next week (February 2nd, 2009.) I have actively engaged and educated students since 2001 about how to be a "Good Earth Steward." I started as an Environmental Educator for the Ridley 4-H Program in 2001 and my journey has been astounding. I have sponsored Science Club (that started a recycling school-wide program at my school in Tennessee that is still active) and continue to encourage youth to be a community participant as it is a requirement if one is a member of my class.</p>	
GLEE Participation	Actively involved with GLEE via ideas, time and/or membership to help further GLEE's Mission and Goals .
<p>I have helped organize the two Key West R4 Fairs, I also helped Jody Smith-Williams organize and carry out the Film Festival for GLEE at the Eco-Discovery Center in 2008. I attend and have volunteered my services for fundraising efforts.</p>	
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!
<p>I have spent time in front of storefronts to get signatures on a petition for the recycling ordinance. I also gathered students and adults to write letters or attend the commissioner's meeting. I was a speaker in favor of the ordinance at the first reading as well.</p>	

Green Pledge

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

