



GLEE's 2nd Annual Green Living Awards

Individuals Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1st 2009

Name of Applicant: Roland & Sloan Muench Key Largo
City/Island

Application Summary

We estimate that 1/3 of our energy savings came from awareness and energy-conscious living habits (no cost), 1/3 from use and installation of energy-conserving materials and appliances and 1/3 from capture and conversion of renewable (solar) energy. Our combined expenses for energy and water have become "painless" when compared to the monthly cost of communication alone, and we are gratified by the occasional negative electric bill. We were able to retrofit an existing concrete structure into a "green" home without compromising comfort or quality of life. In addition to the satisfaction of "green" transportation and consumption modes, we thoroughly enjoyed sharing our experience with other like-minded folks in the Keys and elsewhere.

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.
<p>Installation of a 4000 watt, utility grid-tied, battery backed-up photovoltaic system in 2005. Solar array consists of 24 solar panels, mounted on concrete roof. Installation and hardware designed to resist max. uplift / wind load. Battery bank with 8 deep cycle batteries (48 V, 400 AH) in outside vented container. Two 3500 Watt inverters with charge controller. Sale of excess electricity to power company with bi-directional meter. - Separate rooftop passive solar water heater providing 90% of warm water needs.</p>	
<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!
<p>2007 Toyota Prius hybrid vehicle with actual average mileage of 48 miles / gallon including significant long-distance travel. Four seats, ample storage. To date no repairs and low maintenance cost.</p>	

<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.
<p>Passive solar water heating. Energy-Star rated appliances and high-efficiency air conditioning. White, reflective roof paint. Double glass, tinted sliding doors on exposed sides. Louvered windows throughout to generate airflow. Compact fluorescent light bulbs throughout. Adjustable and reversible fans in every room.</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.
<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.

<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>Limited fresh-water dependent landscaping with exclusive use of native vegetation. Minimal need for irrigation.</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>No use of bottled water in this household. Plastic containers are re-used and re-filled whenever possible. Use of recycled paper. Plastic grocery bags are strongly discouraged. We avoid non-biodegradable materials.</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.
<u>R4 #3: Rot (Compost)</u>	Demonstrated waste diversion through composting of food scraps and yard trimmings
<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>Recycling of all accepted recyclables. Disposal of chemical and toxic waste only at dedicated sites.</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.
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 no fertilizers.</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.
GLEE Participation	Actively involved with GLEE via ideas, time and/or membership to help further GLEE's Mission and Goals .
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!

Green Pledge

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

