



# GLEE's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Green Living Awards

## Businesses Category

*For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1, 2008*

Name of business: The Banyan Tree

Islamorada

Robin D'Ambra

Nursery Manager

City/Island

Name of Applicant

Relation to Business:

### Summary

The Banyan Tree is a "Green Thumb Certified Nursery". Finding the right plant for the right place is easier said than done when it comes to gardening in the Florida Keys. Plants need to be drought and salt tolerant, withstand periods of flooding, be resistant to strong winds and able to survive in our alkaline soils. We are committed to providing our customers high quality plants that can survive under these unique growing conditions. We do our best to conserve natural habitats by refusing to sell plants that are Category I or II on the Nature Conservancy's Invasive Exotic Pest List. Water quality is also top on our list, we have significantly reduced the use of pesticides through Integrated Pest Management practices and offer our customer slow release fertilizer products.

### Accomplishments

#### Renewable Energy

Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of renewable energy.

Empty green box for details under Renewable Energy.

#### Clean Transportation

Demonstrated use and/or promotion of smart, clean and economically efficient uses of biodiesel, fuel cells, and hybrid vehicles. Or no vehicles at all!

Empty green box for details under Clean Transportation.

<b><u>Clean Boating</u></b>	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 <a href="#">Florida Clean Marinas, Boatyards, and Retailers</a> .
<b><u>Energy Conservation</u></b>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of energy-efficient appliances, energy audits, and retrofits for financial savings and pollution reduction.
<b><u>Green Building</u></b>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of green techniques and technologies during retrofits on existing buildings and efficient designs for new buildings.
<b><u>Green Financing</u></b>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of tax credits, rebates, and other incentive programs that help finance, sustainability projects. Also includes Socially Responsible Investing.
<b><u>Healthy Living</u></b>	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.

<b><u>Land Conservation</u></b>	Demonstrated adherence and/or promotion of conservation of natural habitats by using Keys-Friendly landscaping practices and use of <a href="#">GreenThumb Certified Nurseries</a> .
<p>We are A Green Thumb Certified Nursery.</p> <p>We have made a commitment not sell any plants that are Category I or II on the Nature Conservancy Invasive Exotic Pest List.</p> <p>We offer a large assortment of native plants for sale.</p>	
<b><u>R4 #1: Reduce</u></b>	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.
<b><u>R4 #2: Reuse</u></b>	Demonstrated reuse of products, buy second hand, donate unneeded items, and avoid disposables, and share magazines /other publications before recycling them.
<b><u>R4 #3: Rot (Compost)</u></b>	Demonstrated waste diversion through composting of food scraps and yard trimmings
<p>Compost all plant trimming and leaves at the nursery.</p> <p>Use Compost for planting, potting and stepping up of all plant material.</p>	
<b><u>R4 #4: Recycle</u></b>	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

<b><u>Water Conservation</u></b>	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>Offering plants for sale that are drought tolerant.  Provide information about proper watering techniques and the use of mulches.  Participating in Rain Barrel Workshops.</p>	
<b>Water Quality</b>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of wastewater treatment, storm water retention, phosphorus free products, slow release fertilizers, animal waste reduction, etc.
<p>Offer our customers slow release fertilizer products.  Reduce the Use of Pesticides by promoting Integrated Pest Management practices.</p>	
<b>Youth Leadership</b>	Involve local students in projects and research for healthy long-term choices in any of the above for the future of all.
<b>GLEE Participation</b>	Actively involved with GLEE via ideas, time and/or membership to help further GLEE's <a href="#">Mission and Goals</a> .
<b>Other Factors</b>	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!

**Other Business Factors**

<b>Team Commitment</b>	List staff or other supportive people on your “Green Team”
<b>Communications</b>	How are your environmental efforts visibly communicated to staff, locals, tourists, shareholders, customers and/or vendors?
<b>Certifications/Memberships</b>	Do you currently hold any green certifications or memberships?
Member of the Monroe County Horticultural Advisory Committee	

**Green Pledge**

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

