



GLEE's 2nd Annual Green Living Awards

Businesses Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1, 2008

Name of business: R.L. Grant Construction, Inc.

Layton (Long Key)

Susan J. Grant,

President/Owner

City/Island

Name of Applicant

Relation to Business:

Summary

Starting in 2008, my construction business has become very dedicated to learning about the wide variety of Green building materials and methods, and in turn we hope to educate and motivate all of our customers to invest their dollars in Green recycled products for their new construction or renovation project(s). No effort or contribution is too small to make a "difference". We want our customers to be excited and proud of each and every effort or dollar they spend and also be at peace with a 'healthier' home. Financially, our goal starting in 2010 is - for every renovation or new construction project that incorporates atleast 25% green materials, that we will contribute minimum 1% of our profits to GLEE. Than as the market picks up, we hope to increase our contributions. (ex: \$20,000 profit on a Green project, \$200 GLEE donation).

Accomplishments

Renewable Energy

Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of 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!

<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>Goal this year is to inform the Florida Guides Association of a list of "Green Cleaning and Painting products" for their boat maintenance. Currently researching.</p>	
<u>Energy Conservation</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of energy-efficient appliances, energy audits, and retrofits for financial savings and pollution reduction.
<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>My construction company is heavily promoting the use of recycled /green building materials such as: a) recycled glass counter tops (EnviroGlas & Eco-Tops = are made from 100% recycled glass, b) hard sustainable wood & cork flooring c) Free VOC paints, d) Fiberglass Alternative insulation materials (Recycled paper cellulose, cotton fiber spray foam, recycled shredded paper products, e) recycled floor trim & crown mouldings.</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.
<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 buy mostly organic food & personal cleaning products. Only buy environmentally friendly house cleaning products. Only buy organic dog food. Installed a water filter to filter main water line into my house, to eliminate having to use bottled drinking water.</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 .
<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>Reduce use of electricity for cooking by using gas grill 80% of the time versus electric stove/oven. I have eliminated using microwave oven to defrost food by planning meals ahead of time to allow for natural defrosting. Never leave lights on if I am not using them.</p> <p>Reduced waste: Recycle plastic shopping bags (using them multiple times), but bring my own cotton duffle bags to transport most of the items. Eventually, very soon, I will not be using any plastic or paper bags from grocery store.</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 recycle all my magazines and books, by donating them to our local post office reading material drop off area, I donate unneeded household and clothing items to needy organizations such as the Salvation Army & woman's abuse shelter. I try to limit my use of paper towels, by using cotton towels.</p>	
<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>I have encouraged neighbors and friends to donate electronics, clothes, cell phones, and electronics to appropriate facilities that accept them. I am currently working on obtaining recycling containers for City of Layton and the residents.</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.
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 .
<p>I volunteered to become City of Layton's GLEE representative to get involved with GLEE & to contribute to educating and bringing the awareness of GLEE & Green ideas (way of living) to our residents and local businesses. My goal for this year is to get our residents to recycle a lot more, and to hopefully encourage GLEE membership and participation. I also will share and promote green building materials & practices and provide Green material resources for those working on renovation projects, no matter how small the project.</p>	
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!

Other Business Factors

Team Commitment	List staff or other supportive people on your “Green Team”
Communications	How are your environmental efforts visibly communicated to staff, locals, tourists, shareholders, customers and/or vendors?
To my customers: I refer them to visit a great website called greenhomeguide.com which has been my primary resource of finding manufacturers/distributors of green materials & offers lots of options. I than spend time with them to develop ideas and concepts. My company is just starting to research, promote and utilize as many green products as possible; so in time, I'll have visible samples and a green portfolio to share.	
Certifications/Memberships	Do you currently hold any green certifications or memberships?
Not yet, but working on it. Currently am a Member of the Women's Council of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB - This organization if very involved/active all over the U.S. in GREEN education and networking. They also work and support many universities) . I am waiting for the next South Florida course to obtain Green Builder Certification & other classes and courses.	

Green Pledge

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

