



GLEE's 1st Annual Green Living Awards

Businesses Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to Expo 2008

Name of business: City/Island

Name of Applicant and relation to Business:

Summary

Electric Car and bicycles have replaced our automobiles for all old town jobs. Water and Temperature adjustments, CFL bulbs, recycling (paper, plastic, toner) are part of our daily norm. Our planned second story will be as green as financially viable. Entire staff is on board, touting our greening, via emails and high-profile gas-free transport. We hand out reusable grocery bags, made of recycled material, to decrease 'paper or plastic' throw-aways from local grocers. Our website's 'greenlinks' page is nearly complete. Our baby steps, this is only the start of a shared county-wide commitment to decrease our 'Carbon Barefootprint'

Accomplishments

<u>Renewable Energy</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of renewable energy.
<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>In late 2007 Vicki Gordon purchased an electric car, a Cadillac, and uses it to all on-island appraisals inspections. She then sold her Toyota convertible. The electric car is emblazoned with our logo, our official company car. This car requires under \$10 per month in electricity to meet all our business needs. Inspired by that, Appraiser Robin Lawrence has initiated a plan for all staff to use bicycles to do all Old Town appraisal inspections. Our bikes are also clearly marked 'Barefoot Appraisal,' and it is especially helpful when in neighborhoods where parking is sometimes impossible to find. (continued in next section Clean Boating) +</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 .
<p>(continuation of Clean Transportation, ran out of room)In April 2007, we performed over 30 appraisal inspections on the island of Key West, an average of 4 miles round trip. We expect to do nearly the same amount this year. We therefore have decreased our auto emissions the equivalent of 120 miles per month, or over 1,000 per year.</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>We have replaced all of our incandescent bulbs with the compact fluorescent “Dairy Queen” ones. The Office Mgr., Stephen Romandetta, is diligent about turning lights off in any empty rooms or hallways. We keep our A/C at 76 daytime, 80 at night. On temperate days we turn off the A/C and throw open the windows.</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>Plans are in the works for second story, with many ‘green’ features. Details are changing as we pursue financial and tax credits to make it viable. Will keep you informed.</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.

<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>We only order paper made at least in part, of recycled material. We recycle our empty toner/ink cartridges, either by taking them back to the local office supply shop or via UPS's return/recycle program. We have also purchased insulated re-useable green grocery totes, made of recycled material, which we use ourselves and hand out to many of our clients and friends. The intent is to decrease paper & plastic bag usage when grocery shopping.</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>For internal documentation and filing we use the flip-side of previously-used paper. We are required to save paperwork for 5 years. Once this time passes, our Office Manager only shreds private or personal documentation (Credit Card forms or valuation documents for example). The rest, including folders, are re-used for internal purposes.</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>Waste Management picks up our old or shredded papers weekly. Robin takes home all plastic and glass for recycling at home. We send all our toner/ink cartridges as suggested by the manufacturer, via UPS. Also to reiterate, our thermal re-useable grocery bags are made of recycled material.</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>Stephen's plans to join GLEE were interrupted by sudden increase in business (thank goodness). He expects to be able to attend events during the off-season slowdown.</p>	
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!
<p>In conjunction with new neighbors Marine Bank, a LMC (Leadership Monroe County) event is planned outdoors this summer. LMC Grads Esther Tupino & Todd German of Marine, as well as LMC Grad Vicki Gordon and former LMC Board Pres Stephen Romandetta plan to make this a green event, and will be seeking your input and guidance. Will keep you informed</p>	

Other Business Factors

Team Commitment	List staff or other supportive people on your “Green Team”
Vicki Gordon, Craig Martin, Robin Lawrence, Corey Broussard, Stephen Romandetta, and our four-legged compost machine, our dog Chica!	
Communications	How are your environmental efforts visibly communicated to staff, locals, tourists, shareholders, customers and/or vendors?
Corporate Email signatures include link to GLEE, Website makes mention of nomination, our green attempts, and links to green real estate and building websites. The corporate electric car is unique, garners attention, greetings, waves especially when going down Duval St. Folks have stopped into our office to ask about the electric car parked outside. Not to beat a dead horse, but those grocery totes are clearly marked with the three-arrow recycle logo. We will have our page of 'greenlinks,' information for homeowners and builders, on our website, by May 1, 2008. Will send you this 'under construction' page in an email later today.	
Certifications/Memberships	Do you currently hold any green certifications or memberships?

Green Pledge

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