



GLEE's 2nd Annual Green Living Awards

Local Governments Category

For Cumulative Efforts leading up to January 1st 2009

Name of Local Government: Islamorada, Village of Islands

City/Island

Name of Applicant and relation to Government: Cathi Hill Mayor

Summary

Islamorada's biggest contribution has been through adopting sustainable policies and initiating programs that establish a strong leadership position for Green Living. The most notable examples of Islamorada's contributions are: 1) extensive recycling efforts and expanded program; 2) Environmental Education Program and annual planting events and clean-up events that include student participation and youth education; 3) the land acquisition program fostering habitat conservation and the protection and propagation of threatened and endangered species; 4) reduction of vehicle fleet and efforts to replace vehicles with hybrids; 5) waiver of Building Department fees for solar and photovoltaic system installation to provide an incentive for residents to install such systems; 6) development of a comprehensive Environmental Sustainability Policy, updated regularly, for Village Employees - addressing all areas of Green Living in the workplace with the intent that it will affect overall lifestyle and encourage our employees to be part of the public education process.

Part 1: The Keyswide Sustain-Ability Project Checklist:

(As established in the inaugural KSAP meeting in May of 2007)

- Adopt [Mayors Climate Protection Agreement tenets](#) (date signed): June 14, 2007
- Establish a Green Team, & Staff liaison: Liaison & Team Names: Liaison: Mary Swaney
- Hold monthly Green Team meetings: # of Meetings Held: Incorporated into staff and Council meetings
- Develop a baseline of emissions: Date Began, Completed:
- Create an action plan: Date Began, Completed, Acted on: Implemented first Sustainability Plan Sept 2007
- Participate in quarterly KSAP meetings: # Mtgs Attended: As often as possible

Part 2: Accomplishments

<u>Renewable Energy</u>	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of appropriate solar, wind and bio generated sources of renewable energy.
<p>"Welcome to Islamorada" entrance signs are solar powered.</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>Implemented Anti-Idling Policy in 2007. Reduced Village vehicle fleet by six vehicles in January 2009. Budgeted for hybrid vehicles during Fiscal Year 2008-2009 to replace additional inefficient fleet vehicles; hybrid vehicles to be purchased/leased spring 2009. Conference calls are encouraged to reduce travel to meetings.</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>In July 2004, Plantation Yacht Harbor Marina was designated Florida's 82nd Clean Marina by the Department of Environmental Protection together with the Clean Boating Partnership. Environmental practices of the Clean Marina Program have continued.</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>Ten percent reduction in municipal electrical consumption established for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Electrical consumption for all Village facilities tracked since 2006. Energy efficient appliances to be purchased for new Community Center and Administrative Center and Public Safety Headquarters Building. Set standards for temperatures and use of lighting in Village office buildings.</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>Administrative Center and Public Safety Headquarters (construction to begin February 2009) will include a fibertite roof system, texcote paint (super coat cool wall system with heat reflecting properties) and SEER rated air conditioning units.</p> <p>The Founders Park Marina Restroom Pavilion construction includes infrared automatic shut-off faucets for water conservation and was designed to use natural air flow instead of air conditioning in the restrooms.</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.
Adopted resolution to waive building permit fees and inspection fees for solar and photovoltaic system installation.	
<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.
Began using biodegradable trash bags at Village parks in April 2008 and Village offices in June 2008, to be fully implemented as back-up supplies are depleted.	
<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 .
Over 58 acres of private land has been preserved from development through the Village's land acquisition program. The primary purpose of the program is habitat conservation and the protection of propagation of threatened endangered species. Each year, additional properties are considered for acquisition.	
<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.
Implemented Environmental Sustainability Policy for Village Employees in May 2008. Policy addresses requirements for recycling, energy conservation, reduction of paper use, and the use of recycled products. Staff are encouraged to be removed from mailing lists and utilize electronic documents as much as possible. Village facilities and parks either have or will receive recycle bins for aluminum or metal, plastics, bottles, and office paper	
<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.
Village staff have established practices of circulating publications rather than receiving duplicate publications.	

<u>R4 #3: Rot (Compost)</u>	Demonstrated waste diversion through composting of food scraps and yard trimmings
Public Works maintenance staff standard operating practices include chipping tree limb material into wood chips to be used as much on Village properties.	
<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
Increased materials accepted by Solid Waste provider in October 2008. Islamorada is the only location in the Florida Keys accepting #3, #4 and #5 plastics for recycling. Toner cartridges from Village printers are returned to the manufacturer for recycling. Cell phones and batteries are collected for recycling at Village Hall - for Village employees and the public. Trial "Pay-As-You-Throw" program to be implemented spring 2009.	
<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.
Cistern installed at Fire Station 19 (Lower Matecumbe Key Fire Station); Low-flow plumbing fixtures are in place at Founders Park Pool Complex and Fire Station 20; Minimized levels of water usage at Founders Park fields and landscaping since 2007 - Park able to comply with South Florida Water Management water restrictions throughout the year without loss of plantings; Village Code requires that at least 75% of required landscaping consist of native plants - requiring less watering; Re-use water to be utilized in Founders Park.	
Water Quality	Demonstrated use and/or promotion of wastewater treatment, storm water retention, phosphorus free products, slow release fertilizers, animal waste reduction, etc.
Wastewater Master Plan adopted by the Village Council in 2005. Implementation of wastewater treatment systems currently in progress to meet the requirements of Laws of Florida Chapter 99-395. Stormwater Management Master Plan adopted in 2000. Stormwater projects are identified to be completed as funding can be identified and obtained. The stormwater project on Indian Key Fill received an Environmental Project of the Year Award in 2004. Implemented a Water Quality Monitoring Program in 2004.	
Youth Leadership	Involve local students in projects and research for healthy long-term choices in any of the above for the future of all.
Volunteer student projects have been used for water quality testing for the Water Quality Monitoring program, planting projects on Village-owned conservation properties and Village clean-up events. Initiated Environmental Education Programs at Village conservation properties to educate students about indigenous plants - increasing students' knowledge and appreciation of their environment.	

GLEE Participation	Actively involved with GLEE via ideas, time and/or membership to help further GLEE's Mission and Goals .
<p>The Mayor, Vice Mayor, Councilmembers and Village staff attend GLEE meetings when possible. GLEE email and website is reviewed regularly for new initiatives, ideas and information.</p>	
Other Factors	Have you done something else not included in the scope of this application? Let us know!
<p>Annual support and participation in an Earth Day planting event on Village property. Clean-up events are held at locations in the Village throughout the year. Islamorada was the first Florida Keys municipality to adopt an Environmental Sustainability Plan by resolution.</p>	

Part 3: Other Local Government Factors:

Team Commitment	List staff or other supportive people on your "Green Team"
<p>Council: Mayor Cathi Hill, Vice Mayor Don Achenberg, Councilmen Dave Boerner and Michael Reckwerdt and Councilwoman Jill Zima Borski Staff: Zully Hemeyer, Gerry Albertson, Ed Koconis, Cindy Lawson, Mary Swaney, Beverly Raddatz, William Wagner, Jason Lyman, Stu Bautz, Mary Swaney, Kevin Bond, Cheryl Cioffari</p>	
Communications	How are your environmental efforts visibly communicated to staff, citizens, tourists, and/or vendors?
<p>Recycling bins are prominent at Village Hall and Village parks; A section on the homepage of the Village website is dedicated to Environmental Sustainability; New logos have been designed for garbage trucks and recycling trucks that are used in the Village; New brochures are being produced for distribution to promote commercial and residential recycling; Newspaper ads were placed to inform and educate the public regarding the additional recyclable materials; A requirement for public education was added to the solid waste contract.</p>	
Certifications/Memberships	Do you currently hold any green certifications or memberships?
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Part 4: Green Pledge

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

