



City Programs to Promote Green Initiatives

This report has been prepared to advise the public on several programs that have been or will be implemented in the near future to promote "Green" initiatives. Many states and cities are adopting similar initiatives in order to save energy, conserve precious natural resources and reduce our impact on climate change. These initiatives over time will also reduce our annual operating cost and impacts on the environment.

The following is an outline of the City's Go Green Initiatives:

- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) will be implemented as a priority over the next several months where it has been determined to be feasible by the using department. EPP is the procurement of goods and services that have a reduced impact on human health and the environment as compared to other goods and services serving the same purpose.
- Expansion of City Government operations recycling program is in process and should be on line over the next two weeks. This will provide for additional opportunities to recycle most paper products produced by the school and our operations.
- Expansion of paperless technology has allowed the city operations to reduce the amount of paper. As you are aware over the past six months many documents have gone from paperless to electronic and several other initiatives are being reviewed for possible implication in the future.
- The Records Management Program has been accelerated to reduce the storage of documents. By scanning old documents in electronic form and destroying old hard copy records in accordance with the state laws, we have eliminated the need for 1500 square feet of storage and reducing energy costs.
- Energy efficient vehicles are being reviewed for possible replacement of the Community Services and Code Enforcement operation fleet. This included replacing vehicles with hybrids and flexible fuel all purpose vehicles. City policies

have been adopted to encourage City employees to implement fuel management and energy savings practices.

- Several programs have been instituted to reduce energy cost and reduce the impact our environment. The use of environmentally responsible replacements for light bulbs and other building materials has been in practice over the past year. We continue to monitor and reduce water consumption in the City's irrigation systems on a year round basis.
- Promoting environmental awareness to our students at the Charter School continues to be a priority. The science curriculum in all grades includes environmental awareness education. The sixth grade garden project is an excellent example of a project that introduce recycling and composting concepts.
- An article in the next newsletter will address promoting individual condominiums and homeowners associations to institute or expand recycling programs. We also intend to feature and recognize successful programs in upcoming newsletters.

As you see much has been started to implement our Go Green initiatives and we plan to continue to expand the program in the future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact City Manager Eric M. Soroka at 305-466-8910.