



CITY OF DELRAY BEACH



GREEN & SUSTAINABILITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS & TALKING POINTS

The City of Delray Beach, through its focus on being more Green & Sustainable, is working to educate our community on the importance of sustainability and take on good, energy and environmentally efficient projects with the hope of setting the example for our residential and business communities in reducing our overall costs while lowering our greenhouse gas emissions. Some of the City's green & sustainability efforts and accomplishments include:

- . The City has recently stopped its practice of injecting this water into the Atlantic Ocean (except under emergency conditions), which had been the practice for decades. This effort, which was **completed approximately 10 years ahead of schedule**, has helped to reduce potential pollution concerns and ensure the beauty of our pristine beaches
- . **Hired a Sustainability Officer with federal grant funding** - EECBG – Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant – to serve as the City's lead official in educating/publicizing City green and sustainability efforts and carrying out sustainability appraisals and strategic environmental assessments necessary for City projects and investments
- . Established a permanent advisory Board to the City Commission in June 2009 that is tasked **with providing recommendations to the City Commission and the City Manager** on ways to improve the environmental sustainability within the City
- . The GIAB was created from the City's Green Task Force (GTF), which was tasked by the City Commission in to develop recommendations on how the City could be more Green & Sustainable. The GTF's Report resulted in more than 120 recommendations being developed to improve or green the City's operations. To date, **almost 100 of these recommendations have already been implemented and/or are in the works to be completed**
- . Partnering with Florida Atlantic University (FAU) - at **no cost to the City** – to complete a baseline measurement of greenhouse gas emissions that are directly generated from the City of Delray Beach's day-to-day operations
- . Federal stimulus grant funding was utilized to replace 116 outdoor lighting fixtures with 82 new, green fixtures at Pompey Park. This project not only is greener, but it is also more sustainable as it is expected to lead to **\$15,000 to \$20,000 in energy cost savings annually** (and more than \$300,000 is expected over a 20 year period)
- . The Police Department is expecting **electric savings of almost \$30,000 annually** due to the installation of energy efficient retrofit improvements and conservation efforts by staff. These retrofits, which are funded with EECBG dollars, include replacing approximately 226 existing overhead lights with T-8 bulbs and electronic ballasts and installing motion sensors throughout the building. The City plans to implement similar energy efficient improvements in all City facilities (which will also be funded by the EECBG Federal grant) that are expected to lower the City's overall electric budget

- . Implemented an aggressive PILOT recycling program that is resulting in **the reduction of garbage being thrown away by more than one-half**. And as a result, recycling has dramatically increased. For example, when the PILOT project started in February, employees involved in the project threw away almost 10,000 pounds of garbage. The following month garbage dropped to 3,600 pounds and recycling increased to 4,650 pounds

Other examples of ways the City is attempting to reduce our emission levels (and save on fuel and electric costs) before the GHG is completed includes:

- . Utilizing hybrid and propane powered vehicles - 17 vehicles in our City fleet
- . Turning off office lights and computer monitors when not in use or out of the office
- . Encouraging our staff to stop idling City vehicles
- . Installed re-use water lines to some of the City's highest water users (State grant money) and increased rates for higher consumption
- . City applied for a federal grant to install a compressed natural-gas fueling station at the City's Environmental Services facility on Swinton Avenue. This would make it possible to save on fuel costs and increase the use of this more environmental friendly fuel in many of the city's fleet vehicles. The fueling station could also be used as a revenue source with the City selling the alternative fuel to other government organizations or private companies with large fleets
- . Pursuing the Florida Green Building Coalition's (FGBC) Green Local Government Standard, which will make Delray Beach one of the first Cities in Palm Beach County and one of a limited number around the state to achieve this important environmental recognition
- . The City of Delray Beach is partnering with the Atlantic High School Construction Academy, with the support of the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), to construct a second *Eagle Nest* House - 232 NW 8th Avenue. This project partners students with City staff, a local architect and contractors to design and build an affordable home **incorporating "green" standards** in the Delray Beach community