



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

Monthly Energy/Efficiency and Sustainability TIP SHEET September 2010

As part of its City Charter-defined mission to advise the Mayor and Common Council on environmental issues affecting the City, the Buffalo Environmental Management Commission submits a monthly "tip sheet" on a timely topic for information, review and consideration. This month's tip sheet showcases the Miami-Dade County's green government award.

Miami-Dade County received the "Most Outstanding Green Government" award on August 28, 2010 at the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) South Florida Chapter's GalaVerde: The 2010 LEEDership and Green Awards Program. At GalaVerde, USGBC South Florida Chapter recognized and honored outstanding projects, inspirational businesses, dedicated individuals, and instrumental Chapter members who are LEEDing the way to a more sustainably built environment in the South Florida community. In addition, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Natacha Seijas was recognized as a 2010 LEED for Outstanding Green Elected Official final nominee.

Miami-Dade County was recognized for its long history of implementing sustainable initiatives, including:

- Demonstrating a commitment to integrating sustainability initiatives and/or community outreach programs through the development of its sustainability plan, "GreenPrint;" membership in the Chicago Climate Exchange; the adoption and implementation of the Green Building Ordinance which created the Office of Sustainability; and the successful implementation of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program and other natural resources conservation programs;
- Demonstrating a commitment to creating and supporting sustainable operations by incorporating sustainability efforts into 2009-10 departmental business plans linked to performance scorecards and senior management appraisals; launching the Employee Green Pledge and Power it Down Initiative in order to educate the workforce and change behavioral patterns to save energy, fuel and water; and incorporating a sustainability module in the County's supervisory and construction management training;
- Demonstrating advocacy of a sustainable lifestyle by creating sustainability/green branding for Miami-Dade County to better communicate green and sustainable messaging; re-designing green.miamidade.gov in order to educate its visitors on sustainability; the launch of the CFL Light Bulb Exchange program alongside the already popular and successful showerhead exchange; and, the launch of the residential and business energy savings challenges and the home energy savings workshops; and,
- Demonstrating alignment with the USGBC South Florida Chapter Mission to promote sustainable development and green building through the establishment of the Green Buildings Ordinance and having 15 green buildings projects in planning, design or under construction; having 71 LEED-APs and two certified energy managers in the County workforce; and, by providing additional County staff with LEED-AP training for new construction.

For additional information on Miami-Dade's green efforts, visit <http://green.miamidade.gov>.

If you have any questions regarding the tip sheet please contact Joe Gardella (Interim Chair, BEMC) at gardella@buffalo.edu or Dennis Sutton (BEMC support staff) at dsutton@city-buffalo.com. We look forward to any input on the monthly tip sheet.

BEMC members are willing to attend any meetings to promote implementation of these programs in the City of Buffalo. BEMC meets the third Wednesday of each month, 8:00 AM, 920 City Hall. The web site address for the BEMC is:

http://www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/Home/CityServices/Environmental_Management_Commission.