

[« Back](#)[Print](#)

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September 2006

Envision Florida

Defining Excellence for Florida's Economic, Environmental and Social Future!

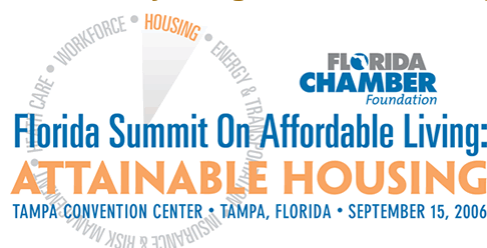
Tim,

The primary elections are over and now the real campaigns begin. The Council and many of you have been campaigning for quite some time to create a sustainable Florida.

We invite the candidates to adopt our vision for Florida - one that includes continued economic growth, protection of our natural resources and opportunity for all to enjoy a safe and vibrant quality of life. Read on to find out what you can do to help achieve our vision.

Affordable Living Summit - Attainable Housing

This Friday, August 15th in Tampa



About 65% of existing economically active households in Florida **cannot afford** the typical home priced at \$241,000 as of July 2006. Whether you call it affordable, workforce or attainable, the need exists and experts will be convening in Tampa beginning at 8:30 AM to explore solutions to this crisis.

The Florida Chamber Foundation is hosting a statewide summit sponsored by Employ Florida, Florida Association of Realtors, Florida Home Builders Association, and Publix Super Markets Charities. The meeting is open to the public.

[Explore this and other upcoming events...](#)

Campus Sustainability Conference to Focus on Best Practices

Head to Gainesville Next Month



Florida's own Pulitzer-prize winning journalist and award winning novelist Carl Hiaasen will close out the inaugural **Campus & Community Sustainability Conference**.

Hosted by the University of Florida, the theme is ***Sharing Best Practices and Visions for Florida's Future***.

The Council is a proud sponsor of the conference and is working with UF to provide something for everyone. Plans are also underway to hold the event at a different University campus each Fall. Let us know if you are interested in getting involved.

[Learn more and register now...](#)

Collins Center and Elections

Collins Center - Thinking. Doing. For Florida.



The 2000 Presidential Elections reminded us the importance of free and fair elections and that all citizens want confidence in their democratic form of government. The Collins Center was asked by Governor Bush to provide independent staff support for the select bi-partisan task force charged with reforming the system.

The work resulted in the Election Reform Act of 2001 and was heralded as the most sweeping election reform legislation passed by any state legislature. But the work is not over. The Collins Center conducts a bi-annual survey of voter confidence to ensure that the reforms are working.

[Discover the Collins Center for Public Policy...](#)

Partner Highlight: Hopping Green & Sams Law Firm

Council Partner Is Not Your Usual Firm



There's an old joke about a 45-year old lawyer arguing at the pearly gates that he was too young to die only to find out from St. Peter that he was 95 years old according to his billable hours. But

CSF Partner and Tallahassee- based **Hopping Green and Sams** law firm have a totally different take on billable hours.

As part of our ongoing effort to highlight our partners and their efforts to help create a sustainable Florida, Hopping Green is taking care of business and their employees. Lawyers and support staff are rewarded a little differently than most firms.

[Learn more about CSF Partner Hopping Green and Sams and others...](#)

How Can I Become Sustainable at Home?

When's the last time you changed a light bulb?



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRISTOPHER GRIFFITH

If all the talk of global warming and increasing energy costs seem overwhelming - there's hope. In fact, there is more than hope, because there are hundreds of things we can each do at home, in the office and on the road that can help create a more sustainable future for Florida.

The Council's website now features a **How to Be Sustainable** page. For example, if we all replaced one incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb (like the one pictured here) it would be the equivalent of **taking 1.3 million cars off the road.**

[Learn how to become \(more\) sustainable today!](#)

News and Notes



The Century Commission is moving forward with its charge to shape a vision of Florida and develop a strategic action plan to achieve that vision using 25 and 50 year planning time frames. The Commission next meets in Tallahassee in November.

In Florida's panhandle the **Committee for a Sustainable Emerald Coast** has been created, appointed and is meeting for the first time this week in Niceville. Chaired by attorney Michelle Anchors, the 25-member committee is being supported by Florida State University's Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium and the FSU Institute of Government.

[Find out more news...](#)

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