



**2008**  
**BEST PRACTICE AWARDS**  
*Nomination Packet*

**Due April 10, 2008**

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Sustainable Florida - Collins Center is pleased to accept nominations for the 2008 Sustainable Florida Best Practice Awards. This is our tenth year hosting the awards – its signature event of the year. Sustainable Florida has recognized more than one hundred businesses, organizations and individuals for their dynamic work in helping to create sustainable Florida.

Since 1990, the Sustainable Florida has exhibited a firm commitment to improve Florida's environment and economy, while building a safer, healthier, higher quality of life for all of its citizens. With the support of its many partners, Sustainable Florida identifies business, government, and community groups that demonstrate outstanding achievements and excellence in general sustainability practices.

Previous Sustainable Florida Best Practice award recipients have been rewarded for their efforts to conserve water, revitalize coastlines, implement cleaner more efficient processes for air and water, preserve and promote agricultural practices, create green developments that reduce energy and water usage and save residents money, adopt and implement practices to create sustainable communities, companies and campuses, develop win-win solutions to enable smart growth while preserving green space and native habitat, and many more. You can read about past winners at our website – [www.SustainableFlorida.org](http://www.SustainableFlorida.org).

A blue ribbon panel of leaders in government, business, civic and environmental organizations, and academic institutions will evaluate the nominees. Nominees will be recognized at a formal awards program and honored for their achievements by the Governor and Cabinet in June.

The Sustainable Florida Best Practice Awards Program has successfully recognized and disseminated "Statewide Best Practices." The annual awards program identifies best management practices for sustainability in Florida and encourages their widespread replication. Together we acknowledge that both the environment and the economy are vital to the well being of our citizens, and we recognize that a sustainable future is Florida's only future.

As an integral part of the Collins Center, Sustainable Florida serves as an independent, non-profit and non-partisan alliance that serves as the primary statewide collaborator on sustainability issues. Its mission is to advance the vision of sustainability by identifying, supporting and communicating best management practices---those which protect and preserve Florida's environment for the future while building markets for Florida's businesses by enhancing their competitive advantages today.



## **Nominee/Award Winner Benefits**

### **All nominees will be:**

- Listed on the Sustainable Florida website – [www.SustainableFlorida.org](http://www.SustainableFlorida.org);
- Highlighted in Sustainable Florida's e-newsletter – *Envision Florida*;
- Listed in the Awards Program invitation to be sent to more than 1,500 individuals, organizations universities, businesses and elected officials; and
- Invited to the annual awards program in June.

### **Sustainable Florida Best Practice award winners will receive:**

- The specially designed Sustainable Florida Best Practice Award;
- A spotlight article on the website – [www.SustainableFlorida.org](http://www.SustainableFlorida.org);
- A highlighted feature in awards program literature;
- Designation as a "Sustainability Ambassador" by Sustainable Florida;
- Signage and winner logo identifying your company as a distinguished Sustainable Best Practice Award winner; and
- Winner logo in electronic format for placement on your marketing collateral

## **Eligibility**

- 2007 winners are not eligible for the 2008 competition in the same category or for the same program.
- Nominees are encouraged to reapply. However, a nominee may not be nominated for the same category more than two (2) consecutive years.
- All categories must have a minimum of three applicants. Categories not meeting this minimum requirement will not be judged. Organizations nominated in a category that does not receive enough nominations will have the option to compete in another appropriate category.
- A nominee's application must include sustainability efforts in at least one of the following: environmental integrity, quality of life, economic security or community involvement.

## **Judging**

An Evaluation Team including leaders in government, business, civic and environmental organizations, and academic institutions will evaluate nominees. Any team member who is a principal, officer or employee of a nominee will be released from the team. Winners will be formally recognized at the awards celebration in Tallahassee, Florida, in June 2008.

## **Application Fee**

A \$100 application fee is required unless a hardship waiver is requested.

To be eligible for consideration for an award, nominees must complete and submit the enclosed application by **April 10, 2008**. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Please be clear and concise. Supportive materials are accepted and should be included with application.



Due April 10, 2008

## APPLICATION

### I. Nominee and Contact Information

<b>Nominee(s)</b>	
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Is the nominee a(n)  Individual  Company  Partnership

Is the nominee a(n)  Initiative  One-time Project  Policy

<b>Name</b>	_____				
<i>Title (Mr., Ms., Dr.)</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>	<i>Last</i>	<i>Suffix</i>	<i>Preferred Name</i>
<b>Title</b>	_____				
<b>Company</b>	_____				
<b>Street Address</b>	_____				
<b>City, St.</b>	_____	<b>Zip</b>	_____		
<b>Mailing Address</b> <i>(if different)</i>	_____				
<b>City, St.</b>	_____	<b>Zip</b>	_____		
<b>Phone</b>	_____	<b>Fax</b>	_____		
<b>E-mail address/website</b>	_____				

### Nominator

<b>Name</b>	_____				
<i>Title (Mr., Ms., Dr.)</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>	<i>Last</i>	<i>Suffix</i>	<i>Preferred Name</i>
<b>Title</b>	_____				
<b>Company</b>	_____				
<b>Street Address</b>	_____				
<b>City, St.</b>	_____	<b>Zip</b>	_____		
<b>Mailing Address</b> <i>(if different)</i>	_____				
<b>City, St.</b>	_____	<b>Zip</b>	_____		
<b>Phone</b>	_____	<b>Fax</b>	_____		
<b>E-mail address/website</b>	_____				



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## II. Award Category & Description

*Please select appropriate category for which you are nominating*

- Sustainable Florida Small Business Award** – for individuals or companies with fewer than 50 employees and/or sales of less than \$5 million annually
- Sustainable Florida Large Business Award** – for companies with more than 50 employees and/or sales of more than \$5 million annually
- Sustainable Florida Governmental Award** – includes programs and offices of local municipal and county government, school district, community college, and state university and state agencies
- Sustainable Florida Non-Profit Award** – for 501(c) charitable, education, healthcare, faith-based, membership organizations and associations, foundations, etc.
- Green Building Award** – Recognizing outstanding examples of sustainable practice in the built environment.
- Business Partnership Award** – For extraordinary collaboration between two or more organizations that create and promote sustainable development principles.

In addition, Sustainable Florida, in collaboration with a statewide business association or other partner may present a special partnership award to recognize an individual or organization in such fields as architecture, agriculture, engineering, etc., whose contributions serve to create a more sustainable future for Florida.

- Sustainable Florida Leadership Award** – Recognizing an individual civic leader, business leader, current or former state legislator, elected official, state department head, policy leader or entity, an individual journalist, scholarly author or media organization that has demonstrated an innovative spirit for implementing new ideas and processes for a sustainable Florida or has helped keep sustainability in the forefront of the public eye.

## III. Classify Nominee

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Profit Business     | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen/Community Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Business     | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Institution | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual(s)           |

## IV. Signature

By signing, I certify that all of the information on and attached to this application is true, correct, complete and made in good faith.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*



Due April 10, 2008

## V. Description of Initiative

Provide an overview of the project, process or initiative performed by the nominee. In addition to detailing how this initiative has contributed to a more sustainable future for Florida, please include start date, participants, partners involved, sponsors, approximate costs, accomplishments or outcomes and any other pertinent details. Please highlight how the efforts have contributed to economic growth, environmental responsibility and improved quality of life. Limit the initiative description to 500 words or fewer on one page.

## VI. Nominee Criteria

The following criteria will be used to select the winner in each category. Please provide information and examples of how the business, organization, etc., best demonstrates excellence for each criterion. Please limit response to this portion to five (5) pages or fewer.

1. **Economic Viability/Security:** Detail how your initiative's success positively impacted the economic viability of an area, issue, activity, or group. Please provide clear, measurable results highlighting how your involvement contributed and how it can be sustained for the long term. If applicable, indicate net costs with net savings and/or benefits or generation of non-monetary benefits.
2. **Environmental Integrity:** Detail the environmental benefits of your initiative—how it conserves, protects or restores resources, mitigates negative impacts and improves the environmental quality.
3. **Replication:** Explain how your initiative can be replicated/and or adopted elsewhere. Please indicate if you are willing to disseminate this best practice statewide.
4. **Regulatory vs. Voluntary:** Indicate if your initiative was self initiated or mandated by federal and/or state law. Explain in what measurable way this initiative exceeded and surpassed goals.
5. **Innovation/Leadership:** Indicate how this initiative used new approaches/technologies, to create a proven sustainable activity. Focus on achievements and how they will impact the future.

## VII. Submittal Process

To ensure that the application process is complete, please enclose four unbound copies of the following:

- **Signed application**
- **Description of Initiative** – one page (500 words or fewer)
- **Nominee Criteria** – provide a response to the five criteria (5 pages or fewer)
- **Supportive materials** – additional materials will be accepted, but are not required. Supportive materials include: letters, award citations, press articles, newsletters, pictures, etc. Please limit attachments to 10 pages (8 ½" x 11") total and do not send large format items. Copies are accepted. Materials will not be returned. Total packet should not exceed 18 pages total.
- **Application Fee** – For each nomination please submit an application fee of \$100. Payment should be made payable to: Collins Center for Public Policy – memo: *Sust. FL. 2008 Awards*. If you can neither afford nor provide payment please indicate such hardship in a cover letter. No nomination will be rejected due to lack of payment.



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**Applications should be mailed to:**

Sustainable Florida  
Collins Center for Public Policy  
2008 Best Practice Awards  
1415 E Piedmont Drive, Suite One  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

To be eligible for consideration for an award, nominees must complete and submit the enclosed application by **April 10, 2008**. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

For additional information, contact Tim Center, Director, Sustainable Florida, at 850/219.0082, x 104 or [tcenter@collinscenter.org](mailto:tcenter@collinscenter.org).