



**HAWTHORNE
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**
445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506

Green Business Recognition Program Criteria

Executive Summary

Since 1988, the Environmental Commission has conducted the Annual June Environmental Education Program. The program is a partnership between the Hawthorne Environmental Commission, Board of Education, and the Borough of Hawthorne. The program recognizes students who have participated in any environmental projects designed to preserve or improve the environment.

Starting in June 2010, the Environmental Commission expanded the Annual June Environmental Program to nominate and recognize local residents and “green” businesses for their environmental awareness and efforts within the community. The Environmental Commission nominates and selects one Green Business to be the Annual Green Business recognized in Hawthorne. Each participant receives a Certificate of Accomplishment awarded by the Mayor of Hawthorne, and Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Environmental Commission. The Certificate states “For developing interest in the saving of our environment through increased knowledge, planning, recycling and control of our natural resources and For setting an environmental example designed to make Hawthorne and the rest of our world a better, safer place for all of us and future generations to live.”

The Green Business of the year is publicized in the local newspapers and the Borough’s Environmental Commission webpage.

Program Criteria

Promote and demonstrate Environmental Leadership

- “Think Locally, Act Globally”
- Taking the initiative and setting an example of how to make a difference
- Add value to the community by instituting green and sustainable practices

Waste Management

- Reduce waste generated
- Reduce product packaging
- Reduce paper use
- Increase recycling
- Purchase recycled materials
- Manufacture or sell recycled products
- Compost food scraps and yard waste
- Educate employees

Energy Use

- Purchase electricity generated from renewable sources
- Invest in on-site solar or wind energy
- Install a geothermal heating and cooling system
- Conduct an energy audit
- Install energy efficient light bulbs and appliances
- Earn the ENERGY STAR for a commercial or industrial facility

Water Conservation

- Install low flow toilets and aerators for faucets and shower heads
- Use native, drought tolerant plants to reduce landscape watering
- Serve drinking water only by request
- Recycle grey water

Pollution Reduction

- Eliminate the use of toxic chemicals in production processes.
- Use green cleaning supplies.
- Purchase green products.
- Produce or sell environmentally friendly items.

Green Building and Landscaping

- Install a green roof. Implement sustainable landscaping practices
- Construct a rain garden
- Use no or low Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) paints and sustainable building materials.
- Achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification or other green building standards for a commercial or industrial facility

Community Participation

- Sponsor community events
- Sponsor local teams
- Promote and participate shop local campaigns
- Collaborate with other businesses