Go Green, Save Green

The St. Louis Regional Office of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) extends our appreciation to your business/organization for your efforts to protect our environment. MDNR invites you to join other businesses in a voluntary effort to protect our air, land, and water resources.

Go Green, Save Green is a new initiative that identifies a simple menu of measures from which companies, institutions and/or communities can easily select and implement "sustainable practices". By doing five green things, you can positively impact both the environment and the operational bottom line.

The benefits for your company/organization include:
- ✓ Improve the health of the community in which you live/work
- ✓ Improve operational efficiency
- ✓ Enhance institutional image
- ✓ Positive Media/Public Relations

To participate, choose five (or more) voluntary efforts in one or more categories:

- Energy
- Water Resources
- Air Resources
- Solid Waste/Residuals Mngmt.

After your businesses has completed doing five new green things, please send this information to your MDNR contact. Participants will receive a Certificate of Appreciation from MDNR and become eligible for inclusion in future Go Green, Save Green media acknowledgements and/or recognition events, as they are developed.

Please contact MDNR for any assistance you may need. Comments, suggestions, or success stories may be sent to GoGreen.SLRO@dnr.mo.gov

**The Following Organizations Support
The Go Green, Save Green Initiative:**

(to be contacted)

American Lung Association of the Central States
Associated Industries of Missouri
Home Builders Association of St. Louis
Missouri Botanical Garden
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
Missouri Municipal League
St. Louis Regional Chamber & Growth Association
U.S. Green Building Council - St. Louis Regional Chapter

MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL
RESOURCES

GO GREEN – ENERGY

Energy use contributes to air pollution in the St. Louis region, destruction of our natural resources, and is linked to global climate change. Make a commitment to reduce your overall energy use by at least 10% by taking the Energy Star Challenge at www.ENERGYSTAR.gov/challenge OR

DO FIVE NEW GREEN THINGS!

☐	Install and use computer programs that save energy by automatically turning off idle computer monitors and printers.
☐	Install low-flow faucet aerators - an inexpensive way to reduce your business' water consumption as much as 50% and reduce your energy cost of heating the water also by as much as 50%.
☐	Purchase ENERGY STAR labeled electronics (www.ENERGYSTAR.gov).
☐	Plug office equipment into a timer switch to turn off after working hours.
☐	Have your heating and cooling system serviced and install high efficiency models for replacement.
☐	Retrofit exit signs with new LED fixtures or LED retrofit kits.
☐	Upgrade existing fluorescent lighting with more energy efficient (t-5 or t-8) fluorescent lamps with electronic ballasts. Recycle old fluorescent bulbs to avoid mercury release into the environment.
☐	Install an ENERGY STAR labeled programmable thermostat to automate your HVAC system. This "smart thermostat" can turn on the HVAC one hour before arrival instead of heating or cooling unoccupied space.
☐	Use an ink jet printer for day-to-day use, and reserve laser printing for finish work. Ink jet printers use 90% less energy.
☐	Replace old appliances with ENERGY STAR labeled appliances and take advantage of the "Show Me Green Sales Tax Holiday." For 2009 and every year thereafter, beginning on April 19th and ending April 25th, all sales of Energy Star certified new appliances will be exempt from Missouri state sales tax.
☐	Reduce the cost of cooling your building & extend the life of the roof by adding a green roof (could reduce MSD stormwater fee) http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/greeninfrastructure/technology.cfm
☐	Plant shade trees & replace turf grass lawn areas that need mowing with native vegetation that does not need mowing to reduce energy use and air pollution. Visit http://www.epa.gov/greenscapes/

GO GREEN – HAZARDOUS WASTE

☐	Use a thinner or solvent recycler to reuse waste thinner; this reduces the costs associated with buying thinner as well as disposal costs.
☐	Implement industry-specific ideas for hazardous waste reduction by visiting the Toxics Use Reduction Institute at www.turi.org/
☐	Join the End of Life Vehicle Solutions program and collect mercury containing switches at your auto body shop or repair shop. www.elvsolutions.org./index.htm

GO GREEN – WATER POLLUTION

There are several streams in the St. Louis region that do not meet water quality standards. Anything that enters a storm drain goes UNTREATED into the same water bodies that we may use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water. That's not healthy for people, plants, or animals! Storm water run-off from businesses is one of the major contributors to urban run-off pollution.

DO FIVE NEW GREEN THINGS!

☐	Sweep parking lots and sidewalks, and dispose of sweepings with solid waste instead of hosing them into a storm drain. This saves water and prevents pollutants from entering local streams.
☐	Never blow grass clippings and leaves in the street or down a storm drain. Such clippings and leaves biodegrade in streams and provide unnecessary nutrients that will degrade water quality.
☐	Cover areas where potential pollutants such as trash, grease, paints, detergents, salt, and metals are stored. If uncovered, exposure to rain will create polluted run-off. Keep these materials covered, labeled, and stored in appropriate containers that are regularly emptied.
☐	Develop spill prevention and control plans. Make sure drains in areas where chemicals are used are connected to the sanitary sewer. If a spill occurs, clean up with rags, damp mops, and dry absorbent material where needed. Clean any spills promptly without water.
☐	Place drip pans underneath all containers, fittings, valves, where materials are likely to spill or leak. Leaking equipment or vehicles should be maintained to fix leaks.
☐	Clean equipment, floor mats, garbage cans, etc., indoors using phosphate-free detergents and non-toxic cleaners. Pour dirty water into a sink or floor drain that drains to the sewer system.
☐	Wash vehicles at a commercial wash so that water is recycled and drained to the sanitary sewer. Detergents, phosphates, oil, and other residue from washing cars can harm stream aquatic life.
☐	Apply deicing salts and sand only when snow or ice is present, not as a preventative measure. Use less toxic deicers such as calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) or potassium acetate rather than sodium chloride and other salts. Avoid excessive application. Sweep up remaining deicing residue and grit from pavement as soon as snow and ice has melted. Recycle or dispose of with solid waste.
☐	Label storm drains to remind employees that discharges to these drains flow into streams. Educate employees about stormwater by putting a copy an educational flyer in with the paycheck such as http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/solution_to_pollution.pdf
☐	Keep a supply of storm drain covers or plugs on hand. Make sure employees know where they are stored & how to use them in the event of a chemical spill. Keep these items in a high profile location.
☐	Minimize pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer use. Avoid use when heavy rain is predicted. Fertilizer may not be needed on lawns planted where grass clippings are left on the lawn. Plant trees and native drought-tolerant vegetation that thrives with little watering and minimal herbicide or pesticide use. Visit http://www.epa.gov/greenscapes/

GO GREEN – AIR POLLUTION

The St. Louis Region is a non-attainment area for federal clean air standards. Air pollution contributes to ground-level ozone or smog, which aggravates respiratory and heart disease. Air pollution contributes to a lower quality environment in the St. Louis region and may contribute to global warming.

DO FIVE NEW GREEN THINGS!

☐	Promote carpooling at the workplace and encourage employees to join Ridefinders to commute to the workplace. Businesses can also join as partners to receive incentives. Visit www.ridefinders.org/
☐	Buy only the most fuel-efficient vehicles and equipment. Compare mileage at www.fueleconomy.gov/
☐	Use aqueous parts washers instead of parts washers that use solvents. If a solvent washer must be used, keep the lid closed. Turn off the parts washer when not in use to reduce solvent evaporation.
☐	Use an enclosed solvent paint gun washing system to reduce evaporation when cleaning equipment. It can decrease costs by cutting the amount of solvent used for cleaning by more than 50%, the labor time by 60%, and air pollution by 70% to 90%.
☐	Use water based paint instead of solvent based paint. Roll or brush apply sealants and paints instead of spray, and air dry when possible rather than oven dry.
☐	Use HVLP spray guns when spray application is required.
☐	Use low-VOC or zero-VOC paints, primers, adhesives, sealants and chemicals to reduce smog producing chemicals.
☐	Minimize dust producing activities by doing crushing, drilling, machining, screening, etc., when wet.
☐	Instead of cleaning with solvents, use a water-based cleaning system such as hot soap washers. These systems eliminate the costly purchase of chlorinated solvents. This can save up to 95% in operation costs. Make sure you notify your sewer district before installing.
☐	Offer and promote direct deposit of paychecks.
☐	Promote employee awareness of air quality initiatives through newsletters, e-mails and work place displays. Join the St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership at http://www.cleanair-stlouis.com
☐	Support telecommuting, compressed work weeks and flex-time to allow employees to commute less or during non-peak travel hours.
☐	Avoid using gas-powered tools such as leaf-blowers. Operating a gas-powered lawn mower for one hour produces as much pollution as driving a car 50 miles. Specify and use efficient or electric lawnmowers in maintenance activities and contracts.

GO GREEN – SOLID WASTE

The generation and subsequent disposal of solid waste depletes natural resources, fills up our landfills and contributes to air, land and water pollution. When we reduce, reuse, and recycle, there are many environmental benefits. Making new products out of recycled materials uses less energy, creates less air and water pollution, conserves our natural resources and saves limited landfill space.

DO FIVE NEW GREEN THINGS!

☐	Buy in bulk or concentrate and save on purchasing costs.
☐	Buy and/or manufacture products with little or no packaging. Specify in purchasing documents that products should have minimal packaging that has recycled content and is recyclable.
☐	Instead of bottled water and bottled water vending machines in your facility, provide a refillable water cooler, water fountain, or a filter for tap water and re-usable company mugs instead.
☐	Utilize only office paper with a minimum of 30% post consumer recycled content. Make a commitment to purchase products made from recycled materials when available. The Missouri Recycled Products Directory is available at http://www.dnr.mo.gov/eiera/.
☐	Set up a recycling program for office paper, plastic, cardboard, etc., or add a new material to your existing program. Visit http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/recycle/documents/business_recycling.doc or http://www.swmd.net/rrr/index.php for a regional database of recycling service providers.
☐	Set the defaults on printing machines to print all documents double-sided. Buy only copy machines and printers that will make double-sided copies.
☐	Use recycled and recyclable packaging. Collect packing material such as Styrofoam peanuts from receiving to use again for shipping.
☐	Recycle all electronic waste (computers, T.V.'s, monitors, fax machines, telephones, copiers, printers etc.) Visit www.ecyclemo.org or www.ecyclestlouis.org to find electronics recyclers.
☐	Re-purpose or donate old office furniture, equipment, fixtures, etc., to avoid disposal costs and keep it out of the landfill. Or, try http://www.resourcestlouis.org/MaterialsExchange.aspx
☐	Purchase products that do not need batteries, or use rechargeable batteries.
☐	Begin a food-waste composting program in facility cafeteria/break rooms, and yard waste composting program. www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/composting/compost1.htm
☐	Recycle and reuse toner cartridges for printers, copiers and fax machines.
☐	Conduct a comprehensive audit of your facility's waste management practices to find areas where waste can be reduced. http://www.swmd.net/library.html#lessismore