

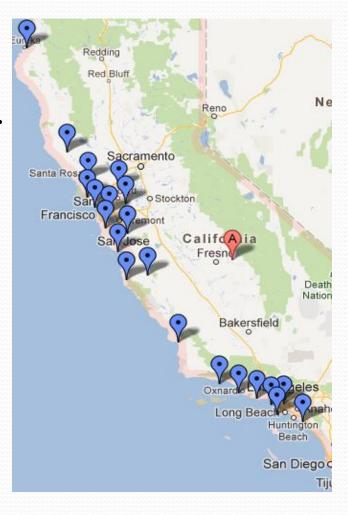
# Green Business Certification for Grocery Stores 6/8/15

## Agenda

- 1. Green Business Program Overview
- 2. Developing the Grocery Store Checklist
- 3. The Certification Process
- 4. Successfully Implemented Measures

## **Program Overview**

- Member of the Bay Area Green Business Program and the California Green Business Program.
- Currently 21 GBP across CA and over 2,700 certified businesses.
- 163 certified in Sonoma County



# **Program Overview**

The Green Business Program certifies businesses for meeting a high standard of set environmental practices.

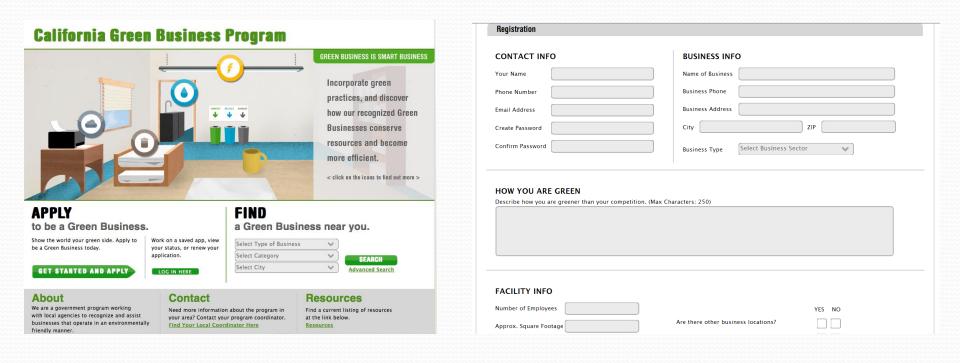
- Creating standards
- Consulting 1:1
- Recognize
- Measure
- Promote
- Renew



### **Developing the Grocery Store Checklist**

- 1. Explored existing standards for grocery stores with other GB programs.
- 2. Combined existing standards from the 'retail' and 'restaurant' standard checklist.
- 3. Partnered with utility partners for details on best management practices: Waste, Water, Energy.
- 4. Partnered with the Alameda Green Business Program to verify BMPs and opened up final review to the entire CA Green Business network.
- 5. Continuously adding on new measures...

### Step 1 – Register online at <u>www.GreenBusinessCa.org</u> (use Firefox or Chrome)



### Step 2 –Complete online checklist

- 4 General
- 19 Waste
- 10 Energy
- 17 Water
- 15 Pollution
- 4 Waste Water
- Total= 69

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Step 3 – Evaluation and Implementation

- Phone consultation
- Implement recommended changes
- GB audit
- Implement recommended changes











### Environmental Policy Statement (Template Only Please **Customize To Your Business Practices)** \*Read Thoroughly to Make Sure You Know What You are Signing

We incorporate sustainability into our core business operations through internal and external efforts. Specifically, we shall adopt the following policies and practices

- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle
- Purchase environmentally preferable products
   Conserve energy, water and natural resources
- 4. Practice green business policies on checklist

### Employee Education

- We educate employees on resource conservation and pollution prevention through Hosting only zero waste events i.e. ensuring that no waste is generated during company picnics, meetings. Training programs or brown bag sessions to educate employees on proper recycling
  - & composting practices, resource conservation ideas, importance of low-toxic purchasing, etc. Inform employees of environmental issues in company newsletters, training material
  - and staff meeting discussions

### Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

- Reduce waste at the source by printing double sided, buying in bulk, and eliminating disposable products such as diskes and single serve water bottles Reuse equipment such as desks, lamps, furniture, or donate usable items to charities
- Strive to reach Zero Waste by recycling all resources such as paper, plastics,
- cardboard, glass, and aluminum AND composting all food and plant discards

### Toxics Reduction

We reduce the use of toxic materials to protect employee health and the environment.

- Specifically we –
   Only purchase low toxic janitorial cleaning products accepted on SFapproved, Green Seal or have an 8.1 rating or above on Good Guide. • Lamps – Purchase T8's or T5's, low mercury fluorescent lamps, LEDs and/or low
- wattage balogen lights





### Step 4 – Get Certified!

- Recognition from County Supervisor at Annual Green Business Award ceremony
- 2 online GB directories (SonomaGreen.org) (GreenBusinessCa.org)
- Promoted on SGBP Facebook page
- Logos and certificate







Sonoma County



### **Successfully Implemented Measures**

- Lighting retrofits
- Variable speed drivers on refrigeration equipment
- Installing strip curtains
- Food Runners (picks up food and delivers them to the hungry)
- Increase in recycled content in purchasing
- Increase in 'green' janitorial cleaning products
- Participation in a commuter benefits program

### Questions???



### Kevin Kumataka Sonoma Green Business Program Coordinator <u>Kevin.Kumataka@Sonoma-County.org</u> 707-565-6455

To Register: GreenBusinessCa.org For more info and Sonoma GB listings: SonomaGeen.org Stay in touch with us on Facebook