

Memo

To: Rock Hill City Council
From: Maryanne Genus, Rock Hill Clean and Green
Date: April 21, 2010
Re: Clean City, Green City: Green Workplace Certification

The Rock Hill Clean and Green: Clean City, Green City Subcommittee is beginning a Green Workplace Certification program in Rock Hill. The Clean City, Green City Subcommittee was formed in 2009 to provide outreach and education to the Rock Hill community on environmentally related topics. Clean City, Green City was born from the Cool Cities Coalition, formed by Mayor Echols in October 2007 after the signing of Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. Members include Clean and Green board members and representatives from York Technical College, The Sierra Club, Winthrop University, City of Rock Hill Public Affairs, The Catawba Regional COG, Rock Hill School District Three, and The Regional Chamber of Commerce. Some of the initiatives include the Green Speaks! speaking series and the Green Main Street Live event. The newest program is the Green Workplace Certification program.

The Green Workplace Certification program is a way to set apart businesses that have made a commitment to be green. Working through the Chamber of Commerce, letters or emails with an application will be sent to local workplaces to encourage them to participate in the program. Upon returning the application, Clean and Green Board members will visit the workplace to verify certification. Once certified they will receive a certificate, window sticker, access to the logo for their letterhead or advertising, and recognition through the website, city channel and newsprint. They will be eligible for recertification after two years.

Start up costs for the program will be paid through grants from PalmettoPride and WalMart. The following budget outlines the expenses.

Item	Cost	Source
Window Stickers	\$800	PalmettoPride Grant
Certificate Paper	\$200	PalmettoPride Grant
Advertising	\$1,000	WalMart Grant

We have begun the program by piloting the application process with local workplaces that represent a variety of businesses in our community. Winthrop University, York Technical College, Overhead Station and the City of Rock Hill filled out applications and provided useful feedback on the process. We plan to launch the program in May. We would like to thank the City Council, The Mayor and City Management for your support of the Green Workplace Certification Program.