

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
PLANNING DIVISION

May 5, 2015

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Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Certification of new Marin 'Green Businesses'.

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: Award Green Business certificates.

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SUMMARY: The Marin County Board of Supervisors launched the Marin Green Business program in April 2002 and has certified over 475 businesses to date. The Program requires that business get re-certified every three years and during the on-going recertification process, some businesses have had to drop out as a result of either moving out of the County, closing or no longer meeting the program standards. As a result, there are currently 393 certified Marin Green Businesses in operation today. The Marin Green Business program is part of the larger Bay Area Green Business Program which includes all nine counties and over 2,800 businesses.

The Marin County Green Business Program creates opportunities for businesses to embrace solutions that will protect the economic and environmental resources of our community. It recognizes businesses for going beyond compliance with regulatory requirements and conducting operations that are good for both their "bottom line" and the environment. The program has three goals:

- Help businesses reduce consumption of water and energy while reducing pollution and waste
- Award certificates to qualifying businesses
- Improve the environment of Marin and the Bay region

The Board's May 5th hearing is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate twelve new businesses that have qualified to receive their Green Business certification. This brings the current total of certified businesses in operation in Marin County to 405.

By way of example, measures adopted by some of the green businesses receiving recognition this month include:

- Upgrades to facilities that include energy and water savings equipment.
- Office practices that include purchasing recycled content or reused materials, cleaning with less toxic products and reducing paper use.
- Emission reduction measures that include bike commuting, carpooling, telecommuting and the promotion of electric vehicles.


The 12 businesses to be certified as Marin Green Businesses are:

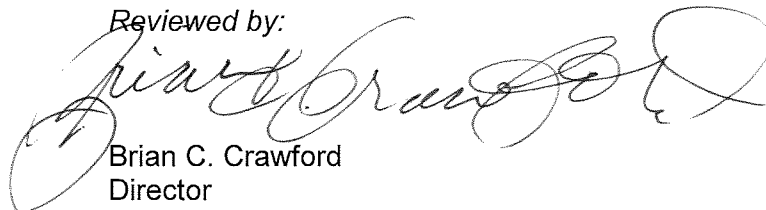
- 1) City of San Rafael, City Hall
- 2) DiVita Home Finance, Inc., Sausalito
- 3) The ecoNEST, San Geronimo
- 4) Jasmine M Gorton DMD, Inc., Larkspur
- 5) Kathy Shaffer, AIA, Sausalito
- 6) Marin Art and Garden Center, Ross
- 7) Marin Montessori School, Corte Madera
- 8) Point Reyes National Seashore Association, Pt. Reyes Station
- 9) Sausalito Craftworks, Inc., Sausalito
- 10) Sunspeed Enterprises, Pt. Reyes Station
- 11) SWA Group, Sausalito
- 12) Tomales Village Community Services District, Tomales

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact on the General Fund.

REVIEWED BY: NA

SIGNATURE:


Dana Armanino
Senior Planner

Reviewed by:

Brian C. Crawford
Director