



Dear NRH Business Owner,

Are you a “Green Teens Approved Business?”

In the fall of 2008, the City of North Richland Hills’ Cultural Arts Division initiated a program at Birdville High School called Green Teens. The program is grant funded and is designed to reach out to young environmentalists through training and hands-on demonstrations. The program includes educational and practical components that facilitate long-term, positive changes in attitudes concerning waste prevention, reduction, reuse, recycling and sustainability. The Green Teens meet weekly to discuss a variety of environmental topics that allow them to initiate environmental programs on their campus and produce public awareness campaigns.

The new, exciting free campaign targets businesses in the community that have implemented or are interested in implementing “green” practices. The Green Teens have established a set of “green” criteria to help your business reach the “Green Teens Approved Business” status. The enclosed program criteria outlines a number of green practices that you might already have in place as well as additional items that you would consider working towards. Based on the number of criteria actions completed, your business will be identified as a Top Tier, Tier Two, or Tier One “Green Teens Approved Business.”

As a “Green Teens Approved Business,” you will receive a static window cling to place proudly in your business entry area. This decal shows the community not only your support of our area youth but also shows your commitment to the “greening” of our community which in turn benefits us all! Once you have been designated a “Green Teens Approved Business” your business will be listed on the Green Teens website, City of North Richland Hills website, and in a future publication listing the “Greenest” businesses in our community based on program criteria tier status.

On the form below, please place a check mark next to items your business already has in place as well as circle items your business is interested in implementing. Please return the completed criteria with your contact info (business name, your name, business address, email, and phone number) to: Lori Newman, Cultural Arts Coordinator, City of North Richland Hills, 6720 NE Loop 820, North Richland Hills, TX 76180. For additional program information contact Lori Newman at 817.427.6614 or lnewman@nrhtx.com.

Sincerely,

Lori Newman, Cultural Arts Coordinator
City of North Richland Hills

Green Teen Approved Business Program Criteria

Top Tier = 20 actions
Tier Two = 10 actions
Tier One = 5 actions



Energy Conservation

- Unplug computers
- Turn off lights when not in room
- Install programmable thermostat
- Install window tinting
- Switch to CFL bulbs where applicable
- Unplug printers
- Install motion sensors for lights
- Install ceiling fans
- Caulk windows
- Recycle fluorescent tubes at Home Depot

Water Conservation

- Install faucet aerators
- Install rain sensor on sprinkler system
- Switch to drip irrigation
- Mulch flowerbeds
- Install low-flow toilets
- Plant drought-resistant landscaping
- Collect rainwater for irrigation
- Discontinue use of chemicals in landscaping

Waste Reduction

- Implement paper recycling program
- Recycle plastic bottles
- Eliminate bottled water
- Print emails only when necessary
- Buy in bulk
- Use rechargeable batteries
- Utilize reusable pallets
- Use recycled-content paper
- Recycle aluminum cans
- Recycle cardboard
- Print on both sides of paper
- Utilize reusable shipping containers
- Encourage shoppers to use re-usable bags
- Encourage zero waste lunches for employees
- Encourage vendors to reduce product packaging
- Recycle toner cartridges, batteries, computers, etc.

Air Quality

- Encourage employees to carpool
- Purchase hybrid fleet vehicles
- Purchase carbon offsets
- Encourage employees to bring their lunch
- Implement anti-idling policy
- Maintain HVAC unit
- Switch to non-toxic cleaning supplies
- Purchase fuel-efficient fleet vehicles
- Use low- or no-VOC paint
- Switch to renewable energy provider
- Eliminate synthetic fragrances
- Avoid drive-thrus
- Maintain fleet vehicles

Social/Community Involvement

- Go to VolunteerMatch.org to get involved
- Volunteer at local special events
- Adopt-a-highway
- Adopt-a-school