Go Green Save Green
VILLAGE OF HOWARD

# 2012 Green Recognition Program Application

**Recognizing Village of Howard businesses for their actions and initiatives that helped make a positive impact on the environment.**

**Applicant Name:** Becky Stephens

**Name of Business:** Becky Stephens-State Farm Agent

**Property Address:** 2565 Riverview Dr Suite B **, Howard**

**Phone Number:** 920-434-5000

**Email Address:** becky.stephens.preh@statefarm.com

**Type of Business:** [ ] Residential [X] Commercial [ ] Industrial

**Name of Green Initiative:** "Be the change you want to see in the world"

**Check all that apply:**

[X] Energy Conservation

[X] Water Conservation

[X] Waste Prevention/Recycling

[X] Other: sustainability & education

**Check all that are true:**

[X] **Our business has a green team or established plan on ways to go green.**

[X] **Our business provides training or documentation to employees on implementing green business practices.**

[X] **Our business encourages "green" practices to customers.**

[X] **Our business participates in webinars or organizations to stay current on green opportunities available to our field.**

[X] **Our business has calculated its carbon footprint.**

[X] **Our business is involved in the community.**

**Explain:** _____

***Please provide a one-page summary regarding your green initiative. Discuss when the practices were initiated and share any results, if applicable. Inclusion of quantitative data is encouraged (i.e. KWH saved, annual $ savings). Attach any pertinent photographs or other information to your application. See the sample judging criteria form for ideas of information to include.***

**Awards and Evaluation Timeline**

**Application and summary statement are due by Friday, April 6, 2012. Please send completed applications to Go Green Save Green Staff Liaison Leigh Ann Wagner Kroening at:**

**Howard Village Hall**
**2456 Glendale Avenue OR lwagnerkroening@villageofhoward.com**
**Green Bay, WI 54313**

**The Go Green Save Green Task Force will review applications at its meeting on April 17, 2012.**

All recognized businesses and annual award winners will be recognized at the Howard Village Board meeting on April 23, 2012.

Becky Stephens State Farm Agency Green Initiative

"Be the change you want to see in the world."

We actively seek to incorporate environmental sustainability and green practices in our operations and activities. With this initiative we hope to inspire our customers to use similar methods so that together we can make a difference in our community. Our aim is to recycle, reduce, or eliminate the emissions and waste that we generate, and conserve energy and water wherever possible.

Action Plan (Initiated 12/26/2007):

*Use recycled paper
*Back up files and emails to a USB drive, instead of printing
*Distribute reusable water bottles and reusable grocery bags
*Traded business vehicle, lower emission/higher fuel mileage
*Reduce fax waste by using a cover sheet only when necessary
*Do not leave sink dripping
*Purchased used furniture for office, instead of new
*Take shorter showers before/after work
*Reusable plates, cups, utensils
*Co-op America membership to stay on top of green methods
*Office compost program
*Connect devices to surge prtctrs,to cut power when not in use
*Cook with microwave, less energy than oven, stove, toaster
*Selected waiting room magazines from woodwise.org
*Recycle batteries, light bulbs, ink/toner cartridges
*Educate fire claimants on rebuilding using green methods
*Educate life insurance customers on green funerals
*Encourage paying online, by phone or automatic withdrawal
*Cloth towels in restroom and kitchenette, and for cleaning
*Team wears matching organic polos and t-shirts
*Set printers to draft/economy mode
*Mind the blinds and curtains
*Sign up for electric billing for incoming business bills
*Recycle paper, aluminum, glass and plastic
*Work from home on a laptop and air-card
*Turn off equipment or use sleep mode
*Encourage communication by email or phone
*Produce double-sided documents if possible
*Installed toilet dams in toilet reservoirs
*Used signage on exterior, instead of new
*Use fair trade certified and organic coffee
*Green Christmas ornaments/green gifts
*Encourage green transportation to work
*Programmable Thermostat
*Bring lunch to work in reusable bag
*Catalogchoice.org, remove from mailing lists
*Share rides to events
*Utilize bill pay online thru our bank
*Educate auto claimants on recycled parts
*Reuse boxes, packaging, and binders
*Removed business from junk mail lists
*Purchase carbon offsets
*Distribute tire gauges/green driving tips
*Use CFL lighting where we can
*Use virtual meetings when appropriate
*Buy locally

Results (as of 03/2012):

We are carbon negative! Buying carbon offsets to offset our estimated 19 metric/tons per year, has allowed us to be carbon neutral at a cost of approximately $250/year, but by following our green initiative we have saved approximately $1000 per year buying cutting our costs on heating/cooling, vehicle fuel, paper products, postage, and waste removal costs, netting a savings of approximately $750 per year, and putting us in a carbon negative position. Our agency insures about 830 households. If we can influence everyone with our green practices and if everyone instituted green measures and saved about $500 per year, it would save the community over $400,000 per year while making Howard a greener place to live and work. We are unable to calculate figures for the impact we have had on the community, but we feel we have made a significant impact.