

Village's Green Team Helps Local Businesses Save Money

The Village of Orland Park Green Team is comprised of local teens and adults who share elements of the village's green initiative throughout the business community.

Created in November, 2009, this group of volunteers brings energy saving measures to interested businesses. Three or more energy saving criteria must be met to qualify as an "Orland Park Smart Business" and to receive a window decal for display.

Orland Park Smart Businesses currently include Advanced Printing, Inc.; American Mattress; Back To Bed; Bedding Experts; Catalina Kitchen Studio; Charter One Bank; Chase Bank; Chicago Clock Company; Cutie Poops and Bottoms; First American Bank; George Washington Savings Bank, part of First Merit Bank; Granite City Food and Brewery; Orland Video; The Great Frame Up; Thornridge Funeral Homes and Trader Joe's.

Orland Park's Green Team received a statewide honor in December, 2009 when Illinois Governor Pat Quinn honored the village's efforts with the 2009 Environmental Hero Award. The award was in recognition of the village's commitment to the health and protection of the environment in Illinois.

"This statewide honor gives testament to the community as a whole," said Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "We are longtime proponents of energy conservation and the community has responded favorably, with residents, businesses and other government entities coming on board to be a part of the village's many programs," he added.

Trustee Patricia Gira chairs the village's Recreation, Parks and Environmental Initiatives Committee. "We had a wonderful response to all four of the village's events held on April 24th and were especially pleased with the public's interest in Orland Park's Green Fair 2010," Gira said. "Nearly 50 vendors showed visitors from throughout the region the many ways to save energy and money," Gira added.

Smart Living Orland Park is a comprehensive green initiative for the entire community and is comprised of five components, including Smart Neighborhood, Smart Living, Smart Business, Smart Village and Smart Codes. Further information about Smart Living Orland Park is available at www.smartlivingop.com. Details about Smart Business Orland Park are available by calling Stephanie Simpson at 708/364-0682.