

Orland Park to Host “Green Fair 2010”

Green Businesses to Be Showcased

ORLAND PARK, IL – The song may say it’s not easy being green but the Village of Orland Park’s Smart Living Team is hoping to make it a bit simpler. The village will host its “Green Fair 2010” on Saturday, April 24th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 South Ravinia Avenue.

“The community has responded warmly to the village’s green initiative,” said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin. “A number of people have asked for a centralized source of information for all things green,” he added.

More than 40 businesses that offer environmentally friendly products or services are will be showcased at the fair. Vendors that specialize in recycling, green technologies and products, alternative transportation, green buildings and education are participating.

“We have a number of vendors participating in this village first,” said Trustee Patricia Gira who chairs the village’s Parks, Recreation and Environmental Initiatives Committee.

“Having these vendors all in one place is great for other businesses and for our residents who have been asking for as much information as possible,” Gira added.

Tentative green vendors include those that conduct workshops, landscape companies, rain barrel vendors, those that sell environmentally friendly home products and services, cleaning products, organic cotton clothiers, dry cleaning, cleaning companies, building and home supplies, wind turbines, permeable pavers, insulated building materials and more.

To apply to rent a table at the fair, businesses may visit the Smart Living Orland Park website at www.smartlivingop.com. Applications may be completed, saved and then emailed to smartliving@orland-park.il.us. Or, they may be printed and faxed to 708/403-6171.

Fees will be due upon businesses being approved for the fair and vendors will be notified by March 26 if they've been selected to showcase their products or services.

"Our staff is hoping to bring in as many different types of green vendors as possible," McLaughlin explained.

"We're hoping to offer a true cross section of the green industry with a lot of information so that everyone can learn what's out there," Gira said.

Speakers with specific environmental areas of expertise will offer presentations during the event.

Smart Living Orland Park, is the village's comprehensive green initiative, providing environmentally based programs and resources for residents, businesses and government in an effort to conserve energy and promote sustainability. The village's ECOMAP (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Municipal Action Plan) provides details about each of the five components, including Smart Neighborhood, Smart Living, Smart Business, Smart Village and Smart Codes. Further information is available at www.smartlivingop.com.

Orland Park's Green Fair 2010 is open to the public and admission is free. Companies that offer environmentally friendly products or services may complete an application on the village's website to apply to be a part of the fair. Further information is available by calling 708/403-6145.