



Green Volusia Program Update

Moving Volusia County toward a sustainable future . . .

COUNTY OF VOLUSIA

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“Greening” our Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Volusia County’s Office of Sustainability and Energy Management (OSEM) brought together two federal programs, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) in a collaborative effort to revitalize our community by rehabilitating foreclosed homes and providing “green” retrofits.

The Community Assistance Division received \$5,242,831 of NSP funds to purchase foreclosed homes from banking institutions. OSEM budgeted \$200,000 of EECBG funds to provide “green” retrofits to these homes.

Retrofits are established as part of an agreement with the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC) to provide cost-effective improvement packages for a portion of the homes purchased under this program. Improvements may include providing energy efficient windows and doors, upgrading the insulation and HVAC systems, as well as the installation of a programmable thermostat. Community Assistance and OSEM work with a select group of local contractors who have been trained to identify and implement energy improvements in the existing

homes. There have been 32 homes purchased with NSP funds, of which 20 homes have benefited from an investment of \$110,000 of EECBG funding for “green” retrofits. Proceeds from the sale of the homes will then be reinvested to purchase and rehabilitate additional foreclosed homes.

After the homes have been rehabilitated, they will be sold to citizens who meet the affordable housing criteria. Upon purchase of these homes, the new homeowners will receive an informational package, which describes the energy efficient upgrades made to their home. Residents who purchase homes that did not receive green retrofits will also receive an energy saving information package. This information will provide residents with sustainable living practices to assist them in keeping their monthly utility costs down. Successful implementation of these practices will make it more affordable for families to stay in their homes while also providing a long term benefit to the community.

For more information about OSEM or these projects contact Dona DeMarsh, Community Assistance Director at (386) 736-5955.

Working with our neighbors

VOLUSIA COUNTY HAS JOINED THE CENTRAL FLORIDA ENERGY EFFICIENCY ALLIANCE, A REGIONAL GROUP “DEDICATED TO RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE ENERGY AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THAT CONSERVE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES”. OUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS DIVERSE GROUP IS IMPORTANT AS WE MOVE FORWARD WITH ENERGY MANAGEMENT IN OUR BUILDINGS, AND AS WE PROMOTE ENERGY MANAGEMENT TO OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES.



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Building Energy Audits

Johnson Controls, Inc. (JCI) was recently awarded a contract to conduct an investment grade energy audit at 11 county facilities to determine opportunities for energy savings. Buildings included in the audit are: the Daytona Beach Justice Center, Administration Center, Courthouse Annex, the Branch Jail, Correctional Facility, the Health Department building on Holsenback, the Ocean Center, the TCK Administration Building, the Volusia County Courthouse in DeLand, the Daytona International Airport, and the City Island Library. These buildings represent over 1.6 million square feet and 30 million kWh of energy usage annually (approximately \$3.6 million in utility costs).

The intense energy audits include a review of all lighting and mechanical systems, water usage, and energy usage at each building. Results of the audit will be used to identify energy conservation measures at each building. The consultant will also provide the county with a cost-benefit analysis of each proposed improvement, and identify potential funding opportunities.

Green County Certification

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FLORIDA GREEN BUILDING COALITION (FGBC) PRESENTED THE COUNTY COUNCIL WITH A GREEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATION ON OCTOBER 7, 2010. VOLUSIA COUNTY EARNED A SILVER LEVEL CERTIFICATION, HIGHLIGHTING OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRACTICES IN OUR ENTIRE OPERATION.

Go Green, Win Green Update

Economic Development Director, Phil Ehlinger won third prize in the "Go Green, Win Green" contest for his idea to install solar collectors over county parking lots. Preliminary research indicates that installing solar structures over approximately 325 parking spots could generate as much as 600,000 kWh of electricity annually.

While solar remains costly, the technology continues to improve and costs are coming down. A large scale installation is estimated to cost nearly \$3 million. OSEM continues to look for grants of other funding alternatives to implement this idea and demonstrate Volusia County's commitment to alternative energy.

The benefits of solar power include: reduced greenhouse gas emissions, less reliance on fossil fuels, and energy price stability.

FACT:

The annual utility costs for the TCK Admin building are over \$450,000.

FACT:

The 11 largest county facilities consume 39 million kWh of electricity and 91 million gallons of water annually.

Volusia County Divisions taking the lead in sustainability

Since its inception, the Green Volusia program has grown to include a greater role in assisting county divisions in implementing their sustainability goals. Sustainability in operations is not only environmentally important, but can result in significant reductions in cost. The Green Volusia team and OSEM staff are currently coordinating the creation of sustainability plans for **Fleet Management**, **Solid Waste**, and the **Airport**. These sustainability plans, crafted by division staff in consultation with management and the County Council, will be the foundation for reducing fuel and electricity costs, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving efficiency in these divisions.

Division staff and OSEM are working hard to :

- Analyze current operations;
- Project future needs;
- Identify sustainability goals;
- Identify implementation steps; and
- Create evaluation and reporting procedures.

The County Council will be instrumental in setting appropriate sustainability goals for each division.

