



Reading Climate Advisory Committee

16 Lowell Street, Reading, MA 01867

readingmassccp@hotmail.com

www.ci.reading.ma.us/Pages/index

Green Business Award Summary

The Town of Reading invites your business/organization to participate in its "Green Business Award Program." This voluntary program is designed to encourage and support businesses and organizations to decrease their environmental impact by reducing their use of natural resources (energy, materials, and water) and disposal of waste. Awards will be given to those businesses and organizations that meet the program requirements.

What are the benefits?

- Reduced operating costs by conservation and efficiency of energy, materials, and water consumption, as well as minimized waste disposal.
- Public recognition of your efforts at sustainability.
- Increased employee satisfaction in working for a business or organization committed to a sustainable life for everyone.
- Enhanced livability of our community due to your reduced environmental footprint.

How does it work?

- Complete requirements and submit "Green Business Award" application. *
- The Climate Advisory Committee will review your accomplishments as described in the application and may contact you or visit your business to learn more.
- Following their review, the Climate Advisory Committee will notify you of their decision.
 - When approved, your business will receive a Reading Green Business Award Certificate, which you may proudly display.
- *Awards will be presented at your place of business and publicized in the local news media.*

* NOTE: *If you need assistance with this process, please contact Ron D'Addario, Reading Climate Advisory Committee member by phone at 781-439-9146 or by e-mail at daddario43@gmail.com*

What is the purpose of the award?

- In 2006 the Reading Climate Advisory Committee (RCAC) conducted a greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) inventory for the town of Reading, Massachusetts. Based on data spanning from 2000 to 2005, carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions averaged 292,311 tons annually.
- In order to avert the more serious effects of climate change, the RCAC recommended a 10 % reduction in CO2 emissions by the year 2012 and an 80 % reduction by the year 2050.
- In order to achieve these goals, the entire community: town government and public schools, businesses, places of worship, community organizations, government agencies, and residents must be involved. Fortunately, the kinds of actions that reduce GHG emissions also make sense for many other reasons. For example, operating costs can be reduced by becoming more energy efficient and reducing the amount of waste discarded as trash. Using renewable energy can make your operations less vulnerable to rising oil, gasoline, and natural gas prices. The image of your business or organization can be enhanced by improving your environmental practices. The community will also benefit in other ways such as reduced air pollution resulting in improved public health.
- Reading is working to reduce GHG emissions because we think global climate change will affect us locally. We want to mitigate the impacts as much as possible. While we know that we cannot do it by ourselves, we are joining hundreds of other communities, states, and countries in this effort. Now your business or organization can be part of the solution. Come and join us!

The Reading Climate Advisory Committee

Numbers to call for audits

Electric	Reading Municipal Light Department – 781-942-6426 Joe Bilicki
Water	Energy New England – 888-772-4242
Gas	National Grid – 800-843-3636

Green Business Award Requirements

❖ ENERGY EFFICIENCY / RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Have Energy Audit conducted by RMLD and (if applicable) gas utility company within the past 2 years.

AND,

- Implemented at least one major (10% reduction in overall energy use) or two minor energy conservation measures. These may be measures identified as recommendations by the Energy Audit(s) or other energy saving changes. Examples include: upgrading lighting to more efficient fluorescent or LED lamps; installing programmable thermostats, computer energy management software or lighting occupancy sensors to minimize energy use during off-hours; adding insulation; replacing an old boiler or furnace with new, energy efficient equipment; or replacing old appliances with Energy Star models.

OR,

- Installed solar photo-voltaic panels, solar thermal hot water system, ground source heat-exchange, wind turbine or other renewable energy at your place of business.

❖ WATER CONSERVATION

- Have Water Use Audit conducted by Reading Water Department within past 2 years.

AND,

- Implemented at least one major (10% reduction in overall water use) or two minor water conservation measures. These may be measures identified as recommendations by the Water Use Audit or other water saving changes. Examples include: minimizing landscape irrigation with timers and moisture sensors; installing low flush toilets and low flow faucets/showers; replacing inefficient washing machines or dishwashers with Energy Star models.

❖ WASTE REDUCTION and RECYCLING

- Establish program to collect and recycle all materials banned from disposal in MA i.e., paper, cardboard, glass, plastic and metal containers, landscaping debris.
- If retail establishment, encourage and provide incentives for customers to use re-usable rather than disposable bags and beverage containers.
- Have implemented at least one significant waste reduction, material re-use, or recycling program during the past two years. Examples include: installing recycling bins with appropriate label(s) for ease of customer use, establishing a waste oil recycling program for bio-diesel, contracting with suppliers to minimize packaging.

❖ TRANSPORTATION

- Survey employees about their commuting habits.

AND,

- Provide information and incentives to encourage employees to walk, bike, and use public transportation or carpool to commute to work and to conduct your business.
- Also, provide information and incentives to encourage customers to walk, bike, and use public transportation to travel to and from your business.

OR,

- Include at least one hybrid, all electric or compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle in your fleet.

❖ LOCALLY GROWN / LOCALLY PRODUCED

- Be a restaurant, retail grocery, bakery, market or other food service establishment
- Demonstrate that at least 10% of food sold in past year was grown and harvested from sources within 400 miles of Reading, MA with plan to maintain or increase that percentage.



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Reading Green Business Award Application

Business:

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Contact Name & Title: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Type of Business: _____

Number of Employees: Full time: _____ Part time: _____

Building: Size of Building in Sq. Ft: _____ Number of floors: _____

Own or rent? Check one. Own _____ Rent _____

If rent, name and address of owner: _____

Green Business Categories (check all categories for which your business meets the requirements)

- Energy Efficiency / Renewable Energy
- Water Conservation
- Waste Reduction and Recycling
- Transportation
- Locally Grown / Locally Produced
- Other: _____

For each category checked, provide a brief narrative explaining how your business met the requirements. Attach relevant documentation, including any audit reports.