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Three companies join Sarasota County's Green Business Partnership

Sarasota County's Green Business Partnership has added three members to a community of companies that are demonstrating their commitment to a healthy environment for employees and the community.

- **Sarasota Document Shredding** — This company not only recycles its paper and cardboard, it also has reduced its consumption of these materials. Its efforts to reduce its environmental impact include encouraging employees to carpool, removing half of its fluorescent bulbs, and keeping doors open during cooler weather instead of using air conditioning.
- **Kimal Lumber Company** — Kimal used the Green Business Partnership program to build a foundation for its own environmental program. By analyzing its business operations from an environmental point of view, it reduced its energy consumption, saved money on waste costs, and identified areas where it can continue to improve its environmental performance and reduce costs.
- **Landmark Bank of Florida** — After achieving certification for its main branch in October 2008, Landmark Bank aggressively instituted green practices throughout its Sarasota County branches. It has implemented several energy saving measures based on its Florida Power & Light energy audits. It emphasizes environmental stewardship with its staff, and has reviewed its administrative procedures to determine where it can cut waste.

The Green Business Partnership was initiated under a Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant and is open to all businesses in Sarasota County that implement required resource conservation measures and pass an on-site certification assessment. Each certified business receives a Green Business Partnership certificate and seal it can display to demonstrate its commitment to a healthy environment. Companies also receive a logo for use on company stationary and promotional items.

These three businesses are now part of a Green Business Partnership directory that is available online at the Green Business Web site, www.scgov.net/greenbusiness.

The Green Business Partnership is actively seeking other participants. For more information, or to request a Green Business Partnership packet, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

For more information on the businesses currently certified under the program, visit www.scgov.net/greenbusiness and click on the link entitled, "Participating Businesses."