



# 2009 SUSTAINABLE COMPANY AWARD ENTRY FORM

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PLANET has created the Sustainable Company Award to recognize and herald those businesses that strive to protect and conserve resources, reduce waste, and prevent pollution, and that promote an ethic of environmental sustainability and improvement within their workplace. PLANET recognizes environmental vision and leadership in business and would like to shine a light on some of today's green business practices as a beacon for others to follow.

## ENTRY DEADLINE: AUGUST 10, 2009

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All information may be typed on this form, or neatly hand printed.

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I verify that all of the information contained on this form is accurate and I authorize and release this entry material to PLANET. I understand that PLANET accepts no responsibility for copyright or photographic fees and that all entries become PLANET's property and may be used for publication or any other purpose that the association deems appropriate.

Signature of Release: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Representative of company)*

## ENTRY PROCEDURES:

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- 1) Complete the entry form. All entries may be typed or neatly hand printed.
- 2) Entry forms and supporting documentation must be received in the PLANET office no later than August 10, 2009.
- 3) Send entries to: PLANET, Attention: Sustainable Company Award, 950 Herndon Parkway, Suite 450, Herndon, VA 20170. Or you can scan the application and supporting documentation and e-mail entries to Gail Rogers at [gailrogers@landcarenetwork.org](mailto:gailrogers@landcarenetwork.org).

## DIRECTIONS:

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Check the following conditions that are a part of the practices that are in place at your business. Where possible, please provide supporting documentation (photos, copies of receipts, policy statements, employee handbook, applications, event flyers, training schedules, etc.). Please indicate in the space provided a short explanation/description and length of time each item applicable has been in practice. A separate sheet of paper may be used if more space is needed.

**1. Business Practices:**

a. Recycling procedure for landscape operations products such as plastic pots and wooden pallets

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b. Recycling procedure for office products such as plastics, glass, cans, office paper, newspapers, magazines and ink cartridges

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c. Use of energy efficient compact fluorescent lamps (CFL's)

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d. Double-sided copy policy in force

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e. Mandatory training for maintenance field personnel in IPM principles, handling of chemicals, spill prevention & response

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f. Use of recycled (minimum 30% post-consumer waste) paper for stationery, copies, faxes, and note pads

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g. "Think before you print" message on outgoing emails

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h. Donations of money/services to community beautification projects

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i. Participation in annual Earth Day or PLANET Day of Service event

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j. Sponsor/speak at educational community seminars to encourage/teach sustainable practices and organic plant and turf health care programs

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**2. Business Site / Landscape Management Practices:**

a. "Water Smart" irrigation system – drip zones, rain sensor, separated lawn & bed zones

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b. Composting and re-use of green waste including leaves, lawn clippings, brush, and anything that can be recycled

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c. Integrated Pest Management practices in use

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d. Pesticide-free/Organic plant health care program

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e. Pesticide-free/Organic turf health care program

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f. Adherence to "right plant, right place" principles regarding zone and soils

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g. Use of meadows and "low-mow" alternatives

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h. Use of native and adaptable, non-invasive plant species throughout landscape

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i. Low voltage outdoor lighting

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### 3. Facility / Fleet:

a. Programmable thermostats to control heating & cooling times and temperatures

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b. Zoned spaces (separate thermostats) within buildings to allow for compartmentalized heating/cooling of facilities

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c. Annual check of entire HVAC system to ensure peak efficiency

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d. Energy efficient windows

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e. Low-flow aerators on all faucets and 1.6 gpf toilets

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f. Motion-sensor light switches installed for all exterior and interior lights

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g. Shut-down all non-essential electrical equipment at night

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h. Low-noise/fuel efficient power equipment (backpack blowers, etc.)

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i. Recycle waste oil, contaminated fuels and other lubricants

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j. UV blocking window tinting on south and west faces of buildings

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## WHAT IS PLANET?

The Professional Landcare Network (PLANET) is an international association serving interior plantscaping, landscape management, design/build/installation, and lawn care professionals. PLANET provides its members with a good business foundation to help them evaluate, plan, and better manage their companies. Member firms have direct access to marketing tools, industry-specific business publications, updates on legislative issues, and networking opportunities that can assist them in becoming more profitable. PLANET develops and maintains active programs for approximately 4,000 member firms in the areas of business management, government affairs, public relations, technical assistance, safety and insurance, education, and industry relations with other facets of the green industry.