

Save the Planet. Save Money. Get Certified



Beyond the Office Green Your Life in 2013



If you resolved to be kinder to the environment while saving some money this year, here are a few tips:

1.) Avoid Waste: Recycle
To reduce the amount of waste you produce, buy products in returnable and recyclable containers and recycle as much as you can. The energy saved from recycling a single aluminum can will operate a television for three hours!

2.) Give Up Plastic
Do you opt for paper or plastic when at the grocery store? Neither is a good choice. Twelve million barrels of oil were used to make the 88.5 billion plastic bags consumed in the United States last year. And it takes four times more energy to make paper bags. The best choice is reusable shopping bags made of

Resolve to Green Your Business in 2013

As 2013 begins, we are reflecting on the past and setting goals for the future. Losing weight and traveling more are common New Year's resolutions, but what about your commitment to the environment and saving your business money? Consider setting some sustainability goals this year. Completing the Petal Project or implementing a few projects listed in your energy audit report are good places to start.

Green Ribbon Cutting at Dubuque Data Services

Dubuque Data Services celebrated their Petal Certification with a Green Ribbon Cutting on December 13. Dubuque Data Services is the 7th Petal Certified business.



cotton, nylon or durable, mesh-like plastic. Put a few reusable shopping bags in your car so you have them handy on your next shopping trip.

3.) Stop Receiving Unwanted Catalogs

Each year, 19 billion catalogs are mailed to American consumers. All those catalogs require more than 53 million trees and 56 billion gallons of wastewater to produce! So grab that stack of catalogs piling up on your coffee table and clear out the clutter.

Visit CatalogChoice.org to put a stop to unwanted catalogs.

4.) Give Up Hot Water in the Clothes Washer

Did you know that only 10 percent of the energy used by a typical washing machine powers the motor? About 90 percent of the energy is used to heat the water, and most clothes will come clean in cold water. So switch your washing machine's temperature setting. For heavily soiled clothing, change it from hot to warm, but otherwise try to wash and rinse most of your clothing in cold water.

[Read more tips for greening 2013 here.](#)

[Click here](#) to learn more about Dubuque Data Services' achievement.

Recycling Demo, Construction Waste Workshop

The Iowa Recycling Association and WasteCap Resource Solutions will host a construction and demolition waste recycling workshop from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15, at East Side Recycling Center, Iowa City. It is aimed at those interested in learning how to develop, manage, monitor and promote a successful recycling program for construction and demolition debris. Participants receive three-year accreditation in construction waste recycling. The cost is \$285 for Iowa Recycling Association members and \$475 for nonmembers. The cost includes continental breakfast, lunch and materials. For additional information, visit <http://iowarecycles.org>. To register, visit www.wastecap.org/training or call 414-961-1100.

Bald Eagle Watch

The Bald Eagle Watch is scheduled for Saturday, January 19th, 9am-4:30pm, at the Grand River Center. This day-long event is a celebration of the Bald Eagle. Several programs throughout the day will feature the Bald Eagle and other raptors. There are activities for children. A variety of exhibitors offer everything from nature books to nature photographs. Spotting scopes at Lock and Dam 11 provide an opportunity to see Bald Eagles in their natural setting.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Asheville, NC is Officially America's First Green Dining Destination

Two years ago, a group of local restaurants came together through Asheville Independent Restaurants to pursue the certification, which is awarded by the Green Restaurant Association, a nonprofit based out of Boston. "The restaurants actually worked together, and that usually doesn't happen in any other community because we're all in competition with each other," says Peter Pollay, vice president-elect of AIR and owner of Posana Café. To garner the accolade, 16 restaurants made improvements to their facilities in categories such as water efficiency, sustainable food and energy. Among other projects, each restaurant phased out polystyrene foam and created a full-scale recycling program.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

