

# Save the Planet. Save Money. Get Certified



## Beyond the Office



Go Green For this Holiday season with these great gift ideas!

- 1. Skip material gifts all together!** Give an experience: performance/event tickets, a camping trip, cooking classes, etc.
- 2. Give a service** provided by you or a local business: a baby-sitting gift certificate, a massage, a dinner out, hire a chef in, dance lessons, etc.
- 3. Unique wrapping paper:** Wrap your gifts with newspaper (Sunday comics are great!), cloth that can be reused or wrapping paper made with recycled content. Save and re-use ribbon from year to year.
- 4. Send e-greetings** Instead of

## Energy Star Training Opportunities

Get into the holiday spirit with these December energy efficiency trainings! Join EPA ENERGY STAR program for commercial buildings to learn about a wide range of topics, including communications strategies, EPA multifamily analysis, financing energy efficiency upgrades, and using the new Portfolio Manager tool.

To register for upcoming trainings, [click here](#). If you won't be able to attend, you can view recorded trainings at [this site](#) by clicking "view event recordings" on the upper right-hand corner of the screen. If you have any questions, please contact [esttraining@icfi.com](mailto:esttraining@icfi.com).

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## Quarterly Petal Project Meeting

The next quarterly Petal Project meeting is Tuesday, December 17th at 11:00am. Platinum Supplemental Insurance has agreed to host the session at 137 Main Street, Suite 400. For those of you who haven't attended a quarterly meeting before, these sessions are an opportunity for the Petal Project businesses to network and exchange knowledge. The session this month will focus on DBQ IQ water management dashboard. DBQ IQ

sending cards through the mail. You can find great e-greetings from sites like [Hallmark.com](http://Hallmark.com) or [BlueMountain.com](http://BlueMountain.com).

provides businesses and residents with online access to water usage data specific to their utility account. Utilizing this FREE program is an easy way to meet the tracking requirement under the Water Conservation petal. City employees with present information about the program, and you will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. Please RSVP to Kelsey at [kmcelroy@ecia.org](mailto:kmcelroy@ecia.org) by Friday, December 13th. We hope to see you the 17th!

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### **Congratulations, Platinum Supplemental Insurance!**

Platinum Supplemental Insurance has officially earned their Water conservation and Pollution Prevention petals. This is wonderful progress toward certification!



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### **Premier Tooling & Mfg., Inc. Completed Annual Re-Certification**

On December 3rd Petal Project staff met with Premier Tooling & Mfg., Inc. staff to complete their annual assessment. Premier Tooling is still compliant with all Petal Project requirements, and therefore remains a Petal Certified business. Premier Tooling was originally certified in 2012. Thank you Premier Tooling for your continued dedication to the Petal Project and sustainability!

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## **Adjustment to Janitorial Paper Requirement**

After meeting with vendors and conducting extensive internal research, the Petal Project team has decided to slightly modify the janitorial paper requirement for the program. The new requirement is listed below. The program now allows the use of all Ecologo and Green Seal certified products. We feel this change will simplify the certification process for Petal businesses, and appreciate that the third party certifications evaluate the entire life cycle of the product. Any products that previously qualified for the program still do. This change just adds the Ecologo and Green Seal options. Please let Kelsey McElroy know if you have any concerns with this change.

*New: Purchase janitorial paper products (toilet paper, tissues, and paper towels) that are certified Ecologo, Green Seal, or contain a minimum 50% post-consumer recycled content. Documentation from your vendor will be required.*

*Old: Purchase janitorial paper products (toilet paper, tissues, and paper towels) that contain a minimum of 50% post-consumer recycled content. Documentation from your vendor will be required.*

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## Platinum Insurance Adopts a Lot



On October 10th, Platinum employees and their families volunteered their time to clean up Dubuque. The event consisted of volunteers cleaning the lot next to the Illinois Bridge/Old Welter Storage building.

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### Thank You To Our Sponsors

A sincere "thank you" to Sustainable Dubuque, Dubuque Bank & Trust, and EIMCO for your generous support. Membership dues cover only a small portion of the operating expenses for the Petal Project. We rely on sponsorship and grants for the remaining financial support.

#### Silver



#### Bronze



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