

Save the Planet. Save Money. Get Certified



Beyond the Office

Show Your Love for the Environment this Valentine's Day



The celebration of Valentine's Day dates back hundreds of years; however the scale of the celebration has significantly increased in recent history. Around a billion valentines are sent each year globally, making the day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year behind Christmas.

Consider showing some extra love for the environment this year by carefully considering what you buy. Here are some ideas:

- 1.) Purchase cards made from recycled or tree-free paper
- 2.) Choose organic and/or locally grown flowers

Recycled Ink Cartridges = Savings

Recycled or remanufactured ink cartridges are generally cheaper than their non-recycled counterparts. Switching to recycled ink cartridges can save your business up to 70% on the price of ink cartridges and toner. Additionally, recycling used ink cartridges can make your business money. For example, Staples offers \$2 in Staples Rewards per recycled cartridge.

Connect with the Petal Project

The Petal Project is on Facebook and Twitter. We have been posting pictures, tweeting from conferences, sending business updates, posting relevant articles, and much more. Connect with us on one or all of these social media sites to keep up-to-date with the Petal Project.



Premier Bank Received a 2012 Green Leaf Award

BankNews, the leading independent publication for community banks nationwide, presented Premier Bank with a 2012 Green Leaf Award. The award recognizes financial institutions nationwide for improving their communities through cooperation and participation in environmental programs and civic projects.

Premier Bank was recognized for its participation in the Petal Project. Utilizing the Petal Project framework, Premier Bank has increased employee education on waste reduction and energy conservation; increased the deployment of energy-efficient lighting; increased its use of low-flow faucets; expanded

3.) Consider sending e-cards instead of paper cards

4.) For dinner, purchase locally grown ingredients

[Read more Valentine's Day tips here.](#)

materials that are recycled; installed motion-activated lighting; and decreased paper consumption.

Congratulations, Premier Bank!

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.

Drop-Off Locations for Phones & Batteries

The Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency is partnering with Call2Recycle, a product stewardship organization managing the only no-cost battery and cellphone collection program in North America, to offer rechargeable battery drop-off locations in Dubuque and Delaware counties. After holiday purchases, many old batteries and cellphones are ready to be recycled. Major retailers such as Radio Shack, Staples, Best Buy and Lowe's offer in-store collection. Along with these businesses, the agency is sponsoring additional drop-off locations.

Dubuque County sites:

- Carnegie Stout Public Library, 360 W. 11th St., Dubuque
- Dubuque City Hall, 50 W. 13th St., Dubuque
- Leisure Services Office, 2200 Bunker Hill Road, Dubuque
- Municipal Services Center, 925 Kerper Court, Dubuque
- Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency Landfill, 14501 U.S. 20 W., Dubuque
- Dyersville City Hall, 340 First Ave. E., Dyersville
- Dubuque Regional Airport, 11000 Airport Road, Dubuque
- Worthington City Hall, 216 First Ave. W., Worthington
- RACOM Corporation, 3190 Cedar Cross Court, Dubuque

Dubuque County Library sites:

- 5900 Saratoga Plaza, Asbury
- 110 Bierman Road SE, Epworth
- 205 First St. NE, Farley
- 938 First St., Holy Cross

Delaware County sites:

- Earlville City Hall, 12 Southside Road, Earlville
 - Edgewood City Hall, 203 W. Union St., Edgewood
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Low Impact Development (LID) Workshop

The Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District is hosting the 6th annual LID Workshop at the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium on February 20th and 21st. The standard registration fee is \$20.00. For additional information contact Eric Schmechel at 563-876-3418 ext. 3 or by email at eschmechel@dubuqueswcd.org.

Tel: (563) 690-5738
Email: kmcelroy@ecia.org