

April 10, 2010

JM Family Enterprises Wins 2009 Emerald Award in "Recycling/Large Business" Category

The outstanding environmental accomplishments of JM Family Enterprises, Inc. (JM Family) have earned the company the 2009 Emerald Award in the Recycling/Large Business category. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners will present trophies to all of the winners at a special ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, in the Broward County Commission Chambers, Room 422, of the Governmental Center, 115 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

Each year, the Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department recognizes several local businesses for their outstanding environmentally-responsible business practices. Each business receives an Emerald Award for their exceptional efforts in protecting the environment.

Altogether eight businesses will be given Emerald Awards and several individuals and one municipality/government agency will receive 2009 NatureScape Emerald Awards for incorporating NatureScape Broward techniques into their landscaping. The program recognizes businesses for their voluntary efforts in four areas: waste reduction, recycling, improved operating practices, and other "green" strategies that reduce pollution and waste. Both large and small businesses are eligible. One business is also honored with the title "Environmental Business of the Year," which will be announced at the ceremony.

The JM Family principal businesses focus on vehicle distribution and processing, finance and warranty services, insurance activities, retail sales and technology products and services. Headquartered in Deerfield Beach, the \$8.4 billion diversified automotive corporation continues to implement innovative methods to recycle and reuse materials in their day-to-day business operations.

Some examples of the company's environmental achievements include:

- Print reduction initiatives eliminated the need to print more than 1 million sheets, or 24,500 pounds, of paper each year, saving 122 trees. The company is expected to save nearly \$550,000 a year in printing, postage, labor and shipping costs
- Waste minimization initiatives reduced the amount of trash generated and incorporated innovative opportunities to repurpose and reuse. For example, the implementation of reusable sandwich baskets eliminates the use of 60,000 Styrofoam plates and plastic lids each year
- JM Food Services composts organic waste generated during meal preparation and uses it to fertilize the on-site herb garden, keeps waste out of the landfill and minimizes the need for chemical fertilizers
- Sponsored and influenced the building of four Leadership in Energy and Environmental design (LEED) Gold certified Habitat for Humanity homes in Broward County

- more -

- Followed LEED processes on 500 building renovations

Receiving an Emerald Award can help companies boost business. Research has shown that a company's environmental reputation will rival quality and brand name as criteria used by customers. Environmentally-friendly business practices can help companies attract new customers, encourage repeat customers and boost employee morale.

More information, including application procedures and guidelines, is available online at www.broward.org/EnvironmentAndGrowth, or call 954-519-1257. For more information on Broward County's Green initiatives, programs and services, visit www.broward.org/gogreen.

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