

ST. LOUIS™



GREEN BUSINESS CHALLENGE

The Network that Grows Green Operations and Innovation



2023



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

The St. Louis Green Business Challenge, a program of the Missouri Botanical Garden, delivers triple bottom line results (financial, social and environmental) to businesses across the St. Louis region. With its scorecard of strategies, seminars, tours and networking events, the Challenge helps each company advance their sustainable business practices in accord with their unique goals and culture.

Since its inception in 2010, 260 companies representing more than 730,000 constituents have joined the Challenge. It is open to all types of companies: small, medium and large businesses; office tenants and building owners; nonprofit institutions, and government entities.

I am amazed at the adaptability that the St. Louis Green Business Challenge has displayed during the COVID crisis of 2020/2021. Businesses changed radically and the Challenge team at MOBOT responded with innovative methods that allowed the participants to still make improvements.

Chuck Winkle, Green Team Board Maritz

THE CHALLENGE OFFERS THREE TRACKS TO BEST MEET YOUR COMPANY'S SUSTAINABILITY GOALS:

APPRENTICE | \$250

- targeted for small businesses and companies new to "going green"
- two seminars
- complete policies and actions from a menu of options
- phone and email support
- seminars and events
- case study published in 2023 accomplishment book
- receive recognition at awards celebration

GREEN CITIES | \$350

- targeted for municipalities and other local governmental entities
- two seminars
- complete policies and actions from a menu of options designed for governments
- one site visit plus phone and email support
- seminars and events
- case study published in 2023 accomplishment book
- receive recognition at awards celebration

LEADER/CHAMPION | \$650

- targeted for small and large companies, those who own and those who lease
- seminars and special events share best practices and peer-to-peer resources
- comprehensive checklist of strategies guides your company
- champions can choose advanced scorecard or pursue an innovation project
- one site visit plus phone and email support
- case study published in 2023 accomplishment book
- award presented based on scorecard and/or project accomplishments

The City of Collinsville looks forward to participating in the St. Louis Green Business Challenge every year. The Challenge provides an opportunity to network with staff from surrounding municipalities and share ideas for how we can improve the quality of life in the communities we serve.

**Derek Jackson, Deputy City Manager
City of Collinsville**

2023 SPECIAL FEATURES

GREEN BIZ TRACKER

The Challenge joins business sustainability programs in 14 states using this efficient online platform for tracking and reporting the achievements of your enterprise—and Challenge cumulative impacts!

NETWORKING AND LEARNING

Hybrid options including in-person Green Business Tours and special events, and monthly Virtual Brown Bag seminars, will showcase Challenge company offerings and foster useful connections.



Integrated Facility Services is committed to energy efficiency and environmentally responsible business practices, both as a builder and as citizens of our community. The Green Business Challenge allowed us to reaffirm those values and begin looking at new opportunities to improve our environmental impact.

**Chris Ruth, MidMissouri Controls Manager
Integrated Facility Services**

2023 KEY DATES

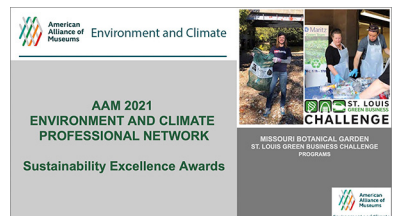
- February 1** Online enrollment opens
- March 9** Kick Off event: Green Business Showcase
- March 24** Green Cities Track begins
- April 6** Apprentice Track begins
- June 1** Champion companies elect to use Champion Checklist, Innovation Project, or both
- October 13** Challenge Checklists, Innovation Projects, and Case Studies due
- December 15** Awards Celebration

The St. Louis Cardinals have participated in the St. Louis Green Business Challenge since its inception. We have found great value in the program, assisting us with our sustainability initiatives over the years. The variety of resources that are available continue to benefit our work, and Virtual Brown Bag Seminars are interesting and informative. Participating in the Challenge keeps us engaged in the green community. We are committed to the partnership as a key component to continue the growth and development of our sustainability efforts.

**Hosei Maruyama, Director, Facility Operations & Planning
St. Louis Cardinals**

2021 NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The American Alliance of Museums (AAM) honored the St. Louis Green Business Challenge with a Sustainability Excellence Award. Challenge staff presentations shared our process, participant achievements and transferrable elements with a national audience of museum professionals.



2023 Green Business Challenge Curriculum: green team engagement, sustainable purchasing, waste reduction strategies, energy efficiency, clean transportation, water conservation, greenhouse gas reporting, energy benchmarking, employee education and biodiversity.

2022 CHALLENGE BY THE NUMBERS

- 100% participate in **Workplace Recycling**
- 100% have a **Green Team** leading sustainability efforts
- 100% have adopted a **Sustainability Policy** or **Sustainability Guidelines**
- 100% kept up **Sustainability Communications** with colleagues or constituents
- 100% are actively implementing **Energy Efficiency** measures
- 91% have implemented **Green Purchasing** measures
- 85% actively promoted **Biodiversity** and **Nature Connections** for employees
- 60% actively promoted **Green Transportation** options
- 59% experienced a **Business Advantage** from sustainability engagement



Being sustainable and a good world citizen has always been important to Tarlton. The St. Louis Green Business Challenge is a great resource and valuable partner in helping us find new ways to expand our impact and be more effective with the programs and initiatives we current utilize.

Diane K. Grimsley, Senior Project Manager and Green Team Leader, Tarlton

ABOUT THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Missouri Botanical Garden is a center for botanical research, science education, and sustainability efforts, as well as an oasis in the city of St. Louis. The Garden's mission is driven by the need to protect and conserve plants and their ecosystems. We seek to inspire and educate all members of our local region about the benefits of being good environmental stewards through responsible and sustainable use of natural resources. EarthWays Center, the Garden's Sustainability Division, drives community projects that educate and connects people, businesses and municipalities to practical sustainable solutions.