

Oct. 2, 2007

Online registration now available for Sustainable Communities Workshop

Professionals, students and interested citizens, state and local government officials can now register online for the 2007 Sustainable Communities Workshop, Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, by visiting the workshop's Web site at <http://sustainablecommunities.scgov.net> and clicking on the "Register Now" button. Registration is \$100 for professionals and the general public. A special rate of \$25 is available to students.

Once again this year, the workshop is being held at the Gulfcoast Florida Girl Scout Council Headquarters, 4780 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota. Participants will learn to plan developments that minimize impacts on natural systems and conserve water resources, meet resource-efficient housing and transportation demands, and support economic development as they prepare to give their own organizations a competitive advantage.

Keynote speakers include Jerry Karnas, former director of the Global Warming Campaign for the National Wildlife Federation and a current member of Gov. Charlie Crist's Energy Action Team, and Eric Livingston, chief of the Bureau of Watershed Management for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Other speakers scheduled to present are: Brett Cunningham, water resources discipline director for Jones Edmunds and Associates Inc.; Clark Hull, ERP program director for the Southwest Florida Water Management District; Marilyn Kershner from the Florida Green Building Coalition; Melanie Simmons, Ph.D., from Healthy Development Inc.; and Jason Hight from the Florida Department of Health.

The workshop is offering several sponsorship opportunities for businesses and educational institutions. To become a sponsor, or to learn more about the event, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for the Sustainable Communities Workshop, or visit <http://sustainablecommunities.scgov.net>.