

Jan. 30, 2008

## WilsonMiller, Inc. Joins Sarasota County's Green Business Partnership

Sarasota County's Green Business Partnership has awarded its newest certification to WilsonMiller, Inc., a planning, design and engineering firm with a history of more than 50 years in professional consulting. The firm, whose Sarasota office is located at 6900 Professional Parkway East, plans to audit its 10 other locations according to checklists similar to Sarasota County's, in cooperation with respective local governments and other organizations.

"Just as WilsonMiller encourages clients to be environmentally responsible, we are leveraging the information and experience from working with the Green Business Partnership in a firm-wide initiative to improve the efficiency of offices and facilities statewide," said Executive Vice President Michael Kennedy, P.E., manager of the firm's Sarasota office.

According to Sarasota County Recycling Coordinator Tom Franklin, WilsonMiller has worked closely with its property management company to replace incandescent lighting with energy-efficient fluorescent lighting and bolster recycling efforts to reduce disposable waste and related removal services. Additionally, they are developing a portal that will provide employees with bulletins, links to resources, document libraries and other knowledge bases that will provide information on green practices.

"Their energy conservation efforts will result in savings of more than \$1,500 per year, and their 'green team' continues to find ways to reduce energy consumption and waste, enhance recycling efforts and implement other practical and cost-effective measures," said Franklin.

"Large, multidisciplinary consulting firms like WilsonMiller have the great privilege of supporting sustainable development through responsible planning, engineering, environmental services and more," Kennedy added. "However, large and small businesses alike have the opportunity to use modern standards, programs and technologies to assess their own operations and take action to reduce harmful impacts on public health, the environment and the economy."

The Green Business Partnership was initiated under a Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant and is open to all businesses in Sarasota County that implement required resource conservation measures and pass an on-site certification assessment. Each certified business receives a Green Business Partnership certificate and seal they can display to demonstrate their commitment to a healthy environment. They also receive an electronic logo that can be used on company stationary and promotional items.

WilsonMiller is now listed in a Green Business Partnership directory that is available online at the Green Business Web site, [www.scgov.net/greenbusiness](http://www.scgov.net/greenbusiness).

The Green Business Partnership is actively seeking other participants. For more information, or to request a Green Business Partnership packet, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask to speak with the county's Recycling Coordinator.

For more information on the businesses currently certified under the program, visit [www.scgov.net/greenbusiness](http://www.scgov.net/greenbusiness) and click on the link entitled, "Participating Businesses."