

NEWS RELEASE



County of Lexington

Department of Solid Waste Management

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Two Lexington County Businesses Receive a S.C. Smart Business Recycling Program Award

Two Lexington County businesses were honored for their outstanding waste reduction and recycling programs at the first S.C. Smart Business Recycling Program awards luncheon, hosted by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, on April 28, 2009.

DHEC Commissioner C. Earl Hunter stated that businesses generate 35 to 45 percent of the nation's waste stream. Two Lexington County businesses are playing an important role in lessening their environmental impact by conserving natural resources, reducing pollution, and saving energy.

The Lexington County honorees included:

Lexington Medical Center, located in West Columbia, was honored for its overall recycling program, donating out-of-date medical supplies to local animal shelter and switching to green cleaning supplies. Lexington Medical Center also started an environmental purchasing policy focusing on recycled-content paper and Energy Star appliances.

Sun Printing, located in West Columbia, not only recycles paper, cardboard beverage containers and fluorescent bulbs, but also makes a point to reuse and repurpose items whenever possible and as a result has turned its waste stream into revenue instead of an expense. The sales staff works to educate customers on the benefits of using recycled-content paper and other sustainable products as well as design alternatives in order to reduce waste.

Sun Printing is also currently working on a Community Printing grant program to encourage the local community to “reduce waste, recycle and go green!”

Lexington Medical Center and Sun Printing contributed to the nearly 5 million tons of material that was recycled in South Carolina in fiscal year 2008.

The S.C. Smart Business Recycling Program is a partnership between DHEC and the S.C. Department of Commerce. The program offers free, confidential, non-regulatory services including site visits, technical assistance, market research and workshops.