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Best Green Businesses

Our contest winners are enjoying business success by making Southwest Florida—and the planet—a healthier place.

Susan Burns

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Photo by Matt McCourtney

Best Green Business Finalists

Greenlaw Solar Group, Sarasota—Builds top-quality renewable energy systems for commercial and residential applications. Clients include FPL, Sarasota and Manatee county governments.

Home Front Homes, Englewood—Develops energy-efficient, wind-resistant method of panelized construction for homes.

Josh Wynne Construction, Sarasota—Builds green, and recently completed a Sarasota house that is going for Platinum LEED certification. If successful, it would be the greenest home in the state.

MyGreenBuildings.com, Sarasota—Constructs buildings and retrofits older structures by utilizing state-of-the-art systems, technology and local, environmentally responsible materials.

New Balance University, Sarasota—This redesigned store is the first New Balance in the nation to use an advanced environmentally friendly design. Sells biodegradable merchandise and recycles used shoes.

OBLI Organics, Sarasota—Uses 100 percent certified organic cotton for infant and children's clothing as well as doggie fashion and sells online.

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Solar Direct, Bradenton—A solar system installer, which has been working in renewable energies for decades, has created a useful online learning center at www.SolarDirect.com, a factory direct source for energy-efficient products.

SSRCx, Sarasota—A wholly owned subsidiary of Smith Seckman Reid, an engineering design and facility consulting firm dedicated to sustainability services for new and existing buildings.

Sutter Roofing of Western Florida, Sarasota—Specializes in roofing and re-roofing big buildings with garden and photovoltaic roofs that generate electricity, save and cleanse water, and reflect sunshine for cheaper cooling bills.

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Manatee—An engineering firm offering integrated and sustainable transportation, land development and environmental services. First firm of its kind to join the Chicago Climate Exchange.

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