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## *Environmental Values at Work*

### **PERMISSION FORM FOR TENANT PARTICIPATION IN SONOMA COUNTY GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM**

Please read “Steps to Become Green” (on back), sign, and return form via email: [sonomagreen@sonoma-county.org](mailto:sonomagreen@sonoma-county.org) or fax: (707) 565-7231.

The \_\_\_\_\_ (name of business) located at \_\_\_\_\_ (property address) is applying to become a certified Sonoma County Green Business and needs the property owner’s authorization to participate. By signing below, the property owner agrees that representatives of the Sonoma County Green Business Program (SGBP) Partner Agencies may enter the property for the purpose of conducting the waste reduction, pollution prevention, water reduction, and energy conservation surveys.

By signing below, the property owner agrees that representatives of the SGBP Partner Agencies may access the \_\_\_\_\_ (property address) utility billing records. These records will be used in preparation for the waste reduction, pollution prevention, water reduction and energy conservation surveys, and will be shared only with the authorized contractors working on the SGBP. The site landscape maintenance company information is requested to ensure all interested parties are available for the outdoor irrigation survey. Some SGBP Partner Agencies require the Landscape Maintenance Company be in attendance during the landscape water use site evaluation.

The property owner signing below agrees on behalf of itself and any other owners or occupants of the property, and the heirs, executors, legal representatives, and assigns of all such persons, to release and to defend, indemnify, protect, and hold harmless the SGBP Partner Agencies, and their agents, officers, and employees, from and against, any and all liabilities, claims, damages, costs or expenses, including attorney’s fees, that arise out of or are connected in any way with the SGBP Certification program; provided, however, that the owners duty to indemnify and hold harmless shall not extend to any claims or liability to the extent arising out of the established sole negligence or willful misconduct of the SGBP Partner Agencies, or their agents, officers or employees.

I have read and fully understood the form entitled “Steps to Become Green”

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Landscape Maintenance Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Name or Owners Representative’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landscape Maintenance Company Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner Name or Owner Representative Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **SONOMA GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM Partner Agencies**

Sonoma County Water Agency • Pacific Gas & Electric • Sonoma County Waste Management Agency  
Sonoma County Department of Emergency Services • Healdsburg Fire Department • Pacific Gas & Electric  
Petaluma Fire Department • City of Santa Rosa • Santa Rosa Fire Department



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The Sonoma Green Business Program (SGBP) is a partnership of environmental agencies and utilities that assists, recognizes, and promotes small to medium-sized consumer oriented businesses that volunteer to operate in a more environmentally responsible way. To be certified Green, participants must:

- Be in compliance with applicable environmental regulations, and
- Meet program standards for conserving resources, preventing pollution and minimizing waste.

The SGBP is a part of the Bay Area Green Business Program, which has developed a series of sector-specific checklists of environmental best practices, providing an easy-to-use framework to help your business meet program standards (please see Step 2). Below is an outline of the various steps your business will go through as you embark on the journey to Green Business certification.

**STEP 1: Apply** Visit <http://www.greenbusinessca.org/enrollment/> to enroll your business in the Sonoma Green Business Program. The SGBP is currently accepting applications from hotels, restaurants, office and retail operations, wineries, auto body, auto repair, printers, dental offices, garment cleaners (wet or CO2 systems only) landscape design and maintenance, painters, and remodelers.. If your business does not operate in these sectors, please contact the Green Business Coordinator to see if your business may still be eligible to apply.

**STEP 2: Checklist Completion and Compliance Check** Shortly after enrolling in the program, you will receive the appropriate Green Business checklist for your sector. Please complete the checklist based on your current business practices. Also at this time, if operating in a regulated industry, we will confirm with regulatory agencies that your business is in compliance with all environmental regulations.

**STEP 3: Onsite Conservation Assessments** After you complete your sector-specific checklist and we confirm your business is in compliance, if applicable, you will receive a series of onsite assessments. Please contact the [Program Coordinator](#) to set up these assessments. Your business will receive assessments from the following agencies or their third-party contractors:

1. Water Conservation by the Sonoma County Water Agency and/or Green Business Program staff
2. Energy Conservation by Pacific Gas & Electric
3. Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling by the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency and/or Green Business Program staff
4. Pollution Prevention by your CUPA or the Department of Emergency Services (if you store hazardous materials onsite)

The SGBP can provide free onsite assessments if your business is located within the service areas of the above partner agencies. If you are located outside a utility service area, you will have to finance the assessment of your site. Please contact the Green Business Coordinator to get a list of approved auditors.

**STEP 4: Reap the Benefits of Being Green** Once it is verified that your business meets the Green Business standards, you will be recognized by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and receive a packet with your award certificate and window decal. You will have access to the Green Business logo to use on your website and marketing materials. We will also provide free marketing on your behalf and post your business name on the Sonoma and Bay Area Green Business Program websites. Green Business certification is valid for three years, after which you may apply for re-certification.