

CAMBRIDGE

# GoGreen Awards

2010



## **CATEGORY: Community Sustainability**

### **SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Since March 2009, SBLP has worked with nineteen Cambridge businesses through a comprehensive assessment process that includes energy and water conservation, waste mitigation, transportation alternatives, pollution prevention and internal sustainability management. SBLP handholds each business through the process and helps it create a company-wide action plan. These businesses have dramatically reduced their carbon footprint.
- SBLP has partnered with the Cambridge Energy Alliance to help businesses be more energy efficient. Of the eleven companies that received SBLP certification in April 2010, nine have had an NSTAR audit and significantly lowered their energy costs. Many have increased their recycling and (where applicable) composting, with one company seeing a 90% reduction in its traditional waste stream. Businesses have tackled creative projects to reduce water use; one fabricated a 180-gallon water tank to hold water from a brewery chiller-system that had been run down the drain.
- Working with locally-owned, independent companies, the Sustainable Business Leader Program helps busy Cambridge business owners focus attention on the environmental impact they can have on the community. One company "going green" alone has little impact on the city's carbon footprint. Many businesses making these changes together can have a significant impact, and celebrating them through the SBLP certification has raised the bar and fostered a commitment to environmental sustainability.

#### **ABOUT THE SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS LEADER PROGRAM**

SBLP was developed in Boston in 2008 through a partnership between the Sustainable Business Network (SBN), the Department of Environmental Protection and the Boston Redevelopment Authority. Recognizing a growing need for this program in Cambridge, SBN partnered with Cambridge Local First to bring the program to the city's small to midsized independent businesses.

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#### **ABOUT THE GO GREEN AWARD**

The City of Cambridge annually recognizes local businesses and organizations for outstanding practices in transportation, waste reduction and recycling, energy, stormwater management, climate protection, and community sustainability. The awardees make significant contributions to the reduction of the carbon footprint of Cambridge and to making the city more sustainable.