



ST. LOUIS
Green BUSINESS
CHALLENGE

A PROGRAM OF THE  MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

THE NETWORK THAT GROWS GREEN OPERATIONS AND INNOVATION



2026

www.stlouisgreenchallenge.com

The St. Louis Green Business Challenge, a program of the Missouri Botanical Garden, delivers triple bottom line results (financial, social and environmental) to businesses across the St. Louis region. With its scorecard of strategies, seminars, tours and networking events, the Challenge helps each company advance their sustainable business practices in accord with their unique goals and culture.

Since its inception in 2010, over 325 companies representing more than 730,000 constituents have joined the Challenge. It is open to all types of companies: small, medium and large businesses; office tenants and building owners; nonprofit institutions, and government entities.

The Green Business Challenge opened our eyes to sustainability opportunities we hadn't considered before. The ideas identified through the Challenge scorecard process will continue to guide us as we live out our commitment to sustainability.

Todd Hornburg, Vice President of Facilities
Donald Danforth Plant Science Center

THE CHALLENGE OFFERS THREE TRACKS TO BEST MEET YOUR COMPANY'S SUSTAINABILITY GOALS:

GREEN CITIES | \$400

- targeted for municipalities and other local governmental entities
- two seminars
- complete policies and actions from a menu of options designed for governments
- one site visit plus phone and email support
- monthly programs
- case study published in accomplishment book
- receive recognition at awards celebration

APPRENTICE | \$425

- targeted for small businesses and companies new to "going green"
- two seminars
- complete policies and actions from a menu of options
- phone and email support
- monthly programs
- case study published in accomplishment book
- receive recognition at awards celebration

LEADER/CHAMPION | \$850

- targeted for small and large companies, those who own and those who lease
- seminars and special events share best practices and peer-to-peer resources
- comprehensive checklist of strategies guides your company
- champions can choose advanced scorecard or pursue an innovation project
- one site visit plus phone and email support
- case study published in accomplishment book
- award presented based on scorecard and/or project accomplishments

The Green Cities Challenge has been instrumental in supporting Maplewood's efforts to demonstrate how sustainability can enhance livability and economic vitality. The Challenge provides a framework that helps us turn Green aspirations into tangible actions, fostering a culture of environmental stewardship throughout Maplewood.

Amber Withycombe, City Manager, City of Maplewood

2026 SPECIAL FEATURES

NETWORKING AND LEARNING

Monthly mix of in-person and virtual programs will emphasize the HOW of sustainable achievement, including Green Business Tours and Happy Hour events, spotlighting Challenge companies and community partners.

IMPACT EMPHASIS

Guiding efforts to "win" the Challenge by achieving your Green business goals, supporting collaborations and U.N. Sustainable Development Goal alignment.



2026 KEY DATES

- February 2 Challenge enrollment opens
- February 26 Kickoff event: Green Business Showcase, hosted by Cortex
- March 24 Green Cities Challenge Kickoff – Collaboration Workshop (Illinois)
- March 24 Green Cities Challenge Kickoff – Collaboration Workshop (Missouri)
- March 26 Challenge Apprentice Training Workshop
- March 31 Registration closes and Baseline Scorecards due for Leader level participants
- May 1 Champion companies elect to use Innovation Project or U.N. SDG Focus
- October 16 Challenge Scorecards, Innovation Projects, and Case Studies due
- December 11 Awards Ceremony and Celebration

Register your Company for the Challenge! Deadline is March 31, 2026.

2026 Green Business Challenge Curriculum: green team engagement, sustainable purchasing, waste reduction strategies, energy efficiency, clean transportation, water conservation, greenhouse gas reporting, energy benchmarking, employee education, and biodiversity.



2026 ST. LOUIS GREEN BUSINESS CHALLENGE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS & BENEFITS

	SPONSORSHIP LEVEL							
	PRESENTING SPONSOR	SUSTAINING SPONSOR	MONTHLY PROGRAMS SPONSOR	PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS SPONSOR	AWARD EVENT SPONSOR	CHALLENGE FRIENDS SPONSOR	GREEN BIZ BRIEFINGS SPONSOR	
BENEFITS	\$15,000	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	
Exclusive recognition	●							sponsored event
Logo recognition in all print, visual, web-based media and events	top line	secondary	included	included	awards event	awards event		sponsored event
Opportunity to feature company services in Challenge program or webinar	●	●						
Recognition in Accomplishments Book	full page ad	1/2 page ad	logo listed	logo listed	logo listed	logo listed		logo listed
Complimentary tickets and priority seating at Award Event	full table	1/2 table	1/4 table	1/4 table	1/4 table	single ticket		sponsored event
Company guest presenter at Awards Event	●	●			●			
Opportunity to table at Kickoff Event	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Complimentary enrollment in Challenge	●	●	apprentice level	apprentice level	apprentice level			
Verbal recognition at Challenge meetings and events	●	●	●	●	awards event	awards event		sponsored event
Eight hours of complimentary consulting for Green Team	●							

SPONSORSHIP QUESTION CONTACTS:

JACLYN JEZIK AT JJEZIK@MOBOT.ORG | (314) 577-0216 OR GLENDA ABNEY AT GABNEY@MOBOT.ORG | (314) 577-0288

Thank You to 2025 Sponsors!

As an inspiration for you to consider sponsoring this effective program, here are our 2025 Green Business Challenge Sponsors:

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Graybar

SUSTAINING SPONSORS

Ameren Missouri

RideFinders

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION SPONSOR

Citizens for Modern Transit

Cortex Innovation District

MONTHLY PROGRAMS SPONSOR

Missouri American Water

GREEN CITIES CHALLENGE SPONSOR

Madison County Illinois

OneSTL

St. Louis County Department of Public Health

AWARD CELEBRATION SPONSOR

Edward Jones

AWARD SPONSOR

Stan Gellman Graphic Design

ACCOMPLISHMENT BOOK SPONSOR

The Advertisers Printing Company

CHALLENGE FRIENDS

ESCO Technologies

Missouri Gateway – Green Building Council

Standing Partnership

Funded in part by the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Thank you for considering adding your company to this list for 2026!



2026 PRESENTING SPONSOR



ABOUT THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Missouri Botanical Garden is a center for botanical research, science education, and sustainability efforts, as well as an oasis in the city of St. Louis. The Garden's mission is driven by the need to protect and conserve plants and their ecosystems. We seek to inspire and educate all members of our local region about the benefits of being good environmental stewards through responsible and sustainable use of natural resources. EarthWays Center, the Garden's Sustainability Division, drives community projects that educate and connects people, businesses and municipalities to practical sustainable solutions.

2025 CHALLENGE BY THE NUMBERS

- 100% of participants have formed a **Green Team** to lead sustainability efforts
- 100% kept up or started **Workplace Recycling**
- 99% kept up **Sustainability Communications** with colleagues or constituents
- 99% continued or added to **Special Waste Stream Recycling**
- 98% have established or are developing **Sustainability Policies**
- 96% provided **Green Learning** opportunities or **Green-At-Home** resources
- 93% continued or implemented **Sustainable Purchasing**
- 86% promoted **Nature Connections**, including use of **Native Landscaping**
- 70% are **Doing Business** with another Challenge participant



The Green Business Challenge provided a platform for our team to network and collaborate with industry professionals sharing similar sustainability goals, while also promoting Terra's unique service offerings. We highly recommend the Challenge for organizations and professionals who are serious about sustainability solutions in their everyday operations.

Tony Smith, Managing Member
Terra Environmental

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS?

Contact Jaclyn Jezik
jjezik@mobot.org | (314) 577-0216

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING THE CHALLENGE?

Contact Glenda Abney
gabney@mobot.org | (314) 577-0288

To enroll and for more information visit: stlouisgreenchallenge.com



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2026 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Green Business Challenge sponsorships provide an exceptional opportunity to distinguish your company as a leader in our community. With your support, the Challenge team can help more companies adopt sustainable business practices in the Greater St. Louis Region. This flyer includes the sponsorship levels and associated benefits. We would like to confirm our sponsors by February 25 to be included in the Kickoff Seminar on February 26, 2026.

If you would like to sponsor, please send your commitment, sponsor level, logo, full name of your company, and full contact information to Glenda Abney.

Graybar returns as 2026 Presenting Sponsor.
Thank you, Graybar!



FOR SPONSORSHIP QUESTIONS, CONTACT GLENDA ABNEY
GABNEY@MOBOT.ORG | (314) 577-0288

The St. Louis Green Business Challenge continues to drive our sustainability efforts as we work to help our customers save energy, reduce waste and improve efficiency. We also continue to expand our focus in renewables and clean energy solutions to meet the needs of our customers.

Mike Arceneaux,
Corporate Director Real Estate Development, Graybar