

## Cumberland County is Greening Our Future



Cumberland County local government is going green to celebrate [National County Government Week](#) May 3-9. As part of the Sustainable Sandhills “Greening Local Government” project, 12 Cumberland County departments are now Certified Green Businesses!

Earlier this year, in anticipation of County Government Week, Cumberland County Manager James Martin encouraged all departments to participate in the Sustainable Sandhills Green Business Program. And more than 15 departments responded! Our best estimate is that 1000 of the county’s 2400 employees work in departments that are certified! As of May 5, these 12 departments were certified:



- Cumberland County Board of Commissioners
- County Attorney’s Office
- Finance
- Information Systems
- Building Maintenance Facility
- Department of Social Services
- Soil and Water Conservation
- Veterans Services
- Planning and Inspections
- Workforce Development
- Library System
- Cooperative Extension



These departments reduce waste, promote recycling, become energy and water efficient, purchase eco-friendly products and educate employees and customers about the multiple benefits of a sustainable community.

Here are some of the green measures adopted by our certified Cumberland County departments:

- T12 fluorescent bulbs are being replaced with energy efficient T8 bulbs
- Old toilets and urinals that used 5 or more gallons per flush are being replaced with newer, more efficient models which use as little as 0.5 gallons of water per flush
- Inefficient faucet aerators, which may use up to 3.5 gallons per minute, are being replaced with new models that use 1.5 gallon per minute
- Instead of buying new furniture and equipment, Cumberland County has a policy to reuse office furniture and equipment
- Letterhead, business cards and brochures are all printed on post-consumer content paper ranging from 10% to 100%. Plus, many of the offices chose to make additional changes in their purchasing for recycled paper towels and post-it notes.
- Soil and Water Conservation practices vermicomposting in their office, feeding their lunch scraps to the worms to reduce office waste!



The Sustainable Sandhills Certified Green Business program is now available in all counties in our region. For more information about how your business can become a Sustainable Sandhills Certified Green Business, please call 910-673-0826 or visit <http://sustainablesandhills.org>