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Lafayette's Green Award Winners

Every year the Green Awards single out people and businesses that contribute to a more sustainable community. Five winners, each representing a unique category, were recently selected by the Environmental Task Force and honored at a City Council meeting.

Lafayette Resident Category: Gint Federas took on a number of aspects of his home, replacing all indoor and outdoor lighting, installing solar panels, replacing the pool pump, installing a tankless water heater and more; the net result is significant home energy savings.

School category: Lafayette School District Green Team- Partnering with Sustainable Lafayette, the Lafayette School District conducted energy, water and waste audits across all campuses in 2009 and started implementing upgrades in 2010 that are already saving \$75,000 per year for the District. Gym lights were replaced, windows were replaced, and a lunch recycling program was kicked off, with substantial assistance from students. "School Liaisons" at each school were an integral part of making Green Team so successful.

A tie in the Business category: Clocks, etc. changed all of the light fixtures in the store and is now offering a new line of green lighting fixtures. They're also recycling paper, shipping materials and more, supporting local artists and donating defective but useable products to ARF - the Animal Rescue Fund. ECOLunchboxes.com is a Lafayette-based, non-toxic lunch container company.

Green Building category: The Ecohouse Design Team took a year to transform an original 1950s ranch house into a sustainable home of the future. The very first P G & E bill for the home was only \$50. Members of the Design Team include architect Ken Hertel, designer Michael Brison Bornn, homeowner and project manager Karen Maggio and builder Mike Richardson. C.Tyson

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