

save the planet. save money. get certified.



Leaving the office? Turn off and unplug your computer.

Every year computers in the business sector waste over \$1 billion worth of electricity. When leaving the office for the day make sure to turn off your computer and the power strip it's plugged in to; otherwise you're still burning energy throughout the night.



Installing power management software that switches equipment off after working hours or using power strips and manually switching them off after working hours completes Petal Project energy conservation criteria #15.

Petal Project Receives DMASWA Grant

The Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency (DMASWA) board voted on September 7th to approve the Petal Project grant application requesting almost \$25,000 in funds to support the program. These funds will be used to provide staff support to Petal Project participating businesses and to recruit additional organizations to join the program. Visit the [DMASWA website](#) to learn more about the grant program.

Three New Businesses Join the Petal Project

We are excited to announce the three newest Petal Project businesses.

[The Food Store](#)

The Food Store - formally Breitbach's - has been family owned since 1983. This grocery store and deli specializes in organic and locally grown foods.

[River Lights Bookstore](#)

River Lights is Dubuque's locally owned independent bookstore. The kind of shop where the book you've just heard about on NPR, had recommended by a friend, or simply remembered years after reading is on the shelf waiting for you.

[Jitterz Coffee & Cafe](#)

Jitterz is independently owned, and owner-operated. They serve some of the finest and freshest origin, organic, and fair trade coffee in Dubuque.

Track Progress on the Petal Project Website

We recently added a new feature to the Petal Project website that allows you to track the progress of businesses through the Petal Project green business certification process. The Petal Tracker lists all participating businesses and shows which petals that business has achieved. Check out this new feature by visiting the [participants page](#) on the Petal Project website.

Energy Efficiency Loan Fund (EELF)

The Energy Efficiency Loan Fund (EELF) is a \$200,000 revolving loan fund established through funds from the U.S. Department of Energy. Its purpose is to help finance energy improvements in buildings owned or leased by commercial businesses or non-profits located in the City of Dubuque. EELF is intended to fund innovative energy efficiency projects that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The current interest rate for EELF loans is 1%. **Special consideration will be given to Petal Project businesses in the selection process.**

To learn more about this program or to submit an application visit the [ECIA Business Growth](#) website.

Have you heard us on the radio?

The Petal Project is now sponsoring the Y105 morning show on Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00. Each week we will be talking about the Petal Project and highlighting business success stories. If you are interested in sharing some of your sustainable business practices on the radio please email kmcelroy@ecia.org.

Iowa Environmental Conference

The 2011 Iowa Environmental Conference will be held September 20 at the Sheraton Hotel in West Des Moines. This conference is an opportunity for businesses to learn about emerging environmental policies and regulations that may affect your company. Don't miss this opportunity to engage with other business professionals on key regulatory issues. To register visit the [conference website](#).

Host an America Recycles Day Event

Since 1997, communities across the country have come together on **November 15** to celebrate [America Recycles Day](#). More than a celebration, America Recycles Day is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to the promotion of recycling programs in the United States. One day to educate and motivate. One day to get our co-workers, friends and community leaders excited about what can be accomplished when we all work together. One day to make recycling bigger and better 365 days a year.

To order promotional materials and register an event at your business, please create an [America Recycles Day account](#). Be sure to email Kelsey McElroy at kmcelroy@ecia.org if you plan to host an

event so she can help you promote it.

Growing Sustainable Communities Conference

Registration is now open for the Growing Sustainable Communities Conference to be held Oct. 11-12 at the Grand River Center in Dubuque. Presented by the City of Dubuque and Sustainable City Network, Inc., the conference will teach leaders how to create a balance between environmental, economic and social sustainability in resource management, transportation, and energy efficiency. Additional sessions will focus on project management, financing options, and community engagement.

For more information or to register for the conference visit www.GSCDubuque.com.