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## **Dubuque Bank and Trust is a Certified Green Business**

***Dubuque Bank and Trust is the third business to complete the Petal Project green business certification program***

**Dubuque, IA (April 9, 2012)** - Dubuque businesses are leading the sustainability movement in Eastern Iowa through their participation in the Petal Project, a green business certification program. Dubuque Bank and Trust is proud to announce that it has completed all of the certification criteria, positioning Dubuque Bank and Trust as the third business in Dubuque to achieve all requirements and become fully "Petal Certified." Dubuque Bank and Trust was the first business to join the Petal Project program in 2009. The business has gone above and beyond, certifying all eight of the DB&T branches in Dubuque County.

A **Green Ribbon Cutting** will be held Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at DB&T (1398 Central Avenue) to celebrate their certification. A reception will start at 8:00 am, with the green ribbon cutting ceremony taking place at 8:30. The Green Ribbon Cutting is an opportunity to showcase an organization's dedication to environmental sustainability through completion of the Petal Project. Kelsey McElroy-Anderson, Regional Economic Development & Sustainability Coordinator of East Central Intergovernmental Association, (ECIA) said, "We congratulate DB&T for their leadership in this initiative and look forward to celebrating their successes at the green ribbon cutting in partnership with the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce."

"Dubuque Bank & Trust recognized the need to become a more sustainable organization when we embarked on this journey back in 2009. Through our partnership with the City of Dubuque and ECIA, as well as the commitment of our employees, we were able to turn this vision into a reality. As we have worked toward completion of the many steps necessary to become Petal certified, we mandated duplexing on printed documents, removed all fax machines and we began using IPADs in internal meetings and these are just a few examples of green initiatives undertaken at the bank. DB&T will continue to make great things happen by taking advantage of opportunities to become more sustainable and educating our employees, customers and the community at large on sustainability and ways to incorporate it into our daily lives." stated Bret T. Tuley, Vice President Operations/Finance/Cashier.

As with a traditional ribbon cutting, a team of local business, non-profit, and public sector leaders has come forward to make up the "Green Team", serving as ambassadors to the green businesses in the Dubuque community. Members of the "Green Team" include: Mayor Roy D. Buol, Cori Burbach (City of Dubuque), Tom Woodward (Sustainable City Network), Beverly Wagner (DMASWA), Sue Chapman (Finley Hospital), Sue Hafkemeyer (Loras College), with Bret Tuley being inducted in honor of DB&T's accomplishments.

Following the ceremony, the public is welcome to attend a free Sustainable Dubuque trolley tour sponsored by DB&T and hosted by the City of Dubuque and the Petal Project. The tour will depart from the DB&T parking lot following the ceremony and will end at approximately noon. The tour will highlight several buildings, projects and neighborhoods that have integrated various aspects of sustainability such as redevelopment of historic warehouses into urban apartments, adding solar panels to an existing building, installing native plantings, or developing sustainable practices in the work place.

Speakers will be available at stops including the Historic Millwork District, Bee Branch Creek Restoration, Municipal Services Center solar panel project, Washington Neighborhood Revitalization strategy and community gardens, the Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Water & Resource Recovery Center, Dubuque Metropolitan Solid Waste Agency methane capture and several others. **If attending the Trolley tour, please park at the Central Parking Ramp**, where the tour will end.

To sign up for the trolley tour please call **563-589-4110** or email [svalenti@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:svalenti@cityofdubuque.org).

Additional information on the Petal Project certification program and DB&T's accomplishments can be found at [www.Petal-Project.com](http://www.Petal-Project.com).

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For more information, or to schedule an interview, please call Kelsey McElroy-Anderson at 563.690.5738 or email her at [kmcelroy@ecia.org](mailto:kmcelroy@ecia.org).

The Petal Project is a regional green business certification program designed to encourage organizations in the Dubuque area to adopt environmentally friendly business practices. The program provides businesses with a simple framework for saving money and resources while establishing a community-wide definition of a green business for consumers wishing to shop based on their values.

The Petal Project is divided into five categories: pollution prevention, water conservation, waste reduction, energy conservation, staff education. Within each category, a business must complete all of the mandatory and a specified number of optional criteria to earn that petal. Once a business has earned all five petals, it is "Petal Certified".

There are currently twenty-three businesses in Dubuque County participating in the program: Finley Hospital, Loras College, Dubuque Bank & Trust, Calico Bean, Clarke University, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, Contempo Salon Spa, Cottingham & Butler, Cumulus Broadcasting, East Central Intergovernmental Association, Four Mounds Bed & Breakfast, Gronen Restoration, IIW, P.C., Jitterz Coffee & Café, Premier Bank, Premier Tooling, Inc., River Lights Bookstore, The Food Store, St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Tender Tradition Childcare, Unified Therapy Services, Welu Printing.