



## VILLAGE OF PINECREST

Press Release

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Pinecrest wins the Sustainable Florida Government Best Practices Award*

**Pinecrest, Fla.** – The Village of Pinecrest won the 2014 Sustainable Florida Best Practices Award in the government category with 13 nominees that included counties, large municipalities and utilities from across Florida.

In the same month, Mayor Cindy Lerner was named 2014 U.S. Green Building Council South Florida Chapter Most Outstanding Green Elected Official.

In just six years, Pinecrest has implemented various initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint that include, to name a few, the first free municipal electric vehicle fast charging station in Florida, green procurement, and adopting green regulations and sustainable building ordinances.

The Village also commissioned a greenhouse emission gas and forecast report for municipal buildings, and residential and commercial areas to track emission reduction.

Pinecrest is committed to minimize the community's impact on the environment through education and implementing sustainability initiatives in all facets of business, resident and government processes. It has a long history of environmental sensitivity and activism, as a community and as a municipal government. In 2009, a Going Green Advisory Group was established as a forum to begin the process of information gathering and dissemination with regards to sustainability. As a result of the collective research efforts and numerous meetings, the group recommended the consideration of a Green Building Ordinance, Green Landscaping Regulations, Green Fleet Program, Green Purchasing and Recycling initiatives at all Pinecrest parks and the Municipal Center.

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The 2010 Strategic Plan established sustainability as one of six core values of the government and places municipal focus on increased energy efficiency and sustainable growth management policies. The 2014 Climate Action Plan aims to set a baseline of where the Village is now as it pertains to environmental initiatives. This forward-thinking model developed by Village staff will measure environmental responsibility and accountability with long and short-term goals.

### **About Sustainable Florida**

Sustainable Florida advances the vision of sustainability by identifying, supporting and communicating best management practices — those which protect and preserve Florida's environment while building markets for Florida's businesses by enhancing their competitive advantages today.

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