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Menino honors businesses with Green awards

A printing business that uses recycled paper and vegetable-based inks, a restaurant owner who incorporates organic produce onto the menu and a car-sharing service were among the businesses honored with the city's first Green Awards.

Mayor Thomas M. Menino and the city of Boston sponsored the contest designed to recognize business owners and residents who use "green" or environmentally friendly technology and practices in their businesses and homes. Twelve businesses and five residents were selected from more than 70 nominees.

The twelve businesses awarded were:

Red Sun Press, a graphic design and printing company in Jamaica Plain that has been using recycled paper since 1988.

Ashmont Grill in Dorchester which offers local and organic food, including herbs grown in there restaurant's patio. The restaurant recycles kitchen grease into biodiesel fuel, manages storm water through a garden and permeable patio blocks.

Arthur Blank in West Roxbury. Arthur Blank manufactures credit cards and gift cards made from corn; this corn plastic is the first greenhouse gas-neutral polymer.

Yale Appliance and Lighting, Dorchester. The Green Project offers extensive customer and employee education around the costs and benefits of energy efficient appliances and includes in store rebates for customers to purchase an energy efficient product and dispose of an old, inefficient product.

Lululemon Athletica, a small business in the Back Bay. Lululemon sells organic cotton clothing, yoga mats made from recycled materials. The store used recycled wood for its flooring, low VOC paints, and green cleaning products. Sells items in reusable bags and offers an

"environmental discount" for customers who reuse or do not need a bag.

CBT Architects in Boston which designs for "green" buildings for clients and recycles, conserves water and minimizes waste in their own office by replacing disposal paper goods with ceramic dishes and stainless steel flatware. They have 34 accredited "green" designers on staff and have a sustainable design committee to advance CBT's sustainability efforts.

Save that Stuff, a recycling company in Charlestown. Founded in 1990, recycles paper, bottles and cans, cardboard, and does food composting. They collect more than 2,000 tons of re-usable and recyclable material each month.

Zipcar in Cambridge. Zipcar offers car sharing to businesses and residents throughout the city.

Four hotels were also recognized by the city: Seaport Hotel; Jurys Boston Hotel; Hyatt Harborside and the Lenox Hotel.