

BY NICOLE KLAUSS

## ALTERNATIVE MOBILITY

### » RECIPIENT

#### ECotality

For more than 20 years, ECotality has been designing revolutionary, fast-charge products that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, making alternative transportation easier and more accessible to the public.

Since 1989, ECotality has had the opportunity to become involved in important North American electric vehicle (EV) initiatives, thanks to its subsidiary eTec (Electric Engineering Transportation Engineering Corporation). ECotality also has been leading the way in the EV industry.

ECotality was named lead grantee in August 2009 by the U.S. Department of Energy, and was awarded a \$99.8 million grant for the EV Project, which will create and produce several thousand electric cars.

ECotality's EV Project will reach 11 major cities in Arizona, Oregon, Washington, California and Tennessee. There will be approximately 4,700 of Nissan's electric cars, LEAFs, in the five states. There also will be 11,000 charge stations across the country to allow drivers to recharge their zero-emission battery electric cars.

Each LEAF is expected to save approximately 436 gallons of gasoline per year. Combined, that's a savings of more than 2 million gallons of gasoline for all LEAFs. The EV Project is projected to generate more than 750 new jobs by 2012; and by 2017, ECotality expects



to have more than 5,500 new positions across the country.

ECotality also has created the Minit-Charger, a battery-charge system that works as quickly and efficiently as possible by using proprietary algorithms to charge a battery. This system eliminates the potential for batteries to overcharge or overheat, and prolongs battery life.

[www.ecotality.com](http://www.ecotality.com)

**FINALISTS: CLEAN AIR CAB // VALLEY METRO RPTA**

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

### » RECIPIENT

#### Amy Stephens, Co-Founder · Stephens ID & Associates

Amy Stephens volunteers her time, creativity and energy to the advancement of the sustainability movement across the state. She also has played an integral role in the growth of the Arizona Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Stephens joined the Arizona chapter in 2006, when she also became a member of the national USGBC. She has dedicated countless hours and effort to the local chapter. She has been a member of the education committee since 2006, and has been the co-chair of that committee since 2008. In 2009, she sat on the host committee and the greening committee for the national USGBC's Greenbuild International Conference and Expo when it was held in Phoenix.

Stephens shows the same passion she

has for the USGBC in her own design company, Stephens ID & Associates. Stephens graduated from William Woods University in Fulton, Mo., in 1997 with a BFA in interior design, and has been designing balanced environments for people to live in ever since.

Her company focuses on interior design, interior repurposing, feng shui and green design. She assists her clients in going green by repurposing existing furniture with a goal toward creating healthier living spaces.

Stephens also teaches green building education classes, and is the vice president and a founding board member of the Green Meeting Industry Council Arizona chapter.

Among her future goals is to work with local elementary schools to teach students how to plant and grow food, so



they will understand the importance of the Earth and where their food comes from. These plans are just several of many as Stephens forges ahead with her various sustainability endeavors.

[www.stephensid.com](http://www.stephensid.com)

# PEORIA Business PROGRAM UPDATE



*Sustain&Gain*  
City of Peoria  
Arizona



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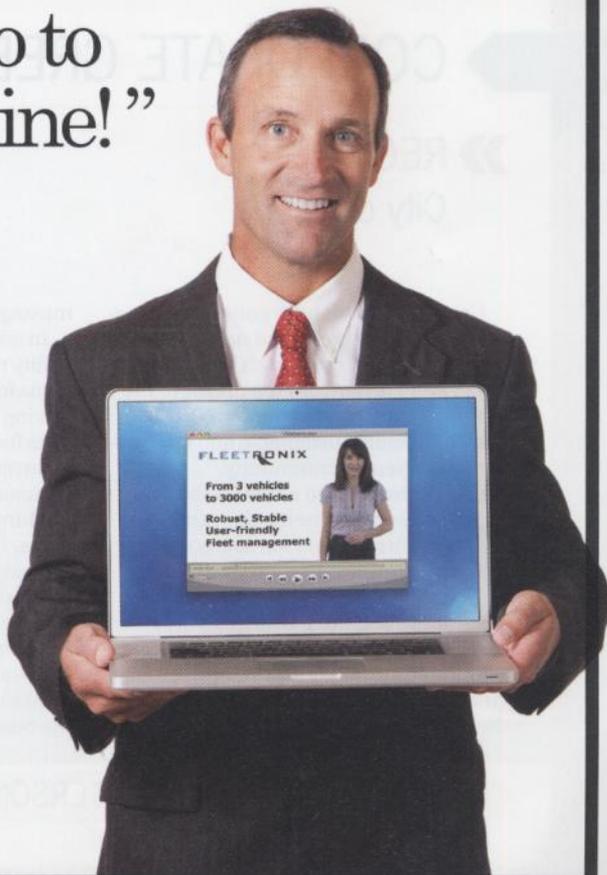
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# 2010 BIG GREEN AWARDS

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## GREEN ADVOCATE

By SHELBY HILL

### » RECIPIENT

**Bonnie Richardson, LEED AP**  
Architect & Principal Planner, City of Tempe

A passion for sustainable design and an enthusiasm for sharing her knowledge with others are not the only attributes Bonnie Richardson brings to the table.

After graduating from Arizona State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design in 1983, Richardson established her own architectural firm and became a visiting professor of architecture at her alma mater. Since then, Richardson has continued to share her knowledge of design, not only with the ASU community, but also with the Phoenix-metro area.

As an architect and principal planner for Tempe's transportation department, Richardson has put her mark on many of the

city's green building endeavors, including Phoenix's METRO light rail system and the Tempe Transportation Center.

Richardson is a Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) professional, and an advocate for environmentally friendly development. She is committed to creating facilities and buildings that area residents will find aesthetically pleasing, and prove to be a valuable investment of their tax dollars.

She is a member of the American Institute of Architects, Valley Forward and the Arizona Technology Council, and has served with the U.S. Green Building Council's Arizona Chapter.



Her commitment to the future of Tempe and Arizona is manifested in her desire to encourage and promote sustainable designing and building in her community.

[www.tempe.gov](http://www.tempe.gov)

**FINALISTS:** LORI SINGLETON, SRP // MARA DEFILIPPIS, PHOENIX GREEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## CORPORATE GREEN PROGRAMS & PRACTICES

### » RECIPIENT

**City of Peoria**

Green initiatives have gone from paper and thoughts to parks and neighborhoods in the city of Peoria. City employees at every level, from the mayor to the custodial staff, have supported Peoria's push for a more sustainable and environmentally friendly community.

City leaders added a sustainability policy to Peoria's general plan, and a Sustainability Action Plan sets goals and measures progress in eight green areas. The Sustainability Action Plan includes goals in the areas of rethinking energy use, managing water resources, and promoting sustainable development and green-collar jobs. The city also created the "Sustain & Gain" motto as a central

message to help promote these goals.

In addition, the city created a sustainability matrix to maintain goals and action plans for cost-effective green practices. As a living document, the matrix sets timelines for the completion of goals, keeps an inventory of accomplished goals and designates project leaders.

Along with setting goals and creating plans, Peoria also ceased distributing paper pay stubs to employees who are paid electronically, and the city only posts job openings online. City employees are encouraged to use green forms of transportation, be environmentally aware, present major progress made in areas of the Sustainability Action Plan at forums,



and participate in green programs. For the public, Peoria's Building Community Speakers Series hosts presentations by experts in fields related to sustainability at city council meetings.

[www.peoriaaz.gov](http://www.peoriaaz.gov)

**FINALIST:** ADOLFSON & PETERSON CONSTRUCTION'S "GREEN FISTS OF FURY"

# 2010 BIG GREEN AWARDS

## GREEN INNOVATION

By NICOLE KLAUSS

### » RECIPIENT

#### SRP EarthWise

SRP has a wide variety of sustainable solutions that allow customers to reduce their carbon footprint and do their part to help save the environment. The SRP EarthWise programs are the first step in this process.

One program, EarthWise Energy, produces electricity from renewable resources like the sun, wind and water. Once the electricity is produced, it is sent to the SRP electric system for all customers to use. By using renewable power, there is less need to use fossil fuels. This program is offered to customers for an extra \$3 per month. So far, EarthWise Energy has about 5,300 people participating.

Another SRP EarthWise program, EarthWise Solar Energy, allows customers



to install solar electric or solar water systems in their homes or businesses for a reduced price. Businesses also can offset electricity usage with natural sources by joining the EarthWise Renewable Energy Credits program. SRP customers also are given the option to support reforestation through Trees for Change.

SRP EarthWise has several other

programs that help the community take an active part in the movement to save energy. These programs include: EarthWise Solar for Schools; EarthWise Renewable Energy Credits; EarthWise Trees for Change; EarthWise Mowing Down Pollution; and EarthWise Powering Our Future.

[www.srpnet.com](http://www.srpnet.com)

**FINALISTS:** BURGIS ENVIROLUTIONS // PHOENIX CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

## COMMERCIAL GREEN BUILDING AWARD

### » RECIPIENT

#### Museum of Northern Arizona Easton Collection Center

- \* Owner: Museum of Northern Arizona
- \* General Contractor: Kinney Construction Services
- \* Architect: Roberts | Jones and Associates
- \* Completed: 2009



### » FINALISTS

#### Queen Creek Branch Library

- \* Owner: Town of Queen Creek
- \* General Contractor: CORE Construction
- \* Architect: Dick & Fritsche Design Group
- \* Completed: 2008

#### Lee H. Brown Conservation Learning Center at Reid Park Zoo

- \* Owner: City of Tucson
- \* General Contractor: Adolfson & Peterson Construction
- \* Architect: Swaim Associates Architects
- \* Completed: 2008

## RESIDENTIAL GREEN COMMUNITY

### » RECIPIENT

#### Privada

- \* Owner: Privada Development Associates
- \* General Contractor: Monarch Privada Construction
- \* Architect: Tim Reader Design
- \* Completed: Ongoing



### » FINALIST

#### 3 Palms

- \* Owner: Blooming Rock Development
- \* General Contractor: Blooming Rock Development
- \* Architect: Blooming Rock Development
- \* Completed: 2009

# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

BY NICOLE KLAUSS

## »» RECIPIENT

### Mark Wilhelm, LEED AP, Co-founder, Green Ideas Sustainability Consultants

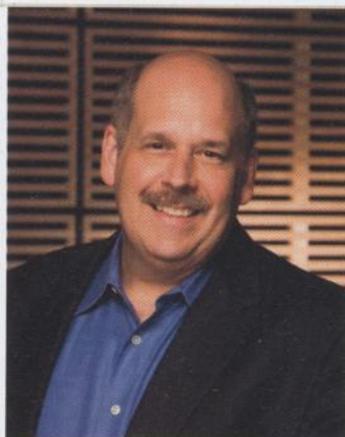
Mark Wilhelm has a long-standing commitment to the green movement, and over the years he has given countless hours toward improving the earth.

Wilhelm realized in 1973 that he wanted to create ways to make the U.S. a sustainable place to live. He focused on solar energy technology, building energy simulation, and designing energy-efficient buildings. After earning his master's in environmental planning from Arizona State University, Wilhelm worked for APS for 13 years, where he headed the development of the APS Environmental Showcase Home (ESH). The home is designed to use 60 percent less water and 85 percent less energy than a regular home and displayed new sustainable technologies,

materials and procedures.

In 1994, Wilhelm created the firm Green Ideas Sustainability Consultants with his colleague, Charlie Popeck, to promote green building. He also volunteers to teach sustainability to ASU students and community organizations throughout the Valley.

Wilhelm is a founding member of the U.S. Green Building Council's Arizona Chapter, and served as chapter chairman in 2006. In 2007, Wilhelm successfully lobbied to have the Arizona chapter host the 2009 Greenbuild International Conference and Expo. He also helped to choose the LEED Silver certified Phoenix Convention Center as the site of the conference. To recognize Wilhelm for his hard work and passion, he was named chairman of the



Greenbuild Host Committee. The 2009 Greenbuild International Conference and Expo truly engaged the greater Phoenix community and attracted more than 27,000 attendees from around the world. [www.egreenideas.com](http://www.egreenideas.com)

**FINALISTS:** EDWARDS DESIGN GROUP // RICHARD FRANZ-ÜNDER, RA, LEED AP · PIMA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

## GREEN SCHOOLS HIGHER EDUCATION

### »» RECIPIENT

#### Arizona State University

Since 2005, all new Arizona State University-owned buildings are required to be certified LEED Silver or better. ASU currently has 21 LEED Silver or better certified buildings, including the first Platinum-certified building in Arizona. ASU's solar initiative has installed 2.04 MW of photovoltaic power on the Tempe campus so far.



### »» FINALIST

#### Rio Salado College

During the 2007-2008 academic year, Rio Salado College became a chapter signatory of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). In October 2009, the college was named a winner of America's Greenest Campus contest. The winnings were used to develop a community garden.

## GREEN SCHOOLS K-12

### »» RECIPIENT

#### Agua Fria Union High School District

\* Agua Fria Union High School District has two LEED-certified high schools — certification firsts for Arizona. The LEED for Schools pilot program, which encompasses the district's operations and maintenance, was tested on Agua Fria by USGBC in order to troubleshoot the program and find areas of refinement.



### »» FINALIST

#### Washington Elementary School District

\* In 2008 the district agreed to benchmark its facilities for energy efficiency. At the end of the year, it had conserved 6.6 million kWh of electricity, 8,661 therms of natural gas, and \$125,000 worth of solid waste.



# 2010 BIG GREEN AWARDS

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## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY LEADERS

By SHELBY HILL

### » RECIPIENT

#### CarbonFree Technology

CarbonFree Technology campaigns for the use of green energy solutions throughout the United States and North America. The company, which was founded in 2006 and is headquartered in Ontario, Canada, is a solar power project developer. It helps businesses and institutional customers develop solar power solutions for their energy needs.

CarbonFree Technology's 2009 merger with SolEquity allowed it to increase its potential. The company negotiated the first successful implementation of a solar power purchase agreement in Arizona. This deal allowed Arizona State University to create a leadership position in its sustainability programs through the financing of two solar rooftop top installation and one rooftop. These installa-

tions create more than 1.5 megawatts of solar power. The ASU solar installations also are a visual reminder of the power of creativity and environmental responsibility that CarbonFree Technology champions.

CarbonFree Technology recommends appropriate solar solutions and secures available government incentives based upon each individual project. The company's other duties include managing project construction, arranging financing, finding contractors to build the system and arranging monitoring and maintenance for the life of the system.

CarbonFree Technology's work has a



beneficial impact on the environment and the economies of the communities in which it works. In addition to creating solar power, CarbonFree Technology also creates jobs with each solar power installation. Every installation requires workers for everything from installation and arranging permits to painting and maintenance.

[www.carbonfreetechnology.com](http://www.carbonfreetechnology.com)

FINALISTS: GREEN FUEL TECHNOLOGIES // REPUBLIC SERVICES

## GREEN PROCESSES

### » RECIPIENT

#### General Dynamics C4 Systems

Scottsdale-based General Dynamics C4 Systems is cutting costs and its environmental impact at the same time. The company has applied various sustainable practices to its Scottsdale facility and achieved almost \$750,000 in cost savings annually.

General Dynamics C4 Systems develops and integrates secure communication and information systems and technology for businesses and governments. Although the company does not directly focus on green products, it is committed to becoming environmentally friendly. The company's Environment, Health and Safety Policy states that it strives to reduce its impact on the environment and continues to pursue improvement.

General Dynamics C4 Systems certainly found a way to shrink its environmental impact at its research-focused, 1.5 million square foot Scottsdale campus,

which houses more than 5,000 employees, visitors and contractors.

The site utilized sustainable ideas and practices on the road to becoming a Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certified facility. Through the certification process, General Dynamics C4 Systems replaced or reconditioned the existing structures to lessen the site's environmental impact.

General Dynamics C4 Systems also integrated green cleaning and maintenance practices into its operations; reuses construction materials, equipment and components; upgraded the lighting system at its LEED-certified site; and converted completely to locally manufactured recycled paper products.

The company also integrated its



Computerized Aided Facilities Management system into its construction and maintenance processes. This system tracks sustainable data such as materials, infrastructure capacity, energy impacts and indoor air quality at its Scottsdale campus.

Not only is the company's own site lessening its impact on the environment, the company strives to meet environmental and safety requirements as it designs and manufactures products and services for its customers.

[www.gdc4s.com](http://www.gdc4s.com)