

# Charleston Green Business Challenge



# Mission

- ▶ Assist Charleston businesses with lowering energy costs as well as creating more environmentally sustainable facilities.
  - ▶ The workshop series topics will range from energy consumption, sustainable alternatives to lowering environmental impacts from commuters, and water conservation.
  - ▶ Following the workshop series, an Energy Star Battle of the Buildings challenge will kick-off in August.

# Goals & Objectives

## ▶ **Goals:**

- ▶ Educate businesses on environmental issues through workshops series
- ▶ Lower local businesses' environmental impact & energy costs
- ▶ Decrease energy consumption amongst Charleston businesses

## ▶ **Objectives:**

- ▶ Bring together Charleston business community to create effective solutions
- ▶ Prepare for an Energy Star Battle of the Buildings Challenge
- ▶ Creating new partnerships with Charleston business community and City of Charleston

# Workshop Series

- ▶ Monthly meetings targeting different aspects of sustainability
- ▶ Mixture of in-person events and webinars
- ▶ Venues will vary. Examples: 2 George Public Meeting Room, MUSC, and BCDCOG
- ▶ Partners will be brought in to share their expertise
- ▶ Educate the business community and prepare them for the Energy Star Challenge

# Energy Star Battle of the Buildings Challenge

- ▶ Following the workshop series, an Energy Star Battle of the Buildings challenge will kick-off in August.
- ▶ Focused solely on lowering energy consumption
- ▶ Goal of reducing energy consumption towards 15% in six months
- ▶ Data Collection is done by individual businesses uploading data to Portfolio Manager, Energy Star's online platform
- ▶ Tiered system for final results (1-5%, 6-10%, 11-14%, 15% or higher)

# Partners & Sponsors

- ▶ Medical University of South Carolina
- ▶ Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Charleston Visitors Bureau
- ▶ Office of Sustainability College of Charleston
- ▶ Super Green Solutions

# Event Calendar

- ▶ Thursday, February 28: Re-launch of Charleston Green Business Challenge
- ▶ Thursday, March 14: Partners Introduction/Getting Started
- ▶ Thursday, April 4: Water Conservation
- ▶ Thursday, May 2: Commuter Costs
- ▶ Thursday, June 6: Energy Consumption Workshop
- ▶ Thursday, June 27: Waste Management/Recycling
- ▶ Thursday, July 11: Portfolio Manager and Challenge Training
- ▶ Thursday, August 1: Energy Star Battle of the Buildings Challenge Launch