



# 2018 Sarasota County NEIGHBORHOOD CHALLENGE

Greener. Healthier. More Involved. #SRQChallenge

The **GREEN** scorecard contains actions and educational efforts specific to making neighborhoods more sustainable.

**Below are ways you can help with the Neighborhood Challenge. Look through the score card to see if you are interested in any of the activities that would benefit our community.**

# We Grow Green

Select/answer each statement that applies to your neighborhood.

Actions (5 points each)

Education Efforts (2 points each)

*Resources on any of the statements below can be found at the end of this section.*

**1. The landscaping in our neighborhood's common areas or a minimum of 3 households' yards achieved Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) recognition. (5 points)**

Provide addresses or location description of FFL-recognized landscaping:

**2. Our neighborhood hosted a presentation on FFL principles and practices (or other UF/IFAS Extension & Sustainability classes for landscaping strategies). (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including date and estimated number of neighborhood residents that attended:

**3. Our neighborhood includes FFL principles when selecting and contracting our landscaping needs. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including how and/or provide the contract language used:

**4. Our neighborhood has protected or enhanced its tree canopy. (5 points)**

Briefly describe actions taken to protect or enhance the tree canopy in the neighborhood:

**5. We have hosted a presentation on integrated pest management to encourage environmentally-friendly alternatives to chemicals. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including date and estimated number of neighborhood residents that attended:

**6. Our neighborhood requires our contracted landscape company to maintain a 6-10 foot low-maintenance vegetative buffer around the perimeter of the lake/pond and follow the Sarasota County Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team (NEST) program Dos and Don'ts. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including how and/or provide the contract language used:

Select all that apply:

7. We have encouraged residents to get their yards recognized under the FFL program and to follow Sarasota County Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code in our outreach materials. (2 points)

**Resources**

- Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) [UF/IFAS Extension](#), [Florida Yards](#)
- Integrated Pest Management [Overview](#), [UF/IFAS Extension](#), [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)

- Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team (NEST) [Homepage](#)
- Sarasota County Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code [Code of Ordinances](#), [Best Management Practices](#)
- Tree Canopy [Sarasota County Environmental Permitting](#), [USDA Forest Service](#)

## We Energize Green

Select/answer each statement that applies to your neighborhood.

Actions (5 points each)

Education Efforts (2 points each)

*Resources on any of the statements below can be found at the end of this section.*

Select all that apply:

- 8. The light fixtures in our neighborhood's common areas use LED bulbs and/or solar power. (5 points)
- 9. Our community pool is heated using solar energy or geothermal technology. (5 points)

### **10. We provide a bicycle rack at common areas and/or bus stops. (5 points)**

Provide address or location description of bicycle racks:

### **11. We provide an electric vehicle (EV) charging station for public use in our neighborhood. (5 points)**

Provide address or location description of EV charging station:

**12. We offer carpooling or transportation assistance opportunities to residents. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including frequency of use and estimated number that participate:

**13. We have hosted a presentation relating to energy saving practices, such as Sarasota County Energy Upgrade Workshop. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including date and estimated number of neighborhood residents that attended:

**14. We have encouraged residents to make energy efficiency improvements in their homes through our outreach materials. (2 points)**

Date of communication and how it was delivered:

**15. We have educated our residents about alternative transportation options like bus, bike or electric vehicles through our outreach materials. (2 points)**

Date of communication and how it was delivered:

**Resources**

- Bicycle Rack [Bike Rack Guide](#)

- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station [Sarasota County Sustainability, Alternative Fuels Data Center](#)
- Energy Saving & Efficiency [Sarasota County Sustainability, U.S. Dept. of Energy, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy](#)
- Geothermal Technology [U.S. Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy](#)
- LED Bulbs [Energy Star](#)
- Solar Power & Energy [U.S. Dept. of Energy, Solar Energy Industries Association](#)
- Transportation Assistance & Alternatives [Sarasota County Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning, SCAT Bus Service, FDOT Commuter Services](#)

## We Hydrate Green

Select/answer each statement that applies to your neighborhood.

Actions (5 points each)

Education Efforts (2 points each)

*Resources on any of the statements below can be found at the end of this section.*

Select all that apply:

- 16. Our neighborhood-owned landscape minimizes water use in irrigation by: 1) irrigated sod to less than 50% of the landscape; and 2) utilizing micro-drip technology or hand watering for landscape beds. (5 points)
- 17. We use rain barrels or cisterns as part of the irrigation system for our common areas. (5 points)
- 18. Some of our residents use rain barrels in their own yards to conserve water in irrigation (minimum 3 households required for credit). (5 points)
- 19. We have a rain garden in our common areas. (5 points)
- 20. Some of our residents have rain gardens (minimum 2 households required for credit). (5 points)

**21. We have hosted a presentation relating to water conservation and/or water pollution prevention. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including date and estimated number of neighborhood residents that attended:

**22. We have encouraged residents to make water efficiency and water pollution prevention improvements in their homes and yards through our outreach materials. (2 points)**

Date of communication and how it was delivered:

## Resources

- Hand Watering [Water - Use it Wisely Campaign](#)
- Micro-Drip Technology [Overview](#)
- Rain Barrels & Cisterns [UF/IFAS Extension](#), [Sarasota County Air & Water Quality](#), [Sarasota County Rain Barrel Program](#)
- Rain Garden [UF/IFAS Extension](#), [Rain Garden Network](#)
- Water Conservation & Efficiency [Sarasota County Public Utilities](#), [UF/IFAS Extension](#), [Southwest Florida Water Management District](#)
- Water Pollution [Sarasota County Water Pollution Control Code](#), [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)

## We Dispose Green

Select/answer each statement that applies to your neighborhood.

Actions (5 points each)

Education Efforts (2 points each)

*Resources on any of the statements below can be found at the end of this section.*

**23. Our neighborhood integrates sustainability into our events and administrative operations. Examples include minimizing paper waste and disposable tableware at meetings and events or implementing an environmental purchasing policy (such as the Sarasota County Procurement Code) that gives preference to goods and services that minimize their impact on human health and the environment. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including actions taken to integrate waste-minimizing practices into neighborhood events and administrative operations:

Select all that apply:

24. Recycling containers are provided near each garbage container in our neighborhood common areas. (5 points)

**25. We have hosted a presentation on recycling and/or composting practices. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including date and estimated number of neighborhood residents that attended:

**26. We have hosted or participated as a neighborhood in a community clean-up day. (5 points)**

Briefly describe, including date and estimated number of neighborhood residents that attended:

**27. We have adopted a road to maintain and beautify. (5 points)**

Provide the location and name of the organization listed on the adoption:



**28. We have educated our residents on recycling practices through our outreach materials. (2 points)**

Date of communication and how it was delivered:

**29. We have provided educational information on yard waste disposal, composting and proper leaf blowing practices through our outreach materials. (2 points)**

Date of communication and how it was delivered:

**30. We have educated our residents on proper disposal of medications and medical byproducts. (2 points)**

Date of communication and how it was delivered:

**Resources**

- Adoption Program [Keep Sarasota County Beautiful](#)
- Community Clean-Up [Sarasota County Code Enforcement](#), [Keep America Beautiful](#), [How-To Article](#)
- Composting [UF/IFAS Extension](#), [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- Medication & Medical Byproduct Disposal [Sarasota County Prescription Disposal Guide](#), [Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection](#)
- Leaf Blowing [How-To Guide](#) [also see the [Sarasota County Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code](#)]

- Recycling Program [Sarasota County Solid Waste](#), [Sarasota County How-To Guide for Homeowners](#), [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- Sarasota County Procurement Code [Code of Ordinances](#), [Sarasota County Procurement Manual](#)
- Yard Waste Disposal [How-To Guide](#)

## Green Innovation

We have implemented innovative ways (not mentioned in previous statements) to help make the community a sustainable place. Please describe your green promotion initiatives below, one innovative idea per box. (3 points each)

### Green Innovation 1

Green Innovation 1: Documentation (if applicable)

### Green Innovation 2

Green Innovation 2: Documentation (if applicable)

## Green Innovation 3

Green Innovation 3: Documentation (if applicable)

## Green Extra Credit

Help us promote the Neighborhood Challenge and let others know about your progress and accomplishments to build a green neighborhood through photos and social media.

3 points for each (maximum 6 points)

Select all that apply:

- We captured photos of the GREEN actions claimed above.
- We shared photos or posts about our neighborhood's GREEN actions above on social media using the hashtag #SRQChallenge.

Photos (Note: if you reach the file size limits, photos can also be emailed to [neighbor@scgov.net](mailto:neighbor@scgov.net))

Screen Captures of Social Media Posts (Note: only public posts can be seen)

**We had neighbors attend the 12th Annual Sustainable Communities Workshop on November 30, 2017.**

List the names of the workshop attendees: