

Aventura hosts environmental symposium

BY JARED GOYETTE
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If you live in Aventura and want to be more environmentally friendly -- but aren't sure how to go about it, the city wants to help you get the information you need.

On Thursday night, Aventura sponsored a Go Green Symposium at the municipal center in which Florida Power & Light, the Home Depot, and other companies gave presentations to residents on how they can live a more sustainable, energy-efficient lifestyle.

The presentations, and other related information, will be broadcast on the city's government channel this week and will be posted on Aventura's website, www.cityofaventura.com/.

"We get a lot of questions from residents about what they can do to be more environmentally friendly," City Manager Eric Soroka said.

"We thought this would be a good opportunity to share the information," he said.

Some of the presentations that will be available include:

- Florida Power & Light presentation on steps residents can take to use less electricity at home, such as using compact florescent light bulbs instead of conventional incandescent bulbs.
- Home Depot representatives explain the advantages of using energy-efficient building materials.
- Continental Management, which manages several condominiums in the city, explains environmentally-aware ways to maintain a building.
- Waste Management, a solid waste company, discusses recycling programs

available for residents in Aventura.

- Service America, a company that services large appliances like air conditioners and offers plumbing work, gives a presentation on how to conserve water in bathrooms and kitchens.
- Aventura staff will explain the environmental initiatives and how residents can participate.

Mayor Susan Gottlieb said she hoped that by coordinating environmental programs with information from local companies, the symposium would encourage residents and business to take concrete steps to "go green."

"Residents, businesses and condominium associations all have the opportunity to become environmentally responsible and sustainable," she said.

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