

Friday Facts: Kansas Green Team Assembly and Awards Luncheon held July 16th

The Kansas Green Team Assembly and Awards Luncheon was held on July 16th at the State Capital Building. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the success of the state's Green Teams and to show appreciation for the commitment to environmental stewardship made by these agencies. This year's event was attended by 96 Green Team members, exhibitors, and presenters.

The keynote presentation was given by environmental journalist and Green TV host, Simran Sethi. Other presentations included those by Dennis Siders of the Midwest Assistance Program on 'How to Conduct a Waste Audit', Marcus Rivas with the U.S. EPA Solid Waste and Pollution Prevention Department on 'Going Green in the Workplace', and Ken Perdue from Corporate Express on 'Sustainability'.

Awards were presented in three categories by KDHE Secretary Roderick Bremby. Division of Legislative Post Audit was honored with the award for 'Best Green Purchasing Program. Out of all state agencies, Post Audit purchased the highest percentage of recycled content office supplies. 61% of the supplies purchased by Post Audit contained recycled content material. The award for 'Best Waste Reduction Program' was presented to Lansing Correctional Facility. And the Kansas Neurological Institute received the award for 'Best Recycling Program.' Additionally 13 other agencies and offices received recognition for their waste reduction, recycling, and green purchasing programs.

Other highlights included a waste free luncheon served on compostable tableware and special guests Douglas Kinsinger, President of the Greater Topeka Area Chamber of Commerce and Secretary of the Kansas Department of Corrections, Roger Werholtz.

Exhibitors included State Surplus Property, Kansas Division of Purchases, Kansas Energy Office, Envision, Corporate Express, Westar Energy, Grainger, Interface Flor, Cartridge King, and Johnson Controls. Sponsors of the event were Corporate Express and Interface Flor.

For more information about the event, including presentations and photos, visit www.kansasgreenteams.org/Assembly2008.

