

MIAMI MARLINS KNOCK RECYCLING OUT OF THE PARK

~DEP's Recycling Recognition Program honors company for 51-percent recycling rate~



From left to right: DEP Southeast District Director Jill Creech, Miami Marlins Vice President of Facilities Jeff King, Florida Recycling Partnership Chair Kim Brunson and Florida Recycling Partnership Executive Director Keyna Cory.

MIAMI – Today (August 14, 2015), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection recognizes the Miami Marlins organization for its impressive 51-percent recycling rate. DEP Southeast District Director Jill Creech presented the award to the organization at the Florida Recycling Partnership's Recycling Summit, which was held at Marlins Park.

"I am pleased to recognize the Miami Marlins for their outstanding recycling efforts," Southeast District Director Jill Creech said. "The Miami Marlins organization is providing a great example for other sports franchises and businesses throughout Florida by its dedication to the environment and sustainability."

The Miami Marlins organization has implemented a comprehensive recycling plan that ensures plastics, metals, paper, cardboard and glass are recycled year-round at the stadium. During the construction of the Miami Ballpark District, the organization was able to divert or recycle more than 95 percent of the construction waste. The team has been recognized as Major League Baseball's top recycling team in the National League's East Division for both 2013 and 2014. The Miami Marlins are a member of the Florida Recycling Partnership, a coalition of businesses and associations dedicated to improving Florida's recycling rates.

In addition to outstanding recycling practices, the Miami Marlins ballpark was designed with sustainability in mind. From the energy-efficient lighting and cooling systems, to water-use reductions, the ballpark is one of the most sustainable in Major League Baseball. It is also the first retractable roof sports facility in the world to earn LEED Gold Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

"It is an honor for Marlins Park to once again receive this recognition, marking our second consecutive year with a recycling rate exceeding 50 percent," said Claude Delorme, Marlins Executive Vice President of Operations and Events. "We continue to focus our efforts on providing a sustainable venue that best serves the South Florida community."

To help businesses increase recycling efficiency, the department has an easy tool to track recycling – the [Florida DEP Business Recycling Tracking Tool](#). Through the website, which includes free registration, companies can track different types of recycling and produce reports on how their efforts are helping to shrink their carbon footprint. The tracking tool helps the department identify companies that are making an effort to go green.

Approximately 55 percent of Florida's total municipal solid waste stream is commercial. In order for Florida to reach a 75-percent recycling rate by 2020, a goal established by the Florida Legislature in 2008, it is crucial that businesses, schools and other commercial entities increase their recycling efforts. Recycling provides a direct cost savings to most businesses because the more that is recycled, the less waste and thus, lower waste-management operating costs. Reuse of materials can also contribute to cost savings.