



City of Boise Public Works

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 6, 2010

Contact: Vince Trimboli

384-3927/vtrimboli@cityofboise.org

2010 EnviroGuard Award Winners Announced

(Boise) – A very diverse group of four organizations were presented with a Mayor's EnviroGuard Award. From a small homebuilder, to a small eyecare shop, to a large utility company and Idaho's tallest building, they all prove businesses can have positive environmental impact regardless of size. The winners are **United Water Idaho**, **Boise Mountain Eyecare**, **Flynnner Homes** and **US Bank Plaza – Unico**. Mayor David Bieter presented the awards to this year's class of winners Wednesday high top the City on the roof of the US Bank Building in Downtown Boise.

"This award recognizes businesses taking the extra effort to ensure the sustainability and livability of our community," Mayor Bieter said. "By being creative, these businesses have decreased their environmental impact and set an example for others to follow in the workplace."

Since 1998, the EnviroGuard has been presented to 40 local businesses and organizations committed to reducing waste, energy reduction and other environmentally friendly practices in the workplace. An independent committee made up of small and large business owners, city and state agencies review the applications based on established criteria. Criteria include significant environmental benefits, waste reduction, economic benefit to the company and efficient use of raw materials.

Unico received Gold LEED Certification for retrofitting the US Bank Building with creative water and energy saving measures. Unico collects storm water from hard surfaces around the building and uses it to irrigate lawns and landscaping. They have reduced energy consumption by 14% since 2007 and increased diversion (recycling/waste reduction) by 27%.

A water conservation champion in the valley, **United Water Idaho** installed a 'state of the art' well facility in East Boise (Hilton Well) to remove manganese and eliminated the use of phosphorus. Eliminating the need to use phosphate to sequester manganese prevents 5,860 pounds of inorganic phosphate from entering the wastewater treatment plant and more importantly the Boise River.

Boise Mountain Eyecare minimized shipping impacts (i.e. use of fossil fuels) by having eyewear shipped directly from the frame manufacturer to the prescription lens lab eliminating their office as the middle stop. Other green office practices include, reducing paper use by 90% by using electric records management, using non-toxic cleaning supplies and incorporating energy efficient design standards into the construction of a new building.

Flynnner Homes partnered with the St. Jude Children's Hospital Dream Home and designed and built Idaho's first Net Zero home, meaning it produces more energy than it uses. The home was built with recycled and renewable materials, along with energy efficient HVAC systems, insulation, windows, appliances and dual flush toilets.

You can find much more on each winner at www.cityofboise.org.

Along with receiving recognition at the special award ceremony, EnviroGuard winners receive a plaque, banner and their documented case studies are showcased on the City of Boise website. Some of the past winners include Boise State University, Second Chance Building Supply, The Bogus Basin Nordic Center, Barger-Mattson Auto Salvage and Zamzows.

For more on the EnviroGuard Award application go to www.cityofboise.org/departments/public_works, or call program coordinators Megan Kershner or Angela Deckers at 384-3901.