

# Green Certification for the Town of Harmony



The town of Harmony was recently certified as a green community by the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC). The [FGBC green certification program](#) is run by an organization that verifies and evaluates a community's commitment to environmentally intelligent design and building practices. Harmony won points for its comprehensive approach to community design and management that included such measures as retention of open space, leaving lakeshores undeveloped, relying on electric and other green propulsion for community boats, enhancement of wildlife habitat on the Harmony Golf Preserve and neighborhood parks, a community environmental education program, placing schools, future

shopping, parks, playgrounds and work areas within walking distance of homes, dark sky street lighting, Energy Star construction and much more. Harmony's recent certification by the FGBC makes it Central Florida's largest Green Development and only the tenth development in the State of Florida that has achieved this honor since the FGBC was founded in 2000.

At least 200 points must be awarded to receive the green development designation. Harmony received 231, one of the highest scores in the FGBC program. To learn more about the different categories of points awarded for a green community, go to the [FGBC web site](#) and click on the green development standard.

In addition to being certified by the FGBC, the town of Harmony has been recognized for its leadership in environmental protection and its commitment to community schools by such groups as the Council for Sustainable Florida, the Florida Education Foundation, the Florida Department of Education, Where to Retire magazine, the Home Builders Association of Metro-Orlando, Orlando Homebuyer Magazine, and the Florida Association of Realtors. Additionally, the Harmony Golf Preserve is certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary (ACSP) by Audubon International. The ACSP is an award winning education and certification program that helps golf courses protect our environment and preserve the natural heritage of the game of golf.

"Green building is a mixture of conserving natural resources and wildlife, reducing pollution, protecting eco-systems and improving air quality, as well as providing opportunities for people to enjoy a quality environment" said Greg Gologowski, Harmony's full-time Conservation Director who has been employed by Harmony Development Company since September 2002. "In designing Harmony, the Harmony Development preserved open space and wildlife habitat and reworked development plans several times to reduce or avoid impacts on resources."

To learn more about what you can do as a homeowner to live green within your neighborhood, visit the different topics within the [Living in Harmony web site](#).

