

~ Introducing the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District’s new business recognition program for 2023. ~



*A waste diversion and recycling recognition program for business entities.  
Celebrating leaders in reducing, reusing, and recycling.*

The purpose of this program is to recognize on an annual basis those businesses who have made a strong commitment to eliminating waste from landfills and reducing the amount of waste generated through recycling and composting, keeping valuable materials in circulation. The focus of the program is on waste reduction, recycling, composting, upcycling, and creating a world without waste.

There are different Business Resource Champion recognition levels and categories: Green, Silver, Gold, Platinum. The recognition program highlights different categories of businesses. Categories, with examples, are as follows:

CATEGORY	EXAMPLES
Office/Commercial	Retail: Clothing, discount store, specialty store, warehouse, department store, drugstore, grocery
Office/Commercial	Office: Doctor, dentist, veterinarian, real estate, insurance, law
Multi-Family	Apartment, condominium
Manufacturing/Industrial	Business that manufactures a product
Hospitality	Restaurant, bar, hotel, motel
Nonprofit	Religious organization, CDC, federal income tax exempt
Education	School (pre-school, K-12), college, university
Healthcare (Large Facility)	Large healthcare facilities such as hospitals and surgery centers, due to the nature of their operations, should select a particular area, such as an office, for certification.

The examples are by no means an exhaustive list. If you are uncertain of your category, contact Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Business Recycling Specialist Doreen Schreiber for more information at [dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us) or (216) 443-3732.



## BENEFITS OF CUYAHOGA GREEN BUSINESS CERTIFICATION

**1. Competitive advantage.**

Give your company a competitive advantage in the marketplace through environmentally preferable business practices such as waste reduction, recycling, and composting. Companies promoting their environmentally sound business practices may be perceived as more reliable, ethical, and responsible.

**2. Improve employee morale and engagement.**

Employees feel more empowered and engaged when they know their company cares about the environment.

**3. Better workforce.**

Employees are looking for employers who can show they are environmentally responsible.

**4. Enhance your brand.**

Businesses that are transparent about their waste reduction efforts are perceived as more honest with high quality products.

**5. Transparency leads to trust.**

Being open and honest regarding your waste reduction efforts leads to trust in your company.

**6. Increase sales – increase revenue.**

Companies known for their waste reduction efforts will attract consumers who are looking for more environmentally responsible businesses.

Certification and recognition as a Business Resource Champion of Cuyahoga County may help you set yourself apart from other businesses, is a good marketing tool, may contribute to your ESG goals, and may help you attract and retain employees for your environmental efforts, and save your company money in the process.

See the application, checklists, and program information at [www.cuyahogarecycles.org/business\\_resource\\_champions/](http://www.cuyahogarecycles.org/business_resource_champions/)

For program details, questions or more information, contact Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Business Recycling Specialist Doreen Schreiber at (216) 443-3732 or [dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us).



**Application for Certification**  
**BUSINESS RESOURCE CHAMPION OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address to be Certified: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Website URL: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRIMARY CONTACT FOR CERTIFICATION**

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECONDARY CONTACT FOR CERTIFICATION**

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that I have the authority to apply for the Business Resource Champion of Cuyahoga County certification program.*

Signature (Primary Contact): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Secondary Contact): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CATEGORY FOR CERTIFICATION**

\_\_\_\_ Office or Commercial

\_\_\_\_ Multi-Family Housing

\_\_\_\_ Manufacturing or Industrial

\_\_\_\_ Hospitality

\_\_\_\_ Education

\_\_\_\_ Nonprofit

\_\_\_\_ Healthcare (Large Facility) *Choose a previous category.*

*Note: Large healthcare facilities such as hospitals and surgery centers, due to the nature of their operations, should select a particular area, such as an office, for certification.*

If you are uncertain of your category, contact Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Business Recycling Specialist Doreen Schreiber for more information at (216) 443-3732 or [dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us).



## STEPS FOR CERTIFICATION

- Download the category document** with certification requirements that pertain to your business.
- Review the requirements.**
- Submit the application.** A pre-certification meeting will be scheduled within two weeks of receiving and reviewing your application. Our business recycling specialist will discuss the requirements for your business category and answer any questions, including explaining each checklist item in more detail as required. Recommendations will be made, and ongoing consulting assistance will be provided at no charge to help you achieve your certification goals.
  - Businesses may receive credit for other actions not listed if they fit within the parameters of the program. This will be covered in review.
- Complete the required actions**, plus a minimum number of additional actions, to receive certification.
- Request a site visit.** When you are ready to be certified, submit the completed checklist with supporting documents to Doreen Schreiber. A certification site visit will be scheduled approximately 1-2 weeks after the receipt of the checklist and corresponding documentation. Photographs will be taken during the site visit for documentation. Exceptions may be given in cases of proprietary company information.
- Become certified.** Sign and return the Certification Acknowledgement Form.

All documents and forms should be submitted to Doreen Schreiber at [dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us)

## AFTER CERTIFICATION

Business Resource Champion certification is performed on a rolling basis. Certification is good for one year from the date of award.

If you believe your business has achieved the next level following initial certification, contact Doreen Schreiber at (216) 443-3732 or [dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:dschreiber@cuyahogacounty.us) for another review.

