

Protecting Our Environment

Gas Stations Are Getting Greener

(NAPSA)—When thinking about “green” companies, the local gas station may not be the first thing that comes to mind.

However, some gasoline retailers are stepping up their efforts to help minimize their impact on the environment.

For example, one CITGO retailer, Dave Welch, of Deerfield, Ill., has already taken positive steps to operate more cheaply and cleanly. His energy-efficient and environmentally friendly upgrades have earned him the Green Business League’s first green certification in the U.S. for a gas station. Working one on one with local marketers and retailers, CITGO wants to help other retailers benefit from these positive results.

Working with the Green Business League and following Welch’s lead, CITGO has developed a list of changes that its nearly 7,000 locally owned stations can make to help their own operations be more energy efficient, economical and environmentally friendly—important attributes considered by many consumers today in their purchasing decisions. For example, to lower energy costs, the company recommends installation of timers for heating, air-conditioning and refrigerators to limit unnecessary electricity use. Updating lighting to energy-efficient bulbs and introducing motion sensors on soap and towel dispensers can also reduce waste.

Even the introduction of native plants in a station’s landscaping can cut water costs and help the environment.

These types of changes not only lower the impact on the environment, but can also save local retailers thousands of dollars per year on energy and water bills. Welch’s station expects to see energy savings of approximately 20 percent annually.

Simple energy-efficient upgrades can help gas stations save money and help protect the environment.



Simple, conscientious changes to the types of products used at stations, including paints and cleaning supplies, can make a difference on the local ecosystem. For example, water-based paints, like those used by CITGO, are much less harmful to the environment than oil-based paints. CITGO is so committed to this effort that the company’s environmental standards for paint far surpass those of the government.

Protecting the environment is a core value of CITGO, one that is based on the underlying principles of social development and solidarity held by its shareholder, Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA), the national oil company of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

For more information, visit www.CITGO.com.